

MINUTES

Meeting of Council

Held at the

Civic Centre

511 Burwood Highway

Wantirna South

On

Monday 23 May 2022

The Agenda for the Meeting of Council, Monday 23 May 2022, forms part of these Minutes and is attached in full at the end of the Minutes.

These Minutes are considered draft until adopted and confirmed at the next Meeting of Council

The meeting commenced at 7:04pm

<i>Cr S Laukens (Mayor)</i>	<i>Friberg Ward</i>
<i>Cr Y Allred</i>	<i>Baird Ward</i>
<i>Cr J Dwight (Via Zoom)</i>	<i>Chandler Ward</i>
<i>Cr M Timmers-Leitch</i>	<i>Collier Ward</i>
<i>Cr M Baker</i>	<i>Dobson Ward</i>
<i>Cr D Pearce</i>	<i>Taylor Ward</i>
<i>Cr N Seymour</i>	<i>Tirhatuan Ward</i>

<i>Mr B Dobson</i>	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>
<i>Mr G Thorne</i>	<i>Director – Infrastructure</i>
<i>Mr M Kelleher</i>	<i>Director - Strategy and Integrity</i>
<i>Ms T Scicluna</i>	<i>Director – Connected Communities</i>
<i>Ms I Kelly</i>	<i>Acting Director - City Centre</i>
<i>Ms S Stanton</i>	<i>Executive Manager - Strategy, People and Culture, Interim Information Technology & Transformation</i>
<i>Mr A Dowling</i>	<i>Acting Manager, Governance</i>

THE MEETING OPENED WITH A STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“Knox City Council acknowledges we are on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people and pay our respects to elders both past and present.”

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1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Cooper and Councillor Grasso

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

The Chairperson, Councillor Laukens invited Councillors to raise any opposition to the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 26 April 2022. There being none, the Chairperson declared the Minutes be confirmed.

4 Presentations, Petitions and Memorials

Nil.

5 Reports by Councillors

5.1.1 Councillor Baker

Councillor Baker reported attending the following meetings:

- Ferntree Gully Football Netball Club 130th Anniversary Function which detailed the history and achievements of the Football Club.
- Ferntree Gully Rotary Club Meeting

5.1.2 Councillor Timmers-Leitch

Councillor Timmers-Leitch reported attending the following meetings:

- IDAHOBIT Day Flag-Raising Event at Knox City Council
- Meeting with Labor Members of Parliament
- Milpera Reserve Floodlight Opening Event
- Knox Youth Advisory Committee Consultation on the new Library at Knox City Shopping Centre
- Leisure Minor Capital Works Grant Scheme Committee Meeting
- Knox Arts and Culture Committee Meeting
- Knox Youth Advisory Committee Meeting
- Knox Grant Celebration Event
- Australian Institute of Company Directors Melbourne Catch-Up Event

Councillor Timmers-Leitch also:

- Acknowledged the return to in-person Advisory Committee Meetings was providing an opportunity for more robust and valuable conversations.
- Expressed her happiness at Knox's support for the inclusive values of IDAHOBIT Day (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia), acknowledging progress had been made, but more work needs to be done to promote respectful and inclusive workplaces, schools and communities.

5.1.3 Councillor Allred

Councillor Allred reported attending the following meetings:

- Meeting with Labor Members of Parliament
- Eastern Regional Library Corporation- Transition to a Beneficial Enterprise
- Community Development Fund Panel Reflection Meeting
- Miller's Homestead Community Reference Group Meeting
- CEO Performance and Remuneration Committee Meeting
- Belgrave Library Redevelopment and Artwork Opening
- Knox Citizenship Ceremony
- Grants Celebration Event

Councillor Allred also:

- Recognised the pleasing response of families to the temporary installation of the pop up play park at 257 Dorest Road, Boronia.

- Acknowledged the construction of the multi-purpose community hub at Fairpark Reserve in Ferntree Gully, with community stakeholders closely watching each stage of the development.

5.1.4 Councillor Seymour

Councillor Seymour reported attending the following meetings:

- Chatty Café Gathering at Rowville Community Centre.

Councillor Seymour also:

- Noted an increased prevalence surrounding social anxiety in the municipality in driving loneliness and mental health concerns, noting:
 - An increase in school refusals, part-time youth employment and elderly anxiety.
 - Social anxiety resulting in people being unwilling to take public transport options, magnified in Knox due to the dispersed nature of public transport.
 - She was engaging with psychologists across Knox to discuss community mental health issues, and with the community through library coffee and chat groups.
 - Outlined that various groups in Knox are drawing social anxiety issues into a community health thread.
- Acknowledged May was key month to focus on domestic violence and:
 - Noted Knox has the worst record of domestic violence incidents in the Eastern Metropolitan region, with 1950 reported domestic violence incidents in the previous year and an increase of 22% in the last 4 years.
 - Highlighted Knox's robust strategy to address domestic violence,
 - Expressed disappointment that despite lobbying the State Government for grant funding for an Orange Door Network facility in Knox, a facility was being established in Croydon in a neighbouring municipality, which Knox residents will struggle to access via public transport
 - Advocated for an investment in mental health outreach services on the Belgrave line to improve accessibility for those affected in Boronia, Bayswater and Ferntree Gully.
 - Encouraged residents to raise awareness of domestic violence with the State Government and push for resources to address the issue locally.
- Flagged the impact of a rise in cost of living pressures and high petrol prices in the southern area of Knox where there is a heavy reliance on cars due to the lack of public transport, and heavily geared residents with large mortgages, resulting in more families seeking food relief to make ends meet.
- Expressed praise for the outdoor dining areas in Scoresby Village, established as part of the outdoor activation investment within the Retail Activation Strategy.

5.1.5 Councillor Dwight

Councillor Dwight reported attending the following meetings:

- Knox Citizenship Ceremony
- IDAHOBIT Day Flag-Raising Event at Knox City Council
- Guided Ecological Tour of Koolunga Native Reserve by Dr Graeme Lorimer
- Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Annual Conference- first conference in almost three years

- Unveiling of the new cairn at The Basin Triangle
- The Basin Community House Lunch- Volunteer Week
- Visit to Miller's Homestead- Miller's Storytime
- Meeting with Residents at Bambury Street, Boronia
- Upper Ferntree Gully Football Club Ladies Footy Day
- Play Park Space at 257 Dorset Road, Boronia

Councillor Dwight also:

- Acknowledged the unveiling of the restored cairn in The Basin Centennial Garden and the passion and commitment in the community to use and care for the space.
- Noted The Basin Community House's celebration of Neighbourhood House week and acknowledged the stories of pressures faced by volunteers supporting the community.
- Toured Millers Homestead with ERL and expressed her appreciation at the availability of the space for the use and enjoyment of the community.
- Acknowledged IDAHOBIT Day and Council's stand against discrimination and exclusion of LGBTIQ+ community.
- Noted her attendance at the Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Annual Conference and the impact of Federal Government policy on achievement of the Alliances objectives and encouraged the community to continue to apply pressure for change.

5.1.6 Councillor Laukens

Councillor Laukens reported attending the following meetings:

- Meeting with Labor Members of Parliament
- MAV Rules Review Directions Paper Roundtable Workshop- MAV Representatives
- Dobson Street Traffic Treatment Proposal
- Milpera Reserve Floodlighting Opening Event
- Ringwood and District Cricket Association Presentation Night
- Unveiling the restored Cairn and Plaque at The Basin Triangle
- Meeting with Aston Labor Candidate Mary Doyle
- Knox Community Safety Forum Briefing
- Monthly Mayoral Interview at Radio Eastern 98.1FM
- Knox Citizenship Ceremony
- Caulfield-Rowville TRT Community Information Evening
- Knox Empowering Communities- Community Safety Forum
- Handing out 3 Year Old Kinder Kits to Children at the Wantirna South Early Learning Centre
- MAV Rules Review Directions Paper Roundtable Workshop
- Grand Gala Opening Celebration at Hyatt Place Melbourne, Caribbean Park
- Knox Baseball Club- Pink Day Mother's Day Event
- YPWA Webinar
- Meeting with Jackson Taylor MP
- Tour of Fresenius Medical Centre
- Knox Arts and Culture Committee Meeting
- Knox CEO Performance and Remuneration Committee Meeting
- Chatty Cafe Launch in Rowville
- Tour and Afternoon Tea at the Studios of Radio Eastern 98.1 FM

- IDAHOBIT Day Flag-Raising Event at Knox City Council
- Victorian Law Week- Domestic Violence Assistance Session
- Coonara Community House Annual General Meeting
- ALGWA Victoria Annual General Meeting
- Thank You Party for Ferntree Gully News Volunteers
- Grant Celebration Event
- Eastern Transport Coalition Meeting
- MAV Negotiation and Influencing Capabilities Workshop
- Ferntree Gully Football Netball Club 130th Anniversary Luncheon
- Official Battle of Crete Commemorative Luncheon Honouring ANZAC Greece and Crete Veterans at the Cretan Village in Wantirna South

Councillor Laukens also:

- Thanked volunteers for their time, expertise, efforts and enthusiasm in the Knox Community in the wake of Volunteer Week with the theme 'Better Together'.

