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# MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 8 April 2021

Released to the public on Wednesday 14 April 2021

**LIVE STREAMING OF THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS MADE AVAILABLE ON  
COUNCIL'S INTERNET SITE.**



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN**

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



### English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

### Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

### Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

### Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

### Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

### Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

### Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

### Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

### Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

### Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

### Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

### Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کی روداد کے نقاط ہیں۔ روداد کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

### Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

# Table of Contents

Item Number	Page Number
1. PRESENT .....	1
2. APOLOGIES.....	1
3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST .....	2
4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS .....	2
5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME .....	2
6. PETITIONS .....	9
7. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS .....	10
7.1 DAREBIN 2041 COMMUNITY VISION .....	10
7.2 DRAFT FINANCIAL PLAN 2021-31 .....	14
7.3 COUNCIL PLAN (INCORPORATING THE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN) 2021 -2025 DRAFT PRIORTIES TO INFORM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT .....	15
7.4 DRAFT BUDGET 2021–22.....	32
7.5 APPROVAL OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY .....	36
8. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS .....	38
9. NOTICES OF MOTION .....	38
9.1 AGED CARE SERVICES .....	38
10. URGENT BUSINESS.....	40
11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES .....	40
12. SUMMARY OF MEETINGS .....	40
13. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS .....	40
14. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL .....	41
15. CLOSE OF MEETING.....	41

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## MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 8 APRIL 2021

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### THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.12PM

The Mayor advised that the meeting was being streamed live and that audio and video would be made available on Council's website.

### WELCOME

The Chairperson, Mayor Messina, opened the meeting with the following statement:

*"I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand here today, the Wurundjeri people, and pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, as well as to Elders from other communities who may be with us today."*

## 1. PRESENT

### **Councillors**

Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Cr. Tom Hannan

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

### **Council Officers**

Sue Wilkinson - Chief Executive Officer

Sam Hewett - General Manager Operations and Capital

Kerry McGrath - General Manager Communities

Rachel Ollivier - General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Jodie Watson - General Manager Governance and Engagement

Damian Hogan – Manager Finance

Stephen Mahon - Coordinator Council Business

Rachna Gupta Singh - Senior Council Business Officer

Karlee Ferrante – Council Business Officer

## 2. APOLOGIES

Nil

### 3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Mayor Cr. Lina Messina declared a general conflict of interest in item 9.1 Notice of Motion Aged Care Services as she works in the aged care sector.

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 March 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-088**

**MOVED:** Cr. T Laurence  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 March 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

The Chairperson, Mayor Messina and the Chief Executive Officer, responded to the following questions submitted for Public Question Time.

- **Christopher Wilkinson, Reservoir**

Incidents of hoon driving have only become worse. I have photos showing the state of the road. There are bits of tyre and burnt rubber everywhere. The local business owners and people living in the area have had enough.

Last meeting I asked what was being done, now I am asking what is the timeframe? It is only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed.

**Response from Chief executive Officer, Sue Wilkinson**

**Firstly, I would like to thank you for taking the time to discuss hoon driving on Radford Road with Council officers.**

**Council is very concerned by reports of hoon driving. I encourage you to please continue to report incidents of hoon driving and speeding to Victoria Police.**

**Should you, or any other concerned resident, require any assistance with this, I have asked that Council officers provide this support. Officers will continue to work in close**

contact with Victoria Police in order to assist them with their monitoring and enforcement activities.

Furthermore, Council will investigate if physical changes to the road could assist to deter this behaviour, however it is important to know that this would not be a quick solution. Each year, Council undertakes approximately 15 transport safety projects across the municipality. With changes to roads often taking two to three years from the initial investigation to the final construction.

At its May Council meeting, Council will make a decision about its schedule for investigating road safety improvements. At this time, we will be clearer about timing for safety projects and our next steps.

- **Mr Reid, Reservoir.**

Please advise what is being done in both the short and long term to address the hoons that frequent Radford Road. A hoon died on Radford Rd after doing a several hundred metre burnout back in 2019. Two young families (including ours) now live on Edwardes St at the end of Radford Rd. Will it take the loss of life of an innocent member of public or one of our young children for you to finally wake up and take some action.

**Response from Chief Executive Officer, Sue Wilkinson**

I refer the previous question and response and request that you continue to report any incidents of hoon driving and speeding to Victoria Police.

I have asked, that a responsible Officer contact you to discuss your concerns.

This evening, we have received two questions about road closures near Bell station from Ms Kate Da Costa and Mr Ewen Baker. They are not in attendance and their question is the same. I will read and respond to them both together.

- **Kate Da Costa and Ewen Baker, Preston**

As Council is I aware, residents of Gertrude Street, Preston unanimously oppose allowing motor vehicle access to the new Bell Station car park via our residential street.

Prior to Council elections last year, many of you were contacted directly about the issue. During the election campaign period, many Councillors expressed support for the residents in the form of permanent closure of Gertrude Street to through traffic. Council received a petition in October last year, seeking a trial road closure of our street, along with Adeline and Esther Streets. The petition was tabled at the Council meeting in November 2020 with the support of many of you. Council officers subsequently advised us that a formal process of community consultation needed to take place before any final plans could happen. This process happened in February 2021. We were then given an indicative timeline of May 2021 for the trial road closure to actually be implemented. In April 2021, there has been no update for the community on this urgent and critical initiative.

Why not? Will the Council commit to implementing a trial road closure of Gertrude Street as promised? When will it happen?

**Response from Mayor Messina**

Council will consider all community feedback from the recent consultation and any options for protecting local streets from extra traffic at our next Council meeting on the

**26 April. The Road Management Act details the formal decision making process that Council must use with respect to any road closures.**

**Our officers will update interested community members in the next week so that everyone will know about Council's upcoming meeting.**

**I would also like to note that we have also been advocating to the state government for many months for the design to be adjusted so that traffic does not have to travel down local streets, in order to access the commuter carpark.**

**We are disappointed and frustrated that so far the state government hasn't changed their design. I encourage you to contact the state government directly – as hearing from the community directly is often incredibly important for issues such as these.**

- **Justin Passaportis, Preston**

Mayor, Councillors, thanks for the opportunity to ask a question.

Mayor, thank you for meeting with our concerned resident group last year on 6 December and taking the time to do a site visit of the LXP works and the area around Bell Station.

You saw first hand of the real safety concerns we have and how dangerous it will become with traffic rat running these streets to access the new car park if the current plan goes ahead for the level crossing removal here.

One of the suggestions you made on the day was to investigate the prospect of Darebin using the Open Space fund to purchase a small section of the VicTrack land on the west side of the station given that the state government has shunned the Darebin community at every step of the process.

This small space could then be used as the entry to the new car park- where there are no residences and there is direct access from Bell Street- a win for motorists, a win for pedestrians and a win for the community.

Please can you tell us where this plan is up to?

Please can you detail what specific actions Council is taking to ensure the LXP and state politicians finally listen to the Darebin community and take access to the new car park west of Bell Station?

**Response from Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**I have been advocating for that proposal through our officers on more than one occasion. Unfortunately, that land is not up for sale and I am following the process through our officers to ensure that we continue to advocate for the acquisition of that particular pocket of that west side so that we can have access.**

**As per my response to previous questions, Council has been considering community feedback from the recent consultation and any options for protecting local streets from extra traffic and further advocacy will be considered at its next meeting on 26 April. The Road Management Act details the formal decision managing process that Council must use in respect to any road closures.**

**Our officers will also update interested community members in the next week, so that everyone knows about Council's upcoming meeting.**

I would also like to note that we have also been advocating to the state government for many months for the design to be adjusted so that traffic does not have to travel down local streets, in order to access the commuter carpark.

We are disappointed and frustrated that so far the state government hasn't changed their design. I encourage you to contact the state government directly – as hearing from the community directly is often incredibly important for issues such as these

- **Justin on behalf of Mitch Wall, Preston**

Since 2018, the community has been writing to the Minister for Transport infrastructure, the Member for Northcote, the member for Preston hoping to 'drive' this project, as the Premier had promised, and have been either ignored or offered mere lip service.

