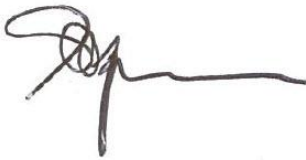


Councillor
(as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, on Monday 22 July 2024, commencing at 7:30pm and your presence is requested.

Yours faithfully



Steve Kozlowski
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Note:

***This meeting is being streamed live on the internet and recorded.
Every care is taken to maintain privacy and attendees are advised they may be recorded.***

This meeting of Council can be viewed on Council's website via:

<https://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Live-Council-Meetings>

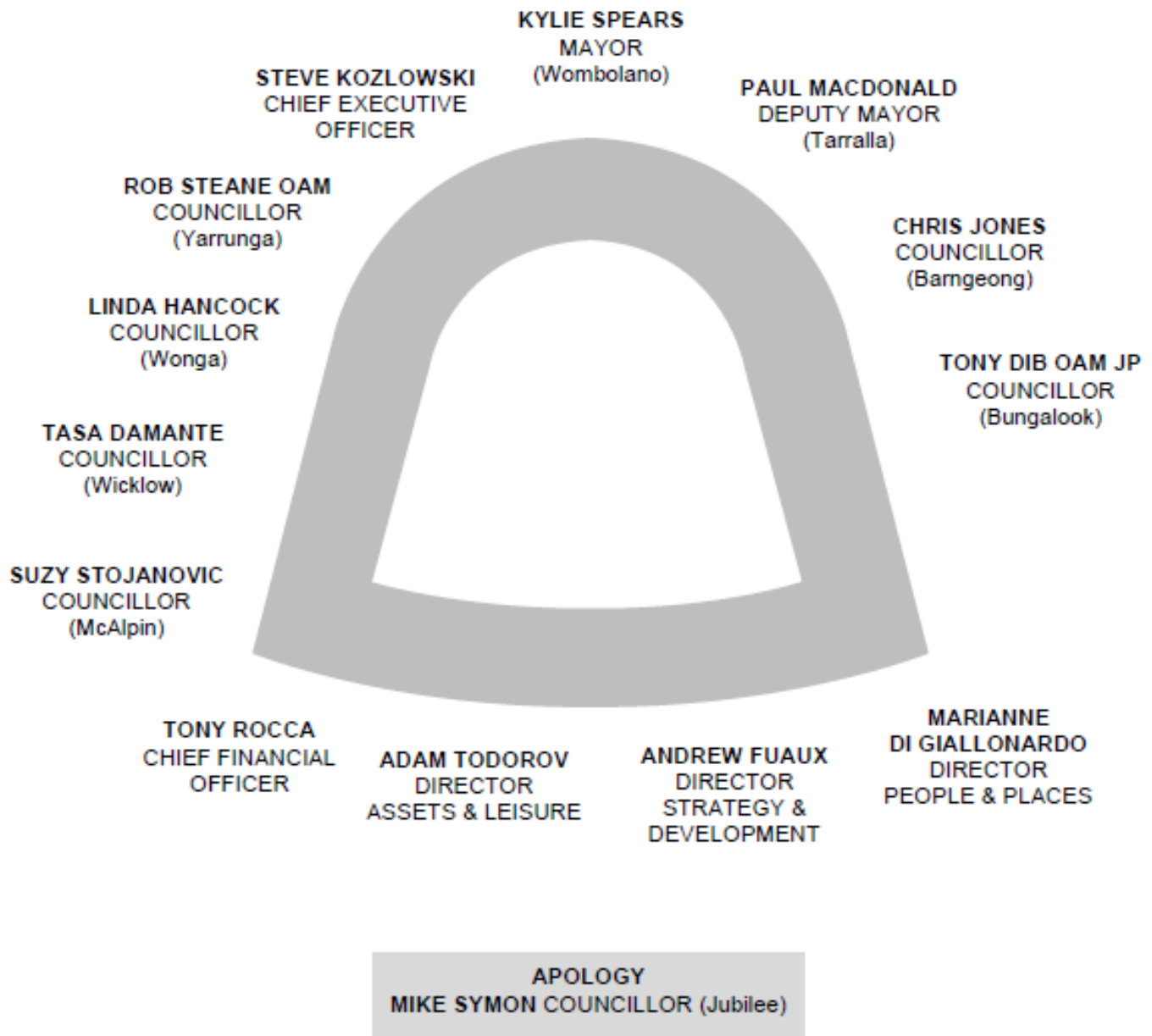


COUNCIL CHAMBER
IS FITTED WITH A HEARING AID
INDUCTION LOOP

**SWITCH HEARING AID TO 'T' FOR
RECEPTION**

Realm	179 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood, 3134
Postal	PO Box 156, Ringwood 3134 DX 38068, Ringwood
Telephone	1300 88 22 33 Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 131 450 National Relay Service (NRS): 133 677
Facsimile	(03) 9298 4345
Email	maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au
Web	www.maroondah.vic.gov.au
Service Centres	Croydon: Civic Square, Croydon 3136 Realm: 179 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood 3134

Council Chamber Seating



Public Gallery



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Prayer and Councillor Pledge
2. Acknowledgment of Country
3. Apologies
4. Declaration of Interests
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 24 June 2024.
6. Public Questions
7. Officers' Reports
 - Chief Financial Officer
 1. Attendance Report 4
 2. Reports of Councillor Briefings 6
 3. Councillor Representation Reports 8
 4. Land Exchange - Part Palmerston Road West Ringwood 10
 5. Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey Results 2024 14
 - Director Assets & Leisure
 1. Physical Activity Strategy 2024 - 2029 18
 2. Draft Community Facilities Lease - Ringwood Ballet Group Inc. 21
 3. Capital Funding for Community Groups 2024/25 23
 4. Public Toilet Policy 2024-2029 27
 - Director Strategy & Development
 1. Petition - Parking Issues at Lehmann Place, Croydon Hills - Findings and Investigation Outcomes 32
8. Documents for Sealing
9. Motions to Review
10. Late Items
11. Requests for Leave of Absence
12. In Camera
 - Director Assets & Leisure
 1. Tender Evaluation Report - Contract 21072 Ringwood North Reserve Sportsfield Reconstruction
 2. Tender Evaluation Report - Contract 21069 Tree Data Capture Services

ATTENDANCE REPORT

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To provide an opportunity for Councillors to report on Council activities undertaken since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council and forthcoming ward activities.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable.

