

Council Plan 2021 - 2025 Priority Actions Progress Report



**Progress Report on Priority Actions - Year 2 (2021 -2025)
Q3 (2022-23) - as at 31 March 2023**

Introduction

The Council Plan 2021-2025 is Maroondah City Council’s key medium-term strategic document that sets key directions and priority actions to work towards the long-term community vision outlined in the refreshed *Maroondah 2040: Our future together* community vision.

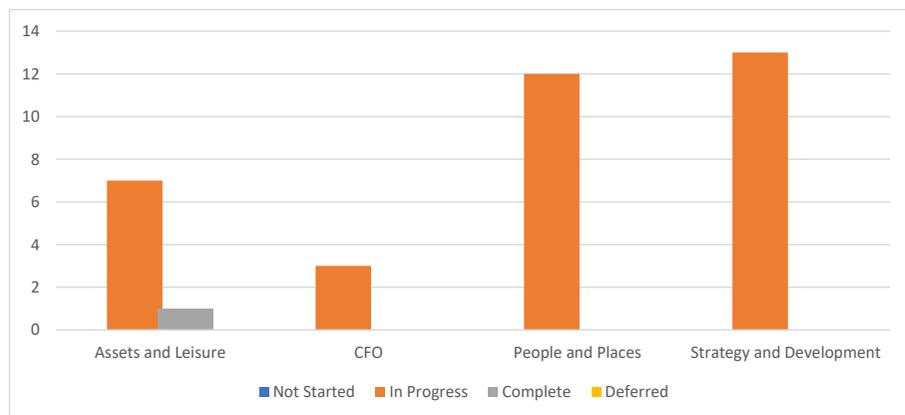
The Council Plan plays a vital role in shaping Maroondah’s future over a four year period. It identifies both challenges and opportunities for our community at local and regional level within the context of the community’s long term Maroondah 2040 vision. It also forms the basis for Council to make decisions regarding resources and priorities in response to community needs and aspirations.

Each year, Council presents to the community an updated set of key directions and priority actions for implementing the four-year Council Plan. This helps to ensure that the Plan continues to be aligned with *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*, the community’s long-term vision, and is responsive to community needs and expectations.

The Council Plan is implemented through a service delivery planning process, and outcomes are measured and reported regularly. This report identifies Council's progress in relation to the Council Plan Priority Actions for the 2022-23 financial year. Some actions span multiple years as identified in the Council Plan 2021-2025. Progress is identified as at 31 March 2023.

-  Priority action is currently on track and/or progressing as expected.
-  Priority action is at risk of not being on track.
-  Priority action is currently not on track and/or not progressing as expected
-  Priority action has been achieved
-  Priority action has been deferred to another year

Summary of Progress



	Assets and Leisure	CFO	People and Places	Strategy and Development
Not Started	0	0	0	0
In Progress	7	3	12	13
Complete	1	0	0	0
Deferred	0	0	0	0
Total	8	3	12	13