This has become a situation where the state government is doing whatever they want, and casually ignoring the things that really matter to the residents of Darebin like keeping local streets local.

When is Darebin Council going to stand-up with the local community to the LXP and State government so they don't tarnish our neighbourhood? When is Council going to pushback on LXP and ensure that the new Bell Station car park is only accessed by an entry from the western side of the trainline?

**Response from the Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**Council has spent many hours advocating on behalf of residents, moved many motions to ensure that your voices are heard with the state government, and not only with the local members but also with the LXP. Additionally our Chief Executive officer has been advocating for this position with the Chief Executive Officer of the LXP.**

**I am disappointed that we have not as yet made any progress in terms of actually having that project design changed to align with our mutual vision. Darebin Council will continue to advocate for this, but it's also important for the state government to keep hearing from community directly.**

- **Maddy Maitri, Preston**

On Saturday, 27 March 2021, the LXP deliberately cut down trees in the Bell Station precinct in an area clearly designated an "environmental no go zone." The removal of large trees of great significance to our area and wildlife has caused considerable distress in our community as we have been engaging with LXP to ensure we retain as much green space as possible. As soon as the actions were witnessed, LXP were alerted and eventually the works were halted, but not before most of the damage had already been done. Despite numerous attempts the LXP have failed to acknowledge the incident or provide any explanation for what happened.

What will the Council do to ensure that the LXP and their contractors are held accountable for their blatant disregard of environmental protection measures?

**Response from the Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**Council is monitoring and pressure testing any tree removal by the LXP and has so far protected 29 trees that would have otherwise been removed. Originally, the LXP planned to remove all of the trees from this site – 63 trees in total. Council's specialists called for many of these to be protected – and the LXP now propose to remove 34 trees.**

In regard to the trees that you have asked about, the LXP previously proposed retaining them, however a recent safety audit determined that they could not retain them safely. Our specialist staff have looked at the detail of this and ultimately agreed that unfortunately there is not a viable option to keep them.

The safety issue relates to exposed roots and the slope near the tree. This has meant that the tree and surrounding ground is unstable.

I am very sorry to hear that you haven't heard from the LXP. Our team will call them and see if we can help ensure you get a response.

- **Soula Garlaounis (on behalf of Darebin Greek Women Senior Citizens Group)**

Hi My name is Soula and I am the president of the Darebin Greek Women Senior citizens Group.

Our group meets every Wednesday at the Reservoir Library, but we are allowed only 22 people every Wednesday. Our members are very unhappy that they have to come to the club once a month (80 plus members divided by 22).

As I understand the meeting venue upstairs is approximately 90 square metres, and the newest rules from the Victorian government are 1 person per 2 square metres if that is correct then we can have approximately 45 persons in every meeting and not 22 as it is today.

I would appreciate a review of the rules that apply.

#### **Response from the Chief Executive Officer, Sue Wilkinson**

**The Reservoir Community and Learning Centre is operating its function room based on a COVID safe plan. Groups are required to maintain 1.5 metres of social distance in addition to the calculation of the 1 person per 2 square metre rules.**

**The furniture has been set up to maintain this COVID safe operation, in addition to ensuring that safe movement and egress through the room is maintained. Officers have recently reviewed the layout of the room's furniture set up, and users are being advised that the capacity can increase to 28 people moving forward.**

**Like you Soula, we hope that Council facilities will be back to operating at full capacity very soon, but we will keep you posted.**

- **Ruth Jelley, Northcote**

My question relates to the decision-making processes and standards for Darebin councillors. On this matter I will refer to last month's debate over whether or not to proceed in commissioning a feasibility study into a trial of pop-up bikes lanes on High St Thornbury/Northcote.

My point is that anecdotal evidence falls a long way short of the level of evidence that the community expects its councillors to draw upon in making decisions on this council. At the previous meeting, Councillor Rennie noted that the Council employs its own traffic engineers, on whose expert advice the council draws upon in making decisions on behalf of this community. Why do councillors not want to make use of these experts and many more involved in collating a feasibility study into pop-up bike lanes on High St, complete with proposed designs with which the council can engage in community consultation?

Will councillors make a commitment to the Darebin community to base their decisions on the evidence presented, and where relevant, to commit to seeking evidence before proceeding to a vote on any matter?

Presented, and where relevant, to commit to seeking evidence before proceeding to a vote on any matter?

**Response from the Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**All Darebin's Councillors take their responsibility as elected representatives of the community and decision makers seriously. As a Council, we make decisions that are informed by all of the information available to us, including briefings, Officer recommendations and community opinion. On this occasion Council made a decision that was different to the Officer recommendation, which does happen. The reasons for this outcome are generally explained and clear through the debate on the item being considered.**

• **Claire Layden, Reservoir**

Regarding the Northern Reservoir Streets for People Project, can you please confirm if Council are definitely committed to complete the works in the East side of the corridor, i.e. New Street / McMahan Rd / Boldrewood Pde roundabout, in particular the pedestrian crossings for McMahan / Boldrewood roundabout? And whether designs for this stage will be included in the 2022 budget?

**Response from the Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**The draft budget that Council is considering tonight proposes \$30,000 for the location you have asked about. This is proposed for detailed design for the McMahan / Boldrewood Parade intersection and the design includes pedestrian crossings. Construction would occur in a future year.**

**In June, after Council has considered community feedback, it will confirm its projects for 2021-22.**

• **Bill Jennings, Preston West**

1. The Community group 'The Northcote Community and Golf Hub' are grateful to Council for informing us that highest number of games of golf for the last eight calendar years, over 22500 games, were played at the Northcote Public Golf Course last year, even though for one third of 2020, golf was not allowed to be played at Northcote Public Golf Course due to the Covid 19 restrictions. Can Council confirm what I am observing anecdotally at the Northcote Public Golf Course – that there appears to be a continuing trend of a high number of people playing games of golf there in this calendar year? Could Council report on the number of games played January through March inclusive in 2021?
2. Further to Question 1 above could Council regularly update the community with these numbers on a quarterly basis?
3. With respect to the Consultation process regarding the Northcote Public Golf Course, could Council advise in what format will the consultation take place? When can the stakeholders expect to be contacted and what is the timeline of the consultation including when the final report will be submitted to Council?

**Response from the Chief Executive Officer, Sue Wilkinson**

1. In January 2,803 rounds were played and in February 2,270. Monthly figures for March have not yet been finalised but can be provided as soon as they are (anticipated to be within one week). As COVID restrictions were lifted, golf was able to be played prior to many other activities and experienced higher than normal participation – this trend was experienced at both Darebin Golf courses but we are not sure if this is a lasting trend.
2. A quarterly update of rounds played can also be provide on ongoing basis.
3. Consultation will commence in July 2021. The initial phase of consultation will involve broad and extensive consultation with many stakeholders through means such as: surveys; pop up booths; targeted conversations with identified key stakeholders etc. This initial information will be analysed and presented to Council later in 2021 for consideration on next steps.

**EXTENSION OF TIME**

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-089**

**MOVED: Cr. S Rennie**  
**SECONDED: Cr. J Williams**

**That** the Public Question Time be extended for a further 30 minutes.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- **David Schulze, Reservoir**

Can the council explain why the consultancy fees are so far over budget, and provide a breakdown of what projects the consultants have been engaged for?

**Response from the Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**The consulting fees for 2020/21 are 10% over the budget, due to the Local Government Power Purchasing Agreement that Darebin Council is leading on behalf of 47 Councils. The costs incurred and current overspend will be offset by contributions that will be received from the other 47 Councils.**

- **Jan Powning**

I wrote a letter to yourself (including all Councillors) and CEO and would like to confirm if this letter has been received. It has eight questions in it. Four questions around road safety, one question about street planting of trees and three questions in relation to building approvals.

