

# Confirmed minutes



**CITY OF MELBOURNE**

## **Future Melbourne Committee Minutes**

**Meeting Number 62  
Tuesday 5 September 2023  
5.30pm**

**Town Hall Commons**

### **Present**

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

### **Apology**

Councillor Jason Chang

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee  
On Tuesday 19 September 2023

# Confirmed minutes

## 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, and advised that:

- the meeting was being streamed live and a recording will be made available on the City of Melbourne website before close of business Wednesday 6 September 2023.
- an apology was received from Councillor Chang.

## 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 Griffiths

*That the minutes of meeting No 61 held on Tuesday 15 August 2023 be confirmed.*

Seconded: DLM

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, Doidge, 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 version can be heard in the recording of the meeting located on Council's website at <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/committees-meetings/meeting-archive/pages/Future-Melbourne-Committee-5-September-2023.aspx>

### The Voice to Parliament

Chris Thrum referred to the 21 March 2023 meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) where Councillors unanimously supported the Voice to Parliament referendum, and noted the technical difficulties experienced at this meeting, which meant that people tuning in online were not able to see the Lord Mayor give a tremendous speech in support of the Yes vote. Chris asked the Lord Mayor to encapsulate the speech that she gave at the FMC meeting and detail the reasons for the Yes vote.

The Lord Mayor thanked Chris for the question and reiterated Council's commitment to our reconciliation journey, noting that Council is on track to deliver the Reconciliation Action Plan in order to reflect the voices of Aboriginal people in the decisions that affect our city and our community more broadly.

The Lord Mayor advised that the City of Melbourne is committed to governing with Aboriginal people and this is why at the FMC meeting on 21 March 2023, Councillors unanimously endorsed a motion to support the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the Voice to Parliament. Voice, Treaty and Truth are the key pillars of the Uluru Statement of the Heart, and the upcoming referendum represents an opportunity to proactively progress the first of these pillars.

The Lord Mayor noted the resources available on Council's website and invited the community to attend Town Hall on Thursday 21 September for a free event, 'Understanding the Voice to Parliament' where there will be a panel of experts and First Nations community leaders to explain what the Voice is, why it is important and what the outcome of this referendum means for our nation's future.

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

### **Docklands flood prevention**

Gabe Wanouche submitted a written question asking what the City of Melbourne is doing to prevent flooding and water damage with the sea level rising in Docklands.

Cr Leppert, Environment Portfolio Lead thanked Gabe for the question and advised that the City of Melbourne is deeply concerned about the impacts of climate change which include inundation from sea level rise as well as flooding from storm surges. Cr Leppert further advised that while flooding from sea level rise is principally managed by Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government, flooding from storm surges is managed by the City of Melbourne, and actions taken to reduce impacts in Docklands include: operating and maintaining a pump station in Docklands and other drainage infrastructure; increasing permeable surfaces through water sensitive urban design; updating flood modelling and maps; and policy change to facilitate resilient design.

Cr Leppert extended an invitation to Gabe to discuss the matter in more detail and answer any further questions.

### **Gurrowa Place**

Mary-Lou Howie submitted a written question requesting information on the Gurrowa Place project, namely the amount Council paid to the state government for the parcel of land on Franklin Street, how much money Council is receiving from Lendlease and what other benefits Council might be receiving in the transference of the Franklin Street parcel of land to the private developer.

The Lord Mayor, City Transport, Infrastructure and Operations Portfolio Lead thanked Mary-Lou for the question and advised that the state government transferred the ownership of the land to the City of Melbourne as per the State Agreement 2015 which was reviewed in 2020. The Lord Mayor outlined that while there was no financial exchange for the transference of the land, there were significant obligations placed on Council which are contained in the agreement for Gurrowa Place.

The Lord Mayor further advised that negotiations with Lendlease remain confidential at this point, and that once negotiations have been finalised, Council will have accurate information to provide to Mary-Lou on the outcomes of the deal.

### **E-scooters**

Anton Diradji submitted a written question asking if Council is considering the extension of the existing e-scooter trial given the illegal use of e-scooters in the CBD.