BACKGROUND

Not Applicable

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

It is intended that the Mayor and Councillors be given the opportunity to present a verbal or written report updating Council on the activities they have undertaken since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 June 2024 in their role as Councillors and forthcoming ward activities.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

It is appropriate that Councillors formally report to Council upon the activities they have undertaken in their role as Councillors.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORTS AS PRESENTED BY COUNCILLORS

PURPOSE

To present the ‘Public Record’ of those Councillor Briefings which are attended by Councillors and generally held on Monday evenings at Realm, usually two weeks prior to the formal Council Meeting, and to note the issues discussed.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

8.1 Provide community inspired governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable.

BACKGROUND

As part of decision-making processes at Maroondah, it is essential that Councillors are briefed on a range of issues which come before Council for consideration. As a means of providing this information, Councillor Briefings are conducted.

Councillor Briefings are also attended by Council Officers, and sometimes other specific advisors, to provide Councillors with a detailed knowledge and understanding of issues under consideration to a level of detail that would inhibit timely decision-making, that would not be possible in an open Council meeting, where decision-making related debate is governed by strict meeting procedures.

A Councillor Briefing is a non-decision-making forum, and as per past good governance practice, is deemed to be a scheduled or planned meeting comprising a majority of Councillors (at least 5) and one (1) Council employee, for the purpose of discussing matters that are intended or likely to be:

- the subject of a decision of the Council; or
- subject to the exercise of a delegated function, duty or power of Council.

Examples of a Councillor Briefings may include:

- On-site inspections,
- Consultative Meetings with residents, developers, consultants
- Meetings with local organisations, Government Departments, statutory authorities, and local politicians.

REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS Cont'd

ITEM 2

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Councillor Briefings are generally held twice a month, on Monday evenings at Realm, usually two (2) weeks prior to, and on the night of a formal Council meeting.

The intent of this report is to present a 'Public Record' of those Councillor Briefings which are generally attended by all Councillors and typically held on Monday evenings, and to note the items discussed.

The 'Public Record' of the Councillor Briefings held on the 24 June 2024 and 8 July 2024 are attached for information.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION


Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Councillor Briefings are important forums for advice and discussion, on what are often complex issues facing the municipality, in the lead up to formal decisions being made by Councillors at Council Meetings. At Councillor Briefings, or outside them, Councillors also have the opportunity of requesting additional information to assist in the decision-making process.

It is appropriate that the 'Public Record' of those Councillor Briefings, which are attended by a majority of Councillors, i.e., at least five (5) Councillors and one (1) employee of Council, be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  2024 June 24 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
2.  2024 July 08 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 24 JUNE 2024 AND 8 JULY 2024

PURPOSE

To receive and note meeting minutes from the following organisations, boards and/or advisory committees where Council is represented:

- Eastern Transport Coalition held on 16 May 2024
- Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee held on 5 June 2024

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable.

BACKGROUND

As part of Council's commitment to the principles and practice of good governance, it is appropriate that Councillors and the Community are formally updated on the actions and activities of the various organisations, boards and advisory committees where Council is represented.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council is represented on numerous internal and external bodies.

Internal advisory committees have been initiated by Council and are serviced administratively. They typically consider in-depth issues that are related to Council policy or activities.

External bodies operate under their own charter and determine their own procedures, policies and practices. In these instances, Council involvement is to participate and influence the activities of those external organisations, boards and committees where those activities are in the interests of Maroondah residents.

Representation on these internal and external bodies is reviewed on an annual basis at the commencement of the new Mayoral term.

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

Council representatives for the bodies providing reports for this item are noted below:

Cr Dib as Council's Representative with Cr Damante as Substitute Representative on the Eastern Transport Coalition.

Crs Macdonald, Stojanovic and Symon are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

It is appropriate that Councillors and the community are formally updated on the actions and activities of the various organisations, boards and advisory committees where Council is represented. Recent meeting minutes from a number of these bodies are tabled for noting.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  2024 May 16 - Eastern Transport Coalition meeting papers
2.  2024 June 05 - Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES

1. **EASTERN TRANSPORT COALITION HELD ON 16 MAY 2024**
2. **MAROONDAH ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 5 JUNE 2024**

**LAND EXCHANGE - PART PALMERSTON ROAD WEST
RINGWOOD**

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To consider the commencement of the relevant statutory procedures for a strategic land exchange to facilitate the establishment and construction of a court bowl at the end of Palmerston Road West, Ringwood.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community.

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovative community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive, and accountable.
- 8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah resources, assets, Infrastructure, and natural environment.

BACKGROUND

The end of Palmerston Road West, Ringwood has for some time required development to ensure the safe turning of large vehicles. The absence of this facility has led to potential safety risks and inconvenience to both road users and private landowners within the industrial precinct.

A proposal has been developed that would allow for the construction of a court bowl and extension to the existing road at the end of Palmerston Road West. The court bowl would include ancillary infrastructure such as stormwater pipe drainage with easements and vehicle crossings into abutting properties.

The proposal involves an exchange of land between Council and an adjoining property owner, of which:

- The Adjoining Property Owner (**Owner**) would:
 - Transfer to Council, land known as part of 24 Palmerston Road, Ringwood at 581 square metres, shown in Schedule 1 Locality Plan coloured in blue, being part of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 10474 Folio 741 (**Owner's Land**) for nominal consideration, which would vest in Council as a road; and
 - At its own costs, construct the transferred land as a court bowl to Council's satisfaction (estimated cost of \$600,000).

**LAND EXCHANGE - PART PALMERSTON ROAD WEST
RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

- Council would transfer land shown in green in Schedule 1 Locality Plan. Being land at 939 square metres as shown in Schedule 2 - Title Plan and contained in Certificate of Title Volume 12499 Folio 129 & 130, known as the former road adjoining 24 Palmerston Road West, Ringwood (**Council Land**) for nominal consideration to the Owner.
 - The Council land being exchanged was a former section of road that was discontinued on the 17 April 2023, as it was no longer required for public use.

The court bowl would be under the control and management of Council and available for use by the public.

Discussions have occurred with the Owner, and they have agreed to pay all Council's costs incurred in respect of the proposed Land Exchange and construction of the court bowl.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

For the land exchange to proceed, Council will publish a notice of intention to sell the Council Land, referred to as the exchange proposal on its website, at least 4 weeks prior to transferring the land pursuant to section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020 (Act)*.

Council will:

- Undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy in respect of the proposal sale of the Council Land under section 114 of the Act; and
- Undertake the purchase of the Owner's Land in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy pursuant to section 112 of the Act.

