



CITY OF MELBOURNE

**Future Melbourne Committee
Minutes**

**Meeting Number 73
Tuesday 19 March 2024
5.30pm**

Town Hall Commons

Present

Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece
Councillor Dr Olivia Ball
Councillor Roshena Campbell
Councillor Jason Chang
Councillor Davydd Griffiths
Councillor Jamal Hakim
Councillor Philip Le Liu
Councillor Rohan Leppert
Councillor Kevin Louey

Apology

Councillor Elizabeth Doidge

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee On
Tuesday 9 April 2024

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

1. Commencement of meeting and apologies

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

The Chair, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, welcomed attendees to the meeting, acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land governed by the City of Melbourne, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong / Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin, and advised that:

- the meeting was being streamed live and a recording will be made available on the City of Melbourne website.
- an apology was received from Councillor Elizabeth Doidge

2. Disclosures of conflicts of interest

The Lord Mayor advised that conflicts of interest should be disclosed as they arise.

3. Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting

Moved: Cr Campbell

That the minutes of open special meeting No 71 and open meeting No 72 held on Tuesday 5 March 2024 be confirmed.

Seconded: Cr Hakim

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5. Public questions

Below is a summary of public questions and responses. The full question time can be heard in the live stream recording of the meeting on Council's website at <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/committees-meetings/meeting-archive/pages/Future-Melbourne-Committee-19-March-2024.aspx>

Melbourne Planning Scheme – Licensed Premises Local Planning Policy

Stan Capp asked a number of questions relating to the request from the Council to the Minister for Planning to amend the Melbourne Planning Scheme provisions relating to the regulation of licenced premise. Stan Capp requested to know what has been done to resolve the issue.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, as the City Planning Portfolio Lead, thanked Stan for his contributions to policy and debate at Melbourne Town Hall. The Deputy Lord Mayor advised that the details of the changes were outlined in the Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) report on 21 March 2023 and there has been no formal response received from the Minister.

Council regularly raises the request with Victorian Government counterparts. The Lord Mayor has made several representations to the Planning Minister, the Hon. Sonya Kilkeny. When the application was made, the Lord Mayor has also expressed that it was a matter of urgency.

The Deputy Lord Mayor explained that since the end of the freeze, Liquor Control Victoria has referred 19 liquor license applications seeking approval to serve alcohol after 1am (inclusive of major one-off events). The Deputy Lord Mayor added that to date, Council has not received any planning enforcement complaints related to increasing the hours of service and that Council continues to monitor approvals and work closely with Liquor Control Victoria.

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

The Deputy Lord Mayor noted that he is open to have a further conversation with Stan on the matter.

Future Streets Framework

Tim Richards submitted a written question relating to Future Streets Framework and sought to follow up on resolutions from Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) Meetings that took place in April and June 2023.

The Lord Mayor, City Transport Infrastructure Portfolio Lead, advised that further discussions have taken place between Councillors and officers in June 2023 following the FMC Meeting. The Lord Mayor noted that a 10 weeks public consultation period took place between 2 August and 11 October 2023. The Lord Mayor explained that Council officers are working through the extensive feedback that was received.

The Lord Mayor explained that the Little Streets Program focused on a trial of shared zones which has now concluded, with lessons from the trial having been embedded in the ongoing incremental renewal of the Little Streets with the focus on improving pedestrian safety and urban greening. The Lord Mayor said that lessons from the trial will help to inform the draft Future Streets Framework.

The Lord Mayor advised that short term works have been designed and works will be undertaken over the next few months including replacing speed humps, reinstating pedestrian crossings, replacement of shared zone signage with 20kph signage and the replacement of a poor condition temporary kerb. The Lord Mayor then noted that medium term interventions include footpath widening, trees, raised pedestrian crossings and raised shared zones.

The Lord Mayor encouraged Tim to visit Hardware Lane, Little Lonsdale Street, between Swanston Street and Elizabeth Street, Queen Street and Franklin Street where many improvements have been made.

The Lord Mayor thanked Tim for his interest and advised that Council will stay vigilant and diligent.