Maroondah 2040 Outcome Area	No.	Council Plan Priority Action	Progress Comment	Project Status	On Track	Target Completion	Directorate	Service Area
A safe, healthy and active community	1	Continue to monitor the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and provide responses aligned to community needs	Council has continued to engage with the different sectors of the community regarding the ongoing social and economic impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Relevant social and economic data is being collected and reported to ensure that service delivery is aligned with community needs. Mental health and business support initiatives continue to be implemented.	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	Community Safety
	2	Design and construct a dog park in Ringwood North	Council was successful in advocating for \$275,000 in Victorian Government funding through the Local Parks Program for a purpose-built dog park in Ringwood North. The fully enclosed Parkwood Dog Park is now open for community use and is the second dog-only park for the municipality, following the opening of Maroondah's first dog park at Eastfield Park in May 2017. The Parkwood Dog park is fully enclosed and features multiple entry gates and a range of elements to keep dogs of all sizes entertained, including a time-out zone for younger and quieter dogs.	Complete		2022-23	Assets and Leisure	Major Projects and Assets Management
	3	Design and construct sporting infrastructure upgrades at Jubilee (regional cricket hub), Proclamation, Springfield, Cheong and Ainslie Parks, and at Dorset Recreation, Silcock and JW Manson Reserves	Council is continuing to construct infrastructure upgrades including pavilions at Jubilee Park (stage 2 - regional cricket hub) and JW Manson Reserve. Pavilions at Dorset Recreation Reserve, Cheong Park, Ainslie Park, Proclamation Park, Springfield Park and Silcock Reserve have been completed.	In Progress		2022-23	Assets and Leisure	Major Projects and Assets Management
	4	Review, update and implement Council's Physical Activity Strategy, and develop and implement an Indoor Sports Facilities (basketball, netball and volleyball) Strategy	Community consultation has been undertaken for the Stadium Sports Strategy and it is anticipated that a draft will be developed for internal consultation by April 2023. Community consultation for the Physical Activity Strategy commenced with Café Consult at Maroondah Festival in November 2022.	In Progress		2024-25	Assets and Leisure	Leisure and Major Facilities
	5	Finalise and implement the Maroondah Liveability, Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031 (including the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2021-2023 and Positive Ageing Framework and Action Plan 2021-2025)	In 2022/23, Council has continued implementation of Year 2 actions associated with the Maroondah Liveability, Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy and Health and Wellbeing Action Plan. Actions are being undertaken across priority areas of healthy lifestyles, liveable neighbourhoods, safe communities, social inclusion, embracing diversity and minimising social harms. Highlights include continued delivery of mental health initiatives in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; developing the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP); implementing the Gender Equality Action Plan; celebrating and recognising indigenous culture, and the establishment of internal and external reconciliation networks; and facilitating sector-based networks and Council's Advisory committees.	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	City Futures

A safe, healthy and active community	6	<p>Work in partnership with a broad range of service providers and agencies, to develop and deliver services and cultural experiences in the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct</p>	<p>Council has continued to work in partnership with a broad range of service providers and agencies to progress the staged development of the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP).</p>	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Community Services
A prosperous and learning community	7	<p>Advance planning and implementation of 20-Minute Neighbourhood initiatives, including completion of a strategic review of shopping centres in Maroondah</p>	<p>Council has continued to advance planning of 20-Minute Neighbourhood initiatives and has been invited to participate in the 20-Minute Neighbourhoods Municipal Planning Project in 2022/23. This will provide access to grant funding and the opportunity to work with the Victorian Government to plan for 20-Minute Neighbourhoods in Maroondah. The shopping centres strategic review has resulted in a 20-Minute neighbourhoods investment strategy, which is currently being finalised. A draft Neighbourhood Activity Centre (NAC) Strategy has been prepared to advance planning of 20-Minute Neighbourhood initiatives. The Strategy will outline Council's approach to social and capital investment in Maroondah's activity centres. The NAC Strategy complements a five-year capital works program that was developed in January 2023. The capital works program will see a significant infrastructure investment to support local businesses in 31 centres across the City.</p>	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Business and Precincts
	8	<p>Work in partnership to implement the Bayswater Business Precinct Transformation Strategy and investigate and implement opportunities to enhance business capability, skill development, employment and education pathways for the manufacturing sector</p>	<p>Council is working in partnership with Knox and Yarra Ranges Councils to implement the Bayswater Business Precinct (BBP) Transformation Strategy adopted by Council in March 2022. The proposed governance structure has been agreed by the three partner councils and its implementation has begun. Economic activities continue to focus on building awareness of the precinct and understanding and strengthening local business connections. Work has progressed on the case for a Hub to provide a connecting space for business and support agencies, and on engaging all relevant internal teams regarding the Action Plan and priorities. Cross council teams have been formed to implement the Strategy focusing on transport, land use planning and the BBP economy.</p>	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Business and Precincts