If Council resolves to commence its statutory process for the proposed land exchange, Council will place a public notice of the proposed sale of Council Land and proposed purchase of the Owner's Land on Council's website, which will contain details of the proposal and provide for public submissions.

In accordance with Council's Community Engagement Process, the public notice will also be:

- Made available for viewing at the Realm and Croydon Service Centres.
- Made available to any persons requesting a copy, to be emailed or mailed to them via Council's Customer Service team; and
- Provided as a courtesy to abutting property owners.

At the conclusion of the 4-week notice period, Council will consider any submissions received.

In accordance with section 114(2)(c) of the Act, the current market valuation of the Council Land is \$265,000 plus GST and the Owner's Land is \$95,000 plus GST.

**LAND EXCHANGE - PART PALMERSTON ROAD WEST
RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

To facilitate the exchange, the value of the exchange of land holdings, along with the development and construction of the court bowl at the Owner's cost is financially sound and the most practical way of achieving the strategic outcome of mitigating the risks of the road whilst having a permanent road improvement that can be utilised by the broader community and private property owners.

Council will require the Owner (as a condition of sale of Council's Land) to enter into an agreement pursuant to section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)* which provides that (amongst other things) the Owner must (at its own cost):

- Consolidate the titles of the Adjoining Land and Council Land within 12 months after the registration of the transfer of land.
- Construct a court bowl on the Council Land in accordance with Council's standards to Council's satisfaction, prior to commencing use of the proposed development of the Adjoining land; and
- Grant in favour of Council (in its capacity as drainage authority) over the Adjoining Land, any drainage easements which are required by Council in connection with the proper drainage of the Adjoining Land and Owner's Land, such easements to be granted on terms reasonably required by Council.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The Owner has agreed to pay all of Council's costs associated with the proposed Land Exchange.

The costs associated with Council's administration in dealing with property matters is contained within the current budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

No material environmental impacts are considered to arise from the adoption of the proposed recommendation.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council will undertake the necessary statutory procedures in accordance with section 112 and 114 of the Act for the proposed Land Exchange by publishing a public notice on Council's website and undertaking a community engagement process in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Any submissions received in response to the public notice will be considered by Council.



**LAND EXCHANGE - PART PALMERSTON ROAD WEST
RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

CONCLUSION

Having regard to the contents of this report, it is considered reasonable for Council to commence its statutory procedures to consider whether to proceed with the proposed Land Exchange in accordance with section 112 and 114 of the Act.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Land Exchange - Part Palmerston Road West - Schedule 1 - Locality Plan
2.  Land Exchange - Part Palmerston Road West - Schedule 2 - Title Plan TP 965746

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. **UNDER SECTION 112 AND 114 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 (ACT) GIVE NOTICE OF INTENTION OF A LAND EXCHANGE AS FOLLOWS:**
 - i. **TRANSFER OF THE LAND SHOWN COLOURED GREEN ON THE PLAN CONTAINED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO THIS REPORT, BEING THE LAND CONTAINED IN CERTIFICATE OF TITLE VOLUME 12499 FOLIO 129 AND VOLUME 12499 FOLIO 130, PARISH OF RINGWOOD, KNOWN AS THE FORMER ROAD ADJOINING 24 PALMERSTON ROAD WEST, RINGWOOD (COUNCIL LAND) TO THE ADJOINING OWNER; AND**
 - ii. **THE PURCHASE OF THE LAND SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON THE PLAN CONTAINED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO THIS REPORT, BEING PART OF THE LAND CONTAINED IN CERTIFICATE OF TITLE VOLUME 10474 FOLIO 741, KNOWN AS PART OF 24 PALMERSTON ROAD WEST, RINGWOOD (OWNER'S LAND)**
2. **DIRECTS THAT, UNDER SECTION 114 (2) (A) (I) OF THE ACT, PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE BE GIVEN ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AND OTHERWISE IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY**
3. **AUTHORISES COUNCIL'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OR ANY OFFICER WITH DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO UNDERTAKE THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO ENABLE COUNCIL TO CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY IN RELATION TO THIS MATTER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 112(3) AND 114 (2)(B) OF THE ACT**
4. **CONSIDER ANY PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THE PROPOSED SALE OF THE COUNCIL LAND AND PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF THE OWNER'S LAND, AND RECEIVE A FURTHER REPORT FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE STATUTORY PROCEDURES UNDER SECTION 112 AND 114 OF THE ACT PRIOR TO MAKING A DECISION ON WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH THE PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2024**

ITEM 5

PURPOSE

To note the Maroondah City Council results of the annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey 2024, conducted by an independent market research organisation on behalf of the Victorian Government.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following direction contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Maroondah Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provides the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of the Community Satisfaction survey.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovative community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable.
- 8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah’s resources, assets, infrastructure and natural environment.
- 8.3 Nurture a continuous improvement council culture of being collaborative, strategic, sustainable and employing best practice, that positions Maroondah as a leader in local government.

Priority Action 2024-2025:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

Each year, Local Government Victoria (LGV) coordinate and auspice a state-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey. The main objectives of the survey are to assess the performance of Councils’, across a range of measures as well as to identify opportunities for improved, and more effective service delivery. The survey also provides local government authorities with a means to fulfil some of their statutory reporting requirements as required by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

In 2024, 62 of 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in the survey, undertaking a minimum of 400 interviews within each participating municipality. The survey was conducted by JWS on a quarterly basis from June 2023 to March 2024.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2024 Cont'd**

ITEM 5

Councils across Victoria are placed into similar Council groupings by the Victorian Government. Maroondah is categorised in the 'Metro Councils' group which includes all Councils in Greater Melbourne except for interface / urban fringe Councils. The participating Councils within the Metro Council group for this 2024 survey were: Banyule, Boroondara, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Manningham, Maroondah, Melbourne, Moonee Valley, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Whitehorse. Councils within the Metro Councils group that did not participate in the 2024 survey comprised: Bayside, Brimbank, Darebin, Frankston, Knox, Maribyrnong, Merri-bek, Monash and Yarra.

An indexed mean is used and adjusted to a baseline to allow comparisons with other Councils. Furthermore, the survey questions are standardised across the state which means that their wording may not always reflect the localised focus of service delivery.

It is important to note, that the survey only provides limited contextual information which could result in respondent feedback relating to services, activities or issues that are beyond Council's direct scope of influence.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council's overall performance continues to be rated in line with the average rating for councils in the Metropolitan group and is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide average for councils.

