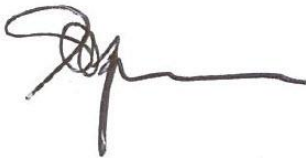


Councillor
(as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Realm, on Monday 16 September 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>

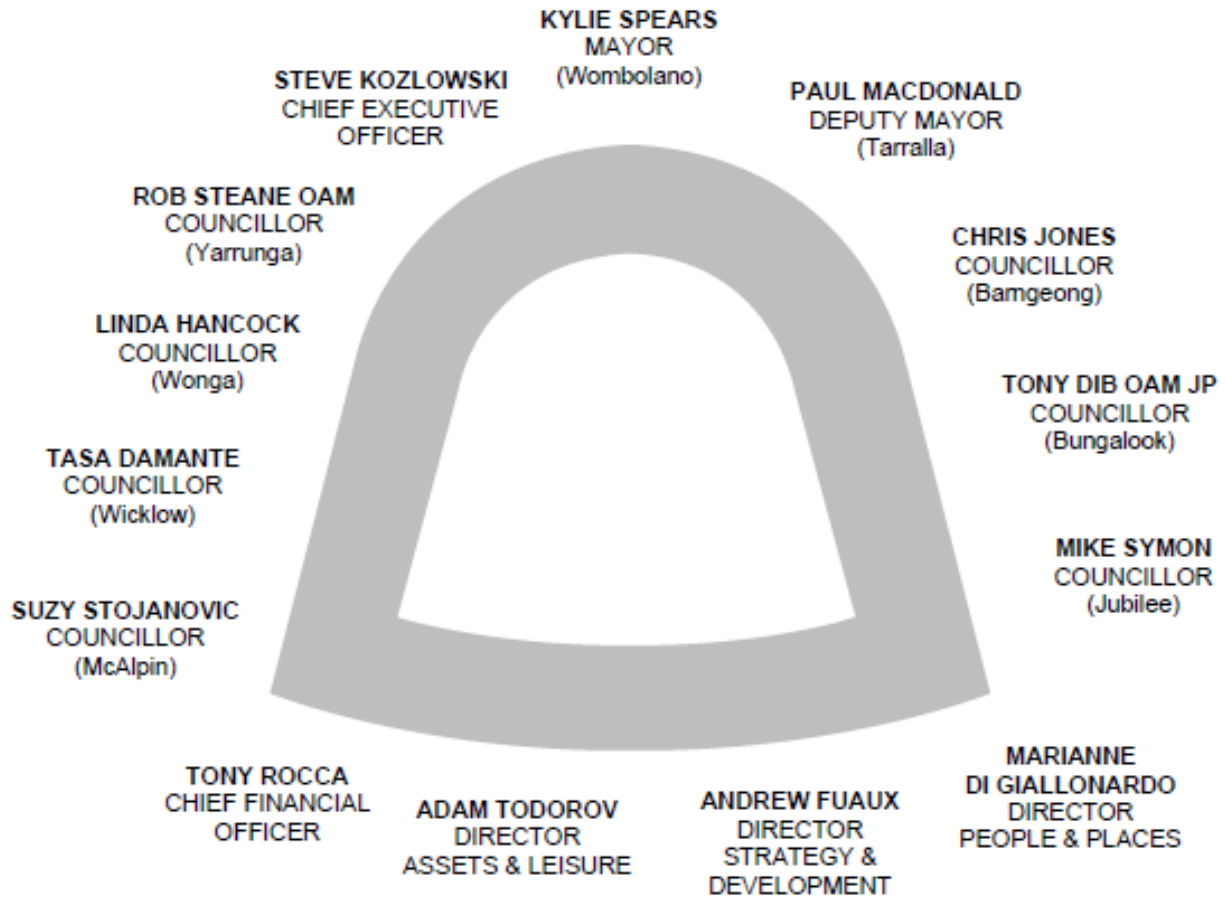


COUNCIL CHAMBER
IS FITTED WITH A HEARING AID
INDUCTION LOOP

**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 19 August 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 11
 5. Outcomes - Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council - 23 August 2024 15
 6. Report of Audit and Risk Committee Meeting - 21 August 2024 20
 7. Audit and Risk Committee - Further Term Appointment for Current Member and Chair 23
 - Director Strategy & Development
 1. Proposed Submission to State Government on Ringwood Activity Centre 25
8. Documents for Sealing
 1. Letter Under Seal - Cr Rob Steane OAM 34
9. Motions to Review
10. Late Items
11. Requests for Leave of Absence

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 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.