Waste Enforcement Costs

Dean Hurlston asked a question in relation to waste enforcement cost.

Cr Leppert, Environment Portfolio Lead, advised that no waste enforcement costs have been included in waste levies charged to residents. Cr Leppert advised that the annual revenue generated from waste enforcement activities ranges from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and that this revenue is applied to Council's General Revenue streams.

Circular Economy Project Monthly Market

Sheila Byard asked a question in relation to the Circular Economy Project Monthly Market and provided feedback that there was no public access to free drinking water on hot days.

Cr Leppert, Environment Portfolio Lead, acknowledged the impacts of extreme heat at events and the importance of drinking fountains. Cr Leppert advised that while the monthly market is held at Kensington Town Hall, the market operator is YMCA and Council would pass on Sheila's feedback to YMCA.

6. Reports from management

The Lord Mayor advised that the following submissions had been received.

Submissions/Correspondence

In relation to Agenda item 6.2, **Moonee Ponds Creek Advocacy Plan for Improvement Projects:**

Request to Speak:

- Chris Thrum

Items of Correspondence:

- Kaye Oddie
- Chris Thrum

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

In relation to Agenda item 6.4, **Cat Containment:**

Requests to Speak:

- Michael Johnston (Zoom)
- Gillian Basnett (Zoom)
- Adin Lang (Zoom)

In relation to Agenda item 6.5, **Creative Funding Framework 2024-2030:**

Item of Correspondence:

- Simon Abrahams, Melbourne Fringe Festival

In relation to Agenda item 6.6, **Outcomes of the City Economy Summit:**

Request to speak and Item of Correspondence:

- Stan Capp

Planning Section

The Deputy Lord Mayor assumed the role of Chair to consider one report from management where Council exercises its responsibilities under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

6.1 Proposed Planning Scheme Amendment C447: 192-200 Arden Street North Melbourne

Cr Griffiths declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Cr Griffiths advised the nature of the interest was that Electrical Trades Union (ETU) was a donor to his 2020 election campaign.

Cr Griffiths left the meeting at 5.50pm prior to discussion and the vote taking place.

The purpose of this report was to advise the Future Melbourne Committee of proposed Planning Scheme Amendment C447 which relates to the property at 192-200 Arden Street, North Melbourne. This site specific Amendment is being considered at the request of the site owner, the Electrical Trades Union (ETU).

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee:

- 1.1 Requests authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Planning Scheme Amendment C447 in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987, and in accordance with the attachments to the report from management (refer to Attachment 3 of the report from management).*
- 1.2 Authorises the General Manager Strategy, Planning and Climate Change to make any further minor editorial and referencing changes to Planning Scheme Amendment C447 prior to submission to the Minister for Planning for authorisation.*

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

Cr Griffiths returned to the meeting at 5.54pm

The Lord Mayor resumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

6.2 Moonee Ponds Creek Advocacy Plan for Improvement Projects

The purpose of this report was to respond to the resolution by the Future Melbourne Committee on 5 December 2023, requesting management to provide an update on 12 key improvement projects within the Moonee Ponds Creek corridor and to prepare an advocacy plan to progress those projects outside of the direct control of the City of Melbourne in response to the resolutions from the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on 5 December 2023.

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Chris Thrum

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves:

