



Minutes of the Council Meeting

Held at the Council Chamber, Moreland Civic Centre, 90 Bell Street,
Coburg on Wednesday 10 August 2022

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7.02 pm and stated the Council meeting is being held on the traditional country of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people and acknowledged them as Traditional Owners. The Mayor paid respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today.

Present	Time In	Time Out
Cr Mark Riley, Mayor	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Lambros Tapinos, Deputy Mayor	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Adam Pulford	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Angelica Panopoulos	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Annalivia Carli Hannan	7.21 pm	9.58 pm
Cr Helen Davidson	Leave of absence	
Cr Helen Pavlidis	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr James Conlan	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Monica Harte	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Oscar Yildiz JP	7.02 pm	10.49 pm
Cr Sue Bolton	7.06 pm	10.49 pm

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer – Cathy Henderson
Director Business Transformation – Sue Vujcevic
Director City Infrastructure – Anita Curnow
Director Community – Eamonn Fennessy
Director Place and Environment – Joseph Tabacco
Manager Governance and Strategy – Yvonne Callanan

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolution

Cr Yildiz moved, Cr Tapinos seconded –

That Cr Davidson be granted a leave of absence for the period 8 August to 21 August 2022.

Carried

DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Carli Hannan disclosed a conflict of interest in item 7.1 Coburg Health and Community Services Precinct: Endorsement of the Coburg Health Precinct Masterplan.

7.06pm Cr Bolton entered the meeting.

MINUTE CONFIRMATION

Resolution

Cr Conlan moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded -

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 July 2022 be confirmed.

Carried

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS

- Cr Yildiz acknowledged the Broadmeadows SES 50th Anniversary.
- Cr Riley noted that a public memorial service would be held for Jane Garrett MP at the Brunswick Town Hall on 2 September 2022.
- Cr Riley acknowledged the passing of Uncle Archie Roach, Judith Durham and Dame Olivia Newton-John.
- Cr Yildiz acknowledged the passing of Kosmas Rekaris, originally a shoe maker in Brunswick, and further acknowledged his contribution to the Kastorian Association and Neos Kosmos newspaper.
- Cr Riley acknowledged the opening of 3 new exhibitions at the Counihan Gallery, including an exhibition of the Counihan collection, for whom the gallery is named.

PETITIONS

5.1 PETITION - ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES - RENAMING MORELAND: GIVE OUR COMMUNITY A SAY

An additional 279 signatures were submitted to a petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting (Item 5.1) requesting Council gives the community a say in renaming Moreland. The Petition was received at the July 2022 Council meeting with 893 signatures and referred to the Director Community for consideration and response.

**A further 303 signatures were received after the distribution of the agenda.*

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receives the additional 279 signatures to the petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting, requesting Council gives the community a say in the renaming of Moreland.
2. Refers the additional signatures to the petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting, requesting Council gives the community a say in the renaming of Moreland to the Director Community for consideration and response.

Resolution

Cr Yildiz moved, Cr Pavlidis seconded -

That Council:

1. Receives the additional 582 signatures to the petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting, requesting Council gives the community a say in the renaming of Moreland.
2. Refers the additional signatures to the petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting to the Director Community for consideration and response.

Carried

5.2 PETITION - ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES - REMOVE THE UNSAFE BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE ON KENT ROAD, PASCOE VALE

An additional 437 signatures were submitted to a petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting (Item 5.3) requesting Council removes the unsafe bike infrastructure on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale. The Petition was received at the July 2022 Council meeting with 989 signatures and referred to the Director Community for consideration and response.

Resolution

Cr Yildiz moved, Cr Pavlidis seconded -

That Council:

1. Receives the additional 437 signatures to the petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting, requesting Council to remove the unsafe bike infrastructure on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale.
2. Refers the additional 437 signatures to the petition received at the July 2022 Council meeting to the Director City Infrastructure for consideration and response.

Carried

7.21 pm Cr Carli Hannan entered the meeting.

5.3 PETITION - SAVE THE PASCOE VALE BIKE LANES

A Petition has been received containing 392 signatures requesting Council save the Pascoe Vale bike lanes on Kent and Northumberland Roads.

Resolution

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That Council:

1. Receives the petition with 392 signatures requesting Council save the Pascoe Vale bike lanes on Kent and Northumberland Roads .
2. Refers the petition requesting Council save the Pascoe Vale bike lanes on Kent and Northumberland Roads, to the Director City Infrastructure for consideration and response.

Carried

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time commenced at 7.22 pm.

ANNELY AEUCKENS - QUESTION - COBURG HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PRECINCT: ENDORSEMENT OF THE COBURG HEALTH PRECINCT MASTERPLAN

The proposed master plan seems very conceptual in nature and provides limited detail. What is the status of the master plan, and will there be further consultations with the public and stakeholders such as the Coburg Historical Society?

At the request of the Mayor, Joseph Tabacco, Director Place and Environment responded:

You're right that the masterplan is conceptual – this is what was intended at this point in the project. We asked the developers Coburg Health Hub to share the masterplan with the community at the “preliminary sketch design stage” so that everyone could see how it is evolving. This wouldn't normally happen at this stage but they agreed to do this because of the level of community interest in the project. We asked them specifically to show how they have taken into consideration key decisions that Council made in December 2021, such as creating a new road and taking out the land around the bluestone cottage complex so that it can remain in Council ownership.

If Council endorses the masterplan, Coburg Health Hub will then develop the next level of detail for their plans for the precinct. They will have to do a lot of background work and studies in order to get to this level of detail. This will then go through the normal planning process, including public notification once a permit is applied for.

We'll make sure Coburg Historical Society members are notified as part of this process.

ANNELY AEUCKENS - QUESTION - COBURG HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PRECINCT: ENDORSEMENT OF THE COBURG HEALTH PRECINCT MASTERPLAN

The Coburg Historical Society has a deep concern regarding the budget proposed for the Bluestone cottage complex refurbishment, new archive/annexe and gardens. Is the Council aware of the complex nature of this project and the risk that the funding will prove to be inadequate to complete it satisfactorily?

At the request of the Mayor, Joseph Tabacco, Director Place and Environment responded:

We agree that the works to the bluestone cottage complex, new annex and garden are complex and must be done to exacting standards by experts. For example this will include heritage architects, landscape designers and a quantity surveyor.

This is why Council is dedicating time and resources to a working group which is being set up specifically to oversee this project. Council will consult with the Coburg Historical Society throughout the process in their role as tenants and custodians of the cottage, and invite their feedback on the plans as they are developed.

Council has not yet allocated a budget for these works. We have negotiated contributions towards the works by Coburg Health Hub who will provide \$200,000 as a financial contribution, as well as project management services at no cost to Council. The total cost will be considered by Council once concept options have been developed in tandem with the working group, which we expect to happen later this year.

Cr Carli Hannan disclosed a general conflict of interest in item 7.1 as a family member is on the board of Merri Health (a stakeholder in the project).

7.27 pm Cr Carli Hannan left the meeting, prior to a response being provided to the above questions.

MARILYN MOORE, COBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY - QUESTION - COBURG HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PRECINCT: ENDORSEMENT OF THE COBURG HEALTH PRECINCT MASTERPLAN

The Coburg Historical Society Perlstein annex has multi-purpose uses. It is an exhibition space, for the display of artefacts, a research area and small meeting area. The draft or final Master plan by Clarke Hopkins Clarke July 8 2022 refers to it as having a single use ie a “storage annex” (page 9).

Will the multiple present uses of this space be catered for in a replacement building according to this draft Masterplan?

At the request of the Mayor, Joseph Tabacco, Director Place and Environment responded:

We are aware that the annex has multiple uses. Both the officer team working on this project, the directors of Coburg Health Hub and the project manager who will be overseeing the project have all toured the annex so have had the chance to see the extensive collection for themselves and how it is displayed and experienced by the public. I think the phrase “storage annex” has been used in the draft masterplan just as a shorthand to mean the place where a substantial portion of the society’s collection is housed.

The working group set up to oversee the development of concepts for the works to the bluestone cottage and surrounds will include members of the Coburg Historical Society. This means you will be invited to see the detail of what is being proposed for each element, including the annex, as it is developed and before Council makes a decision.

The underlying assumption is that a like-for-like replacement building would include like-for-like use, and this will provide the starting point for the design. We are committed to supporting the Coburg Historical Society to continue the great work you do in preserving and sharing the history of Coburg

The Masterplan that Council will be considering tonight does not include any details of what will happen with the bluestone cottage complex as this has been retained by Council, and is subject to a separate planning and design process. This will include detailed consultation with the Coburg Historical Society throughout.

7.39 pm Cr Carli Hannan returned to the meeting.

MARILYN MOORE, COBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY - STATEMENT - BIOGRAPHY OF ARCHITECT CHARLES HEATH

Coburg Historical Society supports the Notice of Motion 8.1. It agrees with the production of a Council Officer report assessing the possibility of the Moreland City Council supporting the printing and distribution of this biography manuscript to mark the occasion of the centenary of our City Hall.

We became aware of the existence of this now edited manuscript written by the Charles heath’s grandson Blyth Johnson when Associate Professor David Nichols addressed our members and visitors about “our invaluable asset” at our May monthly meeting this year as an early tribute to the centenary of Coburg Town Hal that Heath designed after WW1. Heath also supervised its construction and even designed its furniture in 1922.

The Coburg Town Hall is 100 years old at the end of the year and our Society has been thinking of appropriate ways to celebrate this milestone We met with the current mayor with several suggestions, an open day with tours and a small exhibition, a lighting of the dome as occurred at its opening and an appropriate article in Inside Moreland. As well as hosting the David Nichols talk. CHS has also printed an article about the history of our City Hall in its latest newsletter Search.

Heath was not only an Architect. He was also a town planner. As well as designing our City hall he designed the Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall facing Sydney Road, Coburg and the Coburg oval's grandstand. He was also a Brunswick architect designing the Masonic Lodge building in Davies Street, Brunswick, shops along Sydney Road, and he redesigned the Brunswick Town hall which was never completed.

He was also a North Coburg architect. He designed St Linus Anglican Church Merlynston, many residences yet to be identified and as an urban planner designed all the buildings, road layout and landscaping for the Fawkner Cemetery. He also entered the Canberra design competition winning a commendation. His design had a lake with small wildlife refuge islands and curving roads as were also in the winning entry by Walter Burley Griffin. Charles Heath is listed in the 2020 Thematic Moreland history by Extent Heritage as a local Moreland Architect.

