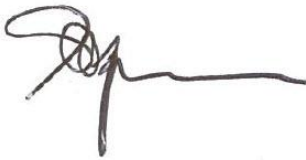


Councillor  
(as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, on Monday 28 April 2025, 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>

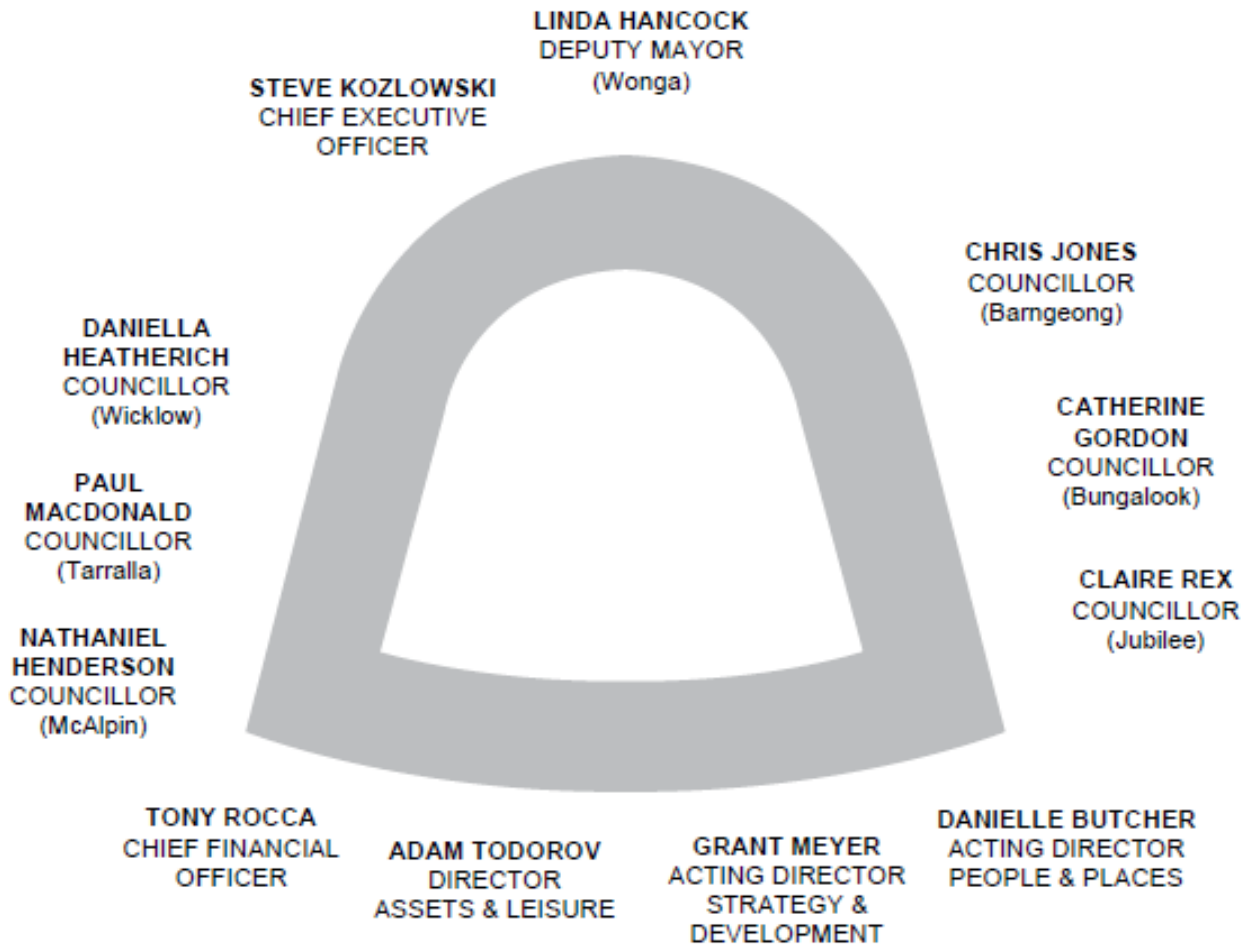


COUNCIL CHAMBER  
IS FITTED WITH A HEARING AID  
INDUCTION LOOP

**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



**APOLOGY**  
ROB STEANE OAM COUNCILLOR (Yarrunga)

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**  
KYLIE SPEARS MAYOR (Wombolano)