6 City Strategy and Integrity Officers' Reports for consideration

6.1 Report of Planning Applications Decided Under Delegation 1 April 2022 to 30 April 2022

SUMMARY: Manager, City Planning & Building, Paul Dickie

Details of planning applications considered under delegation are referred for information. It is recommended that the items be noted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the planning applications decided under delegation reports (between 1 April 2022 to 30 April 2022) be noted

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Timmers-Leitch

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That the planning applications decided under delegation reports (between 1 April 2022 to 30 April 2022) be noted

CARRIED

6.2 1 Michele Drive, Scoresby

SUMMARY: Principal Planner, Merette Shenouda

This report considers Planning Application P/2021/6463 for the development of the land for three (3) triple storey dwellings and alteration of access to a Road in a Transport Zone 2 at 1 Michele Drive, Scoresby subject to the following conditions:

Amended Development Plans

1. Prior to the commencement of the development approved under this Permit, amended development plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The development plans must be approved prior to other plans required by this permit. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application but modified to show:
 - 1.1 Each balcony to have a minimum area of 15m².
 - 1.2 Boundary fence details for the northern side boundary.
 - 1.3 Annotation stating, 'all structures (including fences, letterboxes and meter boxes) must be constructed to a maximum height of 900mm or relocated clear of a splayed area near the access way to ensure safe sight distances.' Letterboxes must front the street.
 - 1.4 The height, location and design of fencing, the mail boxes and electricity supply structures to comply with Condition 1.3 of this Planning Permit.
 - 1.5 A notation on the plans stating that windows to be screened will have fixed obscure glazing (non-openable) to a height of 1.7 metres above finished floor level. The windows may be clear and openable above 1.7 metres. Adhesive film must not be used.
 - 1.6 Delete reference of water tanks from Development and Landscape plans.
 - 1.7 All levels to be to AHD (Australian Height Datum).
 - 1.8 Any changes to comply with Condition 3.5.
 - 1.9 Sustainable Design Assessment in accordance with Condition 12.
 - 1.10 Any modifications to the plans as required by Condition 12.

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Other Plans

2. Prior to the commencement of the development and issue of a Building Permit for the development approved under this Permit, the following plans and computations must be submitted to the Responsible Authority as a complete set. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. Construction must be in accordance with these plans. The plans must comprise the following:
 - 2.1 Drainage plans in accordance with Condition 3.
 - 2.2 Landscape plans in accordance with Condition 4.

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Drainage Plans

3. Prior to the commencement of the development approved under this Permit, drainage plans and computations must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. Construction of the drainage must be in accordance with these plans. The plans must show the following:
 - 3.1 All stormwater drainage discharge from the site connected to a legal point of discharge.
 - 3.2 The internal drains of the dwellings to be independent of each other.
 - 3.3 An on-site detention system designed by a suitably qualified Civil Engineering Consultant to ensure no net increase in stormwater discharge from the proposed development.
 - 3.4 The on-site detention system to be installed in a suitable location for easy access and maintenance.
 - 3.5 A suitable overland flow path for the entire site to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Details of the overland flow path are to be included on the plans.
 - 3.6 Any Environmental Sustainable Design initiatives shown on the Development Plans approved pursuant to Condition 1 of this permit.
 - 3.7 Location of fencing in accordance with the Development Plans approved pursuant to Condition 1 of this permit.
 - 3.8 All levels to be to AHD (Australian Height Datum).

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Landscaping

4. Prior to the commencement of the development approved under this Permit, a landscape plan prepared by a suitably qualified Landscape architect or a suitably qualified landscape designer to the satisfaction of the responsible authority must be submitted to and approved by the responsible authority in accordance with Council's 'Landscape Plan Guidelines'. When approved, the plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plan must show:
 - 4.1 A survey (including botanical names, height and width) of all existing vegetation to be retained and / or removed.
 - 4.2 The identification and removal of all vegetation identified as an environmental weed in Knox (as outlined in Council's 'Landscape Plan Guidelines').
 - 4.3 Buildings and trees (including botanical names, height and width) on neighbouring properties within three metres of the boundary including all trees that have their Tree Protection Zone extending into the subject site.
 - 4.4 Details of the surface finishes of pathways and driveways.
 - 4.5 Details and location of all existing and proposed services including above and below ground lines, cables and pipes.
 - 4.6 A planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and ground covers, including botanical names, common names, pot sizes, sizes at maturity, and quantities of each plant.
 - 4.7 Landscaping and planting within all open areas of the site (including additional planting within open space areas of the existing dwelling/s).
 - 4.8 The plan must also show the provision of at least two (2) additional indigenous or native canopy trees and 7 additional large feature shrubs with a mature height of 4-5 metres chosen from Plant List 1, 2 or 3 of Council's Landscape Plan Guidelines for

Planning Permits. These canopy trees must be a minimum 1.5metres tall when planted and are to be in the following areas:

- 4.8.1 Dwelling 1 Michele Drive Front Setback: one (1) large and one (1) small canopy tree;
 - 4.8.2 Dwelling 1 Stud Road Frontage: three (3) large feature shrubs with a mature height of 4-5 metres;
 - 4.8.3 Dwelling 2 frontage: two (2) large feature shrubs with a mature height of 4-5 metres; and
 - 4.8.4 Dwelling 3 frontage: two (2) large feature shrubs with a mature height of 4-5 metres.
- 4.9 Planting of this site to comprise 40% of the vegetation species to be indigenous (across all plant forms) from plant list 1 of the 'Landscape Plan Guidelines' and 40% additional native species (across all plant forms) from plant list 2 of the 'Landscape Plan Guidelines'. Remaining plant species (20%) can be indigenous, native or exotic (across all plant forms) provided they are not listed as weeds.

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 5. Before the occupation of the development, the landscaping works shown on the endorsed plans must be carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- 6. The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Any dead, diseased or damaged plants are to be replaced.

General

- 7. All development must be in accordance with the endorsed plans.
- 8. The layout of buildings and works as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 9. Once the development has started it must be continued and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 10. Prior to the occupation of the dwellings the development is to be completed in accordance with the endorsed plan/s to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 11. All walls on the boundaries of adjoining properties must be cleaned and finished to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Sustainable Design Assessment

- 12. Prior to the commencement of the development approved under this Permit, a Sustainable Design Assessment (SDA) or Sustainability Management Plan (SMP) detailing Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) initiatives to be incorporated into the development must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The SDA must include:
 - 12.1 An Integrated Water Management (IWM) Assessment addressing stormwater quality performance, in addition to ensuring that the Responsible Authority's collective requirements and expectations pursuant to a person's general environmental duty under section 25 of the Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic)

and with regard to the Environment Reference Standard issued under section 93 of the Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic), are satisfied. This includes sufficiently sized rainwater tank(s) for retention purposes for each dwelling, as well as, permeable paving to parts of the driveway areas in lieu of raingardens, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 12.2 Rainwater tanks connected to all toilet flushing, laundry and irrigation areas.
- 12.3 A complete, published BESS Report, with an acceptable overall score of at least 50% which also meets the 'pass' marks in the categories of Water, Energy, Stormwater and Indoor Environment Quality (IEQ) or is otherwise to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 12.4 That the development achieves a minimum average NatHERS 6.5 star energy efficiency rating. Upon finalising an energy efficiency assessment for each dwelling, a shortfall with the development's thermal performance requirements and minimum obligations must not be met through the utilisation of renewable energy systems, treated as an offset measure, to proclaim compliance.
- 12.5 Heating and cooling systems include a minimum 3 star energy efficiency rating.
- 12.6 Hot water systems include a minimum 6 star energy efficiency rating system.
- 12.7 Water efficient fixtures and fittings include minimum 5 star WELS taps, 4 star WELS toilets and 3 star WELS showerheads (≤ 7.5 L/min).
- 12.8 Double glazing used to all living and bedroom area windows.
- 12.9 One secure bicycle parking space per dwelling.

to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 13. Prior to the occupation of the development, the development must be constructed in accordance with the endorsed Sustainable Design Assessment or Sustainability Management Plan (SMP), except for stormwater, Integrated Water Management (IWM) or Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) measures which are adopted, pursuant to, the collective Responsible Authority's requirements and expectations, that are reflected on Drainage Plans.