Perceptions of Council performance on most services evaluated are relatively consistent with 2023 results. Many of Council's service performance scores are rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the metropolitan and statewide average for councils.

Results for both core measures and service measures are outlined in the two tables below.

Highlights for Maroondah include:

- The rating for 'Councils overall performance' (66) is 12 points higher than the state-wide average (54).
- The rating for 'Value for money' (59) is 11 points higher than the state-wide average (48).
- The rating for 'Informing the community' (67) is 11 points higher than the state-wide average (56)
- The rating for 'Making decisions in the interest of the community' (60) is 10 points higher than the state-wide average (50).

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2024 Cont'd**

ITEM 5

Core measures

Performance Measures	Maroondah 2024 result	Metro Melbourne 2024 average	State-wide 2024 average
Overall performance	66	63	54
Value for money	59	57	48
Community consultation	59	56	51
Advocacy	58	54	50
Customer service	74	71	67
Overall Council direction	53	49	45
Making decisions in the interest of the community	60	57	50

Service measures

Performance Measures	Maroondah 2024 result	Metro Melbourne 2024 average	State-wide 2024 average
Informing the community	67	62	56
Condition of sealed roads	56	61	45
Condition of local streets and footpaths	56	59	52
Traffic management	59	55	53
Enforcement of local laws	65	62	61
Family support services	66	66	63
Elderly support services	65	64	63
Disadvantaged support services	62	62	58
Recreational facilities	76	74	68
Appearance of public areas	69	70	68
Arts centres and libraries	78	76	73
Community and cultural activities	71	69	66
Waste management	73	70	67
Business and community development and tourism	60	57	57
Council's general town planning policy	58	53	50
Environmental sustainability	67	65	60
Emergency and disaster management	67	66	65
COVID-19 Response	65	65	65

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2024 Cont'd**

ITEM 5

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is one of many engagement methods used by Council to track its performance, as well as collecting community feedback relating to its service delivery.

The Victorian Government has now commenced administration of next year's Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, to understand continued community perceptions of sector performance across the range of core service measures. Results are anticipated to be made available to Council in June 2025.

CONCLUSION

Council's overall performance continues to rate well in comparison with average ratings for councils in metropolitan Melbourne.

Many of Council's service performance scores are rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the metropolitan and state-wide averages.

Council will continue to use the results from this Survey to inform service delivery planning and implementation.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE RESULTS FROM THE 2024 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the Maroondah Physical Activity Strategy 2024 – 2029.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe healthy and active community

Our Vision: in 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy, and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025

- 1.13 Promote physical activity by supporting education initiatives and providing a diverse range of accessible active and passive open spaces, state of the art sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities.
- 1.14 Work in partnership to increase opportunities and create welcoming, supportive and accessible environments for all community members to undertake physical activity.

Priority Action 2023-2024:

Review, update and implement Council’s Physical Activity Strategy.

BACKGROUND

The 2015 -2020 Physical Activity Strategy has been of great benefit for Council, both in terms of providing guidance and rationale for investment in sports and recreation infrastructure and for creating greater opportunities for physical activity through both Council and community service provision. The strategy has been an integral component to the success of many State and Federal grant submissions providing evidence to support our request for investment in sport & recreation. The need to provide current, municipal specific data, and informed strategic planning will continue to be an essential requirement when applying for, and evaluating, external funding.

Since the commencement of the previous strategy in 2015, all three levels of government have placed greater importance on supporting increased physical activity levels for social, physical, and mental benefit. There has been a significant increase in policy and financial investment to support new initiatives which has been prompted by the greater awareness of the impacts of physical activity on health & wellbeing and the relationship between women and girls’ inclusion in traditionally male dominated sport as a primary intervention in the prevention of violence against women.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY 2024 - 2029 Cont'd

ITEM 1

There has been a substantial delay in updating the previous strategy which ended in 2020, due to the implications of the COVID 19 pandemic and the lockdown's impact on physical activity. The intention was to allow time for the community to return to sport and recreation activities to gain a clearer picture of any lasting impacts of the lockdowns on physical activity levels.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Increasing the physical activity levels of all residents in Maroondah is a complex issue requiring the collaboration of many areas of Council and external community providers. Reducing barriers, improving infrastructure, supporting more inclusive environments and opportunities requires a clear strategic approach and measurable actions to influence change and measure impact.

There are different factors that affect the physical activity levels of specific populations, and intersectionality compounds the challenges to participation. The Strategy highlights the challenges and opportunities being experienced by the general community and identifies seven (7) low participatory cohorts to target actions which will have a positive impact on participation. To address the highlighted challenges and make ***moving more often*** an easier option, the strategy focuses on four (4) key outcome areas for Council action, as per the below.

- 1. Increasing Active Travel,**
- 2. Spaces and Places that encourage Physical Activity,**
- 3. Supporting Diversity in Sport,**
- 4. Connecting with our Least Active Residents.**

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Increasing the physical activity levels of Maroondah residents will result in economic benefit. A more physically active community reduces health care costs, workplace injury and absenteeism and supports local business, boosting productivity and job growth.

Research supports that the walkability and cyclability of an area translates into substantial increase in the value of retail, office, and residential property. Homes and workplaces situated in more walkable neighbourhoods have more pleasant amenity, better accessibility, provide greater transport opportunities and are more desirable places to live, work, study and recreate.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

There are different factors that affect the physical activity levels of specific populations and therefore different strategies required to overcome. The Strategy highlights the challenges and opportunities for the general community and then focuses on seven (7) different specific populations to target specific actions which will have a positive impact on participation.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

To prepare for the development of the Strategy, a range of consultation methods were utilised to establish current participation levels, reasons for non-participation and, community needs. Engagement was undertaken with the Maroondah Youth Wellbeing Advisory Group, Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee, Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee, and the Maroondah Liveability, Safety and Amenity Advisory Committee. A Your Say Community Survey was implemented in July 2023 and face to face surveys were undertaken at community events over an 18-month period. In addition, recent community feedback obtained for the Maroondah Liveability Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy, Children’s and Families Strategy, Youth Strategy and the Play and Gathering Places Strategy was utilised to seek relevant information and data.

The draft Strategy was placed on public exhibition via Council’s Your Say page from Friday 17 May until Friday 14 June seeking community feedback. Council received seventeen (17) responses via the Your Say portal which overwhelmingly validated the proposed strategic approach. Specific issues and suggestions were passed on to the relevant service areas for action and / or consideration but did not give rise to amendment of the draft Strategy.