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 19 August 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 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.

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 19 August 2024 and 2 September 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 August 19 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
2.  2024 September 02 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2024 AND 2 SEPTEMBER 2024

PURPOSE

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

- Maroondah Liveability, Safety and Amenity Committee held on 24 July 2024
- Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee held on 13 August 2024
- Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Committee held on 28 August 2024
- Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee held on 28 August 2024

The Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee was held on 22 August 2024 and the Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee was held on 10 September 2024 however according to the Terms of Reference the required attendance to achieve a quorum was not achieved at both of these meetings and therefore no minutes have been included in this report.

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.

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.

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

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

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

Crs Damante, Hancock and Steane are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Liveability, Safety and Amenity Committee.

Crs Jones, Spears and Stojanovic are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee.

Crs, Damante, Dib and Jones are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Committee.

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 July 24 - Maroondah Liveability Safety and Amenity Advisory Committee Meeting  Minutes
2. 2024 August 13 - Maroondah Access Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee  Meeting Minutes
3. 2024 August 28 - Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Committee Meeting  Minutes
4. 2024 August 28 - Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES

- 1. MAROONDAH LIVEABILITY, SAFETY AND AMENITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 JULY 2024**
- 2. MAROONDAH ACCESS, INCLUSION AND EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 AUGUST 2024**
- 3. MAROONDAH COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 AUGUST 2024**
- 4. MAROONDAH ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 AUGUST 2024**

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

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To seek approval from Council, in accordance with section 112 and 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Act), to proceed with the strategic land exchange proposal 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, 581 square metres of land, being part of 24 Palmerston Road West, Ringwood, shown shaded blue in Schedule 1 - Locality Plan, and shown as part of the land contained in Lot 2 PS 413267 (**Owner's Land**) Schedule 2 - Plan of Subdivision, 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, 939 square metres of land, shown shaded green in Schedule 1 - Locality Plan, and as shown in Schedule 3 - Title Plan, being the whole of land contained in Lot 1 and 2 on TP 965746, being 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.

In accordance with section 114(2)(c) of the Act, a current market valuation was obtained:

- Council Land is \$265,000 plus GST
- Owner's Land is \$95,000 plus GST

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.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

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 associated with the discontinued road, whilst having a permanent road improvement that can be utilised by the broader community and private property owners.

At its meeting on 22 July 2024, Council resolved to commence the statutory procedures for the land exchange proposal.

Public Notice

Council is required to publish notice of its intention to sell the Council Land on its website at least 4 weeks prior to transferring the land pursuant to section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (**Act**).

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

ITEM 4

Council is also required to:

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

On 24 July 2024, a public notice of the proposed land exchange was placed on Council's website, which contained details of the proposal and sought submissions from the public regarding the proposal.

In accordance with Council's Community Engagement process, the public notice was made available as follows:

- 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 notice period which ended on 21 August 2024, no submissions were received in response to the public notice.

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 has undertaken 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.

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




ITEM 4

There were no submissions received at the conclusion of the submission period on 21 August 2024.

CONCLUSION

Having regard to the contents of this report and having complied with section 112 and 114 of the Act, it is considered reasonable for Council to proceed with the proposed Land Exchange.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Land Exchange - Part Palmerston Road West - Schedule 1 - Locality Plan

2. Land Exchange - Part Palmerston Road West - Schedule 2 - Plan of Subdivision - PS
 413267
3. Land Exchange - Part Palmerston Road West - Schedule 3 - Title Plan TP 965746


CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. **HAVING FOLLOWED ALL THE REQUIRED STATUTORY PROCEDURES UNDER SECTION 112 AND 114 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 (ACT) IN RELATION TO ITS PROPOSAL OF A LAND EXCHANGE, RESOLVES TO**
 - i. **TRANSFER THE LAND SHOWN COLOURED GREEN ON THE PLAN CONTAINED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO THIS REPORT, BEING THE LAND CONTAINED IN LOT 1 AND 2 ON TITLE PLAN TP 965746 (SCHEDULE 3), KNOWN AS THE FORMER ROAD ADJOINING 24 PALMERSTON ROAD WEST, RINGWOOD (COUNCIL LAND) TO THE ADJOINING OWNER; AND**
 - ii. **ACQUIRE THE LAND SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON THE PLAN CONTAINED IN SCHEDULE 1 AND SCHEDULE 2 TO THIS REPORT, BEING PART OF THE LAND CONTAINED IN LOT 2 ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION PS 413267, KNOWN AS PART OF 24 PALMERSTON ROAD WEST, RINGWOOD (OWNER'S LAND)**
2. **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 UNDER THE ACT IN RELATION TO THIS MATTER**

PURPOSE

To advise on the outcome of the two (2) motions submitted by Council to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting held on Friday 23 August 2024. Details of all motions, submitting Councils and outcomes are available in the attachment to this report.

