



# Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday 16 December 2014  
Commencing at 7pm

Council Chamber  
Hobsons Bay Civic Centre  
115 Civic Parade, Altona

**HOBSONS  
BAY CITY  
COUNCIL**



# **HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL**

Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda

16 December 2014

## **THE COUNCIL'S MISSION**

Working with our community to plan, deliver and advocate for the services and infrastructure that will achieve a healthy, connected and sustainable future in Hobsons Bay.

## **OUR VALUES**

Honesty

Trust

Integrity

Collaboration

Respect

Accountability

Council acknowledges the people of Yalukit Wilum of the Boon Wurrung Country that makes up the Greater Kulin Nation as the traditional owner of these municipal lands.

### **Chairperson:**

Cr Colleen Gates (Mayor)      Wetlands Ward

### **Councillors:**

Cr Paul Morgan	Strand Ward
Cr Angela Altair	Strand Ward
Cr Peter Hemphill	Strand Ward
Cr Jason Price	Cherry Lake Ward
Cr Sandra Wilson	Cherry Lake Ward
Cr Carl Marsich	Wetlands Ward

Chris Eddy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hobsons Bay City Council

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## Agenda

### 1 Council Welcome

The Chairperson will welcome members of the gallery and acknowledge the people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of this land.

### 2 Apologies

### 3 Disclosure of Interests

In accordance with Sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors are required to disclose a "conflict of interest" in a decision if they would receive, or could be reasonably perceived as receiving a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

In accordance with Section 79B of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors who consider that they have a personal interest that is in conflict with their public duty in relation to a matter may, if they do not have a conflict of interest as described above, apply to Council to be exempted from voting on the matter.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

### 4 Minutes Confirmation

#### 4.1 Ordinary Council Meeting

Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of the Hobsons Bay City Council held on 2 December 2014 (copy previously circulated).

### 5 Councillors' Questions

## 6 Petitions/Joint Letters

### 6.1 Petition – Traffic Islands at Cole and Twyford Streets, Williamstown

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

#### Purpose

To advise Council on the petition requesting installation of traffic islands and recommended action to address hooning over the summer period in Twyford Street, Williamstown.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Continue discussions with Victoria Police in support of a patrol strategy in the precinct over the summer period.
  2. Refer approximately \$500,000 for the outstanding works in the South Williamstown Local Area Traffic Management area to subsequent years capital works budget for consideration, noting that the cost for treatment of the Coles Street/Twyford Street intersection is approximately \$85,000.
  3. Inform the lead petitioner of Council's action.
- 

#### Summary

In 2012 Council adopted a Traffic Management Plan for the Williamstown South Local Area Traffic Management area.

A number of the Local Area Traffic Management works have been completed and in reviewing the capital works budget the next traffic management priorities are being determined.

Anti-social behaviour such as hoon driving is better dealt with through policing.

The Victoria Police Highway Patrol has agreed to undertake more rigorous operations in the precinct during the summer period to crack down on hoon driving.

#### Background

The following petition signed by 43 residents was received at the Council meeting on 18 November 2014:

*"We, the undersigned residents of Williamstown, request that Hobsons Bay City Council take measures to prevent hooning in Cole Street, in particular at the intersection of Cole and Twyford Street. Our request is that the Council consider the immediate installation of traffic islands in Twyford Street as foreshadowed in a previous Traffic Management Plan.*

*We regard this as an urgent matter following a sequence of three hooning incidents in the previous two weeks at this intersection. The incident on the night of Saturday November 8 was a very serious incident lasting nearly four minutes, with significant risk to property and possibly individuals. The marks on the road are testimony to the severity of the hooning was.*

*We request measures to be taken in advance of the summer hooning season.”*

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 21 February 2012, Council adopted a Traffic Management Plan for the Williamstown South Local area developed by the Williamstown South Traffic Study Group.

The objectives of the Plan were to develop cost effective solutions to improve the safety of local streets by reducing vehicle speeds, reduce the potential for vehicle and pedestrian crashes, discourage through traffic and develop proposals that address traffic concerns raised by residents.

The recommended treatments did include the provision of splitter islands on Twyford Street with extended kerbs to reduce intersection width. There are also a number of other outstanding recommended treatments in the LATM.

### **Discussion**

Local Area Traffic Management Plans are generally undertaken to provide engineering solutions to traffic and safety issues such as through traffic, vehicle and pedestrian conflicts etc. Anti-social behaviour such as hoon driving is better dealt with through policing. To this end Council officers have met with Victoria Police regarding the hooning at this intersection and the precinct in general.

The Victoria Police Highway Patrol has agreed to undertake more rigorous operations in the precinct during the summer period to crack down on hoon driving.

With regard to the Twyford Street treatments a reassessment of the outstanding works in the precinct should be undertaken along with a review of the priority of these projects in the context of the overall capital works program priorities.