Car Parking & Accessways

- 14. Before the dwellings are occupied, driveways and car parking areas must be:
 - 14.1 Fully constructed to the minimum standard of 100mm reinforced concrete and available for use in accordance with the plans submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority.
 - 14.2 Formed to such levels and drained so that they can be used in accordance with the approved plan.
 - 14.3 Treated with an all-weather seal or some other durable surface.

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 15. Parking areas and driveways must be kept available and maintained for these purposes at all times to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Fencing

- 16. All costs associated with the provision of the fencing are to be borne by the owner/developer under this permit.
- 17. Prior to the occupancy of the development all fencing must be in a good condition to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Amenity During Construction

18. Upon commencement and until conclusion of the development, the developer must ensure that the development does not adversely affect the amenity of the area in any way, including:
- 18.1 The appearance of building, works or materials on the land.
 - 18.2 Parking of motor vehicles.
 - 18.3 Transporting of materials or goods to or from the site.
 - 18.4 Hours of operation.
 - 18.5 Stockpiling of top soil or fill materials.
 - 18.6 Air borne dust emanating from the site.
 - 18.7 Noise.
 - 18.8 Rubbish and litter.
 - 18.9 Sediment runoff.
 - 18.10 Vibration.

Should the development cause undue detriment to the amenity of the area then immediate remedial measures must be undertaken to address the issue as directed by, and to the satisfaction of, the Responsible Authority.

Stormwater

19. Stormwater runoff from all buildings and hardstanding surfaces must be properly collected and discharged in a complete and effective system of drains within the property and must not cause or create a nuisance to abutting properties.

Permit Expiry

20. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:
- 20.1 The development is not started within two years of the date of this permit.
 - 20.2 The development is not completed within four years of the date of this permit.

Pursuant to Section 69 of the Planning & Environment Act 1987, the Responsible Authority may extend:

- The commencement date referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within six (6) months afterwards.
- The completion date referred to if a request is made in writing within 12 months after the permit expires and the development started lawfully before the permit expired.

NOTES

Drainage Notes (to be read in conjunction with the above drainage conditions):

- Applicant shall engage a certified Engineering Consultant to analyse the site's existing drainage to determine type and size of the Onsite Detention (OSD) system. This shall be designed in accordance with the Knox City Council (Responsible Authority) Stormwater Drainage Guidelines, (copy available on Council's website), and approved drainage design methods specified in the current edition of Australian Rainfall and Runoff. It should be located preferably in a common area to the dwellings, and be easily accessible for maintenance.
- The total Permissible Site Discharge for the property including all dwellings is 4L/s to the existing Council drainage system for a 40 year ARI event.

- Applicant is to direct all stormwater to the Council Stormwater pit near the southern corner of the property as this represents the Legal Point of Discharge (LPD) for the property. Applicant is to verify this on site. Connect all stormwater discharge from the site to the LPD via an Onsite Detention (OSD) system. The internal drains for the dwellings are to be independent of each other.
- The Applicant is required to use Australian Height Datum (AHD) to present levels in all future plans. Applicant must ensure that levels on the plan are accurate.
- Drainage works in the Road reserve or in the Council easement will require a road opening permit.
- Drainage system designed so as to avoid impact on any vegetation shown on the endorsed plans as being retained.
- Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) should be addressed as part of this development, e.g. water storage tanks, swale drains, etc.

Other Notes:

- Council encourages the consideration of water storage tanks for all existing and proposed residential developments.
- A building permit must be obtained before development is commenced.
- Buildings are not allowed to be built over Council easements.
- The dwelling/s must achieve a minimum 6-Star Energy Rating.
- In accordance with Council policy, an 8.5% public open space contribution may apply in the event of the subdivision of the land.
- Indigenous plants can be purchased through approved indigenous nurseries, as listed in the Knox City Council 'Preferred Local Replacement Plants' Information Sheet.
- Dwelling numbers as shown on the endorsed plans do not necessarily indicate any future street numbers. Property (street) numbering shall be in accordance with Council's Property (Street) Numbering Policy. Information regarding this can be obtained from Council's Property and Revenue Services Department on 9298 8215.
- Letterboxes and all other structures (including meter boxes) shall be constructed to a maximum height of 900mm or relocated clear of a splayed area (2m x 2.5m) in accordance with AS2890.1, Clause 3.2.4 to ensure safe sight distances. Letterboxes shall face towards the street frontage.
- Raised concrete slabs on the existing footpath fronting the site should be grounded.
- All litter and rubbish associated with the construction must be contained on site at all times.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Timmers-Leitch

That Council:

Resolve to issue a notice of refusal to grant a planning permit for application P/2021/6463 for the development of the land for three (3) triple storey dwellings and alteration to access to a road in a Transport Zone 2 at 1 Michele Drive, Scoresby subject to the following grounds:

1. The proposal fails to satisfy relevant State Planning Policy Framework strategies and objectives, particularly Clause 15 (Built Environment and Heritage) and Clause 16 (Housing) of the Knox Planning Scheme.
2. The proposal fails to satisfy relevant Local Planning Policy Framework objectives and strategies, particularly Clause 21.05 (Built Environment and Heritage), Clause 21.06 (Housing) and Clause 22.07 (Development in Residential Areas and Neighbourhood Character) of the Knox Planning Scheme.
3. The design outcome is not considered to be respectful of the existing or preferred neighbourhood character, due to siting and scale of the buildings and resultant impact on the amenity of adjoining residential properties.
4. The design outcome is not considered to be respectful of the existing or preferred landscape character, due to the landscape areas being weighted to dwelling one, and therefore providing insufficient opportunities for canopy planting in front of dwellings 2 and 3.
5. The development does not provide for an appropriate visual transition to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone to the rear of the site.
6. Non-compliance with the following objectives of Clause 55 of the Scheme as follows:
 - a) Neighbourhood character objectives at Clause 55.02-1 of Knox Planning Scheme as the development is not respectful of the existing or preferred neighbourhood character in terms of the massing of the built form and the resultant visual impact.
 - b) Non-compliance with the Design detail objective of the Scheme at clause 55.06-1 of the Scheme due to the large scale of the upper floor elements of the dwellings.

CARRIED

PROCEDURAL MOTION

MOVED: Councillor Laukens

SECONDED: Councillor Pearce

That Councillor Seymour be permitted an extension of time to speak under Section 42 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

CARRIED

6.3 Retail Activation Strategy

SUMMARY: Coordinator Economic Development, Jayde Hayes

Preparation of the Retail Activation Strategy (RAS) was identified as an initiative in Council's COVID-19 Community and Business Support Package in May 2020 and funded as part of the package. Following the initial round of consultation, the draft RAS was presented to Council towards the end of 2021 and endorsed for further public consultation at the December Council Meeting.

Public consultation was undertaken from 31 January to 25 February 2022. Details of the draft RAS were published on Council's Have Your Say webpage and promoted via Council's website, the Knoxbiz website, eNews, social media, print publications, community newsletters and posters and corflute signs distributed around retail centres in Knox. Feedback was collected through a variety of sources with 43 individuals providing input.

Acknowledging that there was limited feedback gathered on the draft RAS, the feedback was however positive and is provided in a consultation summary report (Attachment 3). There were no changes suggested for the draft RAS and the final version is now being presented for adoption by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopts the Retail Activation Strategy (as set out in Attachment 1); and
2. Notes that officers will prepare an implementation plan and utilise the previously committed \$150,000 across financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 to deliver priority actions.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Laukens

That Council:

1. **Adopts the Retail Activation Strategy, as set out in Attachment 1, with the exclusion of the 'Tap into the Brew' program and any/all brewery references within other programs and authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive officer selects) to make this and any consequential amendments required at their discretion; and**
2. **Notes that officers will prepare an implementation and plan and utilise the previously committed \$150,000 across financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 to deliver priority actions.**

LOST

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Timmers-Leitch

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Retail Activation Strategy (as set out in Attachment 1); and**
- 2. Notes that officers will prepare an implementation plan and utilise the previously committed \$150,000 across financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 to deliver priority actions.**

LOST

6.4 Elevating Environmental Sustainable Development Targets for new developments

SUMMARY: Sustainable Design Officer, William Tolis; Coordinator City Strategy and Planning, Nasrin Dehghani; Senior Program Lead - Sustainable Futures, Sam Sampanthar

Current and future land development, including housing, industrial and commercial development will impact the municipality's sustainability for years to come. Council can influence the design of development by setting Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) requirements through the Knox Planning Scheme. These requirements can help to minimise energy use, water and waste, improve environmental outcomes and amenity, and reduce ongoing running costs for our community.

Introducing requirements through the Planning Scheme is an effective and low-cost way for Council to influence the built environment that will result in lasting improvements to sustainability and quality of life in our municipality.

Council's current ESD Planning Policy at Clause 22.04 of the Planning Scheme was introduced in 2017, and has resulted in improvements to sustainability outcomes from new developments. However, it will not be sufficient to ensure new development aligns with global, national and state policy and Council's Climate Response Plan 2021 – 2031.