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.

Priority Action 2024-2025:

Advocate on key local issues on behalf of the Maroondah community.

BACKGROUND

The MAV is one of the Victorian local government sector peak body associations and together with local members of Parliament, provides significant advocacy to both Victorian and Australian Governments on behalf of Maroondah residents and ratepayers.

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Annual Meeting was held on Friday 23 August 2024 with Council having previously resolved to submit four (4) motions, with two of those motions being Late Motions.

The motions submitted were viewed as being of significance across the Victorian Local Government sector and therefore of importance for debate and consideration by the MAV State Council Meeting. At the Annual Meeting, the MAV State Council resolved not to discuss any Late Motions.

**OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
(MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024 Cont'd**

ITEM 5

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Motion Number/Name	Motion	Rationale	Outcome
<p><i>Motion 26 - Maroondah City Council</i> Alignment of Victorian Government grant funding extensions with Federal Government Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022 and the intent of the Victorian Gender Equality Act 2020</p>	<p>That the MAV urgently calls on the Victorian Government to align its recurrent financial grant program funding terms with Councils statutory obligations regarding the Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022 (Cwlth) and the Victorian Government's Gender Equality Act 2020 to ensure gender equality for all employees in grant funded roles.</p> <p>Specifically, Councils seek ongoing undertakings regarding Victorian Government grant funding when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. grant funding is for longer than two (2) years, including extensions and renewals, or 2. grant funding has been extended or renewed more than once. <p>Councils also seek a minimum of six months for recurrent grant funding for the associated written notice of intention to cease or not extend funding to deal with transitional arrangements including termination of staff and cessation of agreements with suppliers.</p>	<p><i>Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022 (Commonwealth) (Amendment Act)</i> took effect on 6 December 2023, introducing new rules when engaging employees on fixed term employment contracts amongst other things means that Councils can no longer continue renewing employment appointments beyond two (2) years including extensions and renewals and cannot renew or extend more than once.</p> <p>There are exceptions in the Federal legislation one of which relates to Government Funded Contracts (s333F) of the Amendment Act, however, there has been no guidance from State or Federal Government regarding the operationalising of this legislation.</p> <p>By way of context, typically all these grant related programs have no reasonable prospect of renewal after the period since they are time limited. Hence the risk for Council's should the associated positions be made permanent by Council and State Government not continue the funding, the Council is faced with either a cost-shifting scenario to keep the program operational or withdraw the service to the client group the vast majority of which are typically more vulnerable within society.</p> <p>Examples of Victorian Government grant funded programs include School Focused Youth Services, L2P Programs, other youth related services, Occupational Therapists and Free From Violence, to name a few.</p>	<p>Carried (96/4)</p>

Motion Number/Name	Motion	Rationale	Outcome
		<p>Further the State's own <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i> requires public sector organisations to consider gender impacts of their policies, programs, and services. These grant funded programs typically sustain part-time roles (i.e. 100% of all 26 grant funded roles at Maroondah Council are part-time in nature) and most employees in these roles are women (85%).</p> <p>As outlined in the State Governments own Gender Impact Assessment requirements, Women tend to bear a disproportionate amount of unpaid carer responsibilities, which can limit their ability to engage in full-time employment. Part time and fixed term contracts offer less job security and fewer opportunities for career advancement. Hence Victorian Government grant funding must align with the requirements of Secure Jobs, Better Pay Federal legislation. This would contribute to promoting gender equality through greater job security for women and others in those respective roles.</p>	
<p><i>Motion 27</i> Keeping our children safe</p>	<p>That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to include all Domestic and Family Violence convictions to the list of Schedule 4 Working With Children Category B Offences in the <i>Worker Screening Act 2020</i> (the Act).</p>	<p>Our children should always be safe. The requirement for adults, where required by the Act, to hold current Working with Children Check (WWCC), is a tangible way to provide this. For Council, the WWCC requirements apply to both direct relationships (example employees, volunteers, students) and third-party associates (e.g. contractors, procured services, leases/hirers, grant recipients).</p>	<p>Carried (97/3)</p>

**OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
(MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024 Cont'd**

ITEM 5

<i>Motion Number/Name</i>	<i>Motion</i>	<i>Rationale</i>	<i>Outcome</i>
		<p>It is noted that the current list of convictions that could lead to the denial of a WWCC may not include all Domestic and Family Violence related convictions.</p> <p>Family violence is a serious community concern and proven offences are classified as a criminal record in the Victorian Justice System. In the 2022/23 financial year within Victoria, there were 93,115 family violence incidents reported. During this period, 11% had the offence proven in Court, and 9% of all incidents involved one or more victims under 18 years of age. Child safety is closely linked to family violence and the safety of children needs to be strengthened as much as possible.</p> <p>Of concern is that WWCC application assessments primarily focus on identifying offences such as child-related sexual offences, violent crimes, or serious drug offences (as well as professional conduct or disciplinary findings). In Victoria, the WWCC does not disclose details of specific convictions, but is an outcome of an assessment of an individual's suitability to engage with children based on available information. It is concerning that all family violence convictions may not be included in the assessed information, potentially resulting in an unnecessary gap in risk mitigation for child safety.</p>	

Outcomes arising from the MAV State Council Meeting:

A total of 30 motions were received for debate at the MAV State Council. Of these motions:

- 2 motions were consolidated into 1 motion;

**OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
(MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024 Cont'd**

ITEM 5

- 9 Strategic Priority motions (not consolidated), 17 Standard Priority motions and 2 Non-Standard Priority motions were debated.
- 5 motions were amended.
- No motions were lost.

The MAV State Council resolved not to consider the four (4) Late Motions received after the agenda had been distributed.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council, through various forums, consultations, and strategies, has engaged the Maroondah community regarding these various issues. This report further demonstrates Council's preparedness to advocate to the Victorian Government on behalf of Maroondah residents.

CONCLUSION

The motions indicate the willingness of Council to advocate in such forums to other spheres of government on behalf of residents and ratepayers, in addition to demonstrating Council's continued leadership on issues within the sector. The overwhelming level of endorsement provided to Council's motions indicates the shared support gathered for these issues across the sector state-wide.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  MAV State Council Meeting Outcomes - 23 August 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE TWO (2) MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL TO THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 AUGUST 2024

PURPOSE

To report to Council on the outcomes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 21 August 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 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.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 2020* prescribes that Council must establish an Audit & Risk Committee and that such Committee will be advisory in nature. The Audit & Risk Committee provides a mechanism for Council to strategically examine various aspects of the Council operations to ensure risk management, legal compliance, financial control, and governance measures are in place.

Council’s Audit and Risk Committee consists of both Council and external representatives. Mayor Cr Kylie Spears, and Cr Mike Symon, are the nominated Councillors on the Committee. The external independent members are Dr John Watson (chair), Mr Bruce Potgieter and Mr Michael Ulbrick.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires that this Committee report to Council on the findings and recommendations from its meetings. This report provides a summary of matters under consideration by the Committee of the meeting held on 21 August 2024.

Many items on the agenda are regular reports such as the Chief Executive Officer’s Report, Council’s Internal Audit Progress Report, quarterly Finance Report, Risk and Insurance Report, Internal Audits Actions Register Report and sector related agencies reports.

This Audit and Risk Committee meeting also considered the year-end Financial Report and Performance Statement for the 2023/24 financial year.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Details associated with some of the regular reports as well as other specific items considered by the Audit and Risk Committee are noted below:

- The Draft VAGO Closing Report.
- A Risk and Insurance Report for the fourth quarter of the 2023/24 financial year ending 30 June 2024 was tabled. The report provided details on Council's strategic risk outlook, organisational risk profile, organisational risk trends and priorities, key risk controls and mitigation activities, and recent insurance and claims matters.
- An Internal Audit Report on Compliance with Child Safe Standards was presented to the Committee. Several findings and recommended actions arising from this audit were highlighted.
- Internal Auditors HLB Mann Judd provided an update of the Internal Audit Program including current audits underway and forthcoming audits planned. An issues paper was also tabled by the Internal Auditors that outlined general sector guidance and trends.
- The Internal Audit Actions Register for the fourth quarter of the 2023/24 financial year ending 30 June 2024 was discussed. The Committee endorsed progress made by Council regarding implementation of internal audit recommendations.
- A report from the Chief Executive Officer highlighted sector updates of interest related to local government integrity and risk management.