# 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 17 March 2025.
6. Public Questions
7. Officers' Reports
  - Chief Financial Officer
    1. Attendance Report 4
    2. Reports of Councillor Briefings 6
    3. Maroondah Foundation Board Member Appointments 8
  - Acting Director Strategy & Development
    1. Maroondah Transport Strategy 2025 - 2035 10
8. Documents for Sealing
9. Motions to Review
10. Late Items
11. Requests for Leave of Absence
12. In Camera
  - Mayor & Councillors
    1. Chief Executive Officer Annual Report and Review 2025

**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 17 March 2025 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.

**ATTENDANCE REPORT Cont'd**

**ITEM 1**

**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 17 March 2025, 28-30 March 2025 and 7 April 2025 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.  2025 March 17 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
2.  2025 March 28-30 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
3.  2025 April 07 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Not applicable

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 17 MARCH 2025, 28-30 MARCH 2025 AND 7 APRIL 2025**

**MAROONDAH FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER  
APPOINTMENTS**

**ITEM 3**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to appoint new Board Members to The Maroondah Foundation to replace outgoing members.

**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**

The Maroondah Foundation was established in May 2015, as a Public Ancillary Trust through which donors, be they individuals, families, businesses, community groups or local government can fulfil their philanthropic interests. Contributions to The Maroondah Foundation are invested and funds available from these contributions and interest earned on investments can then be distributed to Maroondah charities.

The Constitution of Maroondah Foundation Trustee Limited Item 18 provides for Directors. The current Directors are existing members of the Maroondah City Council, with the expectation that all, or most of the Directors will be members of Maroondah City Council.

Due to the 2023 Council by-election and 2024 Council elections, vacancies have been created on the Board. It is appropriate to consider the appointment of newly elected Councillors to the positions of Directors on the Board.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

As noted in the Constitution of Maroondah Foundation Trustee Limited (Item 19.1.5), the office of a Director will be vacated if:

*In the case of a Director who was appointed at a time when he or she was a member of Maroondah City Council, the Director ceases to be a member of Maroondah City Council otherwise by reason of the expiry of their term of office as a Councillor, and in addition is not re-elected.*



**MAROONDAH FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER  
APPOINTMENTS Cont'd**

**ITEM 3**

Item 18.3 of the Constitution of Maroondah Foundation Trustee Limited states that:

*new or additional Directors of the Company are appointed by the Board with the prior approval of Maroondah City Council.*

Following the Maroondah City Council election held on 26 October 2024, it is proposed that Cr Chris Jones, Cr Catherine Gordon, Cr Nathaniel Henderson and Cr Daniella Heatherich be appointed as a Directors of The Maroondah Foundation Trustee Limited.

**FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES**

Given that this is a governance matter, there are no financial or economic issues associated with this item.

**SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES**

Similarly, given that this is a governance matter, there are no social or community issues associated with this item.

**CONCLUSION**

The Maroondah Foundation is poised to strengthen its governance and continue its mission of supporting local charities through the appointment of new Board Members. The proposed appointments of four directors on The Maroondah Foundation Trustee Limited will fill the vacancies created by recent Council elections and will enable the Foundation to continue its work in a transparent, inclusive, and accountable manner.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Not applicable

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Not applicable

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT COUNCIL APPOINTS COUNCILLORS CHRIS JONES, CATHERINE GORDON, NATHANIEL HENDERSON AND DANIELLA HEATHERICH AS DIRECTORS OF THE MAROONDAH FOUNDATION TRUSTEE LIMITED**

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Maroondah Transport Strategy 2025 – 2035.