1. I ask these in relation to the Junction of Separation Street and Andrew Street Northcote, what is being done there to provide a safe crossing space for people to use when accessing the park or the plaza? Who is accountable for that decision and if this could be considered as part of the budget for safety?
2. The second question relates to Clarendon Street, between the market and the Council owned car park opposite. It is very unsafe, when will a crossing be installed and who is accountable for neglecting it so far.

3. The third question around road safety, specifically, the corner of St David Street and Darebin Road is a known black spot and risky to try to cross and has had many near misses. Why has nothing been done to protect from that, when will lights be installed or some other substantial traffic calming and safety device measure?
4. Lastly, a question around planning decisions, some are so bad that the VCAT has recently overturned a decision made by this Council, in relation to 1 Wardrop Grove, Northcote.

#### **Response from the Chairperson, Mayor Messina**

**You are only permitted to ask three questions, we can take your additional questions on notice and we have received your email. I will ensure that the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer respond to your questions.**

- **Katarina Balasi, Preston**

Issue with trees on the naturestrip of property and I would like to request that someone come and inspect these trees not just the width, but also the height of these trees.

#### **Response from the Chief Executive Officer, Sue Wilkinson**

**I have requested that the General Manager Operations and Capital send out an officer in the next week to discuss the issue with Ms. Balasi.**

***Pursuant to the Councils Governance Rules the response to a question from the public taken on notice must be recorded in the minutes of the next Ordinary Council meeting.***

***Due to the timeframes between the last Council Meeting and this Council Meeting the responses to the questions taken on notice at the Council meeting held on 22 March 2021, will be recorded in the minutes of the 26 April 2021 Ordinary Council meeting.***

*The following persons made a submissions in relation to:*

*Item 7.1 Darebin 2041 Community Vision:*

- *Carolyn Lunt*

*Item 7.4 Draft Budget 2021-22:*

- *Maggie Koumi*

## **6. PETITIONS**

Nil

## 7. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

### 7.1 DAREBIN 2041 COMMUNITY VISION

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Vision is a new requirement introduced through the Local Government Act 2020. The Community Vision must be for at least 10 years and must be in place by 31 October 2021, taking effect from 1 July 2021. The Darebin 2041 Community Vision is based on a 20-year horizon, enabling our community to consider the future of Darebin for the next generation.

The Darebin 2041 Community Vision has been developed through the Design Your Darebin 2041 engagement program, which included the establishment of a Deliberative Community Engagement Panel. Community Engagement commenced in December 2020 with broad engagement and the results of this engagement informed the Deliberative Panel's work to develop the Darebin 2041 Community Vision. The Deliberative Panel met virtually 3 times between 28<sup>th</sup> February and 11<sup>th</sup> March and completed further work through an on-line forum to finalise the Vision throughout March 2021.

The Vision provided below remains unchanged from when it was presented to Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

#### **Darebin 2041 Community Vision**

Darebin is equitable, vibrant, green and connected. We respect First Nations peoples, our diverse communities and places. We are committed to a sustainable, climate safe future.

#### **Priorities**

##### **Darebin - a city that known for:**

##### **Vibrant, Respectful and Connected**

- being respecting and recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' values, living culture and practices
- connecting, valuing and including our diverse communities
- its artistic community; not just venues and locations, but the people

##### **Equitable**

- being a place that has safe and secure housing for all
- providing for all aspects of health and wellbeing through all stages of life
- being a 20-minute city; where we can safely access amenities and services close to our homes

##### **Green and Sustainable**

- its commitment to a safe climate future for all
  - its clean access to the outdoors, protection of wildlife, land and water
  - preserving amenity and where business and development align with preserving natural assets and strengthening community
  - having a diverse and healthy food system that is connected and inter-generational
-

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

- (1) Notes the draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the next stage of community engagement that demonstrates the connection between the Vision, 10 Year Financial Plan, Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and draft budget 2021-22;
- (3) Notes that further feedback and consultation on the Darebin 2041 Community Vision that is to be undertaken with the Darebin Youth Citizen Jury, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Corporation, before final review by the Deliberative Panel on 2 May 2021;
- (4) Notes that Council will provide a submission on the draft Community Vision to the panel, through a report on 26 April 2021 for review and consideration by the Deliberative Panel on 2 May 2021; and
- (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 88 of the *Local Government Act 2020* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Darebin 2041 Community Vision (**Appendix A**).

<b>Motion</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. T Laurence

**SECONDED:** Cr. J Williams

**That Council:**

- (1) Notes the draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision and resolves to include the following amendments with reasons to amend the draft Community Vision:
  - (a) replace the word “green” from any reference in the Vision, 10 Year Financial Plan, Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and the budget 2021-22, with “sustainable”.
  - (b) replace the work “connected” from any reference in the vision with “inclusive”.
  - (c) Reword the third sentence of the vision to state “we are committed to a multicultural, economically thriving, sustainable and climate safe future”.
  - (d) Under the priority, Vibrant, Respectful and Inclusive: Reword the second point to read “connecting, valuing and including our diverse and multicultural communities”.
  - (e) Under the priority, Sustainable: Remove the word “green”.
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan, for the next stage of community engagement that demonstrates the connection between the Vision, 10 Year Financial Plan, Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and draft budget 2021-22, with the following changes:
  - (a) The Engagement type for the Deliberative panel to be amended to the Collaborate level.
  - (b) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Workshop or targeted events with CALD community members” and the column “More information” - to include “bilingual facilitators run workshops in different languages”. To also include under “Resources needed” the term “bilingual facilitators”.
  - (c) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Telephone surveys” and the column “More Information” - to include “interpreters will contact and engage people who do not speak English in their native language”. To also include under “Resources needed the term “interpreters”.
- (3) Notes that further feedback and consultation on the Darebin 2041 Community Vision that is to be undertaken with the Darebin Youth Citizen Jury, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Corporation before final review by the Deliberative Panel on 2 May 2021;
- (4) Provides the updated Community Vision to the Deliberative Panel, Darebin Youth Citizen Jury, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Corporation in advance of further engagement on the Community Vision.
- (5) Notes that Council will provide a submission on the draft Community Vision to the panel, through a report on 26 April 2021 for review and consideration by the Deliberative Panel on 2 May 2021; and
- (6) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 88 of the Local Government Act 2020 of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Darebin 2041 Community Vision (Appendix A).

The motion was put and carried.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-090****MOVED: Cr. T Laurence****SECONDED: Cr. J Williams****That Council:**

- (1) Notes the draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision and resolves to include the following amendments with reasons to amend the draft Community Vision:
  - (a) replace the word “green” from any reference in the Vision, 10 Year Financial Plan, Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and the budget 2021-22, with “sustainable”.
  - (b) replace the work “connected” from any reference in the vision with “inclusive”.
  - (c) Reword the third sentence of the vision to state “we are committed to a multicultural, economically thriving, sustainable and climate safe future”.
  - (d) Under the priority, Vibrant, Respectful and Inclusive: Reword the second point to read “connecting, valuing and including our diverse and multicultural communities”.
  - (e) Under the priority, Sustainable: Remove the word “green”.
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan, for the next stage of community engagement that demonstrates the connection between the Vision, 10 Year Financial Plan, Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and draft budget 2021-22, with the following changes:
  - (a) The Engagement type for the Deliberative panel to be amended to the Collaborate level.
  - (b) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Workshop or targeted events with CALD community members” and the column “More information” - to include “bilingual facilitators run workshops in different languages”. To also include under “Resources needed” the term “bilingual facilitators”.
  - (c) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Telephone surveys” and the column “More Information” - to include “interpreters will contact and engage people who do not speak English in their native language”. To also include under “Resources needed the term “interpreters”.
- (3) Notes that further feedback and consultation on the Darebin 2041 Community Vision that is to be undertaken with the Darebin Youth Citizen Jury, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Corporation before final review by the Deliberative Panel on 2 May 2021;
- (4) Provides the updated Community Vision to the Deliberative Panel, Darebin Youth Citizen Jury, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Corporation in advance of further engagement on the Community Vision.
- (5) Notes that Council will provide a submission on the draft Community Vision to the panel, through a report on 26 April 2021 for review and consideration by the Deliberative Panel on 2 May 2021; and
- (6) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 88 of the Local Government Act 2020 of Council’s intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Darebin 2041 Community Vision (Appendix A).