In addition, two items below were presented for the consideration and in-principle approval of the Audit and Risk Committee, with an overview of the Statements being provided by the Auditor-General's auditing agents.

- The draft year-end Financial Report for the 2023/24 financial year
- Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2024

The Committee resolved unanimously as follows:

- 1) *The Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement including the approved final closing report from the Auditor-General's appointed auditors RSM be received and noted.*
- 2) *The Audit and Risk Committee acknowledges Council's endorsement in principle of the annual financial report and performance statement (the statements) for the year ended 30 June 2024, and that the:*
 - *Chief Executive Officer send the statements to the Auditor-General; Chief Executive Officer, the Mayor and a Councillor to certify the final version of the statements.*

- *Chief Financial Officer implement any non-material changes to the statements as recommended by the Auditor-General and provide a summary of any such changes to the Audit and Risk Committee at its next meeting.*
 - *Chief Financial Officer discuss any material changes to the Audit and Risk Committee Chair prior to reporting to the Council.*
- 3) *The Committee records its appreciation to all the employees involved in the end of year closing of the City's accounts and the preparation of the Financial Statements and Performance Statement.*

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's current budget provides for the operation of the Audit and Risk Committee, the completion of an Internal Audit Program and associated duties and responsibilities to ensure the organisation is actively and effectively managing its risks.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council's Financial Report and Performance Statement for the 2023/24 financial year will be incorporated into Council's Annual Report 2023/24.

CONCLUSION

This Report provides a summary of the outcomes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 21 August 2024 in accordance with transparency and accountability principles.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT FROM THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 AUGUST 2024

**AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - FURTHER TERM
APPOINTMENT FOR CURRENT MEMBER AND CHAIR**

ITEM 7

PURPOSE

To reappoint a current independent member and Chair to Council's Audit and Risk Committee for a further term in line with Council's Charter for this Committee.

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.

BACKGROUND

Council's Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires Council to appoint an Audit and Risk Committee which consists of at least five members – three independent members, the Mayor and one Councillor.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires appointments to be made on a three-year basis, with the number of extensions to be at the discretion of Council. This Charter has been recently reviewed in line with the Local Government Act 2020 and benchmarked as sector best practice.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Given Mr Watson's extensive sector experience including roles such as these as well as his exemplary performance over the past three years as Chair of the Committee, Council can provide him a further term at its discretion. This provides Council with consistency in skills, knowledge and understanding in this significant governance role for the organisation and the Maroondah Community.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's budget provides for the operation of the Audit and Risk Committee to undertake the full duties and responsibilities of this Committee in line with the Local Government Act 2020 and best practice governance including a strong Internal Audit Program benchmarked to the sector and exemplary contemporary administrative practices nation-wide.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not applicable

**AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - FURTHER TERM
APPOINTMENT FOR CURRENT MEMBER AND CHAIR
Cont'd**

ITEM 7

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not applicable

CONCLUSION

Given Mr. Watson's vast sector experience in Audit Committee roles as well as his exemplary performance to date, Council is well placed to reappoint him for a further three-year term as Chair of the Committee in line with Council's Audit & Risk Committee Charter.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT MR. JOHN WATSON BE APPOINTED AS AN INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE MEMBER (CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE) FOR A FURTHER THREE-YEAR TERM

**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE**

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To inform Council on work and associated consultation currently being undertaken by the Victorian Planning Authority in relation to proposed changes to the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre Masterplan 2018, and changes to the surrounding residential catchment. The latter would allow for development of between three and six storeys within approximately 800 metres walking distance from the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre.

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: 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:

- 6.5 Develop and implement an urban environment that enhances the desirable attributes of Maroondah to protect and value neighbourhood character, local history and cultural heritage.
- 6.6 Encourage high density development in activity centres with access to high quality facilities, services and amenities.

Priority Action 2023-2024:

Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the objectives of Victoria's Housing Statement for the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre.

BACKGROUND

In September 2023, the State Government *released Victoria's Housing Statement, The decade ahead 2024-2034.*

The Statement contains five outcomes:

- 1. Good decisions, made faster
- 2. Cheaper housing, close to where you work
- 3. Protecting renters' rights
- 4. More social housing
- 5. A long-term housing plan

**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The Statement includes a number of actions to achieve the outcomes, some of which have already been completed.

Under the “Good decisions, made faster” outcome, there are 9 objectives, one of which is “Increase housing choice in activity centres”.