CONCLUSION

The Maroondah City Council Physical Activity Strategy 2024 – 2029 has been developed through detailed consultation and research to create a Strategy that prioritises the development and/or improvement of environments to support increased participation in physical activity. The Strategy highlights the challenges and opportunities for the general community and then focuses on specific populations to target actions which will have a positive impact on participation.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  DRAFT Physical Activity Strategy - May 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSES THE 2024 - 2029 MAROONDAH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY

**DRAFT COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE - RINGWOOD
BALLET GROUP INC.**

ITEM 2

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval of a Lease agreement between Maroondah City Council and Ringwood Ballet Group Inc. (Lessee) and to authorise the signing and sealing of the relevant documentation.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe healthy and active community

Our Vision: in 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025

- 1.13 Promote physical activity by supporting education initiatives and providing a diverse range of accessible active and passive open spaces, state of the art sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities.

BACKGROUND

The Ringwood Ballet Group has occupied the Ballet Studio in Bedford Park, Ringwood since 1975. Ringwood Ballet has a current enrolment of 4 Junior boys, 164 Junior girls and 4 senior women. The current lease term expired on July 1 2024 and is now in over holding, and the club has requested a new lease agreement for the continued use and occupation of the facility.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council seeks to enter into a Community Facilities Lease Agreement with the Ringwood Ballet Group Inc.

By Lease agreements made between Council and the Lessee, the Lessee will be granted use and occupation of the premises for a term of five (5) years with the option for a further five (5) year term at annual rentals calculated in accordance with the principles of the Community Facilities Pricing Policy and determined under the category of Other Community Groups Occupying Council-Owned Facilities.

Officers recommend that Council approves the Lease agreement upon the terms and conditions as set out in the Lease, the principal terms of which are:

- Term – Five (5) years with the option for a further five (5) year term.
- Maintenance – in accordance with the Community Facilities Standard Maintenance Schedule.
- Public Liability insurance of \$20M

**DRAFT COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE - RINGWOOD
BALLET GROUP INC. Cont'd**

ITEM 2

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's Community Facilities Pricing Policy provides an overarching framework to guide Council and ensures a consistent and transparent approach to the pricing of facilities.

Under the category of Other Community Groups Occupying Council-Owned Facilities, the annual fee is calculated to align with a category B pavilion charge.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The implementation of the Lease Agreement ensures the clear and equitable delineation of maintenance responsibilities for all tenants occupying Council owned and/or managed community facilities, consistent with the Community Facilities Pricing Policy, and supports a sustainable approach to the provision of community facilities.


COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The development of the Lease agreement for the Ringwood Ballet Studio was developed with representatives of the Ringwood Ballet Group and Council Officers.

CONCLUSION

The Lease agreement provides a mutually beneficial arrangement between Council and Ringwood Ballet Group Inc. for the continued use and management of the Ringwood Ballet Studio.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Draft Lease Particulars - Ringwood Ballet - June 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL GRANTS A LEASE TO RINGWOOD BALLET GROUP INC. FOR AN INITIAL FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD WITH THE OPTION FOR A FURTHER FIVE (5) YEAR TERM IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S STANDARD LEASE

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval for the proposed projects as part of the *Capital Funding for Community Groups Funding Program* for the 2024/25 financial year.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe healthy and active community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025

- 1.13 Promote physical activity by supporting education initiatives and providing a diverse range of accessible active and passive open spaces, state of the art sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities.
- 1.14 Work in partnership to increase opportunities and create welcoming, supportive and accessible environments for all community members to undertake physical activity.

BACKGROUND

There are two (2) categories available for organisations to apply for Capital Funding:

- **Category 1** – projects up to \$7,700 Inc GST, which are fully funded by Council; and
- **Category 2** – projects over 7,700 Inc GST, where a Council contribution of 50% of the total project cost (with a max of \$75,000 Council contribution) applies.

The Capital Funding for Community Groups 2024/2025 Program was advertised on Council’s website. Application guidelines were sent to all kindergartens, senior citizens groups, youth groups and sporting clubs/organisations, within the municipality, that utilise Council facilities.

The application process involved two stages: Stage 1 required applicants to submit an initial project proposal for Council consideration. Council officers reviewed the submissions and recommended eligible projects to Stage 2, which required a detailed project submission and full written application. Organisations were requested to submit applications for Capital Funding for Community Groups 2024/2025 by Wednesday 1st May 2024.

The Capital Funding for Community Groups 2024/2025 review process was undertaken by Council Officers, and Councillors were briefed on the status of the review process at the Councillor Briefing on Monday 8th July.

All applications received were considered and recommendations were made based on a clearly defined set of selection criteria, which included:

Community Benefit

- Demonstrate a direct benefit to the residents of the City of Maroonah;
- Evidence that supports an anticipated increase in participation rates;
- The extent to which the project maximises the use of the facility;
- That the proposed project is sympathetic to the surrounds of the reserve or building; and
- The extent to which projects address the issues of safety and risk management

Evidence of Need

- Evidence that demonstrates community support and need for the project;
- Evidence to demonstrate improvement to Council's community assets; and
- The extent to which the project is supported by an adopted concept plan, feasibility assessment and/or linked to any planning process of Council

Financial Assessment

- The financial capacity of the organisation to service a deferred payment plan and initial cash contribution; and
- The ability of the project to be completed within the following financial year

Category 1 (i.e. less than \$7,700 Inc GST) projects are fully funded by Council with no organisational contribution. The Category 2 (i.e. over \$7,700 Inc GST) project costs are split evenly between Council and the organisation (with a maximum Council contribution of \$75,000). The organisational contribution is also split between an upfront contribution of at least 50% and an optional 5-year deferred payment to be repaid to Council by the relevant organisation.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Fifteen (15) community groups requested a total of \$369,558 (inclusive of GST) in funding assistance, from which twelve (12) projects are recommended to receive funding.

The submissions recommended for funding are detailed in Attachment 1.

In relation to the three (3) projects not recommended for funding in the 2024/2025 program, Council officers will provide feedback on the applications and work with these organisations in preparation for future funding submissions.