**CARRIED****For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

## 7.2

## DRAFT FINANCIAL PLAN 2021-31

The Financial Plan 2021-2031 is a new requirement introduced through the Local Government Act 2020 and must be in place by 31 October 2021 and takes effect from 1 July 2021. This new long-term plan provides a 10 year financially sustainable projection regarding how the actions of the Council Plan may be funded to achieve the Community Vision aspirations.

The Financial Plan has been developed using the context of strategic planning principles, financial management principles, engagement principles, service performance principles and asset plan integration. Its development has also been informed by the existing Strategic Resource Plan 2020-2024 adopted by Council on 15 July 2020, which will be replaced upon adoption of the Financial Plan 2021-31.

**Officer Recommendation**

**That** Council:

- (1) Endorses the draft Financial Plan 2021–31 to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement;
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Financial Plan 2021-31 and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration;
- (3) Notes that the Strategic Resource Plan 2020-2024 and Ten Year Capital Works Plan 2020-21 to 2029-30 will be superseded by the Financial Plan 2021-31 upon adoption; and
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 91 of the *Local Government Act 2020* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Financial Plan 2021-31 (**Appendix A**).

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-091**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Hannan

**That** Council:

- (1) Endorses the draft Financial Plan 2021–31 to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement;
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Financial Plan 2021-31 and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration;
- (3) Notes that the Strategic Resource Plan 2020-2024 and Ten Year Capital Works Plan 2020-21 to 2029-30 will be superseded by the Financial Plan 2021-31 upon adoption; and
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 91 of the *Local Government Act 2020* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Financial Plan 2021-31 (**Appendix A**).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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### 7.3 COUNCIL PLAN (INCORPORATING THE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN) 2021 -2025 DRAFT PRIORTIES TO INFORM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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There are two additional themes propose to frame the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities 2021-2025 that provide for the Council's priorities in responding to the COVID 19 pandemic and the role of the organisation is delivering on the Community Vision and Council Plan. These two additional themes are:

- COVID 19 Relief and Recovery
- Governance, Service and Financial Sustainability

A highlight of the draft priorities by the 5 proposed Council Plan strategic directions, are provided below:

#### **Vibrant, Respectful and Connected**

- Continued implementation of Age Friendly Darebin
- Establishment of a volunteer program for the Darebin community
- Improved access to digital for communities that don't traditional use digital tools
- Greater access to Reservoir library with extended opening hour to Sundays and increased hours during the week as part of the After Dark program
- Develop a partnership with Wurundjeri Corporation to support to the delivery of mutual goals

#### **Equitable**

- Redevelopment of major facilities, including Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, BT Cannon Pavilion and Preston Precinct Intercultural Centre. At the same time planning will commence to redevelop the Reservoir Leisure Centre and to consider the feasibility for a Global Learning Hub in Preston.
- Improving the appearance, safety, lighting and viability of shopping strips, streetscapes and business activity areas.
- Additional spaces for 3-year old's to attend kinder, through redevelopment of existing kindergartens
- Focus on supporting Darebin multi cultural communities, through reduction in racism, opportunities for culture diverse community groups through the establishment of Community Leader network and greater focus improving access to Council's services for non English speaking communities
- Community designed programs for the East Preston and East Reservoir to improve the local built environment and health and wellbeing of these communities
- Expansion of the assertive outreach program to support people rough sleeping and experiencing homelessness

#### **Green and Sustainable**

- A focus on improving the amenity and usage at Edwardes Lake Precinct, including improved biodiversity and water quality and Investment in the Boathouse to support a long-term lease arrangement

- Continue increasing canopy cover across the municipality, with a focus on biodiversity & shopping areas
- Undertake waste reform and take action toward a circular economy, and the introduction Food Waste into Green Bins
- Solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits program for vulnerable houses including public and social housing and renters

### **COVID 19 Relief and Recovery**

- Establishment of a Darebin Chamber of Commerce
- Subsidise six months of Business Special Charge in 21/22
- Development and delivery of a COVID Relief and recovery program to support Darebin based businesses
- Waiving of specific fees and charges for Darebin businesses for 21/22, including food and health renewals and footpath trading fees
- Spend local voucher system, reimbursements and discounts for communities impacted by COVID, including pensioners and eligible job seekers

### **Governance, Service and Financial Sustainability**

- Communications Strategy that focuses on ensuring Council's publications reflect the diversity in the community
- Development of an Advocacy Framework and four-year Advocacy Plan to influencing public policy change and attracting support and funding for Councils priorities
- Supporting the business community to ensure that business are not adversely affected during level crossing removal
- Continued protection of Preston market to be retained as a central place of significance for the community
- Reforms to the Statutory Planning scheme, underpinned by a community engagement process

It was noted that that Officers had amended their Officer Recommendation as follows

Point 1. – the addition of the word 'priorities'

1. Endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) **priorities** to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement;

Point 2. - – the addition of the word 'priorities'

2. Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) **priorities** and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration;

And the addition of a point 6 to read

6. Requests that officers remove all references and content relating to the Draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision from the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document (Appendix A) before proceeding to community consultation and deliberative engagement

The Officer Recommendation below reflects these changes

**Officer Recommendation****That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement;
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration;
- (3) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities 2021-2025, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021
- (4) Notes that a draft copy of the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) will be provided to the Secretary of the Department of Health under section 27 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act* for the purposes of seeking an exemption from producing a municipal public health and wellbeing plan by including the public health and wellbeing matters required under section 26(2) in the Council Plan;
- (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 26 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-25 (**Appendix A**).
- (6) Requests that officers remove all references and content relating to the Draft Darebin 2041 Community Vision from the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document (Appendix A) before proceeding to community consultation and deliberative engagement

**Motion**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Newton  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** the Officer Recommendation be adopted.

<b>Amendment</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. E Dimitriadis

**SECONDED:** Cr. J Williams

**That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement, with the following changes:
  - a) Page 9, include Big Action Plans in the Council Plan as:
    1. Construction of major facilities, including Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, BT Connor Pavilion and Preston Precinct Intercultural Centre.
    2. Undertake a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston.
    3. Commence planning for the redevelopment of the Reservoir Leisure Centre.
    4. Significantly improving the water quality and biodiversity at Edwardes Lake Precinct and invest in the Boathouse to support a long-term lease arrangement.
    5. Continued protection of Preston market to be retained in its current location as a central place of local heritage significance for the community.
    6. Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce.
    7. COVID relief and recovery packages to support businesses and the most vulnerable members of our community impacted by COVID.
    8. Increase spaces for 3-year-old children to access community based kinder, through the redevelopment and expansion of existing and new kinder infrastructure.
    9. Establish a Darebin Nature Plan.
    10. Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and expand aged care direct services, as well as Council to formally register to become a registered home care package provider.
    11. Improving the appearance, safety, lighting and viability of shopping strips, streetscapes and business activity areas.
    12. Reform the Statutory Planning scheme, underpinned by community engagement process.
    13. Continue increasing canopy cover across the municipality, with a focus on biodiversity and shopping areas.
    14. Develop a partnership with Wurundjeri Corporation to support the delivery of mutual goals.
    15. Undertake waste reform and take action towards a circular economy.
    16. Focus on supporting Darebin multicultural communities, through reduction in racism and significant improvement in access to Council's services and sporting assets.
    17. Community designed programs for the East Preston and East Reservoir to improve the local built environment and health and wellbeing of these communities.
    18. Expansion of the assertive outreach program to support people rough sleeping and experiencing homelessness.
    19. Solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits program for vulnerable houses including public and social housing and renters.
    20. Amend Council's parking permit policy to ensure it is suitable and equitable for residents outside their homes.