The book should be of interest to Moreland residents, students of architecture and urban planning and could be sold by Moreland Historical Societies, our Moreland Libraries, local Coburg and Brunswick and Melbourne bookshops and the greater Melbourne Cemeteries Trust. Heath's family want to publish this book for family members. By agreeing to participate in its final preparation and publication, we ensure the Charles Heath story becomes a widely known City wide story and Heath joins the ranks of Moreland heroes like its former residents Maurice and Doris Blackburn, sculptor Peter Blizzard and athlete Raeleen Boyle. Heath lived for many years with his family in a house at the Fawkner Cemetery and is buried there just near the fountain designed in his honour by his son also an architect. I urge all Councillors to support this Notice of motion.

Marilyn Moore read their statement.

PAULINE CARMICHAEL - STATEMENT - KENT ROAD, PASCOE VALE TRIAL SEPARATED BIKE LANES - OUTCOME OF 12-MONTH TRIAL

Good evening everyone, my name is Pauline Carmichael and I live in Pascoe Vale.

That first email we ever sent 14 months ago, very soon after the bike lanes appeared on the road, included genuine examples and photos of people who, since the island separators were installed, were struggling to get to the medical centre in a safe manner. We predicted an accident and within about a week there was one. Granted some adjustments were made but the overall design was never going to work for the majority of people accessing this block of Kent Road.

From the beginning the conversations page for comments went nuts, a petition to the State Government to remove the unsafe design received over 1000 signatures and local residents contacted Councillors with their concerns about the design. Why would there be so much feedback straight up if there wasn't serious safety concerns? There was very little feedback on safety concerns on the Dawson Street trial, at the same time, so it was never about the north of bell street not wanting bike lanes it was purely a design and safety issue.

I naïvely thought that because it was a pop up infrastructure trial, and safety concerns were raised that couldn't be mitigated, it would be removed quickly and back to the drawing board. I never thought 14 months later we are still fighting to be heard.

Pascoe Vale residents are no different to any other Moreland residents and are not immune to the climate emergency or the need for active transport, but in accordance with Council's own Action Plan 2.6 there should have been collaboration with the community to improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure on a case by case basis.

In my opinion the community engagement process did not give consideration to the main use of the road and the large vulnerable user group.

I wonder, if the briefing to the road safety auditors, three times, had mentioned the medical centre we would be in a different situation. Through an FOI application to receive the RSA's because I thought "how on earth has this design been signed off as safe" the scope

was based on this block of road being called predominantly residential which was incorrect.

The auditors would have seen the medical centre but according to Austroad Guide to Road Safety Part 6 and I quote "it is important to ensure that all foreseeable road user groups have been considered and their likely flow and volume etc managed appropriately. In this regard specialist knowledge may be required eg. of a vulnerable road user group or human factors.

There was no auditing of the bike lanes for pedestrians that have a disability, the elderly or people who have limited mobility. According to the doctor that spoke at the community review panel there are 5,900 patients over 75 and 5000 of those attend at least monthly.

The report tonight says and I quote "there is no immediate safety or functionality issues present". Disappointment at this comment is an understatement.

Tonight I am proud to handover an additional 437 signatures which brings the total to 1,422 and rising and of which over 1,000 have been signed by hand, not from all over Moreland, but at the actual location, who are saying there are immediate safety and functionality issues.

If Moreland Council is serious and genuine about its commitment to safe active transport then it must listen to the genuine users.

The temporary infrastructure must be removed immediately and an urgent timetable set out to assess the new proposed design and action the new bike projects engagement process that was endorsed in the March meeting.

Pauline Carmichael read their statement.

SANDRA TAYLOR – STATEMENT - KENT ROAD, PASCOE VALE TRIAL SEPARATED BIKE LANES - OUTCOME OF 12-MONTH TRIAL

Sandra Taylor read their statement.

MARION ATTWATER - QUESITON - ADOPTION OF COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE RULES

I was one of the four people to make a submission to the proposed amendment of the Governance Rules and I see that none of the suggestions from any of the four submitters have been accepted by Council Officers. Not even my suggestion of amending the Governance Rules with wording to comply with the changes to section 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, where a definition for "open to the public" has been added. Open to the public means a Council meeting that is broadcasted live on the internet site of the Council, amongst other things. The *Reform Act 2022* does not say a Council meeting that is broadcasted live via a link to Facebook on the internet site of the Council. Nor does it say a Council meeting that is broadcasted live via a link to a vimeo channel on the internet site on the Council. The Reform Act says that Open to the public means a Council meeting that is broadcasted live ON the internet site of the Council. Numerous other local councils already do this, such as the City of Melbourne, Moonee Valley City Council, Yarra City Council and Hume City Council. It seems that the Council administration wants to continue its practice of livestreaming Council meetings to the Facebook page of the Council, which effectively excludes some people who have been blocked from that Facebook page, such as myself.

My question is, are there technical issues that prevent the Council from broadcasting meetings on the Council's internet site? If other councils can comply with legislative requirements, why can't Moreland Council?

At the request of the Mayor, Sue Vujcevic, Director Business Transformation responded:

Thank you Marion for your feedback on this report and questions.

Officers have not recommended some suggestions put forward as they are already accommodated for in the current governance rules or they unnecessarily duplicate content in legislation.

In relation to your question on broadcasting of Council meetings, Council certainly complies with its legislative requirements.

Council provides ON our website 2 links to view the Council meeting – either via the Facebook link or the Vimeo link.

If people are blocked on Facebook, they can view the council meeting via the Vimeo link.

In summary, we provide two options to view meetings and we comply with legislative requirements.

Question Time Extension

Motion

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Pavlidis seconded -

That Question time be extended at 7.54 pm by 30 minutes.

Carried

HELEN HADJIMOURATIS - QUESTION - ADOPTION OF COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE RULES

The Officer comments on page 535 of the Agenda is that Working Groups and Reference groups do not need to be mentioned in the Governance Rules.

Yet the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act require Councils to ensure the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information.

To fulfil this overarching governance principle, shouldn't working groups and reference groups be established by a resolution of the Council in the Council chamber, and have meeting records and minutes of meetings reported in the Council Agenda?

At the request of the Mayor, Sue Vujcevic, Director Business Transformation responded:

Council at its meeting held 9 February 2022 established its Reference Groups and Terms of References for the Council Term.

Working Groups are called upon on an as needs basis, they are intended to be distinct from, for example, Advisory Groups, and can operate and meet in more flexible formats.

As mentioned in the Attachment to the report, it is not necessary to include these groups in the Governance Rules as they are consultative in nature.

Council maintains its commitment to the overarching governance principles through the reports presented by Council officers, which ensures transparency of what actions and information have led to the presentation of the report to Council and officer recommendations.

HELEN HADJIMOURATIS - QUESTION - ADOPTION OF COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE RULES

The Governance Rules section 5.3 is about Hearing Committees, and says that "Council will establish Hearing Committees to provide an opportunity to hear from community members in formal setting on key issues."

Does this mean that Council is required to establish a Hearing Committee by resolution of the Council, or can Council staff establish Hearing Committees outside of Council meetings?

At the request of the Mayor, Sue Vujcevic, Director Business Transformation responded:

Council can establish a Hearing Committee by resolution. The CEO has delegation to establish non delegated committees.

The CEO can also arrange for Hearing of Submissions. An example of this, is the Hearing of Submissions held on the 23 June, where members of the community were invited to address Councillors about their submissions on the renaming of Council.

Questions and Statements taken on notice

Questions and statements taken on notice may be summarised for the purpose of recording them in the minutes. Full and complete copies are made available to Council officers for responses or information. Responses to questions taken on notice are reported to the next practicable Council meeting.

PETA SLATTERY - QUESTION - RENAMING MORELAND

Is it appropriate for the Mayor and CEO to write to the State Local Government Minister for key community issues and develop processes on their behalf, without the knowledge of our community and fellow councillors?

As was the proposed renaming where a letter was sent November 2021 and only published from the demands of a community group last month, calling for transparency from this council.

The Mayor took these questions on notice.

MARION ATTWATER - QUESTION - SAFE MOVEMENT OF PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS – OUTCOMES OF 12-MONTH TRIALS

My question is regarding the two reports on outcome of the trials on the two bike lanes in Pascoe Vale, in Northumberland Road and Kent Road, Pascoe Vale. In both reports the Officer Recommendation is that Councillors note the significant community engagement undertaken since the commencement of the trials, even though the Northumberland Road trial had far less community consultation than the Kent Road trial. For both trials the results of the community engagement is that this type of infrastructure is not suitable or appropriate for the context of the surrounding land use.

The RISE North group have recently accessed data via Freedom of Information which shows that 66% of the students enrolled at Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College are from outside of the zone. Which would partly explain the findings of Wayfarer Consulting, that only 3 students or teachers ride a bike to that school.

Neither of the Council Reports in the Agenda tonight give an estimate of the actual amount spent on these trials. And neither Report gives an estimate of the likely cost of the officer recommendations. The Council currently has \$400,000 sitting in the Budget which can be spent on the next steps of the bike lanes and shared zones. But there is no transparency as to what it would actually cost to implement the officer recommendations.

I participated in the focus group for the Northumberland Road bike lane trial, and I have read the final report by Wayfarer Consulting, and looked at all the transport data. It is very clear that the current infrastructure is inappropriate and does not even make cyclists or pedestrians feel safer. The Officers Report mentions that a shared path alternative has been investigated, but does not mention what the outcome of that investigation is.

My question is, will Council remove the pop-up infrastructure from Northumberland Road, and convene a working group of local stakeholders in order to investigate alternative design options?

The Mayor took this question on notice.

RAY PASTOORS - QUESTION - ADOPTION OF COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE RULES

The Council's Governance Rules mention Advisory Committees only as part of the Governance framework and do not mention working, activity, and or, reference groups. How many of these groups does the Council currently have operating which were not established by a resolution of the Council and which have Councillors appointed to the group?

Will the council take action to provide the minutes and summary of outcomes of past and or future working, activity, and reference groups in the interest of public transparency and accountability?

The Mayor took these questions on notice.

RACHEL MATTON - QUESTION - RENAMING MORELAND

On August 9, 2022, The Age published a reply letter sent from the Hon Shaun Leane MP to the current mayor of Moreland Cr Mark Riley, dated November 30, 2021. Amongst other things, the letter stated: "I note the proposal for the renaming of council has come at the request of the Elders of the Wurundjeri community and other community representatives".

How many Wurundjeri Elders requested the name change? (i.e. What number of people did Council consider met the definition of 'Wurundjeri Elder' when they penned the request to change the municipal name to Hon Shaun Leane MP?)

On August 9, 2022, The Age published a reply letter sent from the Hon Shaun Leane MP to the current mayor of Moreland Cr Mark Riley, dated November 30, 2021. Amongst other things, the letter stated: "I understand a report on the proposal will be considered by the council, and if supported, a comprehensive community engagement process will be conducted in 2022, to consider community suggestions for a new name."