Knox City Council is part of the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and is one of 31 Victorian councils embarking on a collaborative project, the 'Elevating ESD Targets Planning Policy Amendment' project (or the 'Elevating ESD Targets' project) that aims to elevate ESD targets and embed zero carbon development outcomes via the Planning Scheme.

The project is divided into two stages. Stage 1 of the project has now been completed and early steps for Stage 2, the planning scheme amendment process, is well underway. The purpose of this report is to present a summary of the findings of Stage 1, which developed the evidence base to support improved ESD and elevated performance outcomes within the Planning Scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorses the reports *Elevating ESD Targets Planning Report*, *Technical ESD and Development Feasibility Report*, and *Elevating ESD Targets CBA Report* as shown in Attachments 2, 3 and 4 to this report, as supporting documents to this Amendment.
2. Using its powers as a planning authority under sections 8A and 8B of the *Planning and Environment 1987*, seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit an Amendment to the Knox Planning Scheme as shown in Attachment 1 to this report.
3. Requests that the Minister for Planning establishes an advisory committee to advise on the ESD project in accordance with section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
4. Authorises the CEO (or such person nominated by the CEO) to make minor changes to the Amendment documents, where the changes do not affect the purpose or intent of the amendment or provide guidance to any advisory committee established by the Minister for Planning.

5. Authorises the CEO (or such person nominated by the CEO) to sign the CASBE Elevating ESD Targets Planning Policy Amendment Memorandum of Understanding Stage 2 – Planning Scheme Amendment Process.
6. Writes to the Minister for Planning and Housing, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Local Government and Suburban Development outlining the benefits to the community of introducing zero carbon focused and elevated ESD planning policy into the Planning Scheme, and how this Amendment should be adopted as a part of the State Government’s environmentally sustainable development planning reforms.
7. Supports Council’s participation in informal community awareness raising and communications activities and processes centrally led by CASBE, on behalf of partner councils involved in the ESD project.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Seymour

That Council:

1. Endorses the reports *Elevating ESD Targets Planning Report, Technical ESD and Development Feasibility Report, and Elevating ESD Targets CBA Report* as shown in Attachments 2, 3 and 4 to this report, as supporting documents to this Amendment.
2. Using its powers as a planning authority under sections 8A and 8B of the *Planning and Environment 1987*, seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit an Amendment to the Knox Planning Scheme as shown in Attachment 1 to this report.
3. Requests that the Minister for Planning establishes an advisory committee to advise on the ESD project in accordance with section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
4. Authorises the CEO (or such person nominated by the CEO) to make minor changes to the Amendment documents, where the changes do not affect the purpose or intent of the amendment or provide guidance to any advisory committee established by the Minister for Planning.
5. Authorises the CEO (or such person nominated by the CEO) to sign the CASBE Elevating ESD Targets Planning Policy Amendment Memorandum of Understanding Stage 2 – Planning Scheme Amendment Process.
6. Writes to the Minister for Planning and Housing, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Local Government and Suburban Development outlining the benefits to the community of introducing zero carbon focused and elevated ESD planning policy into the Planning Scheme, and how this Amendment should be adopted as a part of the State Government’s environmentally sustainable development planning reforms.
7. Supports Council’s participation in informal community awareness raising and communications activities and processes centrally led by CASBE, on behalf of partner councils involved in the ESD project.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council resolve that the following matters be moved en bloc in accordance with the officer's recommendation as set out in the agenda::

- Item 6.5- Ferntree Gully Cemetery Strategic Review (Deferral)
- Item 6.6- Request 1- Rent Relief for Commercial tenants in Council Owned Buildings
- Item 6.7- Request 2- Rent Relief for Commercial tenants in Council Owned Buildings
- Item 6.8- Proposed Land Exchange and Sale- 147 Napoleon Road, Lysterfield
- Item 8.1- Contract 2659- Stamford Park Construction Tender
- Item 8.2- Contract 2967- Pruning and General Arboricultural Services Tender

CARRIED

6.5 Ferntree Gully Cemetery Strategic Review - (Deferral)

SUMMARY: Acting Manager Governance, Andrew Dowling
Council Resolved at its November 2021 meeting to receive a report regarding the long term sustainability of Ferntree Gully Cemetery by May 2022.

It is recommended that Council note the circumstances which have delayed the requested report and the new timeline for presentation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to note that the requested report regarding the long term sustainability of Ferntree Gully Cemetery has been delayed and will be presented to Council no later than July 2022.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council resolve to note that the requested report regarding the long term sustainability of Ferntree Gully Cemetery has been delayed and will be presented to Council no later than July 2022.

CARRIED

6.6 Request 1 - Rent Relief for Commercial Tenants in Council Owned Buildings

SUMMARY: Acting Coordinator Property Management, Paige Kennett

The Victorian Government introduced new regulations for the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme in 2022 for eligible leases between 15 January 2022 to 16 March 2022. The temporary measures apply to tenants and landlords under certain conditions to assist businesses continuing to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council has received a request for rent relief from a commercial tenant with respect to their eligible lease in a Council owned property which has been assessed according to the prescribed regulations.

In addition, Council has received a separate request of support from a commercial tenant currently leasing Council property. This information is provided in Confidential Attachment B and options of support have been considered and recommended for the Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the applications for rent relief from the commercial tenant as detailed in Confidential Attachment A;
2. Approve a total rent relief offer for the months of January, February and March 2022 of \$4,164.16; broken into \$2,649.92 waived rent, and \$2,649.92 deferred rent;
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the CEO) to execute any necessary lease variations in accordance with the Regulations only, to give effect to these resolutions;
4. Note the tenant's closure period as detailed in Confidential Attachment B and approve 100% deferred rent relief from 17 March 2022 to 1 September 2022, and approve the extension of the lease for the period of deferred rent;
5. Defer all previously agreed rent relief payments, as agreed to per the regulations until September 2022;
6. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the CEO) to execute a further lease variation in accordance with the closure period as at point 4 to give effect to these resolutions;
7. Note that a further report will be provided to Council to consider any potential further changes to existing lease arrangements.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council:

- 1. Note the applications for rent relief from the commercial tenant as detailed in Confidential Attachment A;**
- 2. Approve a total rent relief offer for the months of January, February and March 2022 of \$4,164.16; broken into \$2,649.92 waived rent, and \$2,649.92 deferred rent;**
- 3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the CEO) to execute any necessary lease variations in accordance with the Regulations only, to give effect to these resolutions;**
- 4. Note the tenant's closure period as detailed in Confidential Attachment B and approve 100% deferred rent relief from 17 March 2022 to 1 September 2022, and approve the extension of the lease for the period of deferred rent;**
- 5. Defer all previously agreed rent relief payments, as agreed to per the regulations until September 2022;**
- 6. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the CEO) to execute a further lease variation in accordance with the closure period as at point 4 to give effect to these resolutions;**
- 7. Note that a further report will be provided to Council to consider any potential further changes to existing lease arrangements.**

CARRIED

6.7 Request 2 - Rent Relief for Commercial Tenant in Council Owned Buildings

SUMMARY: Acting Coordinator Property Management, Paige Kennett

The Victorian Government has introduced multiple iterations of the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme, designed to support businesses during the pandemic. Most recently, the Victorian Government released updated regulations for the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme with respect to eligible leases for the period between 15 January 2022 to 16 March 2022. The temporary measures apply to tenants and landlords under certain eligible leases to assist with businesses continuing to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council has received a request from a commercial tenant for rent relief in respect of their eligible lease in Council owned property, which has been assessed according to the prescribed regulations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the applications for rent relief from the commercial tenant as detailed in Confidential Attachment A
2. Approve a total rent relief offer for the period between July 2021 and February 2022 of \$6,811.66; broken into \$3,405.83 waived rent and \$3,405.83 deferred rent;
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to execute any necessary lease variations in accordance with the regulations, to give effect to these resolutions.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council:

1. **Note the applications for rent relief from the commercial tenant as detailed in Confidential Attachment A**
2. **Approve a total rent relief offer for the period between July 2021 and February 2022 of \$6,811.66; broken into \$3,405.83 waived rent and \$3,405.83 deferred rent;**
3. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to execute any necessary lease variations in accordance with the regulations, to give effect to these resolutions.**