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- (b) Page 10, replace “Strategic Direction: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected” with “Strategic Direction: Vibrant, Respectful and Inclusive”
  - (c) Page 10, under Strategic Objective replace “... that celebrate people from diverse backgrounds” to “to value and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds”
  - (d) Page 10, under Darebin Council Indicators replace “diverse groups” with “multicultural and diverse groups” to read exactly: “Number of people or groups from multicultural and diverse groups and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who access Council services and sporting assets”
  - (e) Page 11, under Actions to Achieve Strategic Objectives replace, reword action item #40 to read “Support and promote a significant increase (in particular: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, all abilities and multicultural and diverse communities) ...”
  - (f) Page 11, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, to add the following to action item #41 to read “...who demonstrate inclusion for, in particular: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island People, women, girls, all abilities, multicultural and diverse communities”
  - (g) Page 12, under Darebin Council Indicators include an additional indicator, “% of people from community satisfaction survey from a culturally diverse background that believe Darebin is more culturally inclusive”
  - (h) Page 12, under City of Darebin Indicators also include an additional indicator, “% of people from community satisfaction survey from diverse backgrounds that believe Darebin values inclusiveness”
  - (i) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, also include the additional action item, “Program to support middle years students (later primary school and early secondary school) from across Darebin schools to connect with each other and take action on systemic racism issues together”
  - (j) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “Develop a cultural diversity action plan to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for culturally diverse communities”
  - (k) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #50 to “Develop programs to support international students in Darebin”
  - (l) Page 14, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item, “Provide \$200K in sports grant for increased participation of women, girls, all abilities, multicultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in community sports”
  - (m) Page 14, under Actions to Achieve Strategic Objectives, replace action item #176 with “Deliver Age Friendly Darebin, expand aged care direct services and for Council to formally register to become a registered home care package provider”
  - (n) Page 17, under Strategic Objectives reword to “... and respond equitably to and value the diverse needs...”
  - (o) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #224 with “Community consultation regarding future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land”.
  - (p) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #198 with “Redevelop and rebuild the Reservoir Leisure Centre...”
  - (q) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “In collaboration with stakeholders the beautification and rejuvenation of Cheddar Road”
  - (r) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “Planning for the redevelopment of J Hall Reserve pavilion and public toilet”
  - (s) Page 25, under Strategic Objectives, add “Work with the State government to provide a safe pedestrian crossing with traffic lights at the corner of Wingrove Street and Station Street in Fairfield.
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- (t) Page 27, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, add the following words to action item #31, “Significantly increase the roundabout renewal program across all areas of Darebin”
  - (u) Page 32, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #9 to read “Review Council’s parking permit policy:
    - (i) to improve access for people with special needs
    - (ii) to allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits
    - (iii) to allow single lot dwellings built after Dec 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before Dec 2004
    - (iv) to ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits”
  - (v) Page 37, under Strategic Objective reword to read, “Advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco”
  - (w) Page 38, under City of Darebin Indicators incorporate an additional indicator to read “Attitudes on cultural diversity (> acceptance within CALD community in four years)”
  - (x) Page 39, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #165 to read “Working with the community to deliver projects biannually which foster...”
  - (y) Page 39, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #165 add “Work with DECC, local community and local organisations to create...”
  - (z) Page 44, under City of Darebin indicators, to read “Significantly improve the quality of water coming into lake...”
  - (aa) Page 45, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item that reads “Establishing and adequately resourcing the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake”
  - (bb) Page 45, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item that reads “Advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to improve the water quality of Edwardes Lake”
  - (cc) Page 49, under City of Darebin indicators, add an additional indicator to be worded as “Increase the number of local jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people from disadvantaged backgrounds by 2025”
  - (dd) Page 52, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #59, change all the words ‘green’ to “sustainable”
  - (ee) Page 56, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #85, change the word ‘green’ to “sustainable”
  - (ff) Page 60, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #153, add the word “cultural” to the sentence “Consider offering Council building space to one community group/organisation to promote multiculturalism and diversity each year”.
  - (gg) Page 64, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #158 replace the work ‘Green Waste’ to “Food and Garden Waste”
  - (hh) Page 65, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #22 to “...and work with community to advocate for the strengthened assessment criteria in the Heart of Darebin Assessment Tool through this planning process”
  - (ii) Page 67, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #16 add the words ensure to read “...to advocate to ensure the protection of Strathallan...”
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration, with the following changes:

- (a) The Engagement type for the Deliberative panel to be amended to the Collaborate level.
  - (b) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Workshop or targeted events with CALD community members” and the column “More information” - to include “bilingual facilitators run workshops in different languages”. To also include under “Resources needed” the term “bilingual facilitators”.
  - (c) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Telephone surveys” and the column “More Information” - to include “interpreters will contact and engage people who do not speak English in their native language”. To also include under “Resources needed the term “interpreters”.
- (3) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities 2021-2025, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council’s Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021
  - (4) Notes that a draft copy of the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) will be provided to the Secretary of the Department of Health under section 27 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act for the purposes of seeking an exemption from producing a municipal public health and wellbeing plan by including the public health and wellbeing matters required under section 26(2) in the Council Plan;
  - (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020 and section 26 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 of Council’s intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-25 (Appendix A).

*The Mayor Cr. Lina Messina advised Council that she has a general conflict of interest with respect to the sections of the amendment relating to Aged Care Services ie (1)(a)(10) and 1(m) and accordingly discussion and voting on the amendment would occur in two parts.*

The mover and seconder of the motion did not consent to the amendment.

The amendment was considered in two parts. The first part of amendment covered all points except points 1(a) (10) and 1(m) relating to aged care services.

The second part of amendment dealt with the points 1(a) (10) and 1(m) relating to aged care services.

*Meeting was adjourned for a brief break at 8.30 pm and recommenced at 8.53pm*

The first part of the amendment was put in sections and carried and became substantive motion.

- a) Page 9, include Big Action Plans in the Council Plan as:
  - 1. Construction of major facilities, including Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, BT Connor Pavilion and Preston Precinct Intercultural Centre.
  - 2. Undertake a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston.
  - 3. Commence planning for the redevelopment of the Reservoir Leisure Centre.

4. Significantly improving the water quality and biodiversity at Edwardes Lake Precinct and invest in the Boathouse to support a long-term lease arrangement.
5. Continued protection of Preston market to be retained in its current location as a central place of local heritage significance for the community.
6. Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce.
7. COVID relief and recovery packages to support businesses and the most vulnerable members of our community impacted by COVID.
8. Increase spaces for 3-year-old children to access community based kinder, through the redevelopment and expansion of existing and new kinder infrastructure.
9. Establish a Darebin Nature Plan.

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

11. Improving the appearance, safety, lighting and viability of shopping strips, streetscapes and business activity areas.
  12. Reform the Statutory Planning scheme, underpinned by community engagement process.
  13. Continue increasing canopy cover across the municipality, with a focus on biodiversity and shopping areas.
  14. Develop a partnership with Wurundjeri Corporation to support the delivery of mutual goals.
  15. Undertake waste reform and take action towards a circular economy.
  16. Focus on supporting Darebin multicultural communities, through reduction in racism and significant improvement in access to Council's services and sporting assets.
  17. Community designed programs for the East Preston and East Reservoir to improve the local built environment and health and wellbeing of these communities.
  18. Expansion of the assertive outreach program to support people rough sleeping and experiencing homelessness.
  19. Solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits program for vulnerable houses including public and social housing and renters.
  20. Amend Council's parking permit policy to ensure it is suitable and equitable for residents outside their homes.
- b) Page 10, replace "Strategic Direction: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected" with "Strategic Direction: Vibrant, Respectful and Inclusive"
- c) Page 10, under Strategic Objective replace "... that celebrate people from diverse backgrounds" to "to value and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds"