Given the Hon Shaun Leane's clear understanding and expectation from council was that a comprehensive community engagement process would consider COMMUNITY suggestions for a new name, why instead did council co-opt a private organisation to propose all three naming/branding options, rather than allow the community an opportunity to participate (make suggestions) as indicate council would do, to the MP?

The Mayor took these questions on notice.

MARGARET-MARY CASHIN - QUESTION - RENAMING MORELAND

A significant community concern is that the process of renaming has varied from that originally described to the people of Moreland, and to the Hon Shaun Leane MP. The renaming process has been so extraordinarily contrived that one has to wonder if it's inauthenticity and speed is being driven by forces other than the need to calmly and rationally respond to a request from a small group of Wurundjeri elders. If council take a view that the request was being made by a larger representation of the municipal community, why wasn't the #NoMoreland petition never tabled at a council meeting?

Information has surfaced confirming close associates of the sitting mayor of 2020 (the year early machinations of the name change were underway) are registered lobbyists for indigenous groups.

Is the Council satisfied the process to change the name (and speed which this has occurred) hasn't been co-opted by individuals seeking to achieve a specific naming outcome, one that might further their own commercial and/or political advantage?

The Mayor took these questions on notice.

PETER JEFFS - QUESTION - JULY NOTICE OF MOTION - REFORM VICTORIA'S UNJUST BAIL LAWS

Do Council staff vet backgrounds for notices of motion before publishing them in the Council agenda.

The Mayor took this question on notice.

ALESSANDRO ROSINI - QUESTION - ROLE OF COUNCIL

Is the primary role of council Roads, Rates and Rubbish? Relating to if Moreland City Council is achieving this.

The Mayor took this question on notice.

Public Question Time concluded at 8.00 pm.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Cr Carli Hannan disclosed a general conflict of interest in item 7.1 as a family member is on the board of Merri Health (a stakeholder in the project).

8.01 pm Cr Carli Hannan left the meeting.

7.1 COBURG HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PRECINCT: ENDORSEMENT OF THE COBURG HEALTH PRECINCT MASTERPLAN

Executive Summary

Moreland is facing existing and projected future shortfalls in key services such as GPs, aged care, chiropractors, dentists, medical radiation practitioners, occupational therapists, optometrists, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists and psychologists. Since identifying this growing gap in local health and community services, Council has maintained a long-held ambition to bring new services to central Coburg.

Actions have been taken across multiple terms of Council to attempt to deliver a new precinct focussed on health and community services, including assembling the necessary land (from the early 1980s to the 2010s), enshrining a health and community services precinct within the Coburg Structure Plan (2006), and seeking a partner who can deliver such a precinct through multiple Requests for Qualifications (most recently in 2018).

In 2020, Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd (then Medela), approached Council with a proposal that exceeded the requirements of the Request for Qualifications.

Since this initial proposal, Council officers have worked with Coburg Health Hub to strengthen the proposal to maximise the community benefit that could be delivered, for example through:

- Maximising the number of services provided by not-for-profit providers and steps to secure a funding partner that is a not-for-profit superfund;

- Maximising the number of health and community services available to members of the community on low incomes;
- Subdividing the land containing the heritage listed bluestone cottage complex, and retaining it in Council ownership;
- Enabling upgrades to the bluestone cottage complex, with Coburg Health Hub committing in-kind project management services and a financial contribution of \$200,000 to the works, in consultation with the Coburg Historical Society; and
- Improving the design to better respect local heritage and to maximise the quality and functionality of public open space.

In response to Council's requests, the project, as set out in the draft masterplan, is now significantly stronger than Coburg Health Hub's initial proposal or than previous proposals to deliver a health precinct on this site, which comprised a single large private hospital.

Coburg Health Hub's masterplan outlines a campus style precinct with services meeting needs across the age spectrum from childcare to aged care, and with a large range of services including a mental health facility, short-stay hospital, GP superclinic and allied health services.

The projected economic benefit of the project includes \$160 million of direct investment by Coburg Health Hub and their funders in the delivery of the health precinct, creating a further \$300 million of projected benefit to the local Moreland economy, and up to 1,000 jobs in the construction and operational phases of the project.

Since Council's decision at its December 2021 meeting, Council officers have progressed key matters including:

- Executing the revised Heads of Agreement;
- Finalising the Contract of Sale ready for execution;
- Preparing the Plan of Subdivision of the bluestone cottage complex and the land to its west;
- Providing feedback on the draft masterplan as part of Coburg Health Hub's community and stakeholder engagement; and
- Finalising terms for Council to lease back some car parking within the development for staff and community use.

As Council is acting in its corporate capacity at this stage of the project, as opposed to its capacity as Planning Authority, the nature of the endorsement of the masterplan relates to its alignment with the Heads of Agreement and key terms. Advice from Council's legal advisors indicate that Coburg Health Hub have now met all requirements.

Given this, and the review of the masterplan by experts across Council, officers now recommend that Council endorses the draft masterplan to enable the next stage of detailed planning to occur.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes recent community and stakeholder feedback provided to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd and how this has been incorporated into the draft masterplan for the proposed Coburg Health and Community Services Precinct
2. Endorses the latest draft of the Coburg Health Precinct Masterplan (Attachment 1) to enable the project to progress to detailed planning and design, and the subsequent lodging of a planning application for consideration by the Planning and Related Matters Committee
3. Notes progress towards finalising and executing the Contract of Sale to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd or appropriate nominee, in line with Council's decision of 8 December 2021 and reflecting the key terms outlined within the Council report including long term lease arrangements for not-for-profit and community service

providers within the precinct

4. Notes the negotiations as part of the finalisation of the Contract of Sale include the lease of up to 58 car parking spaces for Council and community use for an initial term of 10 years with two further terms of ten and five years respectively, a substantial discount to market rent and an annual rent review of 3%
5. Notes steps taken to subdivide the land containing the bluestone cottage complex and the land to its west in order to retain them in Council's ownership, to renew the lease of the Coburg Historical Society, and to update the Contract of Sale to reflect the financial contribution to the works to the bluestone cottage complex by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd of \$200,000 and project management of these works at no cost to Council.

Motion

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded -

That Council:

1. Notes recent community and stakeholder feedback provided to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd and how this has been incorporated into the draft masterplan for the proposed Coburg Health and Community Services Precinct.
2. Endorses the latest draft of the Coburg Health Precinct Masterplan (Attachment 1) to enable the project to progress to detailed planning and design, and the subsequent lodging of a planning application for consideration by the Planning and Related Matters Committee.
3. Notes progress towards finalising and executing the Contract of Sale to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd or appropriate nominee, in line with Council's decision of 8 December 2021 and reflecting the key terms outlined within the Council report including long term lease arrangements for not-for-profit and community service providers within the precinct.
4. Notes the negotiations as part of the finalisation of the Contract of Sale include the lease of up to 58 car parking spaces for Council and community use for an initial term of 10 years with two further terms of ten and five years respectively, a substantial discount to market rent and an annual rent review of 3%
5. Notes steps taken to subdivide the land containing the bluestone cottage complex and the land to its west in order to retain them in Council's ownership, to renew the lease of the Coburg Historical Society, and to update the Contract of Sale to reflect the financial contribution to the works to the bluestone cottage complex by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd of \$200,000 and project management of these works at no cost to Council.
5. Continues to work with the Coburg Historical Society to progress concept plans for the refurbishment of the bluestone cottage complex including a new multi-purpose annex/archive and heritage garden.

Amendment

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Harte seconded -

Include new point 2:

2. Notes that this initial Draft Masterplan is unable to provide detailed design or details of the proposed interface between the Blue Stone Cottage Complex. Given the importance of the Coburg Health and Community Services Precinct to the Moreland community, there will be an additional process of council approval of an updated Masterplan prior to the submission of a planning permit application following a further consultation.

The revised Masterplan must provide:

- a) Key information around high level building envelopes
- b) indicative landscaping and
- c) details of the interface with the Bluestone Cottage Complex, including security and lighting for the Bluestone Cottage.

Lost

Cr Bolton called for a division.

For

Cr Bolton
Cr Pavlidis
Cr Harte

Against

Cr Yildiz
Cr Pulford
Cr Panopoulos
Cr Conlan
Cr Riley
Cr Tapinos

Total For (3)

Total Against (6)

Amendment

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Harte seconded -

That the following point be included:

- 3. Receive a report to the December Council meeting which provides options for the size, functionality, design and estimated costs of the replacement annex/archives building, proposed historic garden adjacent to the Bluestone Cottage along with options for professional packing and storage of the historical objects in the Bluestone Cottage and current annex during the works and proposals.**

Carried unanimously

Substantive Motion

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded -

That Council:

1. Notes recent community and stakeholder feedback provided to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd and how this has been incorporated into the draft masterplan for the proposed Coburg Health and Community Services Precinct.
2. Endorses the latest draft of the Coburg Health Precinct Masterplan (Attachment 1) to enable the project to progress to detailed planning and design, and the subsequent lodging of a planning application for consideration by the Planning and Related Matters Committee.
3. Receives a report to the December Council meeting which provides options for the size, functionality, design and estimated costs of the replacement annex/archives building, proposed historic garden adjacent to the Bluestone Cottage along with options for professional packing and storage of the historical objects in the Bluestone Cottage and current annex during the works and proposal.
4. Notes progress towards finalising and executing the Contract of Sale to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd or appropriate nominee, in line with Council's decision of 8 December 2021 and reflecting the key terms outlined within the Council report including long term lease arrangements for not-for-profit and community service providers within the precinct.

5. Notes the negotiations as part of the finalisation of the Contract of Sale include the lease of up to 58 car parking spaces for Council and community use for an initial term of 10 years with two further terms of ten and five years respectively, a substantial discount to market rent and an annual rent review of 3%.
6. Notes steps taken to subdivide the land containing the bluestone cottage complex and the land to its west in order to retain them in Council's ownership, to renew the lease of the Coburg Historical Society, and to update the Contract of Sale to reflect the financial contribution to the works to the bluestone cottage complex by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd of \$200,000 and project management of these works at no cost to Council.
7. Continues to work with the Coburg Historical Society to progress concept plans for the refurbishment of the bluestone cottage complex including a new multi-purpose annex/archive and heritage garden.

8.21 pm Cr Yildiz left the meeting.

Amendment

Cr Conlan – accepted by mover and seconder and became part of the substantive motion.

Include after Point 6 (Originally point 5 in officer recommendation)

- a) The project management aspect of the bluestone cottage complex upgrade will be funded by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd for an amount no less than \$120,000.
- b) Any unspent project management costs from the \$120,000 figure, will be redirected towards the financial contribution paid by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd towards the bluestone cottage complex upgrade.
- c) For the avoidance of doubt, the total minimum contribution (financial and in-kind) from Coburg health Hub Pty Ltd towards the bluestone cottage complex upgrade, will total no less than \$320,000, in line with the Council decision on 8 December 2021 (point 5).