It is estimated that the cost to install the recommended treatment will be approximately \$85,000 as street lights at the intersection will also need to be upgraded in conjunction with construction of splitter islands and kerb extensions.

### **Strategic Alignment**

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives in the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan 2013-17:

#### **Goal 3: Quality Community Infrastructure and Public Open Spaces and Places**

3.2 Build and maintain a clean, safe and beautiful city.

3.4 Provide and maintain roads, drainage and footpath networks that meet the needs of the community.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The cost to implement traffic treatments at Twyford street as recommended in the Williamstown South LATM is \$85,000. Other outstanding works in the LATM are estimated at approximately \$400,000

### **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

Anti-social behaviour has a detrimental affect on the amenity of the area and puts the safety of people at risk.

**Consultation and Communication**

Initial consultation with regard to hooning has been held with Victoria Police. An extensive consultation process was conducted as part of the LATM study.

**Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## **6.2 Petition – Request to Upgrade School Crossing – Maddox Road, Newport**

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

### **Purpose**

To advise Council of an electronic petition containing 136 signatories requesting Council to upgrade the existing school crossing at Maddox Road, Newport to a pedestrian bush button crossing.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- 1. Receive and note the petition requesting Council to upgrade the existing school crossing at Maddox Road, Newport to a pedestrian bush button crossing.**
  - 2. Request a report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**
- 

### **Summary**

The petition was received on 11 December, and acknowledged on the same day.

The petition is an on-line petition facilitated through the website change.org. Although Council's Meeting Procedure Local Law does not currently provide for on-line petitions, Council can resolve to consider the petition.

The petition reads as follows:

"Currently, there is no pedestrian crossing on Maddox Rd, Newport, to access Newport Gardens Primary School and Newport Gardens Early Years Centre. There is a supervised school crossing between 8.15-9.00am and 2.45-3.30pm on school days only.

Maddox Road is a major collector road, and on a Council run audit in March 2014, 521 cars were recorded using the road over the course of one hour.

This dangerous situation affects:

- 310 children enrolled at Newport Gardens Primary School
- 149 babies and preschoolers enrolled at Newport Gardens Early Years Centre (three year old kinder, four year old kinder, long day care)
- parents/carers and younger siblings of children at NGPS and NGEYC
- Maternal and Child Health clients (seven appointments for every baby born in the area, up to the age of four)
- Yooralla clients
- immunization patients (sessions held every fortnight at NGEYC, six appointments for every baby born, up to the age of four)
- Toy Library members (open twice weekly at NGEYC)
- Mothers Group meetings with newborn babies (held weekly at NGEYC)
- playgroups (held weekly at NGEYC)
- community groups (held weekly at NGEYC)



Council has recognised the safety concern, but has advised that \$80,000 is too much to spend to upgrade the existing crossing. They have proposed a pedestrian island be installed, which we believe will actually decrease road safety. The proposed island will impinge upon an already narrow road, with an existing bike lane on the east side of the road, and a bus stop on the west side of the road, and traffic queuing to turn right into Woods St.

Can you imagine trying to safely stop preschoolers, riding bikes and scooters, on an island in the middle of this busy road?

The issue of upgrading the existing crossing was first raised by concerned parents in February 2014.

We have started this petition as a last resort after numerous phone calls, emails, and promises from Hobsons Bay City Council have failed to resolve this issue.

The crossing upgrade needs to be urgently addressed by Hobsons Bay City Council before an accident occurs.”

## 7 Business

### 7.1 Corporate Services

#### 7.1.1 General Valuation 2016

Directorate: Corporate Services

#### Purpose

For Council to resolve to make and return the 2016 General Valuation in accordance with the requirements of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. In accordance with sections 11 and 13H of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, cause a General Valuation of all rateable land and all non-rateable leviable land, to be made as at 1 January 2016 and to be returned before 30 June 2016;
  2. In accordance with section 13DA (1) of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, appoint Mr Robert Tot from Opteon Property Group to make and return the valuations; and
  3. In accordance with section 6 (1) of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, notify the Valuer-General and every other rating authority interested in the valuation of land within its area, of the resolution to cause a General Valuation to be made.
- 

#### Summary

Council is required, under the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, to carry out a general valuation of all rateable properties and non-rateable leviable land subject to the Fire Service Property Levy (FSPL), within the municipality every two years.

The last general valuation was undertaken at 1 January 2014, to be used for rating and FSPL purposes from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016. The next general valuation needs to be undertaken at 1 January 2016, to be used for rating and FSPL purposes from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018.

The contract for the municipal valuation and ancillary services is undertaken by Mr Robert Tot from Opteon Property Group and includes the general valuation to be made as at 1 January 2016.