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- d) Page 10, under Darebin Council Indicators replace “diverse groups” with “multicultural and diverse groups” to read exactly: “Number of people or groups from multicultural and diverse groups and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who access Council services and sporting assets”
- e) Page 11, under Actions to Achieve Strategic Objectives replace, reword action item #40 to read “Support and promote a significant increase (in particular: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, all abilities and multicultural and diverse communities) ...”
- f) Page 11, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, to add the following to action item #41 to read “...who demonstrate inclusion for, in particular: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island People, women, girls, all abilities, multicultural and diverse communities”
- g) Page 12, under Darebin Council Indicators include an additional indicator, “% of people from community satisfaction survey from a culturally diverse background that believe Darebin is more culturally inclusive”
- h) Page 12, under City of Darebin Indicators also include an additional indicator, “% of people from community satisfaction survey from diverse backgrounds that believe Darebin values inclusiveness”
- i) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, also include the additional action item, “Program to support middle years students (later primary school and early secondary school) from across Darebin schools to connect with each other and take action on systemic racism issues together”
- j) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional **action** item “Develop a cultural diversity action plan to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for culturally diverse communities”

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- k) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #50 to “Develop programs to support international students in Darebin”
- l) Page 14, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item, “Provide \$200K in sports grant for increased participation of women, girls, all abilities, multicultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in community sports”
- n) Page 17, under Strategic Objectives reword to “... and respond equitably to and value the diverse needs...”
- o) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #224 with “Community consultation regarding future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land”.
- p) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #198 with “Redevelop and rebuild the Reservoir Leisure Centre...”
- q) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “In collaboration with stakeholders the beautification and rejuvenation of Cheddar Road”
- r) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “Planning for the redevelopment of J Hall Reserve pavilion and public toilet”

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- s) Page 25, under Strategic Objectives, add "Work with the State government to provide a safe pedestrian crossing with traffic lights at the corner of Wingrove Street and Station Street in Fairfield.
- t) Page 27, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, add the following words to action item #31, "Significantly increase the roundabout renewal program across all areas of Darebin"
- u) Page 32, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #9 to read "Review Council's parking permit policy:
  - (i) to improve access for people with special needs
  - (ii) to allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits
  - (iii) to allow single lot dwellings built after Dec 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before Dec 2004
  - (iv) to ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits"
- w) Page 38, under City of Darebin Indicators incorporate an additional indicator to read "Attitudes on cultural diversity (> acceptance within CALD community in four years)"
- x) Page 39, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #165 to read "Working with the community to deliver projects biannually which foster..."
- y) Page 39, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #165 add "Work with DECC, local community and local organisations to create..."
- z) Page 44, under City of Darebin indicators, to read "Significantly improve the quality of water coming into lake..."

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- v) Page 37, under Strategic Objective reword to read, "Advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco"

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- aa) Page 45, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item that reads "Establishing and adequately resourcing the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake"

- bb) Page 45, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item that reads “Advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to improve the water quality of Edwardes Lake”
- cc) Page 49, under City of Darebin indicators, add an additional indicator to be worded as “Increase the number of local jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people from disadvantaged backgrounds by 2025”
- dd) Page 52, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #59, change all the words ‘green’ to “sustainable”
- ee) Page 56, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #85, change the word ‘green’ to “sustainable”
- ff) Page 60, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #153, add the word “cultural” to the sentence “Consider offering Council building space to one community group/organisation to promote multiculturalism and diversity each year”.

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- gg) Page 64, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #158 replace the work ‘Green Waste’ to “Food and Garden Waste”

**LOST**

**For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Messina, Newton and Rennie (5)

- hh) Page 65, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #22 to “...and work with community to advocate for the strengthened assessment criteria in the Heart of Darebin Assessment Tool through this planning process”
- ii) Page 67, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #16 add the words ensure to read “...to advocate to ensure the protection of Strathallan...”

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- 2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration, **with the following changes:**
  - (a) The Engagement type for the Deliberative panel to be amended to the Collaborate level.

- (b) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Workshop or targeted events with CALD community members” and the column “More information” - to include “bilingual facilitators run workshops in different languages”. To also include under “Resources needed” the term “bilingual facilitators”.
- (c) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on “Telephone surveys” and the column “More Information” - to include “interpreters will contact and engage people who do not speak English in their native language”. To also include under “Resources needed the term “interpreters”.

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

### **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

**9.23pm** The Mayor Cr. Lina Messina declared a general conflict of interest in the second part of amendment which dealt with the points 1(a) (10) and 1(m) relating to aged care services. The Mayor invited the Deputy Mayor to take the Chair and left the Chamber prior to Council commencing its determination of the matter.

**9.24 pm** The Deputy Mayor Cr. Greco assumed the Chair.

The second part of amendment dealing with the points 1(a) (10) and 1(m) and relating to aged care services was put and carried and became substantive motion.

**(1) That** Council endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement, with the following changes:

- a) Page 9, include Big Action Plans in the Council Plan as:
  - 10) Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and expand aged care direct services, as well as Council to formally register to become a registered home care package provider.
- m) Page 14, under Actions to Achieve Strategic Objectives, replace action item #176 with “Deliver Age Friendly Darebin, expand aged care direct services and for Council to formally register to become a registered home care package provider”

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr’s. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, and Williams (4)

**Against:** Cr’s. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

The amendment was carried on the casting vote of Acting Chair.

9.50 pm Mayor Cr. Messina returned to the meeting and assumed the Chair.

### EXTENSION OF TIME

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-092**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Laurence

**That** the Council meeting continue after 10.00 pm for 30 minutes.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The substantive motion before the Council was put in two parts and carried.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-093**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Newton  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** Council:

- (1) Endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement, with the following changes:
  - a) Page 9, include Big Action Plans in the Council Plan as:
    1. Construction of major facilities, including Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, BT Connor Pavilion and Preston Precinct Intercultural Centre.
    2. Undertake a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston.
    3. Commence planning for the redevelopment of the Reservoir Leisure Centre.
    4. Significantly improving the water quality and biodiversity at Edwardes Lake Precinct and invest in the Boathouse to support a long-term lease arrangement.
    5. Continued protection of Preston market to be retained in its current location as a central place of local heritage significance for the community.
    6. Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce.
    7. COVID relief and recovery packages to support businesses and the most vulnerable members of our community impacted by COVID.
    8. Increase spaces for 3-year-old children to access community based kinder, through the redevelopment and expansion of existing and new kinder infrastructure.
    9. Establish a Darebin Nature Plan.
    11. Improving the appearance, safety, lighting and viability of shopping strips, streetscapes and business activity areas.
    12. Reform the Statutory Planning scheme, underpinned by community engagement process.
    13. Continue increasing canopy cover across the municipality, with a focus on biodiversity and shopping areas.

14. Develop a partnership with Wurundjeri Corporation to support the delivery of mutual goals.
  15. Undertake waste reform and take action towards a circular economy.
  16. Focus on supporting Darebin multicultural communities, through reduction in racism and significant improvement in access to Council's services and sporting assets.
  17. Community designed programs for the East Preston and East Reservoir to improve the local built environment and health and wellbeing of these communities.
  18. Expansion of the assertive outreach program to support people rough sleeping and experiencing homelessness.
  19. Solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits program for vulnerable houses including public and social housing and renters.
  20. Amend Council's parking permit policy to ensure it is suitable and equitable for residents outside their homes.
- (b) Page 10, replace "Strategic Direction: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected" with "Strategic Direction: Vibrant, Respectful and Inclusive"
  - (c) Page 10, under Strategic Objective replace "... that celebrate people from diverse backgrounds" to "to value and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds"
  - (d) Page 10, under Darebin Council Indicators replace "diverse groups" with "multicultural and diverse groups" to read exactly: "Number of people or groups from multicultural and diverse groups and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who access Council services and sporting assets"
  - (e) Page 11, under Actions to Achieve Strategic Objectives replace, reword action item #40 to read "Support and promote a significant increase (in particular: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, all abilities and multicultural and diverse communities) ..."
  - (f) Page 11, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, to add the following to action item #41 to read "...who demonstrate inclusion for, in particular: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island People, women, girls, all abilities, multicultural and diverse communities"
  - (g) Page 12, under Darebin Council Indicators include an additional indicator, "% of people from community satisfaction survey from a culturally diverse background that believe Darebin is more culturally inclusive"
  - (h) Page 12, under City of Darebin Indicators also include an additional indicator, "% of people from community satisfaction survey from diverse backgrounds that believe Darebin values inclusiveness"
  - (i) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, also include the additional action item, "Program to support middle years students (later primary school and early secondary school) from across Darebin schools to connect with each other and take action on systemic racism issues together"
  - (j) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional **action** item "Develop a cultural diversity action plan to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for culturally diverse communities"
  - (k) Page 12, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #50 to "Develop programs to support international students in Darebin"
  - (l) Page 14, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item, "Provide \$200K in sports grant for increased participation of women, girls, all abilities, multicultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in community sports"
  - (n) Page 17, under Strategic Objectives reword to "... and respond equitably to and value the diverse needs..."