**CAPITAL FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS 2024/25
Cont'd**

ITEM 3

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

A total of \$209,000 (inclusive of GST) is available for allocation in the Capital Funding for Community Groups 2024/2025 Program budget. Twelve (12) projects are recommended for funding, at a cost of \$290,388 (inclusive of GST). The balance of funds of \$67,803 is proposed to be allocated from the 2024/2025 Sports Surfaces Capital Works Program for the shortfall for the Croydon tennis project, and \$13,585 from the 2024/2025 Solar Capital Budget for the solar projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Financial assistance provided by the Capital Funding for Community Groups Program fosters positive links between Council and community organisations through the improvement and effective management of Council's community assets.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Considerable effort has been made to ensure that all relevant groups/organisations were aware of this funding program through Council's website and via direct email updates to local clubs and organisations. Significant discussions have also occurred between Council Officers and the various community groups prior to the application process commencing, to ensure that the various community groups had adequate information to support their respective applications.

CONCLUSION

The Capital Funding for Community Groups Program encourages commitment from organisations for the continued improvement to Council's community facilities and their future development.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Capital Funding for Community Groups 2024-2025 - Projects

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDED ALLOCATIONS FOR PROJECTS THROUGH THE CAPITAL FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS 2024/2025 PROGRAM TOTALLING \$290,388 (INCLUSIVE OF GST) AS OUTLINED IN ATTACHMENT 1 TO THIS REPORT**
- 2. APPROVES THESE ALLOCATIONS BASED ON ONE-YEAR FUNDING AND SERVICE AGREEMENTS**
- 3. ADVISES ALL ORGANISATIONS OF THE OUTCOME OF THEIR APPLICATION**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the Public Toilet Policy 2024-2029.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe, healthy and active community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 1.2 Plan and advocate for the application of community safety principles that facilitate a safe built environment.
- 1.14 Work in partnership to increase opportunities and create welcoming, supportive and accessible environments for all community members to undertake physical activity.

Outcome Area: A prosperous and learning community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a thriving regional centre of economic activity and education, where the sustainable growth of local businesses is supported, and diverse lifelong learning opportunities are accessible for all community members.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 2.6 Embrace a place-based approach to the revitalisation, activation and promotion of neighbourhood activity centres that enhance opportunities for local business, access to services and places for social interaction.

Outcome Area: An accessible and connected community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be accessible for all ages and abilities with walkable neighbourhoods, sustainable transport options, and a safe integrated transport network.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 5.1 Ensure community infrastructure, services and events are accessible for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.
- 5.2 Apply universal design principles to create a built environment that strengthens the inclusiveness and accessibility of our local neighbourhoods, activity centres, facilities and services.

PUBLIC TOILET POLICY 2024-2029 Cont'd

ITEM 4

Outcome Area: An attractive, thriving and well-built community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an attractive, sustainable and well built community with thriving activity centres and a network of neighbourhoods where everyone has the opportunity to live, work and play locally.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 6.7 Coordinate and advocate for the increased utilisation, longevity and availability of fit for purpose community facilities and spaces that meet local needs and act as key places for neighbourhood connection.

Outcome Area: An inclusive and diverse community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an inclusive and equitable community where all people are valued, supported and socially connected, and diversity is embraced and celebrated.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 7.1 Support people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to be connected, valued and empowered within their local community through accessible and inclusive services, programming and facilities.

Outcome Area: A well governed community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah's resources, assets, infrastructure and natural environment.

BACKGROUND

Maroondah City Council (Council) provides and maintains public toilet facilities in open space reserves and retail precincts to support a variety of activities.

The public toilet facilities provided by Council are generally well distributed, however there is a need for greater consistency, clearer service levels and a planned approach to the provision of these facilities to ensure these assets continue to meet the future needs of the community.

The development of the Maroondah public toilet policy was identified as being required to clearly articulate Council's role in the provision of these assets, along with the development of guiding principles and key considerations.

The development of the policy involved several key stages, as follows:

- Building an evidence base and development of background report
- Community consultation to understand the importance of previously identified key themes to the community
- Consideration of issues and options

PUBLIC TOILET POLICY 2024-2029 Cont'd

ITEM 4

- Policy Development
- Community consultation on the draft policy

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Public toilet facilities are important community assets. By providing and maintaining public toilets in recreational precincts, some retail centres and civic facilities, Council is helping to support participation in a wide range of activities outside of the home that contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of the community.

While local government plays a lead role, Councils are not the only providers and are not compelled by legislation or otherwise obliged to provide toilet facilities for general public use. As MaroonDAH's population grows, demand for public toilets in public open spaces and community zones is expected to increase. Thus, Council identified the need to adopt a consistent and principled approach for decisions relating to the provision and operation of public toilet facilities. The public toilet policy has been developed in response to this need.

The policy reflects relevant legislation and government policy, Council strategies and plans, as well as community and stakeholder input to establish key priorities for public toilet facilities. Importantly, the policy establishes guiding principles that will help to ensure Council's investment in, and management of public toilet facilities is well aligned to Council's strategic priorities, responsive to current and future community needs and reflective of best practice approaches.

The policy includes five (5) guiding principles to guide Council decision making in the provision of public toilets over time. These are detailed below.

1. Public toilets are ancillary infrastructure provided to support key services and participation in activities that occur away from home. The provision of public toilet facilities aims to contribute to the achievement of community health and wellbeing outcomes and Council's strategic objectives.
2. Council will prioritise the provision of public toilet facilities at locations that have the greatest community need, and where the public toilet facilities subsequently provide the greatest community benefits.
3. Consistent with community feedback, the provision and operation of public toilets by Council will prioritise uniformity, safety, cleanliness, inclusion and accessibility.
4. The provision of public toilets at locations primarily for the benefit of a single group may require external funding contributions. Council will take a partnership approach to the delivery of public toilet infrastructure across the municipality.
5. Council may advocate for new or upgraded public toilet facilities in places where it has no direct role in infrastructure provision. Advocacy activities may relate to funding, access to land, provision of space, or the delivery of public toilet facilities by private providers or other tiers of government.

PUBLIC TOILET POLICY 2024-2029 Cont'd

ITEM 4

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

In accordance with the public toilet framework shown in figure 3 of the policy, the development of a prioritised long term capital works program for the renewal and upgrade of existing and construction of new public toilets will be developed, taking account of Council's existing capital budgets and available external funding opportunities. Council will also seek funding from State and/or Federal Government to enable an acceleration of the works program, where possible.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

The policy acknowledges the need to balance environmental and amenity issues with the demand for improved and additional public toilet infrastructure. Appropriately located and well-designed public toilet infrastructure can be provided at the same time as improving the environment and protecting neighbourhood character. Council's commitment to sustainability and amenity is a critical aspect within the policy. In accordance with the public toilet framework shown in figure 3 of the policy, the development of infrastructure (public toilet) design guidelines will ensure future developments are considerate of these factors.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Public Toilet facilities in Maroondah are valued and utilised extensively by the community to support a variety of other primary activities. Public toilets are therefore essential to facilitating improved community health and wellbeing. A consistent approach to the provision of public toilets in Maroondah is necessary to ensure these assets meet the future needs of the community. The guiding principles outlined in the policy enable consistent decision making for the provision of public toilet assets throughout the municipality, to ensure future community needs are met.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council has completed extensive discussions with the community and relevant stakeholders and has undertaken two (2) rounds of community consultation, to facilitate the development of the Public Toilet Policy.