CARRIED

6.8 Proposed Land Exchange and Sale - 147 Napoleon Rd, Lysterfield

SUMMARY: Acting Coordinator Property Management, Paige Kennett

At Council's Ordinary Meeting of March 2022, it resolved to commence the statutory process to exchange 24sqm and sell 3sqm of land (tree reserve) to the owner of 147 Napoleon Rd, Lysterfield. This report now comes to Council following completion of the community engagement process in accordance with the community engagement policy and now recommends for exchange and sale, land as described within the report recommendation at the tree reserve located at 147 Napoleon Rd, Lysterfield.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Having undertaken a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy under Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 and being of the opinion that Council's tree reserve shown outlined blue on the plan contained in Attachment A to this report, being part of the land contained in certificate of title Volume 9859 Folio 504 (Reserve) is surplus to Council's requirements:
 - a. Transfer the reserve (subject to removal of the reservation) to the adjoining owner in consideration of the adjoining owner designating the land shown outlined in red on the plan contained in Attachment A to this report, being part of the land contained in certificate of title Volume 9859 Folio 496 (Owner's land), as a reserve and vesting the Owner's land in Council; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to finalise all negotiations and sign all required documentation required to finalise this transaction.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council:

1. **Having undertaken a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy under Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 and being of the opinion that Council's tree reserve shown outlined blue on the plan contained in Attachment A to this report, being part of the land contained in certificate of title Volume 9859 Folio 504 (Reserve) is surplus to Council's requirements:**
 - a. **Transfer the reserve (subject to removal of the reservation) to the adjoining owner in consideration of the adjoining owner designating the land shown outlined in red on the plan contained in Attachment A to this report, being part of the land contained in certificate of title Volume 9859 Folio 496 (Owner's land), as a reserve and vesting the Owner's land in Council; and**
2. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to finalise all negotiations and sign all required documentation required to finalise this transaction.**

CARRIED

7 Public Question Time

Following the completion of business relating to Item 6, City Strategy and Integrity, the business before the Council Meeting was deferred to consider questions submitted by the public.

Question Time commenced at 8:35pm.

The following questions were raised with Council:

7.1.1 Question One - Thomas Roleff

On behalf of the Upper Ferntree Gully Cricket Club, we note that the draft budget is currently out for consultation and that \$18.3M is allocated for sporting upgrades. The draft budget document states allocation of money to Kings Park 1 – Sports field renewal design, Kings Park Floodlighting upgrade, and the Kings Park masterplan implementation.

To our disappointment we are unable to see any funding allocated in relation to the pavilion being fully re-instated within the next 4 months.

We have had discussions with council officers advising that they do not anticipate any delays to cricket season, and any delays will be communicated as soon as reasonably possible, which appears to be a contradiction to the budget document.

To ascertain whether we will need to make a budget submission, our question is: Has council included in the draft budget for 22/23, the funds necessary to fully reinstate the damaged building at Kings Park?

Can council confirm the advice from officers that the Upper Ferntree Gully Cricket Club tenancy at Kings Park will be available in October 2022?

Answer:

The Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne responded by stating that:

- The floor and roof rehabilitation works being undertaken at the Kings Park Pavilion is funded through a program titled “Replacements of components for all Council owned buildings based on Building Asset Management Systems” (page 71 of the budget document, which has a total budget of \$4.798million for 22/23) within the capital works program and therefore there is no need to make a budget submission on the rehabilitation works. Please be aware that there is adequate funding in this program to support both the required floor and roof works.
- Regarding the timing of the works, an update regarding these rehabilitation works was provided to representatives of both the football and cricket club last week. This provided an update on the current situation and the works required to complete the facility. This update indicated that although completion in October is achievable, until such time contractors are appointed and underway this is subject to change.
- Council’s Community Infrastructure and Leisure teams will continue to work with representatives from both the football and cricket club regarding the progress and impact of the work and Council encourages the clubs presidents/nominated contact person to reach out to Council Officers for updates.

7.1.2 Question Two - Craig Bridle

Given that the clubrooms at Upper Ferntree Gully Football club were damaged and have been unable to be used for the past 11 months, and in the absence of any clear direction or progress from Council, our question is with regards to the insurance of the pavilion.

Was there an insurance claim lodged by Knox Council to its insurer regarding the damaged pavilion? And if so, has the council received any monies, and have these monies been allocated to reinstate the clubroom?

Answer:

The Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne responded by stating that:

- In addition to ongoing conversations about the pavilion, an update on the current progress of the rehabilitation works was provided to the representatives of the football and cricket club as recently as last week.
- The rehabilitation works for the Kings Park Pavilion have been fully accounted for in the capital works program which will allow the works to take place uninterrupted.
- As per any property damage, officers are in contact with Council's insurers to discuss any potential claims and will continue to do so. Regardless of an insurance process, the replacement of the floor and roof are fully funded in Council budget.

7.1.3 Question Three - Darren Wallace

Is Council in a position to conduct a protracted and targeted campaign to address the proliferation of English Ivy (Hedera Helix) climbing up trees on private property and public lands in Knox?

Answer:

The Director City Strategy and Integrity, Matt Kelleher responded by stating that the question would be taken on notice by Director Kelleher and Director Thorne and outlined that his responsibilities related to private land while Director Thorne covers public land. The Director also noted that the preamble assists in outlining the issue but requested Mr Wallace to pass any further information to Council.

7.1.4 Question Four - Darren Wallace

In regards to Development Application 621 Burwood Highway, Knoxfield- in the event that the Development Application from Development Victoria is withdrawn, what mechanism is available to Council to relay this information to the community quickly?

Answer:

The Director City Strategy and Integrity, Matt Kelleher responded by stating that there are two key means of advising community and interested parties:

- Advising people already on file through previous submissions or objection to these applications
- Providing Council public releases via the Council website if an application is withdrawn

7.1.5 Question Five - Sandra Evans

When will Council answer questions regarding the barbaric cat curfew that has just been implemented? Residents were not consulted, (700+ in a Council that has over 165,000 Residents is NOT considered consulting) and there are some sitting members who have a conflict of interest in the matter and should not have been allowed to vote. Why is cat registration still something when Council are making us lock them up 24/7 with no access to fresh air or sunshine?

Answer:

The Director City Strategy and Integrity, Matt Kelleher responded by stating that:

- The nature of implementing new laws or policies requires Council to consider feedback from the entire community, whether they are cat owners or not. The purpose of a cat curfew is to improve the safety and wellbeing of cats, reduce risk to wildlife and reduce cat related nuisance within the community.
- Based on the raw data from the 2020 cat curfew survey which was carried out during the trial of a sunset to sunrise curfew:
 - 319 (44.1%) of the 724 respondents identified as being a cat owner. 73 of these respondents (22.8%) respondents were for a 24-hour curfew, 165 of these respondents (51.7%) supported a sunset to sunrise, the remainder of respondents either did not support a curfew, or did not respond to this question;
 - 459 or 63.4% of the respondents identified as living in Knox. It is noted that 265 respondents (36.6%) left this response blank. This does not confirm whether these respondents live within the municipality, but rather they chose not to disclose their location.
 - Of the 459 Knox respondents, 190 or 45.9% of these respondents indicated they were a cat owner. Overall this equates to 26.2% of the survey respondents identified as being a cat owner who resided within Knox.
 - Of the 190 cat owning Knox residents who responded, 41 (21.5%) supported a 24-hour curfew, 103 (54.2%) supported a sunset to sunrise curfew, the remainder of respondents either did not support a curfew, or did not respond to this question.
- The curfew, as adopted, does not restrict cats to being kept inside only, and does allow cats to be contained to a property, which could include an outdoor enclosure offering both fresh air and sunshine to the animal. Many Victorian councils have some form of containment requirement for cats.
- 24-hour cat curfews are not entirely new as demonstrated by our neighbouring councils, with the City of Casey introducing its 24-hour cat curfew back in 1999, and Yarra Ranges introducing theirs in 2014. The Mornington Peninsula also requires cats to be contained within the owner's property at all times. The State Government has also recently announced funding in the 2022/23 Victorian Budget toward a 10-year strategy for the management of cats, including grants to encourage cat containment.
- Section 10 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* requires all cats and dogs to be registered with the local Council if the animal is over 3 months old. This state government legislation is applied across Victoria and does not allow an exemption for cats that are contained to their property as a result of a cat containment curfew.
- The question alleges that some Councillors may have a conflict of interest in the matter, but does not articulate the basis of such a conflict.

- The Director added that earlier this year there was a suggestion that a Councillor who may own an investment property had a conflict as they were potentially restricting their tenant's right to own a pet cat, with recent changes to the Residential Tenancies Act making it easier for renters to have pets. The matter was considered at the time and not only was there no conflict, there is also no conflict between the curfew and the residential tenancies laws, as the cat containment order does not restrict someone having a pet can on their premises, whether they own or rent, it requires cats to be contained to the premises.

Question Time Concluded at 8:53pm.

Councillor Timmers-Leitch left the meeting at 8:49pm during discussion on item 7.

Councillor Timmers-Leitch returned to the meeting at 8:53pm before the vote on item 7.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: Councillor Baker

SECONDED: Councillor Pearce

That Council adjourn the Meeting for a short break.