## **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 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.
- 5.3 Encourage initiatives that raise the awareness of accessibility needs for all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
- 5.4 Work in partnership to integrate new technologies into facilities and programs that improve accessibility.
- 5.5 Work in partnership to facilitate a safe, accessible, and efficient integrated transport network that enhances liveability and facilitates living locally.
- 5.6 Work in partnership to facilitate increased use of sustainable and active transport modes within the community.
- 5.7 Advocate and work in partnership to enhance Maroondah's road network, including planning for increased automated vehicles and emerging transportation technologies.
- 5.8 Enhance Maroondah's walking and cycling shared path network to promote walkability and strengthen connections with the wider metropolitan Melbourne network.
- 5.9 Advocate for an integrated public transport network with improved connectivity, capacity, and service frequency.

## **BACKGROUND**

Maroondah has a well-established transport network that comprises road, rail, bus, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. As our municipality and region continues to grow and evolve the network needs to respond to factors including population growth, urban development, the needs of residents and businesses, freight requirements, environmental challenges and broader societal trends.

**MAROONDAH TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2025 - 2035 Cont'd**

**ITEM 1**

The road network is vital for public and private transport in Maroondah. It spans 482km, with over 230,000m<sup>2</sup> of car parks and a footpath network of 645km. In anticipation of significant population, housing, and economic growth across Melbourne, it is crucial to prioritise an efficient transportation network and road safety. Consistent with this Strategy Council has an important role to play in supporting new and improved ways of moving people and freight,

The rail network connects Maroondah to much of Melbourne, with major transport hubs at Croydon and Ringwood stations. Maroondah has an extensive bus network, consisting of 21 routes and 520 bus stops which complements the rail network by linking suburbs to key destinations. The quality and coverage of bus routes varies across the municipality, resulting in transport disadvantage for some areas.

The active transport network, which includes the bicycle network and the Principal Pedestrian Network, supports walking and cycling. Key trails, shared pathways, and bike lanes, such as the Eastlink Trail, Mullum Mullum Trail, and Dandenong Creek Trail, provide routes for cyclists and pedestrians. Bike lanes on Bedford Road, Heatherdale Road, Dorset Road, and Colchester Road improve suburban connectivity. Footpaths, pedestrian crossings, and cycle-friendly streets further enhance connections across Maroondah.

Council is responsible for delivering some key transport infrastructure projects, managing streets and public spaces, and providing high-quality and safe roads, bike lanes, and footpaths. The aim is to improve the road network, public transport access, parking management and create better public spaces through partnerships and advocacy. Council's transport investments are made in consultation with the community, and the impacts on the network and community are closely monitored. This Strategy will provide a framework to further improve Council's ability to fulfill these roles and make informed decisions.

**ISSUE / DISCUSSION**

This Strategy builds upon the progress and achievements made in transport and movement in Maroondah to date. It supersedes the Maroondah Integrated Transport Strategy (2006), Maroondah Bicycle Strategy (2004), and Maroondah Pedestrian Strategy (2006).

The Strategy outlines transport issues of importance to Maroondah. The Statements highlight the challenges being faced, the opportunities on the horizon and Council's response to a range of transport issues.

Additionally, the Strategy brings together the transport and movement actions from Maroondah 2040: Our future together, the Council Plan 2021-2025, various precinct structure plans, the Maroondah Road Management Plan 2021-2025, and the Maroondah Parking Framework.

The Strategy is guided by the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision, in particular:

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

The approach to deliver on the vision incorporates six strategic directions and focus areas as follows:

1. Secure a realistic, affordable, accessible, and safe transport infrastructure and system to connect people,

**MAROONDAH TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2025 - 2035 Cont'd**

**ITEM 1**

2. Develop cross regional transport corridors to support compact and liveable precincts,
3. Support the transition to low carbon transport,
4. Ensure the condition, capacity, safety and liveability of streets and roads,
5. Use new technology to integrate the networks and to use what we have better,
6. Work with others to delivery key transport infrastructure, arterial roads and better public transport across neighbouring council boundaries, and upgrades to our public spaces.