#### Strategic Alignment

This General Valuation 2016 report specifically addresses the following goal and objective in the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan 2013-17:

#### Goal 4: An Innovative, Proactive and Leading Organisation

4.1 Undertake responsible and sustainable decision making and management.

## Policy

The general revaluations relate to and are closely aligned to Council's Rating Strategy, which is reviewed yearly in line with the annual budget process.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk

To make and return the 2016 General Valuation, Council must follow the following legislative requirements in relation to the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*:

- Section 11 requires Council to cause a General Valuation of all rateable land to be made every two years;
- Section 13H requires Council to cause a General Valuation of all non-rateable leviable land (for the purposes of the FSPL) to be made every two years;
- Section 13DA (1) states that a Council may appoint one or more people to make valuations under this Act; and
- Section 6 (1) requires Council to notify the Valuer-General and every other rating authority interested in the valuation of land within its area, of the resolution to cause a General Valuation to be made.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The general valuation has a significant financial impact on Council due to the amount that is raised as rates income each financial year. The 2014-15 budget estimates rates for the financial year to be \$90.9 million.

Costs associated with the Valuation contract sit within the finance department's operational budget.

## Consultation and Communication

Council is required to notify the Valuer-General and other rating authorities interested in the valuation of land within its area of its intention to cause a General Revaluation.

The following authorities will be notified:

- Office of the Valuer General
- State Revenue Office
- Maribyrnong City Council
- Wyndham City Council
- Brimbank City Council
- Melbourne City Council
- City West Water

## Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 7.1.2 GLBTIQ Advisory Committee Extension of Appointment

Directorate: Corporate Services

### Purpose

To propose that the appointment and term of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transsexual, Intersex and Queer Advisory Committee be extended to 30 June 2015 pending the overall review of all advisory committees.

### Recommendation

**That Council extend the term and appointment of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transsexual, Intersex and Queer Advisory Committee and members to 30 June 2015.**

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### Summary

Council is undertaking a review of its advisory committees which should be completed in early 2015. The term of the current Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transsexual, Intersex and Queer (GLBTIQ) Advisory Committee expires in December 2014 and in order to consider this committee as part of the overall review it is proposed to extend its term to 30 June 2015.

### Discussion

Extension of the GLBTIQ committee term is a practical solution to ensure that it is considered as part of an overall review, one outcome of which will be that the terms of appointment of all committees will be aligned.

### Strategic Alignment

Extension of the term of the GLBTIQ Committee aligns with the following goals and objectives in the Council Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-17 and Council Plan 2013-17:

#### **Goal 1: An Inclusive, Resilient and Healthy Community**

1.2 Foster community wellbeing, capacity and sense of belonging.

1.6 Work in partnership with key stakeholders to attract and advocate for the services needed in Hobsons Bay.

#### **Goal 4: An Innovative, Proactive and Leading Organisation**

4.1 Undertake responsible and sustainable decision making and management.

4.2 Understand community needs, advocate and partner with others for the benefit of the municipality, especially in relation to children and young people.

4.3 Communicate and engage effectively with the community and provide excellent customer service.

### Policy

The formation and operation of advisory committees is covered by Council's Community Committees (Formation and Management) Policy 2010 whose purpose is to ensure that committees support the strategic objectives of Council.

**Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

There are no legal, statutory or human rights issues associated with this report.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report as the costs of administration of Council's advisory committees are included in various operational budgets.

**Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

Extension of the term of appointment ensures continuity of the committee which is a valuable contributor to social issues in particular affecting the GLBTIQ community.

**Consultation and Communication**

The committee has been advised of the intention to seek an extension to its term.

**Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

### 7.1.3 Cat Curfew

Directorate: Corporate Services

Appendix: 1 1<sup>st</sup> Pink

#### Purpose

For Council to consider a request for the implementation of a cat curfew across the municipality.

#### Recommendation

##### That Council:

1. Take no action to implement a cat curfew across any part of the municipality.
  2. Note the actions to promote the increased availability of cat cages and education of domestic animal owners about their responsibilities in relation to wandering animals.
  3. Advise Conversations for the Curious of its decision.
- 

#### Summary

Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-17 (DAMP) proposes that Council considers the introduction of a cat curfew across the municipality. Council has also received a joint letter from residents of Hobsons Bay and members of Conversations for the Curious requesting the implementation of a cat curfew. This report considers the potential benefits and barriers to the introduction of a limited (night time) curfew and recommends that a curfew not be introduced as it is likely to be ineffective.

#### Background

A joint letter from residents of Hobsons Bay and members of Conversations for the Curious was tabled at the Council meeting on 2 December 2014. The letter expressed concern at the harmful effects of domestic animals (and in particular of cats) on the population of native birds, mammals and reptiles in Hobsons Bay's parks and gardens. The letter requests that Council implement a curfew on the domestic cat population.

In developing the DAMP a survey of residents was also conducted as an initial assessment of the community's concern about stray cats, cats killing wildlife and cats straying on to private property. Through the survey, there was a level of concern expressed by respondents that wandering cats were an issue. Cat curfews have been introduced in other municipalities as a means to reduce wildlife kills and to reduce cat nuisance problems for the community.