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- (o) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #224 with “Community consultation regarding future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land”.
  - (p) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #198 with “Redevelop and rebuild the Reservoir Leisure Centre...”
  - (q) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “In collaboration with stakeholders the beautification and rejuvenation of Cheddar Road”
  - (r) Page 21, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item “Planning for the redevelopment of J Hall Reserve pavilion and public toilet”
  - (s) Page 25, under Strategic Objectives, add “Work with the State government to provide a safe pedestrian crossing with traffic lights at the corner of Wingrove Street and Station Street in Fairfield.
  - (t) Page 27, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, add the following words to action item #31, “Significantly increase the roundabout renewal program across all areas of Darebin”
  - (u) Page 32, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #9 to read “Review Council’s parking permit policy:
    - (i) to improve access for people with special needs
    - (ii) to allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits
    - (iii) to allow single lot dwellings built after Dec 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before Dec 2004
    - (iv) to ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits”
  - (v) Page 37, under Strategic Objective reword to read, “Advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco”
  - (w) Page 38, under City of Darebin Indicators incorporate an additional indicator to read “Attitudes on cultural diversity (> acceptance within CALD community in four years)”
  - (x) Page 39, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #165 to read “Working with the community to deliver projects biannually which foster...”
  - (y) Page 39, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #165 add “Work with DECC, local community and local organisations to create...”
  - (z) Page 44, under City of Darebin indicators, to read “Significantly improve the quality of water coming into lake...”
  - (aa) Page 45, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item that reads “Establishing and adequately resourcing the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake”
  - (bb) Page 45, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, include an additional action item that reads “Advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to improve the water quality of Edwardes Lake”
  - (cc) Page 49, under City of Darebin indicators, add an additional indicator to be worded as “Increase the number of local jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people from disadvantaged backgrounds by 2025”
  - (dd) Page 52, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #59, change all the words ‘green’ to “sustainable”
  - (ee) Page 56, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #85, change the word ‘green’ to “sustainable”
  - (ff) Page 60, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #153, add the word “cultural” to the sentence “Consider offering Council building space to one community group/organisation to promote multiculturalism and diversity each year”.
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- (hh) Page 65, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, reword action item #22 to "...and work with community to advocate for the strengthened assessment criteria in the Heart of Darebin Assessment Tool through this planning process"
- (ii) Page 67, under Actions to achieve the Strategic Objective, in action item #16 add the words ensure to read "...to advocate to ensure the protection of Strathallan..."
- (2) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration, with the following changes:
- (a) The Engagement type for the Deliberative panel to be amended to the Collaborate level.
- (b) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on "Workshop or targeted events with CALD community members" and the column "More information" - to include "bilingual facilitators run workshops in different languages". To also include under "Resources needed" the term "bilingual facilitators".
- (c) In the table under Engagement methods, specifically the row on "Telephone surveys" and the column "More Information" - to include "interpreters will contact and engage people who do not speak English in their native language". To also include under "Resources needed" the term "interpreters".
- (3) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities 2021-2025, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021
- (4) Notes that a draft copy of the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) will be provided to the Secretary of the Department of Health under section 27 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act for the purposes of seeking an exemption from producing a municipal public health and wellbeing plan by including the public health and wellbeing matters required under section 26(2) in the Council Plan;
- (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020 and section 26 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-25 (Appendix A).

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

#### **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

**10.09 pm** The Mayor Cr. Lina Messina declared a general conflict of interest in the following motion as she works in the aged care sector and these matters relate to Aged Care Services. Cr. Messina invited the Deputy Mayor to take the Chair and left the Chamber prior to Council commencing its determination of the matter.

**10.10 pm** Deputy Mayor Cr. Greco assumed the Chair.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MINUTE NO. 21-094**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Newton

**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** Council endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement, with the following changes:

a) Page 9, include Big Action Plans in the Council Plan as:

10) Deliver Age Friendly Darebin and expand aged care direct services, as well as Council to formally register to become a registered home care package provider.

m) Page 14, under Actions to Achieve Strategic Objectives, replace action item #176 with "Deliver Age Friendly Darebin, expand aged care direct services and for Council to formally register to become a registered home care package provider"

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, and Williams (4)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

The motion was carried on the casting vote of Cr. Greco, Acting Chair.

**10.11pm** Mayor Cr. Messina returned to the meeting and assumed the Chair.

**7.4 DRAFT BUDGET 2021–22**

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The annual budget is an essential planning and resource tool produced each year. The development of a considered budget is vital to the ongoing operational and financial viability of Council. The budget sets out the expected income and expenditure for operational, strategic and capital activities for the coming year and also incorporates Council's rating strategies. The budget 2021/22 is informed by Council's draft Community Vision 2041, draft Financial Plan 2021-31, draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-25 and draft Rating and Revenue Plan 2021-25.

The draft 2021-22 budget seeks to continue Council's proactive approach to prioritising efforts to supporting the community impacted by the COVID pandemic. Towards this, the budget contains a significant financial assistance package featuring:

- A \$50 spend local voucher to pensioners who are property owners
- A \$30 spend local voucher to residential property owners
- A spend local voucher Darebin residents and pet registration subsidy for Darebin residents who are eligible Job Seekers
- Continued support to traders including through fee waivers such as footpath trading fees
- Fee waivers in Art venues and Community Hubs
- Leisure and Recreation vouchers and discounts
- Continuing opportunity for all ratepayers to defer 2021/22 rate payments to 30 June 2022

It is important to acknowledge that Council's own financial position has been impacted by the pandemic and this is expected to continue at least in the short term. In responding to this challenging period, it is critical that Council maintains a sound financial position so that it can meet its financial obligations and ensure that it is in a position to support the needs of the Darebin community into the future.

The budget documentation forms part of a comprehensive public accountability process and reporting that includes:

- A 20-year Community Vision
- A 4-year Council Plan incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- A 10-year Financial Plan
- A 4-year Rating and Revenue Plan
- An Annual Report

The draft budget contains the information specified in the *Local Government Act 2020* ('the Act') and all details required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 ('the Regulations'). The financial statements included in the draft budget have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report.

**Officer Recommendation**

**That** Council:

- (1) Adopts the draft Budget 2021–22 for the purposes of Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- (2) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice of its intention to adopt, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Budget 2021–22 (**Appendix A**).
- (3) Gives notice in accordance with section 169 of the ***Local Government Act 1989*** of Council's intention to grant, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, a rate rebate to pensioners in the 2021–22 year in the amount of \$150 to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*.
- (4) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Budget 2021–22 or in relation to the granting of a rate rebate to pensioners, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021.
- (5) Adopts the COVID Financial Hardship Policy for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (refer **Attachment B**).

**Motion**

**MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T McCarthy

**That** the Officer Recommendation be adopted.

<b>Amendment</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. J Williams

**That** Point 1 of the Officer Recommendation be amended to include sub points (a) and (b) as follows:

- a) Subsidise for an additional six months at a cost of \$175,000 the special rates that are charged to the four trading precincts so the subsidy is for a full 12 months at a total cost of \$350,000.
- b) As part of the 2021/2022 annual Community Grants program, allocate \$200,000 to increase the participation in sport and recreation, with a focus on women and girls, people with all abilities, Aboriginal and Torres Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

The mover and seconder of the motion did not consent to the amendment.