CARRIED

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm and resumed at 9:00pm with all Councillors present.

8 Infrastructure Officers' Reports for consideration

8.1 Contract 2659 - Stamford Park Construction Tender

SUMMARY: Project Manager, Major Initiatives Unit – Joe Kelly

This report considers and recommends the appointment of a tenderer for the construction of the Stamford Park Parklands Construction.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Accepts the tender submitted by Max Bright & Sons Pty Ltd for the lump sum price of \$9,537,897.41 excluding GST for Contract 2659 – Stamford Park Parklands Construction;
2. Allocates a contingency for this project as set out in the confidential Attachment 1, and authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to expend this contingency at their discretion;
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to execute contract documentation of 2659 – Stamford Park Parklands Construction to give effect to Council's decision; and
4. Advises all tenderers accordingly.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council:

1. **Accepts the tender submitted by Max Bright & Sons Pty Ltd for the lump sum price of \$9,537,897.41 excluding GST for Contract 2659 – Stamford Park Parklands Construction;**
2. **Allocates a contingency for this project as set out in the confidential Attachment 1, and authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to expend this contingency at their discretion;**
3. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to execute contract documentation of 2659 – Stamford Park Parklands Construction to give effect to Council's decision; and**
4. **Advises all tenderers accordingly.**

CARRIED

8.2 Contract 2967 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services tender

SUMMARY: Sam Jones – Coordinator Urban Forest and City Presentation

Contract 2967 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services replaces Contract 2357 – Tree Pruning and General Arboricultural Services which expires 30 June 2022. The full term of Contract 2357 plus extensions have been executed. There are two components to Contract 2967. The first component is the lump sum component which relates to programmed tree inspection and maintenance. The second component (Schedule of Rates) addresses reactive tree works arising from customer requests, internal asset inspection cycles and in-house programs.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves:

1. To accept the tenders submitted for a period of 2 years with the option of 2 x 2 year extensions, as follows
 - a. Lump Sum
 - i. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - b. Tree Pruning and Removal
 - i. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - ii. Batt Brothers Pty Ltd
 - iii. Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd
 - iv. Tree Serve Pty Ltd
 - v. ETS Infrastructure Management
 - c. Stump Grinding
 - i. Herbamac Contracting Pty Ltd
 - ii. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - iii. ETS Infrastructure Management
 - d. Pest Control
 - i. Arbor Spray Pty Ltd
 - e. Tree Root Control
 - i. Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd
 - ii. Dianabelle Pty Ltd (T/A Rootcontrollers & Hydrox Australia)
 - f. Afterhours Services
 - i. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - ii. Batt Brothers Pty Ltd
 - iii. Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd
 - iv. Tree Serve Pty Ltd
 - v. ETS Infrastructure Management
2. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to formalise and execute the contract documentation;
3. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to negotiate and execute contract extensions; and
4. To advise all tenderers accordingly.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council resolves:

1. To accept the tenders submitted for a period of 2 years with the option of 2 x 2 year extensions, as follows
 - a. Lump Sum
 - i. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - b. Tree Pruning and Removal
 - i. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - ii. Batt Brothers Pty Ltd
 - iii. Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd
 - iv. Tree Serve Pty Ltd
 - v. ETS Infrastructure Management
 - c. Stump Grinding
 - i. Herbamac Contracting Pty Ltd
 - ii. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - iii. ETS Infrastructure Management
 - d. Pest Control
 - i. Arbor Spray Pty Ltd
 - e. Tree Root Control
 - i. Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd
 - ii. Dianabelle Pty Ltd (T/A Rootcontrollers & Hydrox Australia)
 - f. Afterhours Services
 - i. Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
 - ii. Batt Brothers Pty Ltd
 - iii. Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd
 - iv. Tree Serve Pty Ltd
 - v. ETS Infrastructure Management
2. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to formalise and execute the contract documentation;
3. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to negotiate and execute contract extensions; and
4. To advise all tenderers accordingly.

CARRIED

8.3 Buckingham Drive and Liberty Avenue, Rowville LATM Consultation Report

SUMMARY: Senior Traffic Engineer, Deborah Wilding

This report outlines findings from the consultation held with residents as part of the development of a Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) scheme proposed for Buckingham Drive, Rowville (between Liberty Avenue and Bergins Road) and Liberty Avenue, Rowville (between Bergins Road and Clausen Drive).

This report presents key findings from the consultation, noting that there were some diverse views on the proposal to install traffic treatments. Feedback from the consultation and key statistics are provided for consideration to inform Council's decision regarding installation of the scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve the installation of low-profile speed humps in Buckingham Drive and Liberty Ave, Rowville in line with the Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) concept plans attached to this report;
2. Note that residents will be advised of the above decision and given opportunity to provide feedback on the specific location of treatments for both Buckingham Drive and Liberty Ave. Pending this process, some minor design modifications may be enacted at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer);
3. Note the need to carry forward funding of \$120,000 from the 2021/22 budget into the 2022/23 budget to support delivery of the Buckingham Drive proposal;
4. Note that Council has budgeted \$250,000 in 2022/23 for delivery of the Liberty Avenue proposal, subject to endorsement of the draft 2022/23 budget.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Seymour

That Council:

1. **Approve the installation of low-profile speed humps in Buckingham Drive and Liberty Ave, Rowville in line with the Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) concept plans attached to this report;**
2. **Note that residents will be advised of the above decision and given opportunity to provide feedback on the specific location of treatments for both Buckingham Drive and Liberty Ave. Pending this process, some minor design modifications may be enacted at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer);**
3. **Note the need to carry forward funding of \$120,000 from the 2021/22 budget into the 2022/23 budget to support delivery of the Buckingham Drive proposal;**
4. **Note that Council has budgeted \$250,000 in 2022/23 for delivery of the Liberty Avenue proposal, subject to endorsement of the draft 2022/23 budget.**

CARRIED

9 Connected Communities Officers' Reports for consideration

9.1 Minor Grants Program 2021-22 Monthly Report - 23 May 2022

SUMMARY: Community Partnerships Officer, Deb Robert

This report summarises the grant applications recommended for approval in May 2022 for the 2021-2022 Minor Grants Program. All applications have been assessed against the criteria set out in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Applications under the Minor Grants Policy are limited to a maximum of \$3,000.00 within the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- Note the approval under delegation of two applications for \$557.00, detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Ferntree Gully Arts Society	Finishing the Foyer	\$227.00	\$227.00
Lions Club of Rowville	Venue for Meetings	\$330.00	\$330.00
TOTAL			\$557.00

- Refuse one application requesting \$3,000.00, as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Reason for Refusal
Indian Senior Citizens Association of Vic	Empower and encourage seniors to get out after lockdown	\$3,000.00	Applicant is not a Knox-based organisation and has not demonstrated a clear benefit to Knox residents. Further detail will be sought.

- Note that inclusive of the above recommended grants, totalling \$557.00, a total of \$133,573 has been awarded to date under the 2021-2022 Minor Grants Program supporting 63 community-based organisations and their programs.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Baker

SECONDED: Councillor Timmers-Leitch

That Council:

1. Note the approval under delegation of two applications for \$557.00, detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Ferntree Gully Arts Society	Finishing the Foyer	\$227.00	\$227.00
Lions Club of Rowville	Venue for Meetings	\$330.00	\$330.00
TOTAL			\$557.00

2. Refuse one application requesting \$3,000.00, as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Reason for Refusal
Indian Senior Citizens Association of Vic	Empower and encourage seniors to get out after lockdown	\$3,000.00	Applicant is not a Knox-based organisation and has not demonstrated a clear benefit to Knox residents. Further detail will be sought.

3. Note that inclusive of the above recommended grants, totaling \$557.00, a total of \$133,573 has been awarded to date under the 2021-2022 Minor Grants Program supporting 63 community-based organisations and their programs.