Investigation into a cat curfew was an action from the DAMP and as a result of that a discussion paper has been prepared and is attached as an appendix to this report.

#### Discussion

The survey results indicate a level of concern about issues associated with straying cats generally as well as their impact on wildlife but as with the joint letter there is no hard evidence of the harmful impact of domestic animals in Hobsons Bay. (The Lost Dogs Home quotes figures from a study that claims each cat kills (on average) 44 animals per year).

While there are likely to be some limited benefits as responsible cat owners may take measures to restrict the freedom of their cats, there are significant arguments that suggest that cat curfews are not effective and have had minimal impact where they have been imposed.

Analysis of data for impounded cats in Hobsons Bay indicates that the wandering cat population is more a symptom of stray, feral and ownerless cats, rather than for owned cats in domestic residences.

It is therefore highly unlikely that a night curfew would work to restrict cats' roaming activity. In addition The Lost Dogs Home is also strongly of the view that night curfews are not effective in reducing native wildlife kills because most native animals and birds are not nocturnal.

While the paper acknowledges the anecdotal impact of stray cats on wildlife within the municipality it canvasses other means to limit their destructive behaviour. Measures such as targeting the capture of roaming cats in sensitive biodiversity areas, the promotion of cat traps as a means of dealing with stray cats on private property and promotion of responsible pet ownership which highlights the effects of roaming cats on wildlife are all means by which this issue can be addressed.

Council earlier this year considered a Biodiversity Discussion Paper which also canvassed potential actions in a future biodiversity strategy to address this issue.

In the meantime Council has taken steps to address the issue in residential areas by increasing the number of cat cages available for residents and promoting their accessibility on its website.

### **Strategic Alignment**

This report arises from a joint letter received seeking a cat curfew and proposed actions in the 2013-17 Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Consideration of a cat curfew is aligned with the following goal and objective in the Council Plan and Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-17:

#### **Goal 3: Quality Community Infrastructure and Public Open Spaces and Places**

3.1 Protect and enhance our coastal environment, public open space network and natural areas.

### **Policy**

Introduction of a cat curfew would require a Council resolution under Section 25 the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Alternatively, a Local Law could be introduced to regulate the keeping of cats to within the confines of an owner's property.

### **Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

An order made by Council must be published in the Government Gazette and a local newspaper.

It is considered that the introduction of a cat curfew would not be in breach of the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

In regard to risk analysis, there would undoubtedly be an element of resident opposition to the suggestion of a cat curfew. Introduction of a cat curfew would likely lead to community expectations in relation to enforcement that could not be met within the current resources of the Animal Management team.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Introduction of a cat curfew would have minimal financial impact in terms of revenue. Based on the current impound data for cats it is likely that very few infringement notices would be issued for breaches of a cat curfew. To enforce a cat curfew considerable additional resources would be necessary.

As an immediate measure Council is purchasing additional cat cages that will require officer resources to deliver and collect and the costs associated with this activity will be monitored over the next few months.

### **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

There is no evidence that the introduction of a cat curfew would have environmental benefit or reduce the loss of wildlife as the majority of wandering cats are unregistered, feral and un-owned. It is considered that a cat curfew would have minimal social impacts other than improved amenity for some affected residents.

### **Consultation and Communication**

Residents were given the opportunity of partaking in a survey through the development of the DAMP.

Dr Graeme Smith, Managing Director, The Lost Dogs Home, provided some information that does not support a night curfew because there are few native nocturnal animals that cats can prey upon.

Council's Conservation and Environment and Strategy and Advocacy Departments provided input regarding biodiversity issues.

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

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.



## 7.2 Infrastructure and City Services

### 7.2.1 Contract No. 2015.05 - Provision of Pavement Markings

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

#### Purpose

To award Contract No. 2015.05 Provision of Pavement Markings.

#### Recommendation

**That Council award Contract No. 2015.05 Provision of Pavement Markings to Roadmaster Line Marking Pty Ltd at an estimated cost of \$955,480.62 (GST inclusive) for a period of 3 years with an option for a further 2 x 1 year extension based on the submitted schedule of rates.**

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#### Summary

Four tenders were received for the provision of pavement markings. Due to all tender responses being well above the allocated budget, a post-tender clarification was sought from each tenderer on a revised schedule of quantities and two tender submissions were shortlisted for full evaluation. After full evaluation the Tender Board recommended the contract be awarded to Roadmaster Line Marking Pty Ltd.

#### Background

Pavement marking is a key component of safety on the road network. This contract is a schedule of rates contract specifying the standard of pavement markings such as lane lines, edge lines, directional arrows, intersection markings and parking bays. The schedule of rates to the contract sets out the material, type of marking and estimated quantity of each item.