8.23 pm Cr Yildiz returned to the meeting.

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded –

That Council:

1. **Notes recent community and stakeholder feedback provided to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd and how this has been incorporated into the draft masterplan for the proposed Coburg Health and Community Services Precinct.**
2. **Endorses the latest draft of the Coburg Health Precinct Masterplan (Attachment 1) to enable the project to progress to detailed planning and design, and the subsequent lodging of a planning application for consideration by the Planning and Related Matters Committee.**
3. **Receives a report to the December Council meeting which provides options for the size, functionality, design and estimated costs of the replacement annex/archives building, proposed historic garden adjacent to the Bluestone Cottage along with options for professional packing and storage of the historical objects in the Bluestone Cottage and current annex during the works and proposal.**
4. **Notes progress towards finalising and executing the Contract of Sale to Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd or appropriate nominee, in line with Council's decision of 8 December 2021 and reflecting the key terms outlined within the Council report including long term lease arrangements for not-for-profit and community service providers within the precinct.**

5. **Notes the negotiations as part of the finalisation of the Contract of Sale include the lease of up to 58 car parking spaces for Council and community use for an initial term of 10 years with two further terms of ten and five years respectively, a substantial discount to market rent and an annual rent review of 3%.**
6. **Notes steps taken to subdivide the land containing the bluestone cottage complex and the land to its west in order to retain them in Council's ownership, to renew the lease of the Coburg Historical Society, and to update the Contract of Sale to reflect the financial contribution to the works to the bluestone cottage complex by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd of \$200,000 and project management of these works at no cost to Council; acknowledging**
 - a) **The project management aspect of the bluestone cottage complex upgrade will be funded by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd for an amount no less than \$120,000.**
 - b) **Any unspent project management costs from the \$120,000 figure, will be redirected towards the financial contribution paid by Coburg Health Hub Pty Ltd towards the bluestone cottage complex upgrade.**
 - c) **For the avoidance of doubt, the total minimum contribution (financial and in-kind) from Coburg health Hub Pty Ltd towards the bluestone cottage complex upgrade, will total no less than \$320,000, in line with the Council decision on 8 December 2021.**
7. **Continues to work with the Coburg Historical Society to progress concept plans for the refurbishment of the bluestone cottage complex including a new multi-purpose annex/archive and heritage garden.**

Carried

Cr Riley called for a division.

For	Against
Cr Yildiz	Cr Bolton
Cr Pulford	Cr Pavlidis
Cr Panopoulos	Cr Harte
Cr Conlan	
Cr Riley	
Cr Tapinos	
Total For (6)	Total Against (3)

8.34 pm Cr Carli Hannan returned to the meeting.

7.2 KENT ROAD, PASCOE VALE TRIAL SEPARATED BIKE LANES - OUTCOME OF 12-MONTH TRIAL

Executive Summary

The Kent Road Separated Bike Lane Trial was part of Council's response to COVID-19, a fast-tracked delivery of a strategic section of the Coburg to Glenroy bike route that is envisaged to be a connected, safe and efficient route suitable for bike riders of all confidence levels.

The bike lanes were installed using temporary infrastructure to allow Council to monitor their performance and make real-time adjustments based on community feedback over the course of the trial, before making a final decision.

Through evidence and technical investigations, Council officers determined that the separated bike lanes have had no negative impacts to road safety, on-street car parking availability and rat-running on Kent Road and surrounding local streets. Findings from the investigations and analysis include:

- a) Improved road safety conditions for bike riders;
- b) An increase of 21% in the average daily number of people riding bikes on Kent Road throughout the trial compared to ridership at two state government control sites (St Georges Road and Capital City Trail) that had reductions of 12% and increase of 5% respectively (refer to Attachment 1);
- c) A notable increase in female participation in bike riding on Kent Road since the introduction of the separated riding infrastructure;
- d) No significant impacts to travel speeds, on-street car parking availability, traffic volumes and rat-running on Kent Road and surrounding local streets.

Even on game day at adjacent Cole Reserve, the data did not raise issues of concern, despite some extra parking in Joffre Road. Throughout the trial, Council has observed an average overall daily increase in people riding bikes using the separated infrastructure when compared to local bike riding facilities that have not been upgraded, including a notable increase in female participation.

Council has also undertaken wider engagement and received feedback from the community throughout the trial via engagement activities and through contact with officers. Council received considerable feedback from the community about specific concerns with the trial. Through proactive engagement and listening to further input on the trial, officers have sought to understand the specific challenges for residents, for those parking near the medical centre and for those crossing the road. A large petition was submitted to Council at the July 2022 meeting seeking Council's removal of the bike lanes due to concerns about safety (refer 5.3).

The key issues arising through the trial discussed in detail within this report can be summarised into three key themes:

1. Bike lane design, including impact to road space allocation and pedestrian accessibility
2. Amenity impact of bike lanes, including debris in the bike lanes and also the need to protect existing trees
3. Perceived road safety issues, including safety concerns in the design for pedestrians and the need to ensure the design protects all road users.

Council officers have determined that the current trial concept of long segments of separator kerb between the bike lanes and parked cars would deliver a satisfactory outcome in accordance with appropriate design and road safety standards. However, since the trial commenced, new alternative products resulting in physical separation have become available on the market.

Council officers recommend that Council conclude the separated bike lane trial on Kent Road, resolving to support separated bike lane infrastructure on this road, modified to use the alternative separation product. Officers recommend Council to undertake further engagement on the details of the final design with residents, business(es) and the sporting clubs directly affected by the bike lane to discuss localised issues such as driveway accessibility.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the Kent Road separated bike lane trial and key findings.
2. Resolves to conclude the trial and undertake functional and detailed design to make permanent the separated bike lane on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale largely in line with the current trial (Option 1) but modified to address feedback from the trial including:
 - a) Maintain physical separation for bike riders from vehicles including dedicated 1.5 m bike lanes and physical separation between bike lanes and parked cars of 0.8 m on both sides of the street
 - b) Reallocate 0.2 m, gained through narrowing physical separator width, to vehicle and parking lanes
 - c) Replace the continuous bike lane separator used in the trial with intermittent separators providing gaps between the physical barriers that improve accessibility for pedestrians, particularly those with mobility impairments, when crossing the street or exiting parked cars
 - d) Provision for improved waste bin siting for collection
 - e) Provision for enhanced street sweeping of the bicycle facilities
 - f) A lower cost solution.
3. Resolves to undertake further engagement with residents, business(es) and sporting clubs on Kent Road directly affected by the bike lane through the detailed design stage in accordance with the adopted community engagement process for future bike projects to consider local issues such as driveway accessibility and clear pedestrian access pathways.
4. Resolves to implement the following interventions that will contribute additional benefits to road safety, amenity and accessibility, including:
 - a) Design and construction of the raised pedestrian crossing, east of Joffre Road, in Council's capital works plan, for delivery by end of 2022/23 financial year (subject to State Government (Department of Transport) approval and lead times for infrastructure).
 - b) Design and construction of traffic calming treatments at Cornwall Road, Pascoe Vale and Kent Road.
 - c) Investigate opportunities for street beautification projects including but not limited to further street tree planting and seats.
 - d) Investigate opportunities for widespread safety and behaviour change campaigns in partnership with state and local governments.
5. Resolves to continue to monitor the infrastructure after implementation including receiving feedback from the community in accordance with the 'post implementation' phase of the adopted community engagement process for future bike projects.

Motion

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Conlan seconded –

That Council:

1. Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the Kent Road separated bike lane trial and key findings.
2. Resolves to conclude the trial and undertake functional and detailed design to make permanent the separated bike lane on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale largely in line with the current trial (Option 1) but modified to address feedback from the trial, particularly to improve access for visitors to the medical centre, including:
 - a) Maintain physical separation for bike riders from vehicles including dedicated 1.5 m bike lanes on both sides of the street.
 - b) Amend the cross-section between Cumberland Road and Joffre Road as follows:
 - Remove approximately 4-5 parking spaces on southern side of street between to allow two-way, slow-moving traffic flow.
 - Reduce physical separator width on southern side of street to 0.3m.
 - Reduce separator width on northern side to 0.5m and use a combination of painted lines and closely spaced bollards to prevent car doors from being opened into the bike lane while allowing access for people.
 - Create three 2.6m parking bays that meet DDA Standards on the northern side of the street adjacent to the medical centre gained through narrowing physical separator widths and removing parking, to vehicle and parking lanes.
 - c) Replace the continuous bike lane separator used in the remainder of the trial area with intermittent separators providing gaps between the physical barriers that improve accessibility for pedestrians, particularly those with mobility impairments, when crossing the street or exiting parked cars.
 - d) Provision for improved waste bin siting for collection
 - e) Provision for enhanced street sweeping of the bicycle facilities
 - f) A lower cost solution.
3. Resolves to undertake further engagement with residents, business(es) and sporting clubs on Kent Road directly affected by the bike lane through the detailed design stage in accordance with the adopted community engagement process for future bike projects to consider local issues such as driveway accessibility and clear pedestrian access pathways.
4. Resolves to implement the following interventions that will contribute additional benefits to road safety, amenity and accessibility, including:
 - a) Identify appropriate location, design and construct a raised pedestrian crossing on Kent Road, that best serves safety and accessibility to the medical centre, for delivery by end of 2022/23 financial year (subject to State Government (Department of Transport) approval and lead times for infrastructure).
 - b) Design and construction of traffic calming treatments at Cornwall Road, Pascoe Vale and Kent Road.
 - c) Investigate opportunities for street beautification projects including but not limited to further street tree planting and seats.
 - d) Investigate opportunities for widespread safety and behaviour change

campaigns in partnership with state and local governments.

5. Resolves to continue to monitor the infrastructure after implementation including receiving feedback from the community in accordance with the 'post implementation' phase of the adopted community engagement process for future bike projects.

LOST

Cr Panopoulos called for a division.