Initial Community Consultation

Council conducted a 6-week period of community engagement between October and November 2023. The process involved a range of engagement activities to seek the views of community members and key stakeholders on the importance of previously identified themes associated with public toilets.

This involved an established webpage for the project on the Maroondah Council website, a wide-reaching community survey, an on-site event at Maroondah Festival and targeted meetings with community advisory groups.

Council received more than 190 responses during this consultation period. Council subsequently undertook a detailed review of all responses along with consideration of issues and options to progress the development of the policy.

PUBLIC TOILET POLICY 2024-2029 Cont'd

ITEM 4

Community Consultation on Draft Public Toilet Policy

The methods of engagement included targeted electronic direct mail (eDM) to previous contributors, online promotion via Council's website and social media platforms, Your Say survey and targeted engagement with relevant stakeholders.

Council received a total of 41 responses to the survey. The draft policy received support from the community with 24% of responses indicating satisfaction with the policy. The remaining feedback received related to design principles (24%), provision gaps (37%) and other matters relating to other community facility infrastructure (15%). The feedback will be addressed as part of other documents within the public toilet framework shown in figure 3 within the policy. As a result, no further changes have been made to this iteration of the policy.



CONCLUSION

Public toilets are important community assets that are provided as ancillary or enabling infrastructure to support a variety of primary activities. By providing this service, Council is helping to support participation in a wide range of activities outside of the home that contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of the community.

The public toilet policy has been developed based on the significant feedback received from key stakeholders and the community and aims to establish a consistent and principled approach to decisions about the provision of public toilet facilities so that these facilities continue to meet the future needs of the community.

The policy establishes guiding principles that will help to ensure Council's investment in and management of public toilet facilities, is well aligned to Council's strategic priorities, responsive to current and future community needs and reflective of best practice approaches.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Public Toilet Policy - Community Consultation Summary 2024
2.  Public Toilet Policy 2024-2029 - FINAL DRAFT

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSES THE PUBLIC TOILET POLICY 2024-2029

**PETITION - PARKING ISSUES AT LEHMANN PLACE,
CROYDON HILLS - FINDINGS AND INVESTIGATION
OUTCOMES**

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To report the findings and investigation outcomes back to Council following an assessment of parking conditions at Lehmann Place, Croydon Hills. The assessment is in response to a petition submitted to Council on 31 October 2023.

The petition was tabled at the Council meeting held on 20 November 2023 where Council's Officers were directed to investigate the parking conditions at Lehmann Place and consult with residents where required.

The submission was received with forty (40) signatures in support of the petition. The prayer of the petition is detailed in the report discussion and, in summary, requests that Maroondah City Council address local resident concerns relating to parking and traffic conditions in Lehmann Place associated with parking demand from Luther College.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe, healthy and active community.

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 1.1 Work in partnership to address community safety and implement initiatives aimed at improving the actual and perceived safety of the community
- 1.2 Plan and advocate for the application of community safety principles that facilitate a safe built environment

Outcome Area: An accessible and connected community.

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be accessible for all ages and abilities with walkable neighbourhoods, sustainable transport options, and a safe integrated transport network.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 5.7 Advocate and work in partnership to enhance Maroondah's road network, including planning for increased automated vehicles and emerging transportation technologies

BACKGROUND

Lehmann Place is a Local Municipal Road managed by Maroondah City Council. The whole section (length) of Lehmann Place is referenced in the petition.

**PETITION - PARKING ISSUES AT LEHMANN PLACE,
CROYDON HILLS - FINDINGS AND INVESTIGATION
OUTCOMES Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The characteristics of Lehmann Place are as follows:

- A local road 50km/h speed limit.
- Roll-over kerb and channel (semi-mountable).
- Provides direct vehicle access to fronting residential properties via standard crossover arrangements.
- A “dead end” road providing no other connecting road access to the local road network.
- Located off Yarra Road in close proximity to Luther College.

There is an existing timed “No Stopping” parking restriction in Lehmann Place that operates between the hours of 8 - 9.15am and 3 - 4pm from the intersection with Yarra Road to the west for a distance of 30 metres on the north side of the road and 25 metres on the south side of the road. The remaining section of Lehmann Road to the west of the “No Stopping” zone is unrestricted.

The road is comprised of two sections. The first section commencing at Yarra Road is approximately 5.50 metres wide (kerb invert to kerb invert) for a distance of approximately 200 metres, before it reduces to a width of approximately 3.40 metres with indented parking bays at the western section of the street for a distance of approximately 130 metres to the court bowl.

There are no recently reported crashes on VicRoads CrashStats website at Lehmann Place (in the last five years).

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Petition

The petition received contains two sections. The first section of the petition provides the contact details of two residents from Lehmann Place. The second section provides a smaller description of the issue, which is supported by the signatures of forty (40) residents. Photographs are provided with descriptions of the parking issue.

The prayer of the petition submitted to Council was as follows:

First section (dated 31 October 2023):

“We are residents of Lehmann Place Croydon Hills. We need help with traffic issues on our street. The road is only 5 meters wide and is more like a driveway than a road.

We have serious traffic congestion issues mostly due students parking on our street all school days, every day parents picking up kids who go to Luther College. The road becomes jammed and becomes extremely difficult to pass.

AS RESIDENTS WITH OUR NARROW STREET WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LUTHER COLLEGE PARKING ISSUES ..

**PETITION - PARKING ISSUES AT LEHMANN PLACE,
CROYDON HILLS - FINDINGS AND INVESTIGATION
OUTCOMES Cont'd**

ITEM 1

This is very inconvenient as it makes driving difficult and is also a very serious safety hazard. There is so little space for traffic to pass that a fire truck or ambulance would never be able to get through.

In the case of an emergency there would be serious implications. Would go right back to council discussions.

We have had incidents of a student car blocking a driveway and police had to assist on removing the car. This took a couple of hours to resolve and was a nuisance.

We have elderly people and people with disabilities on this street that require ambulance and home care assistance which is impacted by this issue.