This objective states that the Victorian Government will “*introduce clear planning controls to deliver an additional 60,000 homes around an initial 10 activity centres across Melbourne: Broadmeadows, Camberwell Junction, Chadstone, Epping, Frankston, Moorabbin, Niddrie (Keilor Road), North Essendon, Preston (High Street) and Ringwood. Activity centre plans will guide investment in the things a growing suburb needs like community facilities, public spaces and parks. The program will also consider the best way to incentivise more affordable housing.*”

The existing metropolitan strategy *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050* identifies Ringwood as a Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC), and notes that these types of centres will:

- Provide a diverse range of jobs, activities and housing for regional catchments that are well served by public transport.
- Will play a major service delivery role, including government, health, justice and education services, as well as retail and commercial opportunities.

Planning for Ringwood as a key commercial, retail, employment and residential location has been in place for many years with the introduction of the *Ringwood District Centre Structure Plan (to 2001 and beyond)*, followed by the *Ringwood Transit City Urban Design Masterplan 2004*. In 2018 a new *Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre Masterplan* (the Masterplan) was developed, which was introduced into the Maroondah Planning Scheme through a planning scheme amendment, and rezoned the land within the area covered by the Masterplan to the Activity Centre Zone as well as making other changes to the Planning Scheme.

A Development Contributions Plan has been in place since 1997 to help facilitate infrastructure upgrades that are required to support the growth of the Ringwood MAC.

Since the beginning of 2024, Council Officers have been regularly meeting with the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) in relation to the proposed changes to Activity Centre planning and how they will impact on the Ringwood MAC. As Ringwood has an existing, contemporary Masterplan that is well placed to deliver significant increased density and heights across the area covered by the Masterplan, and given that existing investment and development in the centre is already occurring, the VPA determined that a new Masterplan was not required. Instead changes would be made to the existing Masterplan to provide some additional capacity for housing with the MAC.

The revised Masterplan has now been released by State Government for public consultation, until the end of September 2024. The changes to the Masterplan focus on the identification of three Strategic Development Sites (SDS) within the MAC, with some other minor changes made throughout the document to reflect these changes. The boundary for the Masterplan is not proposed to be changed.

The SDS sites, as shown in the map below are:

- Ringwood Square

PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd

ITEM 1

- Western Gateway
- Eastern Gateway



The changes propose to insert a new Section 7 into the Masterplan, which provides for the identification of the three SDS. Each site has proposed controls in relation to:

- Preferred maximum building heights
- Preferred maximum wall/podium height
- Preferred ground level setback
- Minimum upper-level setback above the street wall/podium
- Indicative pedestrian links

There are also requirements in relation to tower floor plate size, building separation, deep soil, pedestrian and active transport links and overshadowing.

It is noted that a 21m-66m (6-20 storey) building height is included for each site. A copy of the Masterplan has been included at Attachment 1.

The existing Masterplan notes the three SDS sites as 'sites requiring a specific response' and recognises that they are suitable for redevelopment at a large scale with a preferred building height of 15 metres that could be supported.

As part of the consultation for the Masterplan, the VPA has also included changes to the residential catchment area outside of the Masterplan boundary, of which Council officers were not involved in the development. This is outlined in the *Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan, August 2024* (Attachment 2). This document notes that it "builds on the draft revised masterplan by providing additional guidance for the catchment area" and will become a background document in the Maroondah Panning Scheme.

PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd

ITEM 1

Within the Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan, it is noted that the Ringwood activity centre and catchment area can contribute 8,200 to 12,200 new homes.

The catchment area is shown in light purple below, in a map from the Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan, and according to the document:

“(I)s the area within walking distance of the local jobs, services and public transport of the Ringwood activity centre. Building more homes here is a good way to create a more lively, inclusive and sustainable local community.

The plans will make sure Victoria builds the right types of homes in the catchment, in the places they fit best.

The plans will encourage greater housing diversity to meet the community’s changing needs. This will encourage more efficient use of land through site consolidation, creating space for trees and greenery, as well as liveable and sustainable homes and neighbourhoods.

The catchment area is generally up to 800 metres from the edge of the non-residential areas of the activity centre.”



**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The catchment area is proposed for significant levels of change, with up to six storeys possible on larger sites, and three to four storeys on smaller sites. The catchment only includes land zoned for residential purposes. It partially extends into land within the City of Whitehorse on the western side.