A prosperous and learning community	9	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to plan for and support the rollout of funded three year old kindergarten in Maroondah	Council is working closely with the Department of Education and Training (DET) to support the rollout of funded three-year-old and four-year-old kindergarten in Maroondah. In 2022, three-year-old-children were able to access five hours a week in a funded kindergarten program, increasing to 15 hours per week by 2029. Through DET funding, Council has employed a Kindergarten Initiative Project Officer to work with services to understand their needs and ensure that infrastructure will meet community demand. The Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan (KISP) for the City of Maroondah was finalised in 2022. Following this, there was an announcement of 30 hours of funded kindergarten for all four-year-olds (up from the current 15 hours) and the implications of this policy announcement are now being worked through. Council was recently successful in obtaining funding of \$150,000 to support planning for the new Croydon Central Kindergarten and Occasional Care facilities, which are part of the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP). Council has also employed two short-term roles (Kindergarten Outreach Officer - CALD and Bilingual Children's Services Officer) to support CALD children's access to early childhood education and care.	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Community Services
A prosperous and learning community	10	Facilitate co-working opportunities and spaces in Maroondah	The BizHub Coworking Space provides flexible and professional space that inspires collaboration and business connection. The space is currently operating at 95% capacity for premium members, with 20 casual bookings a week. It continues to attract enquiries and tours, predominantly for casual use. The BizHub team continues to build the cowork community through engagement, social events and networking opportunities and promotions.	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Business and Precincts
A vibrant and culturally rich community	11	Design the Karralyka redevelopment, and undertake staged redevelopment works	During 2022/23, Council will undertake renewal of Karralyka theatre seating and make improvements to the loading dock. Council will also continue planning for the staged redevelopment of the venue subject to funding. The proposed redevelopment will include: a new multi-purpose foyer expansion, outdoor paved terraced area leading from the enhanced foyer space and some accessibility improvements.	In Progress		2023-24	Assets and Leisure	Major Projects and Assets Management

A vibrant and culturally rich community	12	<p>Implement the Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025 and work with the Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee to maximise arts and cultural opportunities across Maroondah</p>	<p>Implementation of the <i>Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025</i> continues. Key projects delivered include significant public art commissions for the Croydon multi-level carpark (Hide & Seek by Damian Vick), and Melview Reserve in Ringwood North (Da Ancient One by Alexander Knox). The Reignite Croydon - Laneway Lights public art project commenced, co-funded by the Victorian Government, to assist in revitalising the night-time economy in Croydon Main Street and Activity Centre. Planning for the integration of arts and cultural facilities within the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP) is ongoing. Ringwood Arts Precinct activations included Maroondah Mix, a new ongoing music series, launched initially in the Backyard. Arts incubators (Midnight and the Flickering Wilds) and exhibitions (Of Embers, Omission, The Mayoral, On the Wildside, Yours - the Maroondah City Council Art Collection) engaged with general public and targeted youth, refugee, disability and intersectional audiences, showcasing local arts community groups, our collections and spaces. A new programming partnership highlighted local artists and body positive themes, with the In/Visible exhibition and artist panel part of the official culture program of the 2023 PayPal Melbourne Fashion Festival. Several 2022/23 Arts and Culture grant-funded projects were realised during this quarter, including the Blossoms of Life public art, Jazz at the Lake concert, and Sound Tree performance with YourDNA. The Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee also met for the first time in March 2023, having been reinvigorated with five new members.</p>	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Business and Precincts
A clean, green and sustainable community	13	<p>Work in partnership to implement the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project</p>	<p>During 2022/23, Council is seeking to continue partnership with Melbourne Water to deliver the next stage of the Re-imagining Tarralla Creek project. Discussions are underway to identify opportunities to align works on the upcoming Kilsyth to Croydon South Water Mains Renewal Project with delivery of the Swinburne section (Stage 4) of the Re-imagining Tarralla Creek project.</p>	In Progress		2022-23	Strategy and Development	City Futures
A clean, green and sustainable community	14	<p>Review, update and implement Council's Sustainability Strategy, and Climate Change Risk and Adaptation Strategy</p>	<p>Council adopted the <i>Sustainability Strategy 2022-2031</i> in August 2022. The Strategy includes actions that will promote environmental, social and economic sustainability, addressing themes of the built environment, climate change, community connections, a green economy, green infrastructure, governance, evaluation and improvement. The Climate Change Risk and Adaptation Strategy will be replaced by a Climate Change Plan.</p>	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	City Futures
	15	<p>Review, update and implement Council's Carbon Neutral Strategy, including participation in the power purchasing agreement</p>	<p>In 2022/23, Council's Carbon Neutral Strategy will be combined with the Climate Change Risk and Adaptation Strategy to form a single Climate Change Plan. The Plan will provide a holistic approach to managing climate change mitigation, adaptation and risk across Council and the community.</p>	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	City Futures