The contract is a three year contract with an option to extend for a further 2 x 1 year based on the schedule of rates. Funding for refreshing or replacement of existing pavement markings is provided under this contract arrangement. Funding for pavement markings associated with new roadworks, resurfacing and shared footways and bike lanes is provided for as part of those capital works projects.

The requirements are currently carried out under the terms of a pre-existing agreement.

#### Discussion

A public tender process was conducted on 1 March 2014 seeking tenders for provision of pavement marking based on a schedule of quantities for various types of markings.

Four tender responses were received all of which were above the allocated budget.

The schedule of quantities was revised and a post-tender pricing clarification was sought based on the revised schedule. Three of the tenderers clarified their rates based on the new schedule with the fourth failing to respond.

After initial evaluation, two tenderers were shortlisted for full evaluation.

The evaluation criteria used to assess the tenderers included demonstrated experience, price, capacity and ability to undertake the project or works, innovation and value added service and references.

The recommended tenderer achieved the highest score against the evaluation criteria and was the lowest price.

There are no local providers for this service.

The Tender Board has endorsed the recommended contractor as the best value for Council.

### **Strategic Alignment**

This report specifically addresses the following goal and objectives in the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan 2013-17:

#### **Goal 3: Quality Community Infrastructure and Public Open Spaces and Places**

3.2 Build and maintain a clean, safe and beautiful city.

3.4 Provide and maintain roads, drainage and footpath networks that meet the needs of the community.

### **Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

Council has an obligation to maintain major traffic control items such as stop and give way pavement marking and carry out pavement markings in accordance with VicRoads' Traffic Engineering Manual, Vol 2.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

A budget of \$300,000 per annum has been provided to maintain pavement markings. Funding for new markings for new roadworks, resurfacing works and shared footpaths is sourced through the capital works project budgets.

### **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

Consistency in pavement markings is paramount to safety of all road users including pedestrians.

### **Consultation and Communication**

The community is consulted with regard to new or proposed line marking. VicRoads is also consulted as the need arises.

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

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 7.3 Strategic Development

### 7.3.1 Vision Newport Structure Plan Community Consultation Update

Directorate: Strategic Development

Appendix: 2 1<sup>st</sup> Green

#### Purpose

To update Council on the Vision Newport Structure Plan community consultation results.

#### Recommendation

**That Council receive and note the findings of the Vision Newport Structure Plan community consultation.**

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#### Summary

Newport is changing. From its rich industrial heritage to its niche cafe and lifestyle businesses, it is being impacted by the pressures of urban consolidation and increase in activity. Its population is also changing. Young lone person households and young couples with children have been attracted to Newport requiring a diversity of housing types with good access to open spaces and services.

A review of the Newport Structure Plan is required to provide an up-to-date framework which guides planning for future development within the area to accommodate these future needs. A review of existing policies and evaluation of previous community consultation has been undertaken which identified opportunities and challenges for any future structure plan.

To ensure that the structure plan is informed by the community, Vision Newport Structure Plan Stage 1 community consultation was undertaken between August and September 2014. The responses provided by the community will help inform a draft Vision Newport Structure Plan.

#### Background

An in depth review of previous policy and literature has been undertaken as part of the development of a new Structure Plan. This review revealed key issues and opportunities for Newport, including:

- the ability to accommodate a substantial population increase given its proximity to a transport hub, whilst having regards to competing influences such as heritage and proximity to Major Hazard Facilities
- connections must be provided to open space and between key areas (such as Hall Street and Mason Street) in addition to key future development sites (such as the Strategic Redevelopment Areas to the north)
- improvements to Newport's public spaces can be improved so they are attractive and well designed
- car parking facilities should be improved, however alternative transport options other than the car should be encouraged
- encourage and promote Newport's niche lifestyle businesses and restaurants

These results have been captured in four key themes and formed the basis of the consultation. These themes are:

- preserving the neighbourhood character, heritage and history
- access to open spaces, streetscape and planting
- providing access to transport and a mobility network plan
- providing economic opportunity

## Discussion

The purpose of Stage 1 consultations was to seek feedback from the community on how Newport can be improved in the future, and to confirm the key themes originally identified in the literature review and consultations on previous strategies and plans (such as the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-17).

The community strongly supported celebrating the distinct precincts within the activity centre that can offer opportunities for retail/commercial (Mason Street), cafes and restaurants (Hall Street) and arts/ community spaces (The Substation area). Many respondents were keen in strengthening connections including improved pedestrian routes, bicycle paths and bus interchange connections as well as strong support for a priority on safe and accessible pedestrian movements through traffic calming, streetscape improvements, improved lighting and surveillance.

The consultation demonstrated support for appropriately scaled mixed use development (3 to 4 storeys) including residential, complementary retail and employment opportunities. The community also support density, subject to high quality architectural development which is sensitive to Newport's built and industrial heritage and local identity.

The participants advised that a vibrant community heart anchored by key spaces such as The Substation, the Newport Youth Library and Seniors hub, Paine Reserve and Mason and Hall Streets will strengthen the role of Newport and support passive and active recreation in the centre.