For

Cr Pulford
Cr Panopoulos
Cr Conlan
Cr Riley

Against

Cr Bolton
Cr Yildiz
Cr Pavlidis
Cr Carli Hannan
Cr Tapinos
Cr Harte

Total For (4)

Total Against (6)

Foreshadowed Motion

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Harte seconded

That Council:

1. Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the Kent Road separated bike lane trial and key findings.
2. Resolves to extend the current trial of the separated bike lane on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale by removing the current trial bike lanes and replacing with modified trial bike lanes to address feedback from the trial including:
 - a) Maintain physical separation for bike riders from vehicles including dedicated 1.5 m bike lanes and physical separation between bike lanes and parked cars of 0.8 m on both sides of the street.
 - b) Reallocate 0.2 m, gained through narrowing physical separator width, to vehicle and parking lanes.
 - c) Replace the continuous bike lane separator used in the trial with intermittent separators providing gaps between the physical barriers that improve accessibility for pedestrians, particularly those with mobility impairments, when crossing the street or exiting parked cars.
 - d) Provision for improved waste bin siting for collection.
 - e) Provision for enhanced street sweeping of the bicycle facilities.
 - f) A lower cost solution.
3. Resolves to undertake observations and further engagement with residents, business(es) and sporting clubs on Kent Road directly affected by the bike lane through the extended trial period to assess the impact of the design changes in addressing the key concerns raised during the initial 12 months.
4. Resolves to implement the following interventions that will contribute additional benefits to road safety, amenity and accessibility, including:
 - a) Design of the raised pedestrian crossing, east of Joffre Road, in Council's capital works plan and seek State Government (Department of Transport) approval.
 - b) Design and construction of traffic calming treatments at Cornwall Road, Pascoe Vale and Kent Road.
 - c) Investigate opportunities for street beautification projects including but not

limited to further street tree planting and seats.

- d) Investigate opportunities for widespread safety and behaviour change campaigns in partnership with state and local governments.
 - e) Investigate opportunities for alternate routes for the Coburg to Glenroy bike route.
5. Resolves to bring a report back to Council following the completion of this extended trial and alternate route opportunities in mid-to-late 2023 with feedback from the trial and recommendations on how to proceed to close the Coburg to Glenroy bike route gap in the cycling network.

Amendment

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That Council:

1. Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the Kent Road separated bike lane trial and key findings.
2. Resolves to extend the current trial of the separated bike lane on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale by removing the current trial bike lanes and replacing with modified trial bike lanes to address feedback from the trial, **particularly to improve access for visitors to the medical centre, including:**
 - a) Maintain physical separation for bike riders from vehicles including dedicated 1.5 m bike lanes **on both sides of the street.**
 - b) **Amend the cross-section between Cumberland Road and Joffre Road as follows:**
 - **Remove approximately 4-5 parking spaces on southern side of street between to allow two-way, slow-moving traffic flow**
 - **Reduce physical separator width on southern side of street to 0.3m**
 - **Reduce separator width on northern side to 0.5m and use a combination of painted lines and closely spaced bollards to prevent car doors from being opened into the bike lane while allowing access for people**
 - **Create three 2.6m parking bays that meet DDA Standards on the northern side of the street adjacent to the medical centre gained through narrowing physical separator widths and removing parking, to vehicle and parking lanes**
 - c) Replace the continuous bike lane separator used in the **remainder of the trial area** with intermittent separators providing gaps between the physical barriers that improve accessibility for pedestrians, particularly those with mobility impairments, when crossing the street or exiting parked cars
 - d) Provision for improved waste bin siting for collection
 - e) Provision for enhanced street sweeping of the bicycle facilities
 - f) A lower cost solution.
3. Resolves to undertake observations and further engagement with residents, business(es) and sporting clubs on Kent Road directly affected by the bike lane through the extended trial period to assess the impact of the design changes in addressing the key concerns raised during the initial 12 months.
4. Resolves to implement the following interventions that will contribute additional

benefits to road safety, amenity and accessibility, including:

- a) **Identify appropriate location, design and construct** a raised pedestrian crossing **on Kent Road, that best serves safety and accessibility to the medical centre** for delivery by end of 2022/23 financial year (subject to State Government (Department of Transport) approval and lead times for infrastructure).
 - b) Design and construction of traffic calming treatments at Cornwall Road, Pascoe Vale and Kent Road.
 - c) Investigate opportunities for street beautification projects including but not limited to further street tree planting and seats.
 - d) Investigate opportunities for widespread safety and behaviour change campaigns in partnership with state and local governments.
 - e) Investigate opportunities for alternate routes for the Coburg to Glenroy bike route.
5. Resolves to bring a report back to Council following the completion of this extended trial and alternate route opportunities in mid-to-late 2023 with feedback from the trial and recommendations on how to proceed to close the Coburg to Glenroy bike route gap in the cycling network.

Meeting Adjournment

Motion

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That the Council meeting be adjourned at 9.17 pm to clarify the amendment.

Carried

Meeting Resumption

Motion

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Bolton seconded -

That the Council meeting be resumed.

Carried

The meeting resumed at 9.36 pm.

Cr Conlan withdrew from seconding the amendment.

The **amendment lapsed** for the want of a seconder.

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Harte seconded -

That Council:

1. **Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the Kent Road separated bike lane trial and key findings.**
2. **Resolves to extend the current trial of the separated bike lane on Kent Road, Pascoe Vale by removing the current trial bike lanes and replacing with modified trial bike lanes to address feedback from the trial including:**
 - a) **Maintain physical separation for bike riders from vehicles including dedicated 1.5 m bike lanes and physical separation between bike lanes and parked cars of 0.8 m on both sides of the street.**
 - b) **Reallocate 0.2 m, gained through narrowing physical separator width, to**

- vehicle and parking lanes.
- c) **Replace the continuous bike lane separator used in the trial with intermittent separators providing gaps between the physical barriers that improve accessibility for pedestrians, particularly those with mobility impairments, when crossing the street or exiting parked cars.**
 - d) **Provision for improved waste bin siting for collection.**
 - e) **Provision for enhanced street sweeping of the bicycle facilities.**
 - f) **A lower cost solution.**
3. **Resolves to undertake observations and further engagement with residents, business(es) and sporting clubs on Kent Road directly affected by the bike lane through the extended trial period to assess the impact of the design changes in addressing the key concerns raised during the initial 12 months.**
 4. **Resolves to implement the following interventions that will contribute additional benefits to road safety, amenity and accessibility, including:**
 - a) **Design of the raised pedestrian crossing, east of Joffre Road, in Council's capital works plan and seek State Government (Department of Transport) approval.**
 - b) **Design and construction of traffic calming treatments at Cornwall Road, Pascoe Vale and Kent Road.**
 - c) **Investigate opportunities for street beautification projects including but not limited to further street tree planting and seats.**
 - d) **Investigate opportunities for widespread safety and behaviour change campaigns in partnership with state and local governments.**
 - e) **Investigate opportunities for alternate routes for the Coburg to Glenroy bike route.**
 5. **Resolves to bring a report back to Council following the completion of this extended trial and alternate route opportunities in mid-to-late 2023 with feedback from the trial and recommendations on how to proceed to close the Coburg to Glenroy bike route gap in the cycling network.**

Carried unanimously

7.3 SAFE MOVEMENT OF PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS – OUTCOMES OF 12-MONTH TRIALS

Executive Summary

Council constructed trial shared zones and bike lanes in June 2021 at the following locations:

- shared zones - Victoria Street and Albert Street, Brunswick
- separated bike lanes on Dawson Street, Brunswick
- tactile bike lane markers on Albion Street, Brunswick
- a two-way separated bike lane on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale.

Installing these trials was part of Council's decision at its July 2020 meeting to allocate an additional \$1.68 million in the 2020/21 budget for walking and riding improvements in response to the COVID-19 State of Emergency in Victoria. This investment aimed to encourage as many people as possible to walk or ride a bike given the social distancing requirements at the time.

Given the need to act quickly, the shared zones and bike lane trials were installed using temporary infrastructure to allow Council to monitor their performance and make real-time

adjustments based on community feedback over the course of the trial, before making a final decision.

For all trials, evidence to support technical investigations was gathered using survey counts to monitor vehicle, pedestrian and bike activity in an area. Engagement with the community also occurred between December 2021 and March 2022 to gauge their views on the trial projects. The findings of this engagement can be found at Attachment 1.

In summary, key findings are:

- a) Strong support for improvements to walking and riding infrastructure, particularly safety initiatives
- b) Improved road safety conditions for bike riders
- c) Notable increase in female participation in separated riding infrastructure
- d) Diverse community views on the treatments.

In some more detail, the key issues and findings from the trials are summarised for each trial location as follows:

Shared Zones in Brunswick East

- 130 people completed a survey relating to the Albert Street shared zone and a total of 88 people completed a survey for the Victoria Street shared zone.
- Comments were very similar for both of the shared zones:
 - More respondents felt the trial shared zones increased safety (rather than reduced safety)
 - Pedestrians said they were more likely to use the space,
 - Bike riders were neutral and drivers were slightly less likely to use the space as a result of the trial.
- Traffic surveys indicate that there has been an increase in pedestrian within the shared zones (compared to background levels in December 2020). Bike ridership volumes have steadied or increased in the shared zone indicating that bike riders are not discouraged by pedestrians getting priority.
- Vehicle volumes are lower compared to background levels and there is no indication that vehicles are avoiding the treatment by using other local streets in the area.
- Vehicle speeds are 10 km/h slower in the shared zones than immediately outside. The shared zones appear to have had negligible impact on parking in the area, but it is noted that parking pressure in the area has been increasing over the duration of this trial compared to December 2020 levels.

Separated bike lanes on Dawson Street, Brunswick

- 135 people engaged online and on site.
- Engagement found a strong level of support for the separated bike lane due to the perceived improvement for bike riding safety.
- Some concerns raised by Dawson's Street Children's Co-operative regarding safety when dropping off and picking up children and access to the Brunswick Secondary College
- The data collected shows that the total ridership and important female ridership in separated bike lane treatment is significantly higher than in a nearby comparison site on Dawson Street where there are painted bike lanes only with no physical separation.
- Traffic volumes and speeds in the area saw minimal to no impact from the trial.

Tactile bike lane markers on Albion Street, Brunswick

- 54 people provided feedback online.
- There were mixed responses to this cycle lane.
- Many cyclists appreciated the attempt to provide separation for vehicles.