The Strategy includes a series of priority actions for delivery over the next 10 years:

- Maroondah Bicycle Network Plan
- Principal Pedestrian Network Review
- Car Parking Strategy Review
- Ringwood to Croydon and Greenwood Avenue Bicycle Pathways.
- Critical Road Upgrades, i.e., Canterbury Road Dorset Road, Maroondah Highway and Yarra Road
- Maroondah Highway Boulevard
- Various bus route upgrades and train timetable improvements
- Cycling and pedestrian safety education initiatives and events.

Building on this Strategy, Maroondah is a member of the Eastern Region Group of Councils (ERG), which is set to pursue an Integrated Transport Plan as a key step to transform movement in the east. This will bring together significant member Councils work to date, engage directly with the Department of Transport and Planning, Public Transport Victoria, key stakeholders, and continue to build the evidence base to support planning and advocacy.

**FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES**

The transport network has a significant impact on the functioning of our local economy. Vehicle volumes are expected to increase in the coming years, leading to increased traffic congestion and related externalities. Congestion negatively affects the efficiency, safety, and reliability of our transport network.

In response, the actions in this Strategy aim to improve the ability to move people, vehicles and freight more seamlessly and sustainably leading to a more efficient local economy.

**ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES**

Transport is the fastest growing and second largest emissions sector and this has significant impacts on the health of people, natural environments and the amenity of public spaces.

To address this, the Strategy includes actions to reduce fuel pollution and emissions through the introduction of shared transport options like buses and trains, and provide choices for access to charging stations for electric vehicle users. Trips made in an electric vehicle or taken by public or active transport reduces fuel pollutants and emissions to improve our natural environment and the air that our community breathes.

### **SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES**

Transport networks have a key role to play in helping to access work, local services, education and social inclusion, as well as supporting physical activity. Variability in the quality of public transport, particularly in suburbs without train stations, can limit options for certain groups, such as young people, people with disabilities, and seniors.

To address this, the Strategy contains actions that include working with State Government to deliver accessible transport facilities and services, such as stations, bus stops and buses. As more and more facilities and buses become accessible it will be easier for people to move and connect.

Additionally, promoting active transport, such as walking and cycling, helps to combat sedentary lifestyles and obesity. Council is committed to building footpaths, bicycle infrastructure and delivering programs that encourage regular physical activity. Our community will be healthier because it has safe, connected, and convenient active transport choices to add to their road access choices.

### **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

The draft Strategy was made available for public feedback via Council's Your Say page from Monday 25 March 2024 until Sunday 21 April 2024. People had the choice to provide comment via an online survey, drop-in sessions, and formal submissions. The purpose of the engagement was to introduce the Strategy, gather feedback, and gauge community and stakeholder support.

The consultation process reached 1,375 people, with 146 individuals and 3 agencies providing feedback. Respondents represented diverse cultural backgrounds, ages, genders, abilities, and transport choices. This allowed for a comprehensive understanding of transportation preferences and trends across different demographics.

The feedback received confirmed strong community support for the Strategy, its key directions, focus areas, and outcomes. There was significant support for cross-regional transport corridors, sustainable modes of transport, and integrated, resilient, and safe transport networks. The community expressed a desire for increased investment in public transport, road upgrades, and key transport corridors.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Maroondah Transport Strategy 2025 – 2035 has been developed in response to contemporary transport policy, data and research, community consultation and stakeholder engagement. The Strategy features an accessible and connected network vision and reaffirms Council's commitment that everyone has transport choices, no matter what transport mode they choose or the time of day.

It has received strong community support and prioritises the modes of transport that are demanded, sustainable, safe, healthy, and affordable.

**MAROONDAH TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2025 - 2035 Cont'd**

**ITEM 1**

It demonstrates Council's commitment to work in partnership with our community, transport authorities, service providers to achieve the best outcomes for Maroondah.

In summary, the Strategy strives to deliver a transport network and services that are sustainable and that work for everyone and, importantly, keeps us moving into the future.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1.  Maroondah Transport Strategy 2025 - 2035

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Not applicable

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT COUNCIL ADOPTS THE MAROONDAH TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2025 - 2035**