Consultation responses suggested that high quality green gateways and spaces were required in the activity centre. Improved landscaping particularly on the arrival routes such as Melbourne Road and along Hall Street was identified as a priority to create safe spaces and welcoming pedestrian environments.

The results of the consultation have been summarised in the attached fact sheet. Overall, the community's vision for Newport aligns with the principles in the state and local policy.

The next steps are to consolidate the findings of the consultation, the background and technical reports to inform a draft Vision Newport Structure Plan.

## Strategic Alignment

This structure plan specifically addresses the following goals and objectives in the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan 2013-17:

### **Goal 1: An inclusive, resilient and healthy community**

- 1.2 Foster community wellbeing, capacity and sense of belonging
- 1.3 Protect and promote public health and community safety.
- 1.4 Provide a range of opportunities that support people to engage in healthy and active lifestyles, the arts, recreation and sport.
- 1.6 Work in partnership with key stakeholders to attract and advocate for the services needed in Hobsons Bay

### **Goal 2: A well planned, vibrant and sustainable place**

- 2.1 Contribute to creating an accessible, well connected city.
- 2.2 Enhance neighbourhood character, while respecting local heritage and open space.

2.3 Contribute to initiatives that encourage economic opportunities through local employment, business, industry and tourism.

2.4 Plan for a well designed urban environment and public spaces that contribute to the life of the city.

### **Goal 3: Quality community infrastructure and public open spaces and places**

3.2 Build and maintain a clean, safe and beautiful city

3.5 Increase the use of integrated transport across the municipality

### **Policy**

Clause 21.03-1 (Activity Centres) of the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme includes a strategy to *“Review and prepare new structure plans to guide the planning and future development of Activity Centres including: Newport.”* The development of this policy will also guide the implementation of the new residential zones and align with Plan Melbourne.

Vision Newport will build on existing Council policy including the Community Greenhouse Strategy 2013-30, draft Integrated Water Plan 2009–14, Arts and Culture Plan 2011–15, and state policy such as Plan Melbourne: Metropolitan Planning Strategy 2014.

### **Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

Clause 21.03-1 of the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme indicates that future strategic work should include structure planning to guide future development in Activity Centres.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Sufficient funding has been allocated for the preparation of Vision Newport. Implementation of the actions arising from the structure plan should be considered in the future capital works program.

### **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

Vision Newport will have positive implications for the environmental, social and economic condition of Newport. It will provide direction and actions to improve public spaces, access and economic viability for Newport.

### **Consultation and Communication**

Council received 514 comments on Stage 1 consultation. Various methods were employed to ensure that all of the community’s views were collected as part of the consultation.

A community drop in session and a separate community workshop gained 60.9 per cent of comments, 18.9 per cent of comments came through Council’s website (including the Participate Hobsons Bay website), 19.6 per cent of comments resulted from targeted workshops with Council’s advisory groups and trader association and 0.6 per cent of comments were received via mail or email.

The consultation was broken up into two parts, Stage 1a being the drop in information session held on 6 August 2014 at Village Real Estate in Newport. The information session was attended by 54 people, collecting a range of suggestions and ideas. Stage 1b of the Vision Newport community consultation was held at the Newport Bowls Club on 28 August 2014 and focused on draft Urban Design Guidelines. Two workshop sessions were attended by approximately 25 people and allowed members of the community to provide comment and feedback on five precincts identified as part of these guidelines. These guidelines will address recommended built form, direction on land use and improving access and the public realm.

Notices were placed in the local newspapers as well as distributed to schools and traders together with media releases and online communication. Leaflets and letters were distributed throughout the community, including postcards to all Newport residents on 24 and 25 July 2014. Targeted workshops with Council's advisory groups including Disability Advisory Committee (DAC); Strategic Advisory Group (SAG); Sustainable Environment Advisory Group (SEAG); Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer Communities Group (GLBTIQ) and traders were held in June and July 2014.

An opportunity was taken to promote Vision Newport at the 'Step into spring' festival held on 30 August 2014 at Paine Reserve in Newport.

Future community consultation will be undertaken subject to the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* as part of the amendment process and Council's community engagement framework which is currently being reviewed.

Community consultation is important to ensure Vision Newport is informed by the values of the community it will serve.

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

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## **7.3.2 Living Hobsons Bay: An Integrated Water Management Plan 2014-19**

Directorate: Strategic Development

Appendix: 3 1<sup>st</sup> Yellow

### **Purpose**

To present Living Hobsons Bay: An Integrated Water Management Plan 2014-19 and recommend that the Plan be adopted by Council.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council adopt Living Hobsons Bay: An Integrated Water Management Plan 2014-19.**

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### **Summary**

Living Hobsons Bay: An Integrated Water Management Plan 2014-19 (the Plan) has been developed to guide Council's water management activities. On 25 March 2014, Council resolved to exhibit the draft Plan for a period of six weeks. Four submissions were received which supported the Plan and provided additional suggestions to add value to the document. The document has subsequently been amended to reflect relevant feedback. The amended Plan is provided in the appendix.