We request the council act on this safety issue. Could you look into what steps can be taken to stop the street being used for school parking? It must be something available for narrow streets.

Council and Luther college were getting many calls over the years of traffic issues on our street. No need for council OBSERVING THE STREET We just need actions. Before school starting next year.

RESIDENT PARKING ONLY”

Second Section (supported by the signatures of 40 residents) (dated 25 October 2023):

“WE ARE ASKING COUNCIL TO STOP LUTHER COLLAGE STUDENTS PARKING AND PARENTS PICKING THEM UP ON OUR STREET..

THEY ARE BLOCKING THE ROAD.

WE CANNOT GET OUT OR COMING HOME FREELY...”

Traffic Investigation

Council Officers have completed a thorough review of the parking issues raised in the petition.

This included multiple site inspections at Lehmann Place during the morning school peak, the middle of the day, and the afternoon school peak between November 2023 and June 2024. Additionally, Council Officers carried out consultation with local residents to seek feedback on potential parking solutions.

During the on-site inspections, there were higher levels of parking observed during the morning and afternoon school peak as opposed to during other times of the day. In particular between 3-4pm road users were seen parking on both sides of the road for periods of time of up to 30 minutes waiting to collect Luther College students. As the carriageway width is 5.50 metres and designed to accommodate parking on one side of the road only, this parking impacted through vehicle movement for local residents.

**PETITION - PARKING ISSUES AT LEHMANN PLACE,
CROYDON HILLS - FINDINGS AND INVESTIGATION
OUTCOMES Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The petition provided photographs with higher levels of parking and vehicle movement impacts than what was observed on-site during the inspections, however, it is noted that the on-site inspections were held in early 2024 where the quantity of Year 12 students driving to and from Luther College and parking during the day were lower than what occurs towards the end of the school year. It was determined that parking restrictions should be implemented on one side of the street at a minimum between 3-4pm to improve traffic safety and operation of the road.

During the morning school peak period inspections, the level of parking was reduced, however, there were still instances where road users stopped for short periods of time on both sides of the road to drop off students. Throughout the daytime inspections low levels of parking were observed. While motorists were still parking on both sides of the street, vehicles were not parked directly opposite one another, and road users were able to safely navigate past the parked vehicles.

The on street parking was observed to predominantly occur between Yarra Road and the bend at Lehmann Place near property number 23. Between property number 23 and the court bowl to the west, parking was only observed in the indented parking bays and no safety concerns were present that impacted local resident access. Based on the observations it was determined that the operation and safety of the road may also benefit from the implementation of no stopping parking in the morning peak period between 8-9am.

Accordingly, in addition to the proposed 3-4pm parking restrictions, Council Officers carried out community consultation to seek feedback on also implementing 8-9am parking restrictions.

Further, an additional survey option was provided to residents to determine the level of support for full time No Stopping restrictions on one side of the street. The Petition Consultation Survey is attached to this report and details diagrams of the proposed 3-4pm parking restriction implementation and the two additional parking restrictions options for morning parking restrictions between 8-9 am and full time No Stopping restrictions on one side of the street. The proposed location of the parking restrictions is on the northern side of Lehmann Place.

During the survey feedback period, 21 responses were received by Council - a response rate of 70%. From the responses received, 90% (19 responses) supported the parking restriction to operate from 8-9am and 3-4pm on the North side of the road and 10% (2 responses) did not support the proposal.

The responses not supporting the proposal were based on residents not wanting signage placed outside their property and believing congestion is still an issue during all hours of the day.

In regard to the implementation of full-time parking restrictions to one side of the street there was a response rate of 27%. 37.5% (3 responses) supported the full-time parking restrictions and 62.5% (5 responses) did not support the proposal.

A summary of the survey results and feedback is attached to the report as Attachment 1.

**PETITION - PARKING ISSUES AT LEHMANN PLACE,
CROYDON HILLS - FINDINGS AND INVESTIGATION
OUTCOMES Cont'd**

ITEM 1

As such, it is considered there is sufficient support to install 8-9am and 3-4pm No Stopping restrictions along the northern side of Lehmann Place between Yarra Road and property number 23 as shown in Attachment 1 Option 1. The parking restriction will prevent motorists from parking on both sides of the road during the morning and afternoon school peaks, ensuring safe vehicle access to and from properties. Further, it is anticipated that Luther College school traffic may seek to park in other locations on the surrounding road network if they attend school during the above times.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

It is recognised through the submitted petition and supporting documentation that this is an important local issue that affects the amenity of residents in Lehmann Place.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council Officers have undertaken consultation with Lehmann Place residents regarding potential parking solutions as detailed in the report.

CONCLUSION

Council Officers have completed a thorough review of the traffic and parking issues at Lehmann Place, Croydon Hills. This includes multiple site inspections and consultation with residents to understand the existing traffic and parking issues and seek feedback on potential parking solutions.

Lehmann Place has a 5.50 metre wide carriageway width and is designed to accommodate parking on one side of the road only. When motorists park opposite each other it impacts traffic safety and vehicle access as it can prevent through vehicle movement. It was identified that during 3-4pm on school days there is an increased presence of vehicle parking associated with Luther College that creates safety issues and impacts local resident access.

Throughout the morning school peak there was short term parking observed and low levels of parking witnessed during other hours. It was determined that parking restrictions must be implemented to one side of the street at a minimum between 3-4pm to allow for through vehicle movements. Council Officers carried out resident consultation regarding additional parking restrictions to one side of the street between 8-9am and also sought feedback on full time No Stopping Restrictions. The majority of residents supported the additional 8-9am implementation and as such it is considered there is sufficient support to install 8-9am and 3-4pm No Stopping restrictions to the northern side of Lehmann Place between Yarra Road and property number 23.

**PETITION - PARKING ISSUES AT LEHMANN PLACE,
CROYDON HILLS - FINDINGS AND INVESTIGATION
OUTCOMES Cont'd**

ITEM 1

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Lehmann Place, Croydon Hills - Petition - Parking Issues - Survey Results

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL DIRECTS OFFICERS TO ADVISE THE LEAD PETITIONER AND LEHMANN PLACE RESIDENTS OF THE OUTCOME OF THE INVESTIGATION AND PROPOSAL TO IMPLEMENT 8-9AM AND 3-4PM NO STOPPING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ALONG THE NORTHERN SIDE OF LEHMANN PLACE BETWEEN YARRA ROAD AND PROPERTY NUMBER 23 LEHMANN PLACE