- Some felt that Albion Street is inherently dangerous, and cyclists should not be encouraged to use it.
- Despite not having pre-trial data to compare bike ridership on Albion Street, the tactile bike lanes are being used by riders with a good portion of female ridership.
- As the tactile lane markings went over the existing lane markings, there were no impacts to traffic volumes or speeds

Separated bike lane on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale

- 251 people provided feedback for Northumberland Road online or via intercept surveys.
- Overall, there was less support for this separated bike lane.
- The key issue cited was the impact on traffic, parking and congestion that the modified street layout had caused. There were concerns about the operation at the intersection of Pascoe Street and a belief that few cyclists use the lane.
- Since the implementation of the bi-directional bike lane trials on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale, ridership has been inconsistent overall, yet female ridership has increased and in significant portions.
- The reduced traffic lane resulted in only a marginal change to daily average traffic volumes and negligible impacts to traffic speed.
- Council officers investigated many alternative designs including different route alignment, bike path options including shared paths. Alternate route alignments could be considered but are not preferred due to other local roads having a narrower width, poor crossing opportunities on Rhodes Parade, steep topography and too many competing needs on Pascoe Street.
- A concept redesign of the intersection of Northumberland Road and Pascoe Street has been drafted (see Attachment 6). The design aims to improve access for all modes of traffic and reduce speed and risk at the intersection.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Concludes the trials on:
 - a) The shared zones on Victoria Street and Albert Street in Brunswick East
 - b) The separated bike lanes on Dawson Street, Brunswick
 - c) The bike lanes on Albion Street, Brunswick
 - d) The separated bike lane on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale
2. Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the shared zone and bike lane trial and key findings.
3. Makes permanent the shared zones on Victoria Street and Albert Street, Brunswick East by:
 - a) Seeking state government (Department of Transport) approval to permanently lower the speed limit in the shared zones to 20 km/h
 - b) Undertaking functional and detailed design of a permanent shared zone in 2022/23 largely in line with the current trial but with a view to permanent features and reduced maintenance costs.
4. Undertakes functional and detailed design to make permanent the separated bike lane on Dawson Street, Brunswick, largely in line with the current trial but modified to address feedback from the trial including:
 - a) Remove existing 1m wide refuge islands

- b) Install painted refuges island with a narrow lane separator to provide physical separation
 - c) Provided marked area for bins to be placed on road and have ramps installed to provide access if where appropriate
 - d) Modification of the bus stop to remove conflict points, and increasing parking availability
 - e) Remove 10 m of kerb parking adjacent to the school car park to improve sight lines when exiting the school car park.
5. Makes permanent the bike lane on Albion Street, Brunswick in line with the current trial with the following improvements:
- a) Install missing lane markers that have not been able to be implemented due to ongoing construction happening in the areas as soon as works are completed.
 - b) Make permanent the parking ban on the northern side of Albion Street which removed approximately 4 parking bays.
 - c) Support Department of Transport's request to relocate of bus stop to the rear of 35-37 Tinning Street (opposite 220-222 Albion Street).
 - d) Noting that this type of bike lane treatment does not encourage the "interested but concerned" cohort of our community to see riding as a viable transport option, officers will investigate alternative routes in the area and options to provide a safer link
6. Notes that despite the community concerns raised regarding the Northumberland Road bike lane, the community is using these bike lanes and so it concludes the trial period and makes permanent the Northumberland Road bike lane with the following amendments:
- a) Redesign of the intersection of Northumberland Road and Pascoe Street in line with the plans shown Attachment 6
 - b) Reduce the number of upright bollards and ensure they are located at key points for safety
 - c) Install bollards in the middle of the bike path at key locations to discourage vehicles from travelling or parking in the bike lane
 - d) Modify nature strip and bike path to allow waste collection to occur and not restrict movement on the bike path.
7. Resolves to continue to monitor the infrastructure after implementation including receiving feedback from the community in accordance with the 'post implementation' phase of the community engagement process for future bike projects as adopted in March 2022.
8. Notes the \$400,000 in the 2022/23 capital works budget 'Allowance for next step works for trial bike lanes and shared zones-Variou's' will be used to implement the next stages on these shared zones and bike lane trials and any additional funding needed will be referred to the budget process including quarterly budget updates.

9.57 pm Cr Carli Hannan left the meeting during debate and returned at 9.57pm.

Time Extension

Motion

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Bolton seconded -

That the Council meeting be extended at 9.57 pm by 30 minutes.

Carried

Resolution

Cr Conlan moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded -

That Council:

- 1. Concludes the trials on:**
 - a) The shared zones on Victoria Street and Albert Street in Brunswick East**
 - b) The separated bike lanes on Dawson Street, Brunswick**
 - c) The bike lanes on Albion Street, Brunswick**
 - d) The separated bike lane on Northumberland Road, Pascoe Vale**
- 2. Notes the significant technical investigations, data analysis and community engagement undertaken since commencement of the shared zone and bike lane trial and key findings.**
- 3. Makes permanent the shared zones on Victoria Street and Albert Street, Brunswick East by:**
 - a) Seeking state government (Department of Transport) approval to permanently lower the speed limit in the shared zones to 20 km/h**
 - b) Undertaking functional and detailed design of a permanent shared zone in 2022/23 largely in line with the current trial but with a view to permanent features and reduced maintenance costs.**
- 4. Undertakes functional and detailed design to make permanent the separated bike lane on Dawson Street, Brunswick, largely in line with the current trial but modified to address feedback from the trial including:**
 - a) Remove existing 1m wide refuge islands**
 - b) Install painted refuges island with a narrow lane separator to provide physical separation**
 - c) Provided marked area for bins to be placed on road and have ramps installed to provide access if where appropriate**
 - d) Modification of the bus stop to remove conflict points, and increasing parking availability**
 - e) Remove 10 m of kerb parking adjacent to the school car park to improve sight lines when exiting the school car park.**
- 5. Makes permanent the bike lane on Albion Street, Brunswick in line with the current trial with the following improvements:**
 - a) Install missing lane markers that have not been able to be implemented due to ongoing construction happening in the areas as soon as works are completed.**
 - b) Make permanent the parking ban on the northern side of Albion Street which removed approximately 4 parking bays.**
 - c) Support Department of Transport's request to relocate of bus stop to the rear of 35-37 Tinning Street (opposite 220-222 Albion Street).**
 - d) Noting that this type of bike lane treatment does not encourage the "interested but concerned" cohort of our community to see riding as a viable transport option, officers will investigate alternative routes in the area and options to provide a safer link**
- 6. Notes that despite the community concerns raised regarding the Northumberland Road bike lane, the community is using these bike lanes and so it concludes the trial period and makes permanent the Northumberland**

Road bike lane with the following amendments:

- a) **Redesign of the intersection of Northumberland Road and Pascoe Street in line with the plans shown Attachment 6**
 - b) **Reduce the number of upright bollards and ensure they are located at key points for safety**
 - c) **Install bollards in the middle of the bike path at key locations to discourage vehicles from travelling or parking in the bike lane**
 - d) **Modify nature strip and bike path to allow waste collection to occur and not restrict movement on the bike path.**
7. **Resolves to continue to monitor the infrastructure after implementation including receiving feedback from the community in accordance with the 'post implementation' phase of the community engagement process for future bike projects as adopted in March 2022.**
 8. **Notes the \$400,000 in the 2022/23 capital works budget 'Allowance for next step works for trial bike lanes and shared zones-VariouS' will be used to implement the next stages on these shared zones and bike lane trials and any additional funding needed will be referred to the budget process including quarterly budget updates.**

Carried

9.58 pm Cr Carli Hannan left the meeting.

7.4 NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY (BUS) AND RELATED BUS ADVOCACY

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the development of the Northern Region Transport Strategy (Bus) (Bus Strategy) (refer to Attachment 1) and seeks endorsement of the draft strategy.

The draft strategy has been reviewed by relevant officers of all member councils of the Northern Councils Alliance.

When endorsed, the strategy can provide the basis of a significant advocacy document, noting that the State Government controls the funding and operation of the public bus network. Additionally, the pursuit of this work provides a foundation for a further round of strategic work to identify opportunities to improve the route structure and service quality of the local bus network in Moreland.

The strategy identifies a number of potential improvements for services in Moreland.

These relate to improved east west services (described as Trunk Services in *Victoria's Bus Plan 2021*) and service extensions to better connect to La Trobe University, Bundoora, and Melbourne Airport. At the centre of the work, the Suburban Rail Loop Bus is intended to replicate the route of the northern section of the Suburban Rail Loop to provide an interim service before the rail project is built.

Whilst the proposed express route bus is intended as a direct link between all identified Suburban Rail Loop railway stations, routing the bus south to connect to Fawkner Railway Station would add a considerable amount of time and reduce the overall attraction of the route. The Bus Strategy has proposed that a dedicated shuttle bus service between the Bakers Road Route 19 tram terminus, Coburg North and Camp Road could address this service gap whilst boosting services in the Upfield transport corridor.

Additionally, other service improvements proposed include extending bus routes 490 and 561 to Melbourne Airport and provide a broader range of connectivity options, and measures to improve the operational frequency of route 903 SmartBus are raised.

Further, it is considered appropriate in the context of reporting on this strategy that a chronic lack of evening and weekend services, together with the progress of trials to introduce electric buses in the municipality are presented.

Lastly, the May 2022 State Government Budget committed to funding the next stage of bus reviews, a stage that is more focussed on the functionality of the local bus network. This is considered an opportunity to advocate for measures to address a number of service shortfalls, including frequency, hours of operation and route structure.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the Northern Region Bus Strategy as at Attachment 1 and supports efforts by the Northern Councils Alliance to pursue initiatives in the strategy with the State Government.
2. Writes to Minister for Public Transport, the Hon. Ben Carroll, seeking:
 - a) Consideration of the implementation of the Fawkner Tramlink Route 531 bus from Bakers Road, Coburg North to Upfield Railway Station, to deliver service levels aligned with the timetable of Tram Route 19 as at Attachment 2.
 - b) A review of timetables for bus services operating on Bell Street following the removal of railway level crossings at Coburg and Preston.
 - c) Consideration of upgrading all bus services in the municipality to provide full weekend and full evening operation.

Resolution

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Bolton seconded –

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Northern Region Bus Strategy as at Attachment 1 and supports efforts by the Northern Councils Alliance to pursue initiatives in the strategy with the State Government.**
2. **Writes to Minister for Public Transport, the Hon. Ben Carroll, seeking:**
 - a) **Consideration of the implementation of the Fawkner Tralink Route 531 bus from Bakers Road, Coburg North to Upfield Railway Station, to deliver service levels aligned with the timetable of Tram Route 19 as at Attachment 2, while noting that the duplication of the Upfield Line is still needed to provide improved public transport north of Bell Street especially for people with mobility issues.**
 - b) **A review of timetables for bus services operating on Bell Street following the removal of railway level crossings at Coburg and Preston.**
 - c) **Consideration of upgrading all bus services in the municipality to provide full weekend and full evening operation.**

9.58pm Cr Pulford left the meeting during the debate.

Carried unanimously

7.5 FOOD RELIEF INITIATIVES

Executive Summary

Community-led food relief organisations in Moreland are part of a network of large and small food and material relief not-for-profits and charities that provide an essential safety net for vulnerable people who find themselves in circumstances where they are unable to feed themselves or their family. The need for these services significantly increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and many community-led food relief organisations were established in response. Council has conducted a review of community-led food security and food relief organisations to determine their needs gaps. In a sector that was already under resourced and fragmented, the community-led food relief groups are particularly vulnerable to a lack of ongoing funding, fluctuations in volunteer labour and lack of access to suitable premises and infrastructure.