CARRIED

9.2 Community Partnership Fund Grant Recommendations

SUMMARY: Community Partnerships Officer, Deb Robert

This report presents the recommended grant allocations for the Community Partnership Funding Program 2022-2026 to support 12 locally based not-for-profit services and nine local volunteer-based emergency services for the approved four-year funding period from 2022-2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve the recommended allocation of funds to eligible applicants in the contested streams as listed in Attachment 3; and
2. Approve the allocation of funds to eligible applicants in the non-contested streams as listed in Attachment 3, including in principle support to each CFA Brigade while the CFA Head Office approval takes place.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Seymour

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council:

1. **Approve the recommended allocation of funds to eligible applicants in the contested streams as listed in Attachment 3; and**
2. **Approve the allocation of funds to eligible applicants in the non-contested streams as listed in Attachment 3, including in principle support to each CFA Brigade while the CFA Head Office approval takes place.**

CARRIED

9.3 Sporting Reserve Facility Usage Policy

SUMMARY: Leisure Service Officer, Suranga Dissakarunaratne and Team Leader Leisure Development, Daniel Clark

The report outlines the proposed changes to be made to Council's Sporting Reserve Facility Usage Policy. The Policy has been reviewed and the key changes proposed are intended to have a positive impact on participation and inclusion levels within the sport and leisure community of Knox. The Policy seeks to encourage improved governance and sustainability within Knox sport and leisure clubs. In particular, these changes are aimed at encouraging the continued increase in female participation in sport so that the membership of user groups is more reflective of the demographics of the Knox community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the proposed changes to the Sporting Reserve Facility Usage Policy;
2. Adopts the updated version of the Sporting Reserve Facility Usage Policy (as set out in Attachment 2); and
3. Advises all clubs and user groups accordingly.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Timmers-Leitch

SECONDED: Councillor Pearce

That Council:

- 1. Notes the proposed changes to the Sporting Reserve Facility Usage Policy;**
- 2. Adopts the updated version of the Sporting Reserve Facility Usage Policy (as set out in Attachment 2); and**
- 3. Advises all clubs and user groups accordingly.**

CARRIED

9.4 Occasional Care

SUMMARY: Jason Crockett, Acting Head of Integrated Services

At the Council Meeting held on 28 March 2022, Council resolved to consider officer recommendations regarding the future of Council's role in the provision of occasional care in three Knox early years services. The services have faced considerable challenges in recent years including significantly low utilisation, decreasing demand and a changing policy and regulatory landscape. Notwithstanding the impact of COVID-19, recent consultation with the few families who had expressed interest in potentially using the services in coming years has been undertaken which suggested that the withdrawal of two of the services will have limited to no impact on the availability and accessibility of appropriate childcare options for families.

Following consultation with staff and community members, officers recommend that Council resolve to cease providing occasional care services at two of the three sites on and from 30 June 30, 2022 (Knox Family and Children's Centre – Wantirna South and Rowville Community Centre) but continue providing occasional care at Knox Regional Netball Centre for a period of approximately 12 months while a service review is completed and a further report is prepared for Council regarding potential options for the future of the service.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to:

1. Cease to provide occasional care at Knox Family and Children's Centre (KCFC) Wantirna South and Rowville Community Centre on and from 30 June 2022.
2. Continue to be a service provider of occasional care at Knox Regional Netball Centre subject to:
 - a) a service review undertaken approximately in the next 12 months; and
 - b) a further report being presented to Council to determine the longer-term future of this service.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to notify the Victorian Department of Education and Training regarding the withdrawal of children's services at Rowville Community Centre and the surrender of the Service Approval.
4. Note that the Service Approval and License at KCFC - Wantirna South will not be surrendered as the Long Day and Kindergarten will continue to operate under the existing service approval and license arrangements.
5. Endorse the communication and engagement plan (as set out in Section 3 to the report) in relation to the withdrawal of the select occasional care services.
6. Note that the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) will undertake notification of the affected employees, in relation to the withdrawal of the select services and the impact of the change on employees.
7. Note that all eligible staff from Knox Family and Children's Centre - Wantirna South Occasional Care and Rowville Community Centre Occasional Care will be supported to transition to alternate available positions in Knox City Council early years services.
8. Note that community and staff consultation occurred in April 2022 in line with Council Community Engagement Policy.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Allred

SECONDED: Councillor Seymour

That Council resolve to:

1. Cease to provide occasional care at Knox Family and Children's Centre (KCFC) Wantirna South and Rowville Community Centre on and from 30 June 2022.
2. Continue to be a service provider of occasional care at Knox Regional Netball Centre subject to:
 - a) a service review undertaken approximately in the next 12 months; and
 - b) a further report being presented to Council to determine the longer-term future of this service.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) to notify the Victorian Department of Education and Training regarding the withdrawal of children's services at Rowville Community Centre and the surrender of the Service Approval.
4. Note that the Service Approval and License at KCFC - Wantirna South will not be surrendered as the Long Day and Kindergarten will continue to operate under the existing service approval and license arrangements.
5. Endorse the communication and engagement plan (as set out in Section 3 to the report) in relation to the withdrawal of the select occasional care services.
6. Note that the Chief Executive Officer (or such person nominated by the Chief Executive Officer) will undertake notification of the affected employees, in relation to the withdrawal of the select services and the impact of the change on employees.
7. Note that all eligible staff from Knox Family and Children's Centre - Wantirna South Occasional Care and Rowville Community Centre Occasional Care will be supported to transition to alternate available positions in Knox City Council early years services.
8. Note that community and staff consultation occurred in April 2022 in line with Council Community Engagement Policy.

CARRIED

10 Office of the CEO Reports for consideration

10.1 Financial Performance Report for the Quarter Ended 31 March 2022

SUMMARY: Coordinator Finance Operations, James Morris

The Financial Performance Report for the period ended 31 March 2022 is presented for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Financial Performance Report for the period ended 31 March 2022.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council resolve that the following matters be moved en bloc in accordance with the officer's recommendation as set out in the agenda:

- Item 10.1- Financial Performance Report for the Quarter Ended 31 March 2022
- Item 10.2- 2021-22 Quarterly Progress Reporting

CARRIED

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council receive and note the Financial Performance Report for the period ended 31 March 2022.

CARRIED

10.2 2021-22 Quarterly Progress Reporting

SUMMARY: Corporate Reporting Officer, Elisa De Iuliis

This report provides the progress against the initiatives identified in year one of the Council Plan 2021-25, adopted by Council as part of the Annual Budget 2021-22.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Council Plan Progress Report for the period 1 January to 31 March 2022.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: Councillor Pearce

SECONDED: Councillor Baker

That Council receive and note the Council Plan Progress Report for the period 1 January to 31 March 2022.

CARRIED

11 City Centre Reports for Consideration

Nil.

12 Notices of Motion

Nil.

13 Supplementary Items

Nil.

14 Urgent Business

MOTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Seymour

That Council resolve to admit a submission to the Victorian Government regarding their 2035 Emissions Target as a matter of urgent business.

CARRIED

MOTION

MOVED: Councillor Dwight

SECONDED: Councillor Seymour

That Council:

1. Note the submission prepared by the Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (VGA), supported by the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA) of which Council is a member, as circulated to Councillors and attached to the minutes;
2. Support the VGA submission to the Independent Expert Panel on Interim Emissions Targets, with additional emphasis to Knox specific points regarding extreme wind and rain events over 2020-2021 and communities being uninsurable; and
3. Request the Mayor lodge a cover letter outlining the additional points as per 2 above, with the VGA submission attached.

CARRIED

15 Questions Without Notice

Nil.

16 Confidential Items

PROCEDURAL MOTION

CLOSURE OF MEETING

MOVED: Councillor Baker

SECONDED: Councillor Allred

That Council resolve to close the meeting in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 in order to consider:

Item 16.1 Boronia and Ferntree Gully Carparking Concept Plans.

- Council business information, that will prejudice Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.
- Confidential meeting information, being the records of the Ordinary Meeting of Council] held on 24 August 2020 that was closed to the public under section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 and the purposes of Section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 9:50pm

16.1 Boronia and Ferntree Gully Carparking Concept Plans

This item was resolved in camera.

MEETING CLOSED AT 10:34pm

Minutes of Meeting confirmed at the
Meeting of Council
held on Monday, 27 June 2022

.....

Chairperson

The Agenda for this meeting is attached in full at the end of the Minutes



24 May 2022

Independent Panel

Victorian Government Interim Greenhouse Emissions Target 2035

Mr Martijn Wilder AM, Ms Emma Herd, Mr Tennant Reed

climate.change@delwp.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Wilder, Ms Herd, and Mr Reed,

Victorian Government's request for Submissions: Interim Emissions Target

On behalf of our members, the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances (VGAs) thank the Victorian Government for the opportunity to make a submission to the Independent Expert Panel to re-confirm our support for the adoption of a strong interim emissions reduction target for 2035. This is likely the last opportunity the Victorian Government will have to keep Victorian communities safe and warming at or below 1.5°C, as the scientific research now shows the pace of warming will lead to a 1.5°C world by or before 2030.

The VGAs' recommendations have been considered under the principles of effectiveness, economic efficiency and equity. Most recommendations in this submission are directly drawn from our experience of implementing carbon mitigation projects, and the stark experiences of addressing the major climate change impacts resulting from a median warming temperature increase of 1.2°C.

In 2017 Victoria signed the Climate Leadership Declaration¹, committing the State to keep warming below 1.5°C. This commitment and associated emissions reduction targets are crucial to Victoria avoiding the worst impacts of climate change.

In 2019 Victoria's Independent Expert Panel recommended greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets of:

- 32-39% below 2005 levels in 2025 and
- 45-60% below 2005 levels in 2030.

