



## **Minutes of the Special Council Meeting**

Held at the Glenroy Community Hub, 50 Wheatsheaf Road, Glenroy on Sunday 3 July 2022

The Deputy Mayor opened the meeting at 11.13 am 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 Deputy Mayor paid respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today.

<b>Present</b>	<b>Time In</b>	<b>Time Out</b>
Cr Mark Riley, Mayor	Apology	
Cr Lambros Tapinos, Deputy Mayor	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Adam Pulford	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Angelica Panopoulos	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Annalivia Carli Hannan	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Helen Davidson	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Helen Pavlidis	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr James Conlan	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Monica Harte	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Oscar Yildiz JP	11.13 am	12.02 pm
Cr Sue Bolton	11.13 am	12.02 pm

### **OFFICERS**

Chief Executive Officer – Cathy Henderson  
Director City Infrastructure – Anita Curnow  
Director Community – Eamonn Fennessy  
Director Place and Environment – Joseph Tabacco  
Acting Director Business Transformation – Robert Raiskums  
Acting Manager Governance and Strategy – Sophie Barison  
Unit Manager Governance – Troy Delia  
Team Leader Governance – Naomi Ellis

### **APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Mayor, Cr Riley was an apology to the meeting.

## DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

## INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS

### Suspension of Standing Orders

#### Motion

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Panopoulos seconded –

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow Council to receive an introductory address from Uncle Tony Garvey and Uncle Bill Nicholson, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elder and representative of the Traditional Owner Community.

**Carried**

*Standing orders were suspended at 11.18 am.*

Uncle Bill Nicholson and Uncle Tony Garvey, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders and representatives of the Traditional Owner Community, addressed the meeting.

### Resumption of Standing Orders

#### Motion

Cr Panopoulos moved, Cr Carli Hannan seconded –

That Standing Orders be resumed.

**Carried**

*Standing orders resumed at 11.24 am.*

## COUNCIL REPORTS

### 5.1 RENAMING OF MORELAND CITY COUNCIL – RECOMMENDED NEW CITY COUNCIL NAME

#### Executive Summary

##### ***Decision to change name***

Council decided in December 2021 to in principle support the renaming of Moreland City Council. In line with the Council resolution, Council representatives then worked closely with the Traditional Owners (Elders), Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, to design a community consultative process around options for new names. Council adopted the community engagement process in March 2022.

##### ***Offer of three Woi-wurrung words***

On 14 May 2022, Council received three Woi-wurrung language words from the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, on a ceremonial paperbark scroll. The words were offered for community consideration as options for a new corporate name. A special cultural ceremony was held, preceding the Special Council Meeting, including a Welcome to Country, Cleansing Ceremony and Scroll Handover.

##### ***Community engagement process***

An extensive community engagement process commenced in May, with engagement formally concluding on 24 June 2022. The engagement sought community feedback on the Woi-wurrung name options via a survey and submissions process, as well as facilitating education and truth-telling. There were a range of online, in-person and written engagement methods to encourage participation by residents, ratepayers, business owners and other community members. This included hard copy mailouts to over 80,000 households and targeted engagement methods for CALD community members.

The engagement saw:

- 3,439 online surveys and 2,876 hardcopy surveys completed (6,315 total);
- 60 written submissions received, with 4 submitters formally addressing Councillors at a Hearing of Submissions;
- Four information/education sessions held along with 10 presentations held with small stakeholder groups including senior citizens, Interfaith leaders, youth ambassadors, early years educators, neighbourhood houses and other community groups.

### **Results of community engagement**

The result of the survey was clear majority support for Merri-bek, supported by 3,739 community members (59% of surveys submitted):

<b>Preferred option</b>	<b>No. of surveys</b>	<b>%</b>
Wa-dam-buk (renewal)	824	13%
Merri-bek (rocky country)	3,739	59%
Jerrang (leaf of tree)	1,368	22%
None - prefer no name change	384	6%
	6,315	

Community members provided reasons for their choice of name and many people supported Merri-bek because of the connection to rocky country and landscape, and their love of the Merri Creek.

Of the 60 written submissions, 43 were unsupportive (70%), 11 were supportive (18%), and 6 were of mixed sentiment (10%).

Children were consulted about the options for names at five early years centres across Moreland. A total of 164 children were consulted and the most supported option was Merri-bek (89 children), followed by Jerrang (59 children) and Wa-dam-buk (16 children).

The full independent consultants' Engagement Summary Report is at Attachment 1.

### **Basis of Recommendation**

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and representatives from the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation have considered the community feedback and have recommended Merri-bek to Council as the new municipal name.

The recommendation in this report also includes recommended technical provisions for the Order in Council, in order to effect the transition to the new name.

### **Officer Recommendation**

That Council:

1. Notes the outcomes and findings of the community engagement process on municipal renaming, including 6,315 surveys received from community members with a majority of 59% support for the Woi-wurrung name Merri-bek.
2. Thanks the Moreland community for the strong support expressed for the proposed new names, and thanks community members for their feedback and participation.
3. Thanks the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for their involvement and collaboration with Council on the renaming process.
4. Determines Merri-bek City Council as its preferred new corporate name, in lieu of Moreland City Council.

5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government, requesting:
  - a) That an Order in Council be made under section 235(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, providing for Moreland City Council to be renamed as Merri-bek City Council;
  - b) That consideration be given to the Order in Council including provisions to the following effect:
    - i. The date of effect for the change of name is not less than seven days after the Order in Council is made, to enable work to be undertaken by Council in anticipation of a change in corporate name; and
    - ii. Providing that where, immediately before the commencement of the Order in Council, proceedings to which Moreland City Council was a party were pending or existing in any court or tribunal, then, on or after the commencement, Merri-bek City Council is substituted for Moreland City Council as a party to the proceedings and has the same rights in the proceedings as Moreland City Council had;
    - iii. Providing that the Registrar of Titles, on being requested to do so and on delivery of any relevant Certificates of Title or instruments, must make any amendments to the Register that are necessary because of the operation of the Order in Council; and
    - iv. Providing that on and after the commencement of the Order in Council any reference in any Act, regulation, local law, subordinate instrument or any other document whatsoever to Moreland City Council is to be construed as a reference as Merri-bek City Council, unless the contrary intention appears.
6. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, following the Order in Council and gazettal of the change of name, to make amendments to documents published by Council in order to reflect the change of corporate name, including policies, strategies, plans and frameworks; and confirming that no changes to the substance of those documents are authorised by this resolution.

## **Resolution**

**Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Pulford seconded -**

**That Council:**

1. **Notes the outcomes and findings of the community engagement process on municipal renaming, including 6,315 surveys received from community members with a majority of 59% support for the Woi-wurrung name Merri-bek.**
2. **Thanks the Moreland community for the strong support expressed for the proposed new names, and thanks community members for their feedback and participation.**
3. **Thanks the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for their involvement and collaboration with Council on the renaming process.**
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- i. The date of effect for the change of name is not less than seven days after the Order in Council is made, to enable work to be undertaken by Council in anticipation of a change in corporate name; and
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11.49 am Cr Davidson left the meeting during the debate.

11.51 am Cr Davidson returned to the meeting prior to the vote.

**Carried**

Cr Panopoulos called for a division.

<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Cr Bolton	Cr Davidson
Cr Pulford	Cr Yildiz
Cr Panopoulos	Cr Pavlidis
Cr Conlan	
Cr Carli Hannan	
Cr Tapinos	
Cr Harte	
<b>Total For (7)</b>	<b>Total Against (3)</b>

The meeting closed at 12.02 pm.

Confirmed

Cr Mark Riley  
**MAYOR**