Council provided a range of supports for community-led food relief and other community support organisations during the pandemic. The COVID-19 Recovery Plan, Council Action Plan and Food System Strategy focus on building community partnerships to support equal economic and social access to food for all people in Moreland, thus reducing dependence on a welfare model of emergency food and material relief. Council has committed through existing policies and budget to support an ongoing Food and Material Relief Network and to support long term food security by giving food security groups access to a commercial kitchen and implementing a Community Food Hub in Moreland. Many of the need's gaps identified by community-led food security groups will be addressed under the Community Food Hub model which aims to secure reliable and ongoing funding streams to invest in the infrastructure and resourcing necessary to support food justice in Moreland. There are systemic, structural and policy changes needed at the state and federal government levels to better support the food relief sector more broadly. Council will include this for consideration in future advocacy agendas.

Officer Recommendation

That Council

1. Note the outcomes of discussions with Nourishing Neighbours, Muslim Womens Council of Victoria and others included in this report.
2. Write to the Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services to support the recommendations in the CISVic (Community Information and Support Victoria) and VCOSS (Victorian Council of Social Services) food relief report to address the economic sustainability issues raised by community-led food relief organisations consulted in the preparation of this report.

Resolution

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Riley seconded –

That Council:

1. **Notes the outcomes of discussions with Nourishing Neighbours, Muslim Womens Council of Victoria and others included in this report.**
2. **Writes to the Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services to support the recommendations in the CISVic (Community Information and Support Victoria) and VCOSS (Victorian Council of Social Services) food relief report to address the economic sustainability issues raised by community-led food relief organisations consulted in the preparation of this report. Further, that council raises the need for funding support for community-run food relief organisations to buy equipment such as fridges and access venues to run their operations.**
3. **Writes to the State government, requesting that the funding for emergency relief services be continued.**
4. **Makes contact with other councils such as Greater Dandenong, Wyndham and Melton councils to find out what they are doing regarding food relief that is provided directly by council or by community-run organisations.**
5. **Links the Moreland community-run food relief organisations with the Hume-Moreland Volunteer Coordination Network.**

10.04 pm Cr Conlan left the meeting during the debate.

10.06 pm Cr Conlan returned to the meeting during the debate.

10.06 pm Cr Pulford returned to the meeting during the debate.

Carried unanimously

7.6 PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURES - LANEWAYS IN OAK PARK

Executive Summary

This report seeks Council to consider commencing a process to formally close a series of laneways in Oak Park that have been informally closed to vehicle traffic since 2010. The laneways are shown in Attachment 1 and located between:

- John Pascoe Fawcner Reserve and Sylvester Street, Oak Park.
- Sylvester Street and John Street, Oak Park
- John Street and Gregory Street, Oak Park
- Gregory Street and Ethel Street, Oak Park
- Ethel Street and Margaret Street, Oak Park

Council has previously resolved to trigger this process. At its February 2010 meeting (DCI6), Council resolved to undertake consultation regarding the placement of permanent barriers in these five laneways located between John Pascoe Fawkner Reserve and Margaret Street, Oak Park to prevent vehicle access.

As outlined in Schedule 11, Clause 9 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), Council may block the passage or access of vehicles on a road but must not exercise this power unless it has considered a report from the Roads Corporation concerning the exercise of the power. In 2010, a clerical error was made when, without requesting a report from then VicRoads (now the Department of Transport), bollards were installed to block vehicles from accessing the above-mentioned laneways.

These bollards are still in place today but as the laneways have not been formally closed in line with the requirements of the Act, Council is unable to legally prohibit vehicle access within the laneways.

A town planning application was lodged on 1 March 2022 to construct four dwellings on the land at 7 Sylvester Street, Oak Park. The proposal outlines that three of these dwellings would seek to gain vehicle access from the subject laneway and that the fourth dwelling would gain access via the existing crossover to Sylvester Street. The existing bollard in the subject laneway is currently preventing any vehicle access and has done so for 12 years. If a planning permit were issued for this development, as the laneway has not been formally closed, in accordance with the *Road Management Act 2004*, an owner or occupier of any land which adjoins a road is entitled as of right to access the road from that land and as such, Council is currently unable to prohibit vehicle access along the subject laneway.

Following the advertising of the proposed development at 7 Sylvester Street there have been more than 100 objections. Many of the objectors are opposed to the development on the basis that it will introduce vehicle traffic to the subject laneway that has provided a safe pedestrian and bicycle link to John Pascoe Fawkner Reserve for more than 10 years.

To preserve the area as a pedestrian and cycle only route and formalise Council's decision in 2010 to permanently close these laneways to through traffic, Council officers are now looking to correct this administrative oversight and formally close the laneway in line with the full obligations outlined in the Act.

As there is an existing bollard in place to prevent vehicle access, no other physical works are proposed.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approves the commencement of the process under Section 207, Schedule 11, Clause 9 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) to block the passage or access of vehicles, other than bicycles and pedestrians, by maintaining the existing permanent barriers (bollards) within the laneways located between:
 - a) John Pascoe Fawkner Reserve and Sylvester Street, Oak Park.
 - b) Sylvester Street and John Street, Oak Park
 - c) John Street and Gregory Street, Oak Park
 - d) Gregory Street and Ethel Street, Oak Park
 - e) Ethel Street and Margaret Street, Oak Park
2. Gives public notice of the proposal to permanently block the passage of vehicles, other than bicycles, and calls for submissions under Section 223 of the Act as required by Section 207A of the Act, in *The Age*, on Council's website and notice to owners and occupiers of all properties in the area bounded by and including Sylvester Street, Winifred Street, Margaret Street and Moonee Ponds Creek Linear Park, Oak Park.

3. Appoints the Mayor as Chair and ward councillors Cr Davidson, Cr Harte, Cr Panopoulos and Cr Yildiz to a Committee to hear any submitters requesting to be heard in support of their written submission.
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to set the date and time and location for the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting following consultation with the appointed Councillors and submitters requesting to be heard.
5. Following the consultation process, receives a report outlining any submissions received in relation to the proposal to formally block the passage of vehicles permanently.
6. Notes that Council resolved to place permanent barriers in these laneways in Oak Park in 2010, but due to an administrative oversight, a report from the Roads Corporation was not requested at the time.
7. Notes that these barriers have been in place since 2010 which restrict through vehicular movement and this report seeks to formalise their existing placement.

Resolution

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That Council:

1. **Approves the commencement of the process under Section 207, Schedule 11, Clause 9 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) to block the passage or access of vehicles, other than bicycles and pedestrians, by maintaining the existing permanent barriers (bollards) within the laneways located between:

 - a) **John Pascoe Fawcner Reserve and Sylvester Street, Oak Park.**
 - b) **Sylvester Street and John Street, Oak Park**
 - c) **John Street and Gregory Street, Oak Park**
 - d) **Gregory Street and Ethel Street, Oak Park**
 - e) **Ethel Street and Margaret Street, Oak Park****
2. **Gives public notice of the proposal to permanently block the passage of vehicles, other than bicycles, and calls for submissions under Section 223 of the Act as required by Section 207A of the Act, in *The Age*, on Council's website and notice to owners and occupiers of all properties in the area bounded by and including Sylvester Street, Winifred Street, Margaret Street and Moonee Ponds Creek Linear Park, Oak Park.**
3. **Appoints the Mayor as Chair and Ward Councillors Cr Davidson, Cr Harte, Cr Panopoulos and Cr Yildiz to a Committee to hear any submitters requesting to be heard in support of their written submission.**
4. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to set the date and time and location for the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting following consultation with the appointed Councillors and submitters requesting to be heard.**
5. **Following the consultation process, receives a report outlining any submissions received in relation to the proposal to formally block the passage of vehicles permanently.**
6. **Notes that Council resolved to place permanent barriers in these laneways in Oak Park in 2010, but due to an administrative oversight, a report from the Roads Corporation was not requested at the time.**
7. **Notes that these barriers have been in place since 2010 which restrict through vehicular movement and this report seeks to formalise their existing placement.**

Carried unanimously

7.7 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE RULES

Executive Summary

The recent introduction of the *Regulatory Legislation Amendment (Reform) Act 2022*, (Reform Act) resulted in changes to the *Local Government Act 2020* which provide for attendance and participation in Council meetings and delegated committees by electronic means of communication.

In order for Council to be able to continue to conduct hybrid and online Council meetings in accordance with the new legislation, Council's Governance Rules were reviewed and presented to Council at its meeting of 13 July 2022, for endorsement for community consultation. Council invited community submissions between 14 July 2022 – 24 July 2022 via Conversations Moreland.

At the close of the submission period, 5 submissions were received from 4 submitters. A summary of the submissions received, together with the Council Officer responses is provided in Attachment 2.

This report does not recommend any further amendments to the revised Governance Rules as a result of the submissions received, this is for a number of reasons including that those suggestions raised are: provided for in the existing Governance Rules, accounted for within the proposed Governance Rules changes; proposing to replicate provisions outlined in the *Local Government Act 2020*; covered by existing processes that are in place.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopts the revised Governance Rules, provided as Attachment 1.
2. Writes to the submitters, thanking them for their contribution and providing a copy of the outcome of Council's decision (including a copy of responses as provided in Attachment 2).

Resolution

Cr Yildiz moved, Cr Pulford seconded -

That Council:

- 1) Adopts the revised Governance Rules , which provide for attendance and participation in Council meetings and delegated committees by electronic means of communication, provided as Attachment 1.**
- 2) Thanks all submitters who provided feedback, and writes to submitters who may have provided feedback outside of the proposed amendments, explaining the purpose and rationale for the limitation of proposed amendment changes, and providing a copy of the outcome of Council's decision (including a copy of responses as provided in Attachment 2).**

Carried unanimously

7.8 COMMUNITY USE OF COUNCIL MANAGED VENUES POLICY REVISION

Executive Summary

In 2018, Council endorsed a policy which outlined the use of Council managed venues, facilities and meeting spaces available for hire. This policy included operational requirements which are normally contained in a set of guidelines of use and allocation.

In May 2021 Council resolved to revise the process used to manage requests for free venue hire. Given this, an updated policy has been developed to ensure operational requirements are contained in a separate set of guidelines, for Council officers to administer requests for hire.

This policy has been revised to provide overall strategic advice on the access to Council managed venues, facilities and meetings spaces available for hire.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the revised Policy in relation to the use of Council managed venues, facilities and meeting spaces available for hire.
2. Notes the inclusion of Section 4.8, in response to a Council Notice of Motion raised in May 2021, to revise the process used to manage requests for free venue hire.