A clean, green and sustainable community		16	Develop and implement Council's Waste, Litter and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-2030	In Progress		2024-25	CFO	Finance and Commercial
		17	Prepare and implement a Maroondah Habitat Connectivity Action Plan	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	City Futures
		18	Implement a streetscape enhancement program, including a significant increase in tree planting	In Progress		2024-25	Assets and Leisure	Operations
An accessible and connected community		19	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement road improvement works at New Street Ringwood, Reilly Street and Wantirna Road Ringwood, Eastfield Road Ringwood East, Plymouth Road and Kirtain Drive Croydon; and undertake carpark improvement works at McAlpin Reserve Ringwood North and Dorset Recreation Reserve Croydon	In Progress		2022-23	Strategy and Development	Engineering and Building
		20	Design and construct activity centre carparks in Croydon, Ringwood and Heathmont; and at Heatherdale station	In Progress		2023-24	Assets and Leisure	Major Projects and Assets Management

		Progress Comment	Project Status	On Track	Target Completion	Directorate	Service Area
An accessible and connected community	21	<p>Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to support the removal of level crossings at Bedford Road Ringwood, Dublin Road Ringwood East and Coolstore Road Croydon; and the construction of new stations at Ringwood East and Croydon</p>	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	Engineering and Building
	22	<p>Advocate to the Australian and Victorian Governments for provision of new and upgraded major transportation infrastructure in Maroondah, including public transport enhancements</p>	In Progress		2023-24	People and Places	Communications and Citizen Experience
	23	<p>Work in partnership to undertake renewal works on the Mullum Mullum Creek and Colchester Road shared trails; and continue footpath construction in the Principle Pedestrian Network</p>	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	Engineering and Building