The document also notes that additional work will be undertaken in relation to infrastructure funding, the possible preparation of a Parking Precinct Plan, and the introduction of a Parking Overlay and possible updated flood management controls working with Melbourne Water.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council officers generally support the changes proposed to the Masterplan as they are consistent with the overall intent of the Masterplan which seeks to encourage increased density and height within the Ringwood MAC.

There are a number of concerns, however, in relation to the Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan which introduces changes to the surrounding residential catchment.

The proposed changes to the Maroondah Planning Scheme have not been included as part of the consultation, and so it is not clear how existing planning controls will be impacted or new controls introduced. Within the document it is sometimes unclear when it is referring to land within the MAC, or within the residential catchment or both.

The current zoning of the land in the residential catchment is a mix of General Residential Zone and Neighbourhood Residential Zone.

The following overlays are currently applied to the residential catchment area:

- Vegetation Protection Overlay Schedule 1 - Sites of Biological Significance
- Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 3 - Wicklow Hills Ride and Loughnan Warranwood Ridge Landscape Protection Area
- Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 4 - Landscape Canopy Protection
- Design and Development Overlay Schedule 2 - Ridgeline Protection Area - B
- Development Plan Overlay Schedule 7 - Ringwood Greyfield Renewal Precinct
- Several Heritage Overlays
- Neighbourhood Character Overlay Schedule 3 - Jubilee Park
- Special Building Overlay
- Development Contributions Plan Overlay Schedule 2 - Ringwood Greyfield Precinct Development Contributions Plan

**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan notes that “(t)he preferred planning tool for the catchments is to be confirmed. It is not proposed to remove heritage overlays through new provisions”.

Later on the document states that the planning controls proposed to be retained in the activity centre are:

- All heritage protection (HO)
- Special Building Overlay (SBO)
- Vegetation Protection Overlays (VPO1)
- Development Contributions Plan Overlay (DCPO1)
- Development Plan Overlay (DPO2)

Council officers have identified a number of concerns with some of the land included within the catchment. A submission will be prepared outlining these in detail and submitted to the State Government as part of their consultation. Given the tight timeframe and impending Council caretaker period, a submission has not been prepared in time to be presented with this report. An overview of the concerns of Council officers is found below and is proposed to form the basis of the submission to State Government which is recommended to be signed off by Council’s Chief Executive Officer.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The following financial and economic concerns have been identified:

- The impact on development in the Masterplan area. Some existing areas within the Masterplan allow up to 4-6 storey residential development and allowing this level of development outside of the Masterplan area may undermine the intent and purpose of the Ringwood MAC, as outlined in Plan Melbourne, which is to focus development with the Ringwood MAC.
- It is unclear how much of the target of 8,200 and 12,200 homes are to be delivered within the Masterplan area and how much within the residential catchment. Of note the existing Masterplan and Activity Centre zoning allows for significant development capacity within the Masterplan area. The Masterplan includes areas of residential development which still have significant capacity remaining.
- The extent that community assets and infrastructure will be funded is unclear, including open space.

**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

The following environmental and amenity concerns have been identified:

- It appears that the existing Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 3 and 4, which apply to the vast majority of land within the catchment, have not been considered and may be removed. This is of significant concern given the amount of work that has gone into applying these overlays and protecting vegetation successfully within these areas over many years. A number of key Council documents recognise the importance of vegetation within Maroondah and community consultation consistently shows that the Maroondah community highly values vegetation and tree canopy coverage. The loss of vegetation in this area would have a significant detrimental impact on biodiversity and canopy coverage within Maroondah. The Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 3 also seeks to ensure that new development is responsive to natural features and vegetation.
- The land to the north of the Ringwood Bypass slopes up to the Loughnan-Warranwood Ridge, which reduces the walkability of this area. It also means that buildings constructed on the slope and the top of the ridgeline, especially six storey buildings, would be visually prominent and much larger than any of the existing buildings in this area which are generally constructed below the tree canopy.
- The proposed catchment ignores the existing zoning, in particular the Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 3 - Canopy Cover Ridgeline Protection, to the north of the Ringwood Bypass. A significant amount of Council strategic planning work and consultation has gone into the application of this zone and it provides for increased side and rear setback and garden areas to protect canopy cover.
- The residential catchment does not take into account the need to protect the Mullum Mullum Creek Biolink which recently went through a community consultation process and received strong support from the community.
- There appears to be no consideration of neighbourhood character, and in particular it appears that the Neighbourhood Character Overlay Schedule 3 - Jubilee Park, has not been considered and Council officers are concerned that it may be removed. The application of this overlay is relatively recent (2020) and was strongly supported by Council and the community.
- The Ringwood Greening the Greyfields precinct is located within the catchment area. It is unclear whether this precinct will be retained, and as with other controls in the planning scheme, this is recently completed strategic planning work (2022), which went through community consultation.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The following social and community concerns have been identified:

- The Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan has a section about affordable housing, however, it does not appear that any changes will be made to mandate the provision of affordable housing, only that "(a)pplications for residential subdivision and development should consider how they contribute to meeting the need for affordable housing."