However, the 2019 Panel's report stated that a target of 67% below 2005 levels in 2030 was necessary '*to secure an even chance of limiting warming*' to 1.5°C². In their submission of 21 July 2019, the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances therefore recommended a strong reductions trajectory to ensure economic signals to business and households would generate a smooth transition as early as possible. The VGAs reaffirm their position for a strong reduction trajectory in this submission.

The Victorian Government through the Climate Change Act 2017 is committed to greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets of:

- 28-33% below 2005 levels in 2025 and
- 45-50% below 2005 levels in 2030.

¹ https://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/74107/Climate-Leadership-Declaration-2017.pdf

² Panel report, Box ES2. Considering interim targets and trajectories for a 1.5C world, p 12



These targets, even if accomplished, will not be enough for Victoria to do its part to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

The most recent Working Group III contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which covers literature accepted for publication to 11 October 2021, states:

"Without a strengthening of policies beyond those that are implemented by the end of 2020, GHG emissions are projected to rise beyond 2025, leading to a median global warming of 3.2 [2.2 to 3.5]°C by 2100."³

In the IPCC 2018 report Global Warming of 1.5°C⁴ it is made clear with "high confidence" that in less than eight years, by 2030, we will be living in a 1.5°C world (p.4).

The exhaustive, science-based modelling in the IPCC AR6 Report emphasises the recent and harrowing experiences of our own Victorian communities, who even in the last two years have endured fatal wildfires (2020), flash floods (2021), intense wind and storm events (2021), and severe drought (2019-2021). If these experiences are to be amplified three-fold in less than 80 years, local governments, communities and the biodiverse environments that support them, will be facing a world that is dangerously unliveable.

The experience of our member councils demonstrates that acting on climate change has had a remarkable and positive galvanising effect on communities both economically and socially, over the last 24-48 months. The 2035 interim target is an ideal gateway to capitalise on this unity. In decisively tightening targets to limit warming, the Government will send the right signals to community, industry and service providers, so that all are able to prepare for this major transition in a timely fashion. That Victoria has exceeded its early target demonstrates there is an appetite to mitigate and check climate change impacts while there is still time.

This submission recommends that the Victorian Government:

1. act decisively now to limit warming to 1.5°C
2. soften economic shocks to the State through rapid early decarbonisation, rather than leaving large portions of mitigation to post-2030, when we know the impacts of warming and extreme events will be depleting Victoria's natural resources;
3. Adopt science-based targets that are in line to limit temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius, whereby the Government:
 - a. adjusts the current 2030 interim target to be at least 75% reduction from 2005 emissions levels (currently 45-50%);
 - b. brings forward Victoria's zero net emissions commitments from 2050 to 2035; and
4. Set carbon budgets for individuals and organisations to pledge and work to, and be verified against.

This recalibration of Victoria's targets would leave 13 years until 2035 for Victorians to achieve net zero - a challenging but achievable figure that can be delivered with a particular focus on:

- Continuing to rollout renewable energy across the state, including embracing its off shore wind resources to make it Australia's renewable energy superpower;

³ IPCC, 2022, Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change, Summary for Policymakers, p SPM-21

⁴ IPCC, 2018: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Global Warming of 1.5C. An IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of global warming of 1.5C above pre-Industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways*



- Accelerating the state's transition off gas;
- Transitioning our transport systems to be fully electrified and/or powered by green hydrogen; and
- Prioritising a decarbonised Victorian agricultural sector, including the support of zero methane agriculture, localised sequestration markets, and sustainable land management.

This submission is from the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances, which represent 65 local governments, plus catchment management authorities, and Victoria's Alpine Resorts.⁵ Key aspects we wish to communicate to the Panel as evidence backing our four recommendations above include;

- **This is likely our last opportunity to do everything we can to limit warming to 1.5°C.** Updated science-based modelling demonstrates that emissions targets need to be stronger. Whilst Victoria's Independent Expert Panel recommended greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets 45-60% below 2005 levels by 2030, research⁶ since then, highlights that targets need to be increased and brought forward to avoid >1.5°C of warming.
- **Local governments as frontline decision-makers, have a vested interest in proactively and equitably minimising the climate risk to future local communities.** Local government is the tier of government closest to communities, and is consequently responsible for on-the-ground prevention, adaptation and transition, and most are ill-equipped to address the increased legal, financial, and employment complexity generated from >1.5°C of warming.
- **The Victorian Greenhouse Alliances have proven the extensive economic returns of mitigation, and positive impacts in social and cultural domains, as well as the environment.** Independent evaluation of projects taken by Alliances demonstrates that councils secure net benefits of up to 8 times their initial investments.⁷ Only half of our investments are able to physically return a saving (ie some projects are feasibility studies), revealing that rapid, carefully managed implementation offers a powerful economic case for adoption.
- **Higher targets are achievable.** The Victorian Greenhouse Alliances emerged from local government some 22 years ago and have implemented many of Victoria's largest abatement projects. These include the Victorian Energy Collaboration which involved some 1,000 decision-makers from 46 local councils across the state, and has resulted in an annual emissions abatement of 260,000 tCO₂-e. This enormous achievement adds to other major abatement achievements, and has been accomplished despite our very modest resourcing.
- **Many Victorian councils, and most Victorian SMEs, are in the dark about their emissions and are eager to establish a carbon budget.** A 'carbon budget' is an easy way to understand carbon emissions and keep within an acceptable range. But local governments and businesses, particularly in regional areas, need a trustworthy budgeting tool to assist their transition. Keeping to the global carbon emissions budget of 355-370 gigatonnes CO₂-e equates to a 50% chance of keeping warming to 1.5°C. With the world currently increasing its emissions beyond 42 gigatonnes per year, this budget will be exhausted by 2030. Unfortunately, Victorians have one of the highest annual carbon emissions per capita globally (13.8 tonnes CO₂-e⁸). To "keep to budget" Victorians need to work with an annual budget of around half a tonne of emissions per person per year. We need transparent, trusted methods of seeing our diminishing carbon budget so we can act – as a State, as local governments, as sectors, and as decision-makers.

⁵ Note: a diversity of targets have been adopted by councils across the state ([see summary](#))

⁶ *ClimateWorks Australia, 2020, Decarbonisation Futures: Solutions, actions and benchmarks for a net zero emissions Australia*

⁷ https://eaga.com.au/about/our_impact/

⁸ DELWP, 2019, *Victorian Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report* (p12)



- **Changes to how the Victorian *Climate Change Act 2017* applies to land use planning has potential to create major emissions reductions and more resilient communities.** Land use planning is core business for local government. There is a clear disconnect between high level policy positions on climate change, both by State and local government, and the day-to-day decisions that are being made. This is particularly true for planning decisions, which influence carbon emissions and the living conditions of communities for generations to come. To enable the delivery of a safe climate and resilient communities the Victorian Government must mandate tackling climate change as a priority at all levels of the planning system This would empower our local governments, decision-makers, and developers to get on with the job of developing land *with* climate change in mind. It will also wipe hundreds of thousands of tonnes of avoidable CO₂-e emissions off Victoria's inventory. The Greenhouse Alliances have already undertaken a substantial, and extensively consulted gap analysis of Victoria's planning system⁹, and have prioritised recommended changes, including legislative amendments, for the Victorian Government.

We look forward to reviewing the Government's response to this consultation. We would also welcome an opportunity before the response is tabled to meet with you, to discuss our proposals for how the Victorian Government can draw from and support the extensive expertise in mitigation that has been built over time by Victoria's Greenhouse Alliances.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Executive Officers listed.

Kind regards

Carole Hammond
Executive officer, Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance
On behalf of the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances

⁹ https://www.naga.org.au/uploads/9/0/5/3/9053945/final_report_-_climate_change_and_planning_in_victoria_-_november_2021.pdf



Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Executive Officer Contacts

- Carole Hammond, Executive Officer, Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance (GMCA) | email eo@gmca.org.au
- Annika Kearton, Chief Executive Officer, Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) | email ceo@cvga.org.au
- Scott McKenry, Executive Officer, Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA) | email scott.mckenry@maroondah.vic.gov.au
- David Meiklejohn, Executive Officer, Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA) | email david@naga.org.au
- Daniel Pleiter, Acting Executive Officer, South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) | email dpleiter@seccca.org.au
- Fran MacDonald, Executive Officer, Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) | email franm@brimbank.vic.gov.au
- David Collins, Chair, Barwon South West Climate Alliance (BSWCA) | email david.collins@gplains.vic.gov.au

Municipal Association of Victoria contact:

- Claire Dunn, Manager – Built & Natural Environment, Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) | email cdunn@mav.asn.au

The submission has been approved through the greenhouse alliances' formal governance structures but has not been formally adopted by individual members. The submission does not necessarily represent the views of all councils. In the event that individual councils have positions that go beyond this submission, they may provide additional feedback.