Each part of the amendment was put separately and carried and became substantive motion.

- a) Subsidise for an additional six months at a cost of \$175,000 the special rates that are charged to the four trading precincts so the subsidy is for a full 12 months at a total cost of \$350,000.

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (5)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan, McCarthy, Newton and Rennie (4)

- b) As part of the 2021/2022 annual Community Grants program, allocate \$200,000 to increase the participation in sport and recreation, with a focus on women and girls, people with all abilities, Aboriginal and Torres Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Laurence, Messina, Newton and Williams (6)

**Against:** Cr's. Hannan and Rennie (2)

**Abstained:** Cr. McCarthy (1)

The substantive motion was put and carried unanimously.

**Council Resolution**

MINUTE NO. 21-095

**MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T McCarthy

**That Council:**

- (1) Adopts the draft Budget 2021–22 for the purposes of Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* **including:**
  - a) Subsidise for an additional six months at a cost of \$175,000 the special rates that are charged to the four trading precincts so the subsidy is for a full 12 months at a total cost of \$350,000.
  - b) As part of the 2021/2022 annual Community Grants program, allocate \$200,000 to increase the participation in sport and recreation, with a focus on women and girls, people with all abilities, Aboriginal and Torres Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- (2) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice of its intention to adopt, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Budget 2021–22 (**Appendix A**).
- (3) Gives notice in accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989* of Council's intention to grant, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, a rate rebate to pensioners in the 2021–22 year in the amount of \$150 to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*.
- (4) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Budget 2021–22 or in relation to the granting of a rate rebate to pensioners, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021.
- (5) Adopts the COVID Financial Hardship Policy for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (refer **Attachment B**).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**EXTENSION OF TIME****Council Resolution**

MINUTE NO. 21-096

**MOVED:** Cr. J Williams  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** the Council meeting continue after 10.30 pm for 30 minutes.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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## 7.5 APPROVAL OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An important reform of the *Local Government Act 2020* (2020 Act) was the transfer of responsibilities in determining Mayoral, and Councillor allowances to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Remuneration Tribunal).

However, until the Remuneration Tribunal makes its first determination on allowances, the allowance framework under the *Local Government Act 1989* (1989 Act), continues to apply, despite the repeal of those relevant provisions last year. Section 39(6) of the 2020 Act provides for this transitional arrangement.

The Minister is expected to request the Remuneration Tribunal to make a determination in late 2021.

Accordingly, Council is required to review and determine the level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances within the period of six months after a general election or by 30 June whichever is later. The purpose of this report is to review and determine allowances for the Mayor and Councillors and to commence public consultation under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

<b>Officer Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

- (1) Having conducted a preliminary review of the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances as required by Section 74 (1) of the Local Government Act 1989, proposes that (subject to annual review by the Minister for Local Government, or a Determination by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal) the Councillor and Mayoral Allowances be set at the following amount for the current Council term:
  - Councillor \$31,444 pa
  - Mayoral \$100,434 pa
  - plus an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee contribution (currently 9.5% - scheduled to increase to 10.0% from 1 July 2021).
- (2) In accordance with section 74(4) of the Local Government Act 1989, give public notice on Monday 12 April 2021 and on Council's internet site, as part of the public consultation on the proposed allowances and call for submissions under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989; and
- (3) Advises that any submissions received will be considered and heard by Councils Hearing of Submissions Committee on Monday 31 May 2021 at 6:00pm.
- (4) Following consideration of all submissions, a report recommending the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances be presented to the Council meeting 28 June 2021.

**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 21-097**

**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Laurence

**That Council:**

- (1) Having conducted a preliminary review of the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances as required by Section 74 (1) of the Local Government Act 1989, proposes that (subject to annual review by the Minister for Local Government, or a Determination by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal) the Councillor and Mayoral Allowances be set at the following amount for the current Council term:
  - Councillor \$31,444 pa
  - Mayoral \$100,434 pa
  - plus an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee contribution (currently 9.5% - scheduled to increase to 10.0% from 1 July 2021).
- (2) In accordance with section 74(4) of the Local Government Act 1989, give public notice on Monday 12 April 2021 and on Council's internet site, as part of the public consultation on the proposed allowances and call for submissions under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989; and
- (3) Advises that any submissions received will be considered and heard by Councils Hearing of Submissions Committee on Monday 31 May 2021 at 6:00pm.
- (4) Following consideration of all submissions, a report recommending the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances be presented to the Council meeting 28 June 2021.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

### Declaration of Conflict of Interest

**10.46 pm** The Mayor Cr. Lina Messina declared a general conflict of interest in the following Notice of Motion as she works in the aged care sector. Cr. Messina invited the Deputy Mayor to take the Chair and left the Chamber prior to Council commencing its determination of the matter.

**10.47 pm** Deputy Mayor Cr. Greco assumed the Chair.

## 9. NOTICES OF MOTION

### 9.1 AGED CARE SERVICES

**Councillor:** Emily DIMITRIADIS

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Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 8 April 2021, it is my intention to move:

**That** Council:

- (1) Notes the findings and recommendations of the 'Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety' and its focus on "placing people at the centre of aged care".
- (2) Notes that Council's aged care services are provided under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP).
- (3) Notes Council is currently not a registered Home Care Package Provider which offers a structured and comprehensive bundle of services on a 'consumer directed care basis'.
- (4) Notes that Council cannot offer residents the choice of receiving quality home care packages from Council unless it registers as a 'Home Care Package Provider'.
- (5) Notes that Council has a highly trained and trusted CHSP home care workforce that could also be utilised to provide home care packages to residents.
- (6) Receives a Council report in May 2021 on the benefits, options and way forward on Council also becoming a registered Home Care Packages provider.

*Meeting was adjourned for a brief break at 10.49 pm and recommenced at 10.59 pm*

<b>Motion</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr. E Dimitriadis

**SECONDED:** Cr. T Laurence

**That Council:**

- (1) Notes the findings and recommendations of the 'Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety' and its focus on "placing people at the centre of aged care".
- (2) Notes that Council's aged care services are provided under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP).
- (3) Notes Council is currently not a registered Home Care Package Provider which offers a structured and comprehensive bundle of services on a 'consumer directed care basis'.
- (4) Notes that Council cannot offer residents the choice of receiving quality home care packages from Council unless it registers as a 'Home Care Package Provider'.
- (5) Notes that Council has a highly trained and trusted CHSP home care workforce that could also be utilised to provide home care packages to residents.
- (6) Receives a Council report on the benefits, options and way forward on Council also becoming a registered Home Care Packages provider.

The motion was put and carried.

*Councillor Williams left the meeting at 11:00pm.*

*Councillor Williams returned to the meeting at 11:01pm.*

**Council Resolution**

MINUTE NO. 21-098

**MOVED:** Cr. E Dimitriadis  
**SECONDED:** Cr. T Laurence

**That Council:**

- (1) Notes the findings and recommendations of the 'Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety' and its focus on "placing people at the centre of aged care".
- (2) Notes that Council's aged care services are provided under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP).
- (3) Notes Council is currently not a registered Home Care Package Provider which offers a structured and comprehensive bundle of services on a 'consumer directed care basis'.
- (4) Notes that Council cannot offer residents the choice of receiving quality home care packages from Council unless it registers as a 'Home Care Package Provider'.
- (5) Notes that Council has a highly trained and trusted CHSP home care workforce that could also be utilised to provide home care packages to residents.
- (6) Receives a Council report on the benefits, options and way forward on Council also becoming a registered Home Care Packages provider.

**CARRIED**

**For:** Cr's. Dimitriadis, Greco, Hannan, Laurence, McCarthy, Rennie and Williams (7)

**Against:** Cr. Newton (1)

11.02 pm Mayor Cr. Messina returned to the meeting and assumed the Chair.

## 10. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

## 11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Nil

## 12. SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Nil

## 13. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Nil

**14. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

**15. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 11.03 pm.

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