Motion

Cr Bolton moved, Harte seconded -

That Council:

1. Endorses the revised Policy in relation to the use of Council managed venues, facilities and meeting spaces available for hire, with the following amended Section 4.8 regarding the process used to manage requests for free venue hire:

4.8 Managing Request for free access

Requests for council-funded use of community facilities may be submitted in writing via the relevant department (Libraries, Community Venues, Facilities) outlining reasons for the request including the purpose of the booking and the benefits to the Moreland community. Requests to be submitted 2 weeks prior to the event date with a completed Venue Hire Agreement form. Council Officers will assess the application in line with Community Use of Council Venues Policy and the Human Rights Policy with a recommendation made to the CEO or their delegate for approval. In special hardship circumstances, discretion can be used to reduce or waive fees or provide additional subsidy subject to consideration by the Council.

Decisions regarding Council funded use of community facilities will be reported within the Governance report to ensure transparency and equality.

Waiver of fees only applies to hall hire cost and all associated costs (e.g., bond, public liability insurance, crowd controller requirements, equipment hire) must be paid prior to the event date.

Amendment

Cr Conlan moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded –

Include the following two points:

2. Notes that the above policy sets out a new process for council officers to process council venue hire requests, and that Councillors are not delegating their entire authority to approve such requests. Community groups, residents and other

associations will still retain the ability to request that the Council Chamber decide on council venue hire outcomes.

3. The purpose of item 3 is to maintain a balance between creating a new, transparent process for council venue hire decisions, whilst maintaining democratic oversight over the process by ensuring that Councillors maintain their delegation to make such decisions, as appropriate.

10.18 pm Cr Yildiz left the meeting during the debate.

Carried

10.21 pm Cr Yildiz returned to the meeting following the vote on the amendment.

Resolution

Cr Bolton moved, Harte seconded -

That Council:

1. **Endorses the revised Policy in relation to the use of Council managed venues, facilities and meeting spaces available for hire, with the following amended Section 4.8 regarding the process used to manage requests for free venue hire:**

4.8 Managing Request for free access

Requests for council-funded use of community facilities may be submitted in writing via the relevant department (Libraries, Community Venues, Facilities) outlining reasons for the request including the purpose of the booking and the benefits to the Moreland community. Requests to be submitted 2 weeks prior to the event date with a completed Venue Hire Agreement form. Council Officers will assess the application in line with Community Use of Council Venues Policy and the Human Rights Policy with a recommendation made to the CEO or their delegate for approval. In special hardship circumstances, discretion can be used to reduce or waive fees or provide additional subsidy subject to consideration by the Council.

Decisions regarding Council funded use of community facilities will be reported within the Governance report to ensure transparency and equality.

Waiver of fees only applies to hall hire cost and all associated costs (e.g., bond, public liability insurance, crowd controller requirements, equipment hire) must be paid prior to the event date.

2. **Notes that the above policy sets out a new process for council officers to process council venue hire requests, and that Councillors are not delegating their entire authority to approve such requests. Community groups, residents and other associations will still retain the ability to request that the Council Chamber decide on council venue hire outcomes.**
3. **The purpose of item 3 is to maintain a balance between creating a new, transparent process for council venue hire decisions, whilst maintaining democratic oversight over the process by ensuring that Councillors maintain their delegation to make such decisions, as appropriate.**

Carried

7.9 COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2021-22 - FOURTH QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT

Executive Summary

This Fourth Quarter Performance Report (shown at Attachment 1) gives an overview of Council's performance through the delivery of the Council Plan 2021-2025, specifically the delivery of the Council Action Plan 2021-2022.

The status of the 114 actions is as follows:

- 68 per cent (78) closed (completed, achieved)
- 17 per cent (19) in progress (on track)
- 14 per cent (16) off track (at risk, support may be needed)
- 1 per cent (1) proposed withdrawal.

Since the Third Quarter Performance Report for the period ending 30 March 2022 (reported to Council at its meeting on 11 May 2022), Council has achieved a further 64 actions as shown in (Attachment 2).

It is proposed to withdraw and discontinue Action 56 '*Support the implementation of the Men at Work Pilot Program through facilitating local partnerships and promotion*' as identified for delivery in the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 entirely from the Council Action Plan:

It is proposed continue to report and track '*Off Track*' actions from Council Action Plan 2021-2022. These actions will be separately reported quarterly and presented concurrently with the quarterly updates for the Council Action Plan 2022-2023 with the intent to have these actions '*Achieved*' by the end of quarter two 2022-2023.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 – Fourth Quarter Performance Report for the period ending 30 June 2022 (provided as Attachment 1).
2. Endorses that action 56 '*Support the implementation of the Men at Work Pilot Program through facilitating local partnerships and promotion*' as identified for delivery in the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 be withdrawn and discontinued for delivery from the Council Action Plan entirely.
3. Endorses that '*Off Track*' actions from the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 will continue to be reported to Council through the quarterly reporting cycle of the Council Action Plan 2022-2023, until completion.

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That Council:

1. **Notes the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 – Fourth Quarter Performance Report for the period ending 30 June 2022 (provided as Attachment 1).**
2. **Endorses that action 56 '*Support the implementation of the Men at Work Pilot Program through facilitating local partnerships and promotion*' as identified for delivery in the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 be withdrawn and discontinued for delivery from the Council Action Plan entirely.**
3. **Endorses that '*Off Track*' actions from the Council Action Plan 2021-2022 will continue to be reported to Council through the quarterly reporting cycle of the Council Action Plan 2022-2023, until completion.**

Carried unanimously

7.10 GOVERNANCE REPORT - AUGUST 2022 - CYCLICAL REPORT

Executive Summary

The Governance report is prepared as a monthly standing report to Council which provides a single reporting platform for a range of statutory compliance, transparency, and governance related matters.

This Governance report includes:

- Summary of minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee to Council, with a recommendation that Council notes the summary of minutes.
- Records of Meetings, with a recommendation that Council notes the records.
- Response to a Public Question Time item taken on notice at the 13 April 2022 Council meeting, with a recommendation that Council notes the response.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the summary of minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee to Council, at Attachment 1 to this report.
2. Notes the Records of Meetings, at Attachment 2 to this report.
3. Notes response to a question taken on notice during Public Question Time at the 13 April Council meeting, at Attachment 3 to this report.

Resolution

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Bolton seconded -

That Council:

1. **Notes the summary of minutes from the Audit and Risk Committee to Council, at Attachment 1 to this report.**
2. **Notes the Records of Meetings, at Attachment 2 to this report.**
3. **Notes response to a question taken on notice during Public Question Time at the 13 April Council meeting, at Attachment 3 to this report.**

Carried unanimously

NOTICES OF MOTION

8.1 BIOGRAPHY OF ARCHITECT CHARLES HEATH

Motion

That Council receives a report about this local history publishing project and recommendations be made about how Council can support this project.

10.24 pm Cr Pulford left the meeting before the motion was moved.

Resolution

Cr Pavlidis moved, Cr Yildiz seconded -

That Council receives a report about this local history publishing project and recommendations be made about how Council can support this project.

Carried unanimously

10.26 pm Cr Pulford returned to the meeting.

Time Extension

Motion

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Harte seconded -

That the Council meeting be extended at 10.29 pm by 30 minutes.

Carried

8.2 DEVELOPING A POLICY REGARDING SPORTS PLAYING SURFACES IN CITY OF MORELAND

Motion

That Council:

1. Requests a report and development of a policy on managing our sports field surfaces in particular, and open spaces surfaces more generally, that gives consideration to our stance on the Climate Emergency, Integrated Water Management, Urban Heat Island Effect and our goal of zero waste by 2030, including:
 - a) consideration of the triple bottom line principles of environmental, social and financial sustainability including new and emerging natural turf and soil management options and best practice turf management.
 - b) consideration of the impact of other synthetic surfaces being used by other land users within the municipality (e.g., schools) on community wellbeing; and,
 - c) tabling a report to Council by the end of 2022, or 30 June 2023, whichever is most feasible, given the breadth and complexity of the imminent Open Space Strategy Review.

Resolution

Cr Riley moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That Council:

1. **Requests a report and development of a policy on managing our sports field surfaces in particular, and open spaces surfaces more generally, that gives consideration to our stance on the Climate Emergency, Integrated Water Management, Urban Heat Island Effect and our goal of zero waste by 2030, including:**
 - a) **Consideration of the triple bottom line principles of environmental, social and financial sustainability including new and emerging natural turf and soil management, soil organic carbon sequestration or carbon sink potential options and best practice turf management.**
 - b) **Consideration of the impact of other synthetic surfaces being used by other land users within the municipality (e.g., schools) on community wellbeing.**
 - c) **Tabling a report to Council by 30 June 2023, given the breadth and complexity of the imminent Open Space Strategy Review.**
 - d) **Noting the process will follow Council's consultation and engagement processes with the community, including tools like Conversations Moreland, and submissions and throughout review process.**

Carried

8.3 NAMING LANEWAYS

Motion

That Council requests a report listing policy changes required to allow laneways and walkways to be named in accordance with the Geographic Place Names guidelines and a process be setup for community members to nominate laneways and provide suggested names and relevant information about the history of the laneway and suggested name.

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Riley seconded -

That Council requests a report listing policy changes required to allow laneways and walkways to be named in accordance with the Geographic Place Names guidelines and a process be setup for community members to nominate laneways and provide suggested names and relevant information about the history of the laneway and suggested name.

Carried unanimously

NOTICE OF RESCISSION

Nil

FORESHADOWED ITEMS

Nil

URGENT BUSINESS REPORTS

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded -

That Council:

1. **Admits an item of Urgent Business that relates to a procurement decision for kerbside waste reform implementation, noting that this matter has arisen since the distribution of the agenda and cannot safely or conveniently be deferred to the next Council meeting.**
2. **Considers this matter in the confidential section of this meeting pursuant to section 3(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.**

Carried unanimously

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded –

In accordance with section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, this Council meeting be closed to the public to consider this/these report(s):

- **12.1 Moreland Affordable Housing Ltd - Endorsement of Council Appointed Board Directors (D22/314738) because it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.**
- **Urgent Business - Procurement decision relating to kerbside waste reform implementation - pursuant to section 3(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.**

Carried

The Council meeting closed to the public at 10.43 pm.

Publication of Confidential Resolution

12.1 MORELAND AFFORDABLE HOUSING LTD - ENDORSEMENT OF COUNCIL APPOINTED BOARD DIRECTORS

Council resolved to make the following decision public:

Resolution

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Bolton seconded -

That Council:

1. **Appoints Peter Chau and Rosemary Martin to the Moreland Affordable Housing Ltd Board.**
2. **Publishes the resolution in the minutes of the Council Meeting so that the names of the Board appointees are made public.**

Carried

OPENING THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Resolution

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Conlan seconded –

That the Council meeting be opened to the public.

Carried

The Council meeting opened to the public at 10.49 pm.

The Council meeting closed at 10.49 pm.