An attractive, thriving and well built community	24	Develop a new Croydon Structure Plan and prepare a planning scheme amendment to incorporate the policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme	In 2022/23, Council has continued to develop the new Croydon Structure Plan, which will be available for community consultation in early 2023. After the Structure Plan has been adopted by Council, permission will be sought from the Minister for Planning to commence preparation of a planning scheme amendment.	In Progress		2022-23	Strategy and Development	City Futures
	25	Work in partnership to implement the Greening the Greyfields project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts	In 2022/23, Council will continue to work with stakeholders to implement the Greening the Greyfields project in two identified residential precincts. Following Victorian Government gazettal of Planning Scheme Amendments for the two precincts, participation will be sought from relevant landowners. It is anticipated that additional suitable precincts will be identified, and a similar approach applied to transform other neighbourhoods within the municipality.	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	City Futures
	26	Undertake the staged redevelopment of the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct	In 2022/23, Council will continue to design and construct the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP).	In Progress		2024-25	Assets and Leisure	Major Projects and Assets Management
	27	Undertake flood mitigation works in New Street, Ringwood, Sherbrook Avenue catchment in Ringwood, and Scenic Avenue and Wingate Avenue catchments in Ringwood East; and work in partnership to develop flood mitigation solutions for central Croydon	In 2022/23, Council will continue to implement flood mitigation works at identified sites. The Sherbrook Avenue catchment (Stage 3) drainage upgrade in Ringwood from Bourke Street to Charter Street, is scheduled to commence in by June 2023 and will be completed in late 2023. The Scenic Avenue drainage upgrade (stage 4) was completed in March 2023. Development and prioritisation of drainage upgrade solutions for central Croydon catchment is continuing with work programmed for future years. Flood mitigation works in New Street in Ringwood were completed in April 2022 and the final stage of the upgrade works in Wingate Avenue in Ringwood East were completed in March 2022.	In Progress		2024-25	Strategy and Development	Engineering and Building
An inclusive and diverse community	28	Work in partnership to support volunteer-based organisations and facilitate volunteerism within Maroondah	In 2022/23, Council will continue to work with Eastern Volunteers and volunteer-led community groups and organisations, to encourage volunteering and support local community groups to recover from impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.	In Progress		2022-23	Strategy and Development	City Futures
	29	Investigate and implement additional female changing facilities at local sporting venues	In 2022/23, Council has scheduled sporting pavilion works which will include women's, unisex and accessible amenities at JW Manson Reserve in Wantirna.	In Progress		2024-25	Assets and Leisure	Leisure and Major Facilities
	30	Implement the Children and Families Strategy and Action Plan; and the Youth Strategy and Action Plan	During 2022/23, Council is undertaking a consultation with children, young people, families and stakeholders, which will inform the development of new Action Plans (2023/24 to 2024/25) for the Children and Families Strategy and the Youth Strategy.	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Community Services
	31	Implement the Gender Equality Act 2020, including Council's Gender Equality Action Plan	The Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector, through its functions under the Gender Equality Act 2020, has published Council's workplace gender audit data highlights and Gender Equality Action Plan. In 2022/23, Council will continue to document the status of its first year's actions and prepare for its second workforce audit and analysis.	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	People and Culture

An inclusive and diverse community	Council Plan Priority Action	Progress Comment	Project Status	On Track	Target Completion	Directorate	Service Area
A well governed and empowered community	32 Continue to monitor and respond to Australian Government Aged Care Reforms to ensure that Council services adapt appropriately to meet current and future community needs	Council will continue to monitor the My Aged Care reform agenda. The Australian Government has announced that reforms will not occur prior to July 2024 in line with the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care.	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Community Services
	33 Implement the new Local Government Act 2020	During 2022/23, Council has implemented the new Rating Reform Bill, which was made publicly available in June 2022. All other elements of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> have been implemented. Councils are currently awaiting guidance material to be issued by Local Government Victoria (LGV) regarding the review of statutory policies in the lead-up to the 2024 Council Election.	In Progress		2022-23	CFO	Governance and Performance
	34 Advocate on key local issues on behalf of the Maroondah community, including in the lead up to the Victorian and Australian Government elections in 2022	During 2022/23, Council will continue its advocacy to both the Australian and Victorian governments to seek funding to address a range of key priority infrastructure, and sporting and transportation improvement projects that will benefit the Maroondah community. Council received funding commitments from both the Liberal Party and the Labor Party totalling \$12.5 million in the lead up to the Federal election in May 2022 and is working with the new government to secure funding agreements. Council continues its advocacy campaign in the lead up to the Victorian Government election in November 2022 and to date has received commitments totalling over \$32.5 million.	In Progress		2022-23	People and Places	Communications and Citizen Experience
	35 Develop and implement a new Customer Service Strategy that will continue to advance Council's commitment to be highly responsive and customer focused	Council has developed a new Customer Service Strategy in line with evolving customer expectations. This Strategy includes the development of online engagement channels and focuses on strengthening internal service partnerships. These partnerships are reviewed on a regular basis with action plans developed to ensure continued and integrated service provision to the Maroondah community.	In Progress		2024-25	People and Places	Communications and Citizen Experience
36 Deliver a broad range of Council services to meet current and future community needs along with sustainable management of Maroondah's resources, assets and environment	In 2022/23, Council continues to ensure service delivery considers community needs and aspirations, national and regional trends, financial sustainability and the challenges arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.	In Progress		2024-25	CFO	Governance and Performance	