- 1.1. Notes the publication of the new interactive webpage, which includes the information within the Moonee Ponds Creek Project Information Table provided in Attachment 2 of the report from management.*
- 1.2. Directs that the webpage be updated at least monthly to ensure that the information is current, until such time as Council (or delegated Committee) resolves otherwise.*
- 1.3. Notes that management will continue to explore projects and the associated criteria for grant funding opportunities through the Urban Rivers and Catchments Program, and any relevant applications will be referred through the usual capital works budget process.*
- 1.4. Requests that the Lord Mayor write to the following Ministers by 22 March 2024 to convey the City of Melbourne's significant concerns regarding inaction on the following projects, and alerting the Ministers to the Committee's intention to consider the matter (and responses from the Ministers) again on 21 May 2024:*
 - 1.4.1. The Minister for Development Victoria – in relation to the ongoing lack of funding and commitment to reinstate the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail in Docklands, removed to facilitate the Docklands Studios expansion;*
 - 1.4.2. The Planning Minister – in relation to the extensive delays in authorising exhibition of Planning Scheme Amendment C417 (Macaulay Urban Renewal); and*
 - 1.4.3. The Planning Minister – in relation to the extensive delays in publishing, funding and implementing any Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan; and*
 - 1.4.4. The Treasurer – in relation to West Gate Tunnel Project contractors not implementing the State Government's commitment to replace removed trees within the municipality at a rate of 5:1.*
- 1.5. Directs that a report be presented to this Committee on 21 May 2024 setting out:*
 - 1.5.1. The replies from Ministers to the letters described at paragraph 13.4 or, where no response has been received, a note to that effect;*
 - 1.5.2. The "prioritisation and delivery plan for two new pedestrian and bicycle crossings of the Moonee Ponds Creek" committed to in the 24-25 Annual Plan;*
 - 1.5.3. Proposed next steps in relation to advancing each of the 12 projects as well as the overarching advocacy plan requested in all parts of the resolution at paragraph 1(B)2.3 of the resolution of the Committee on 5 December 2023; and*
 - 1.5.4. Recommendations in relation to using the City of Melbourne's double page advertising space in the North West City News to alert the local community to all matters relating to Moonee Ponds Creek improvement projects, the causes of their delays, and how community members can contribute in advocacy efforts.*

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

6.3 Potential North Melbourne Town Hall Public Open Space

The purpose of this report was to consider opportunities for new public open space in the vicinity of North Melbourne Town Hall on Queensberry Street, North Melbourne.

Procedural Motion

Moved: Cr Griffiths

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to defer the item Potential North Melbourne Town Hall Public Open Space to the Future Melbourne Committee meeting to be held on 23 April 2024.

Seconded: Cr Dr Ball

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

6.4 Cat Containment

The purpose of this report was to respond to the resolution by the Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) on 3 October 2023, requesting a report from Management setting out advice on the merits and means of pursuing orders under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act) to confine cats to the property of their owner and prohibit domestic cats from environmentally sensitive areas, from the commencement of Council's next Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP), due 4 December 2025.

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Michael Johnston
- Gillian Basnett
- Adin Lang.

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 6:36pm and returned at 6:40pm.

Cr Campbell left the meeting at 6:37pm and returned at 6:40pm.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*

- 1.1. *Approves the integration of cat containment and exclusion orders into the community consultation activities already planned for July 2024 on the mandatory desexing of cats.*
- 1.2. *Requests that Management explores integrating cat containment and exclusion orders as part of the planned 2024 investigation into making an order under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 for the mandatory desexing of cats.*
- 1.3. *Requests management work with Animal Welfare Victoria and the Australian Veterinary Association to undertake a review of cat containment and exclusion measures in Victoria.*
- 1.4. *Notes that management will continue to work with surrounding councils to better understand outcomes of current mandatory orders.*
- 1.5. *Requests a report from management by March 2025 with an update and advice on the role of cat containment and exclusion orders in Council's next Domestic Animal Management Plan, due in December 2025.*
- 1.6. *Notes the potential for these measures to be superseded if there is intervention at the State Government level.*

Seconded: Cr Hakim

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

6.5 Creative Funding Framework 2024-2030

The purpose of this report was to seek approval of a new Creative Funding Framework 2024–30 (CFF) to replace the current framework that expires in mid-2024.

Moved: Cr Hakim

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Approves the Creative Funding Framework 2024-30 (Attachment 2 of the report from management) subject to the following changes:*
 - 1.1.1. *On page 3, delete the word “Chair”.*
 - 1.1.2. *On page 5, replace “Council’s upcoming First Nations Strategy will sit” with “Council may soon agree to create a First Nations Strategy to sit”.*
 - 1.1.3. *On page 9, specify that the maximum grant for a multi-year arts grant is “up to \$330,000 per year”.*
 - 1.1.4. *On page 9, add text below the table: “*Council will determine whether multi-year grants and, by extension, the multi-year arts grants funding stream as a whole, will be subject to annual indexation. This will occur as part of the budget process for 2024-25.”*

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

6.6 Outcomes of the City Economy Summit

The purpose of this report was to provide an update on the outcomes of the City Economy Summit (‘the summit’) and propose a series of actions and next steps.

