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AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 4:00 PM

This meeting will be held online and will be livestreamed.

Persons wishing to view the meeting may access the livestream link from Council's website www.darebin.vic.gov.au



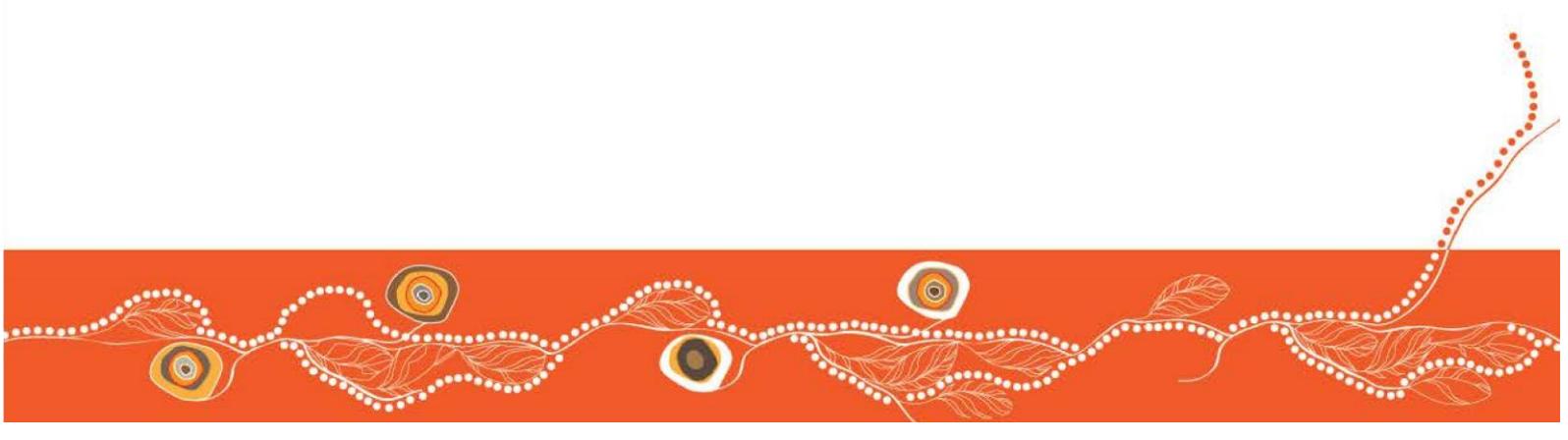
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

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 future leaders.

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 کا ایجنڈا ہے۔ ایجنڈے 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.

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Agenda

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis (Mayor)
Cr. Matt Arturi (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Connie Boglis OAM
Cr. Ruth Jelley
Cr. Julie O'Brien
Cr. Kristine Olaris OAM
Cr. Alexandra Sangster
Cr. Vasilios Tsalkos
Cr. Angela Villella

2. APOLOGIES

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. COUNCIL'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

5. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

5.1 DAREBIN COMMITMENT TO PEACE

Author: Chief Executive Officer

Reviewed By: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Darebin City Council has a long-standing commitment to promoting peace and harmony and has played a leadership role with respect to social justice and inclusion for the local and broader community.

Council engages with diverse faith leaders and its broader community to promote social cohesion and celebration of diversity. Council recognises that its community is increasingly distressed by the growing unrest and division in Australia and around the world as most recently displayed through the hateful attack at Bondi.

Council has an opportunity to maintain its strong and visible commitment to peace in a way that reduces misinterpretation and ambiguity by adopting the Peace Flag as a symbol that applies universally.

Officer Recommendation

That Council affirms its commitment to peace in Australia and across the world and replaces the Palestinian Flag to enable the Peace Flag to be flown at Preston City Hall.

KEY INFORMATION

Darebin City Council has a long-standing commitment to promoting peace, harmony and social justice. Council is committed to serving and responding to the diverse needs of the community and as outlined in its *Towards Equality* framework strives to consider the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion and human rights in everything it does.

Council engages with diverse faith leaders through the Darebin Interfaith Council and other forums and invites its community to celebrate diversity through a range of community events and its Intercultural Centre.

Darebin is an official supporter of the ICAN Cities Appeal, formally endorsing the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Council has also committed to an Investment & Treasury Policy that preferences financial institutions that do not fund the arms industry.

In December 2023 Council decided to raise the Palestinian Flag as a gesture of solidarity with the people of Palestine and all those affected by the conflict, in Darebin and beyond. There have been a variety of views in the community about the ongoing flying of this flag and the recent attack on the Australian Jewish community in Bondi has led to confusion about what the flag symbolises.

Council has affirmed its commitment to peace and non-violence in a joint statement following the incident in Bondi, stating it stands against all forms of hatred and discrimination. This was also clear in Council's resolution at its meeting in September 2025 where it reaffirmed its commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion in Darebin and condemned the aggression and hostility shown at the attack on Camp Sovereignty.

Council has an opportunity to maintain its strong and visible commitment to peace in a way that reduces misinterpretation and ambiguity by adopting the Peace Flag as a symbol that applies universally.

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Pillar 2: Respectful and Inclusive

ALIGNMENT TO OUR DAREBIN PLAN 2025-29

Strategic Direction 2: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion - A City where our rich diversity is celebrated, everyone can thrive and belong, and our services, programs, places and spaces are equitable, responsive, inclusive and accessible to all.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The cost of purchasing the Peace Flag is a minor cost and can be accommodated within Council's operational budget without impact on any service or project.

Community Engagement

Council has engaged with its community on a variety of strategies and policies, and its community has consistently communicated to Council that peace, safety, inclusion and respect are important. Further consultation is not deemed to be necessary in relation to this particular matter.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

Not applicable.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

This report outlines a range of Council's commitments to equity, inclusion and human rights and the recommendation is that Council displays this through flying the Peace Flag.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Not applicable.

Operational Impacts

Not applicable.

Legal and Risk Implications

The recommendation to Council is within its legal authority. From a governance perspective, if Council supports this recommendation, and resolves to replace the Palestinian Flag with the Peace Flag, it satisfies the requirements of the previous decision in December 2023 that a resolution is required to cease flying the Palestinian Flag.

This recommendation supports the wellbeing and safety of community members, Councillors and staff as it demonstrates a calm and inclusive action in a time where there is growing unrest and division.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

If Council supports this recommendation the Palestinian Flag will be removed from the community flagpole at Preston City Hall and replaced by the Peace Flag.

Council has already advised the community that it will consider adoption of a Flag Policy in the first half of 2026. Council has the opportunity to consider ongoing display of the Peace Flag at that time.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has identified or declared any conflicts of interest in the matter.

6. URGENT BUSINESS

7. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Nil.

8. CLOSE OF MEETING

**CITY OF
DAREBIN**

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 **National Relay Service**
relayservice.gov.au

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.

 **Speak your language**
T 8470 8470

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