**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

- The proposed residential catchment undermines strategic work that has been undertaken by Council, which required considerable resources and budget to complete. Rigorous community consultation processes were also undertaken as part of each strategic project.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Consultation was undertaken by the VPA earlier this year, in March and April 2024. An *Engagement Summary Report August 2024* (Attachment 3) was released as part of this current consultation and noted that the previous consultation requested “feedback on local places of significant, localised information about each activity and inspiration for the future of each centre.” This consultation was run concurrently with consultation on the other 9 Activity Centres across Melbourne that have been identified in the Housing Statement.

The key themes that emerged across the activity centres during engagement have been identified in the Engagement Summary as follows:

1. *Shared recognition that more homes are needed and that addressing the housing crisis will also require greater diversity of housing types and more affordable homes.*
2. *Investment will be needed to ensure liveability and connectivity and in community infrastructure to support housing growth.*
3. *Improving access to public transport and creating better pedestrian and active transport connections balanced against improving car movement and provision of car parking.*
4. *Concerns about the impacts of increased housing density and the importance of managing the level of development with the need for more housing.*

Other insights focused on the importance of:

- Access to open green spaces and the desire to preserve them
- Access to community facilities
- Access to free public gathering places
- The importance of maintaining a strong sense of place
- Concerns around existing and potentially increased traffic congestion and parking
- The importance of pedestrian safety, wayfinding and amenity

No information has been provided by State Government as to how this feedback was then used to inform the updates to the Masterplan and the proposed catchment.

CONCLUSION

The State Government is currently undertaking consultation on proposed changes to the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre Masterplan, and the residential catchment surrounding the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre.

**PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON
RINGWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

Council officers generally support the changes to the Masterplan but have a number of concerns about the proposed changes to the surrounding residential catchment. Submissions are due by the end of September and given the short time frame for consultation and the commencement of the pre-election caretaker period prior to Council elections, there has not been sufficient time to prepare a submission to present to Council for endorsement.

This report outlines the overarching concerns identified by Council officers and seeks support from Council to prepare a submission based on these concerns.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ringwood Activity Centre - Victorian Planning Authority - Draft Revised Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre Masterplan - Public Consultation copy - August 2024
2. Ringwood Activity Centre - Victorian Planning Authority - Draft Ringwood Activity Centre Plan - August 2024
3. Ringwood Activity Centre - Victorian Planning Authority - Phase 1 Engagement Summary Report - Activity Centre Program - August-2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. **COUNCIL NOTES THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS REPORT IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE RINGWOOD METROPOLITAN ACTIVITY CENTRE MASTERPLAN AND SURROUNDING CATCHMENT**
2. **COUNCIL AUTHORISES THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO LODGE A SUBMISSION TO STATE GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MATTERS RAISED IN THIS REPORT**

DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

LETTER UNDER SEAL - CR ROB STEANE OAM

ITEM 1

LETTERS UNDER SEAL

BACKGROUND

At the MAV Awards held on 12 September 2024, Councillor Rob Steane OAM was among several other Councillors to be recognised for their outstanding service to Victorian communities at the presentation of the MAV Victorian Councillor Awards.

Councillor Steane received the honorary title of Mayor Emeritus for completing three terms as Mayor of Maroondah City Council in 2011/12, 2018/19 and 2022/23. Councillor Steane also received an additional award for completing 15 years of service as an elected Councillor with Maroondah City Council.

The Victorian Councillor Service Awards were established in 2008 by Victoria's peak body for local government, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), to recognise the contribution of long serving Councillors.

As per Council's Honours and Recognition Policy, Councillor Service Milestones are to be recognised with a Letter under Seal to be presented at a Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL SIGNS AND SEALS A LETTER UNDER SEAL TO CR ROB STEANE OAM IN RECOGNITION OF HIS 15 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL, INCLUDING THREE TERMS AS MAYOR