### **Background**

The new Plan has been developed in alignment with the Victorian Government's new urban water policy Melbourne's Water Future released in December 2013. Melbourne's Water Future is a whole-of-water-cycle management approach that is proposed to be delivered in partnership with the water sector, local government, business, community organisations and households. This is included in Plan Melbourne's direction which provides the Victorian Government's vision for the city to 2050. Plan Melbourne integrates planning and development of land, transport, social and community infrastructure including water cycle services.

Council has already completed a variety of integrated water management initiatives. Recent capital works include three stormwater harvesting schemes at Cyril Curtain Reserve in Williamstown, Paisley Park in Altona North and Laverton Recreation Reserve, saving a projected 175 megalitres of drinking water per annum. In addition, smart water metres have been installed at 20 reserve sites and sustainable water design elements have been integrated into various projects including road upgrades, playgrounds and new public toilets. The Plan outlines a framework for prioritising further sustainable and integrated water management actions. The vision of the Plan is to create a greener, healthier, more sustainable community. The Plan describes Council's water management goals for the next five years as well as how Council will measure its progress, its planning, delivery and advocacy for improved water management.

### **Discussion**

The draft Plan was exhibited for six weeks from 25 March to 7 May. A presentation on the draft Plan to the Sustainable Environment Advisory Group (SEAG) was also held in the lead up to the consultation period. Responses were received by one community member, City

West Water, Melbourne Water and the Office of Living Victoria. All responses were in support of the Plan with additional suggestions offered to add value to the document. Council's reply to submitters has been provided in the appendix.

Key amendments to the Plan in response to submissions include:

- two chapters were brought forward to improve structure and the narrative of the document
- the water balance figures have been updated with current water authority data
- a clear definition of nuisance flooding has been provided and references to Council Plans managing large scale flooding have been made. These include the 2013 Hobsons Bay Flood Management Plan and the 2013 Hobsons Bay City Council Flood Emergency Plan
- acknowledgement of Council's involvement with regional water projects and planning activities has been made and that the Council will remain cognisant of regional water planning
- some terms and definitions have been clarified
- a Technical Support document has been developed to clearly indicate the background analysis for the development of the Plan's targets. This document will be made publicly available.
- Council's action prioritisation system now reflects the current research on vulnerability to heat events. This is included in the Technical Support document.

## **Strategic Alignment**

The Integrated Water Management Plan specifically addresses the following goal and objectives in the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan 2013-17:

### **Goal 2: A well planned, vibrant and sustainable place.**

2.4 Plan for a well designed urban environment and public spaces that contribute to the life of the city.

2.5 Reduce the Council ecological footprint and ensure our community has the capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change.

## **Policy**

The Plan aligns with the Climate Change Policy 2013. There are no additional policy implications to the adoption of this Plan.

## **Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

There are no legal, statutory obligations or risks associated with adopting this Plan.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

The Plan is a key tool in informing Council's budget process to ensure that these risks are managed with the adequate amount of resources.

## **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

The Plan considers both social and environmental benefits that arise from effective water management. The management response outlined in the Plan gives consideration to value for money and prioritises actions that maximise benefits in alignment with the strategic objectives. The Plan reflects a key driver of Melbourne's Water Future to make better use of existing water assets to reduce rising cost pressure and create multiple social and environmental benefits.



The Plan identifies many water management issues that directly impact on the environment. These include the impact of water management on the health of local waterways. Actions to improve outcomes from the environment are identified in the Plan.

Council and all sectors of the Hobsons Bay community have a contribution to make to the sustainable management of water resources in the western region. The Plan identifies many water management issues that directly impact on the community. These include the impact of water management on the quality of Council reserves, the impact of stormwater quality on water based recreational activities and the benefits of retaining water in the urban environment to reduce the impact of the urban heat island and improve community wellbeing. Actions to improve outcomes for the community have been identified in the Plan.

### **Consultation and Communication**

A presentation on the draft Plan to the Sustainable Environment Advisory Group (SEAG) was also held in the lead up to the consultation period. The draft Plan was exhibited for six weeks. Responses were received by one community member, City West Water, Melbourne Water and the Office of Living Victoria. There were no objections. Responses to the submitters' comments are provided in the appendix.

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

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## **8 Notices of Motion**

### **8.1 Notice of Motion No. 1166 – Port Phillip Woollen Mills**

Cr Peter Hemphill has given notice of the following:

“That Council:

1. Note the Victorian Labor party’s election pledge to approve a planning scheme amendment to ensure new planning permit applications are consistent with the recommendations of the Former Port Phillip Woollen Mills Advisory Committee including set maximum building heights.
2. Officers urgently prepare a report considering the merits of a planning scheme amendment to introduce the recommendations of the Former Port Phillip Woollen Mills Advisory Committee such as mandatory height controls as soon as practicable and by February 2015.”