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Stan Capp

Moved: Cr Campbell

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Approves the 11 recommendations of the City Economy Advisory Committee, as an outcome of the City Economy Summit.*
 - 1.2. *Requests that management continue to liaise with the City Economy Advisory Committee as delivery plans are developed for the recommended actions.*
 - 1.3. *Requests that management communicate the recommended actions to City Economy Summit attendees.*
 - 1.4. *Requests that management update Council via briefing paper on the progress of the recommended actions before September 2024.*
 - 1.5. *Requests that management consider how best to incorporate the recommended advocacy actions into the City of Melbourne’s advocacy priorities.*

Seconded: Cr Louey

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

C o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

7. General business

Questions without Notice

There was one question from Cr Leppert to management in relation to e-scooters.

Cr Leppert noted that the e-scooter trial is scheduled to end on 5 April 2024 and the new powers to allow Council to manage e-scooters scheme will not commence until 17 October 2024 at the latest. Cr Leppert sought clarity as to what would happen from 6 April 2024 onwards.

Cr Leppert also sought update on the status of e-scooter scheme and how it would be managed.

The Chief Executive Officer, Alison Leighton, referred the question to Evan Counsel, General Manager, Strategy Planning and Climate Change.

Evan Counsel advised that the Council's power to manage shared e-scooter schemes are coming from the new sections of the Road Safety Act 1986 and the changes were passed through Parliament in November 2023 indicating that they will come into effect from 17 October 2024 unless proclaimed in a Government gazette earlier. Once in effect, the operators of shared e-scooter scheme and e-bike schemes are required to enter into agreements directly with Council where they choose to operate. If the trial is extended, Council would consider to extend the current agreement. If the schemes were to be made permanent, Council would be subject to the resolutions from Council meeting late last year and extend the current arrangements on a temporary basis while Council works through the revised contract process.

There was one item of general business.

7.1 Notice of Motion: Cr Dr Olivia Ball, Advocacy for Housing First Based Programs in the City of Melbourne

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Applauds the success of the From Homelessness to a Home ('H2H') program, which since early 2021 has found permanent, supported housing for 1,845 unhoused people, including in the City of Melbourne.*
 - 1.2. *Notes that the human right to adequate housing must be realised progressively, and deliberately retrogressive measures may constitute a breach of human rights;*
 - 1.3. *Notes that the City of Melbourne is currently consulting the community on its draft Homelessness Strategy 2024-2030, a strategy founded on the right to adequate housing and the principles:*
 - (a) *a city where everyone has a home,*
 - (b) *where no-one is left behind, and*
 - (c) *a city unified to end homelessness,**which will be undermined if net funding for homelessness services and pathways out of homelessness is cut;*
 - 1.4. *Maintains that programs for people facing homelessness need to be expanded in the City of Melbourne rather than contracted; and*
 - 1.5. *Requests the Lord Mayor to write to the Premier and Minister for Housing to urge them to increase net funding for 'Housing First'-based programs until such time we achieve 'functional zero' homelessness in the City of Melbourne.*

Seconded: Cr Hakim

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

Confirmed minutes

8. Urgent business

There were no items of urgent business.

9. Public questions

Chris Thrum enquired if it would be possible for Council to commemorate the Eureka Stockade (3 December 1854), to remember the British soldiers and rebels by flying the Eureka flag on that day.

Cr Le Liu advised that there is an architectural reminder in Melbourne which is the Eureka Tower. The blue and white represent the flag, the gold represents the gold the soldiers and rebels fought for and the red streak represents the blood lost.

The Lord Mayor suggested that Eureka Tower could consider lighting up the building as remembrance.

The Lord Mayor took the question on notice.

10. Closure of meeting

The Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.31pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 9 April 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sally Capp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sally" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Capp".

Chair
Future Melbourne Committee