### **8.2 Notice of Motion No. 1167 – Major Hazard Facilities**

Cr Peter Hemphill has given notice of the following

“That Council:

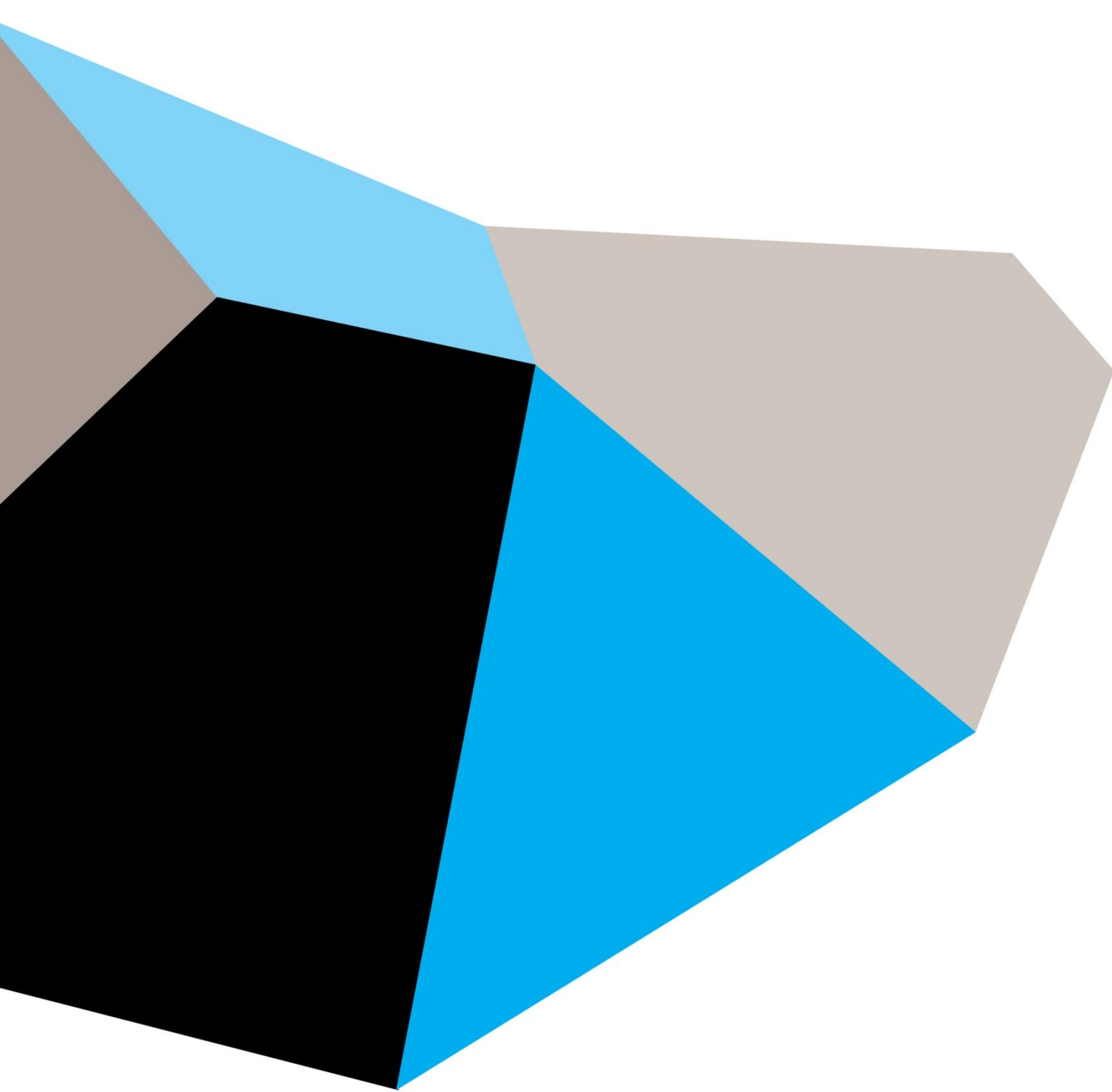
1. Note its continued advocacy for a review of land use planning around Major Hazard Facilities.
2. Note the Victorian Labor Party’s election pledge to initiate an inquiry into the adequacy of existing laws to safeguard and protect residents living near Major Hazard Facilities.
3. Write to the relevant State Minister urging the prompt start of such an inquiry and offer any support as required.”

## **9 Public Question Time**

Public question time provides an opportunity for the public to ask questions and obtain information and answers to simple questions.

Public question time is not a forum for debate. Where it is not possible to provide a response during the meeting, the question will be taken on notice and a written response will be provided.

## **10 Urgent and Other Business**



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**HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL**

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