The Lord Mayor, City Transport, Infrastructure and Operations Portfolio Lead thanked Anton for the question and advised that the matter of e-scooters is discussed regularly at Council, and was considered twice by the Future Melbourne Committee in June and August. The Lord Mayor reiterated that pedestrian safety is paramount to the success of the city and that Council is aware of the illegal riding on footpaths and poor parking behaviour. On 15 August 2023, Council resolved to take several steps to address these issues including: expediting designated e-scooter parking; advocating to government to ensure Council has the power to manage shared e-scooter schemes; working with e-scooter providers to introduce technology to improve user behaviour; seeking clarity and a commitment to enforcement from Victoria Police; and introducing contractual requirements to ensure e-scooter companies abide by clear and agreed performance standards.

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 5.51pm, and returned at 5.53pm.

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## Homelessness

Jeremiah Ogbodo submitted a written question asking why homelessness in the City of Melbourne is getting worse and why Council isn't providing more support to those experiencing homelessness.

Cr Dr Ball, Health, Wellbeing and Belonging Portfolio Lead thanked Anton for the question and advised that homelessness is a reflection of the severe shortage of the public, social, community and affordable housing in Melbourne. There are currently just over 4000 public and community housing units, and the shortage is estimated to be 6000 units. Cr Dr Ball outlined a number of initiatives Council is undertaking to tackle homelessness, including the Make Room project which will deliver 50 self-contained supported transitional housing units and is estimated to be completed in July 2024.

Cr Dr Ball further advised that Council plays an important role in coordinating 17 agencies that operate in the housing and homelessness space, and spoke about a number specialist homelessness services in our city that assist people experiencing homelessness and sleeping rough.

Cr Campbell left the meeting at 5.57pm, and returned at 5.59pm.

## 6. Reports from management

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

### Submissions/Correspondence

In relation to Agenda item 6.3, **Affordable Housing People's Panel**:

#### Item of correspondence:

- Dr Stan Capp.

### 6.1 Melbourne's emerging, globally competitive innovation sectors

The purpose of this report was to propose innovation sectors that should be the focus of Council's economic development efforts.

Moved: Cr Griffiths

#### 1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*

1.1. *Approves a focus on the following sectors that will support Council's longer-term economic development objectives by fostering employment opportunities and driving economic growth:*

1.1.1. *Biotechnology.*

1.1.2. *Climate technology.*

1.1.3. *Digital games.*

1.1.4. *Sporting technology.*

1.1.5. *Education technology.*

1.2. *Requests that management conduct at least one roundtable discussion with leaders from each of the recommended sectors to validate direction and document an agreed City of Melbourne value proposition for each sector.*

1.3. *Requests that by 31 May 2024, management provide Council with a 'road-map' for each sector that will describe a medium-term strategy and approach for each sector.*

Seconded: Cr Le Liu

## **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, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

### **6.2 Key Worker Housing Definition**

The purpose of this report was to seek Committee approval of the proposed definition for key worker housing and next steps.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
  - 1.1. *Approves the following draft key worker housing definition: "Affordable rental housing that is appropriate for people who work within the City of Melbourne, who require a physical presence to perform their work, and whose household earns very low, low or moderate incomes. The housing must be allocated and monitored by a Registered Housing Agency."*
  - 1.2. *Requests management to test and refine the draft definition and its application with the housing sector and relevant stakeholders.*
  - 1.3. *Requests management report back a final policy position and implementation plan to Council in Quarter 1 2024.*

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, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

### **6.3 Affordable Housing People's Panel**

The purpose of this report was to seek approval to commence a People's Panel on the issue of affordable housing. This includes approval for the remit which will be the key question on which the Affordable Housing People's Panel will deliberate.

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 6.40pm, and returned at 6.42pm.

Cr Campbell left the meeting at 6.45pm, and returned at 6.50pm.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
  - 1.1. *Asks management to deliver a People's Panel on Affordable Housing by the end of 2023, as per the report from management, subject to:*
    - 1.1.1. *The remit for the Panel being updated to read:*

*'We have a severe shortage of affordable housing and need innovative solutions from all levels of government and society.*

*How can we increase affordable housing in the City of Melbourne?'*
    - 1.1.2. *The scope of the Panel (under 'What the People's Panel can influence') being expanded to include:*
      - 1.1.2.1. *'Implementation of Council's current strategies'*
      - 1.1.2.2. *'Council's future strategies on affordable housing'*
  - 1.2. *Requests management brief Councillors on topics the People's Panel may consider, including but not limited to: the mix and location of affordable housing; government action required to enable construction of affordable housing; and the appropriate use of existing housing stock.*

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### 1.3. Commits to:

1.3.1. *Incorporate the Panel's recommendations into Council's decisions to the maximum extent possible, as per the International Association for Public Participation guidelines;*

1.3.2. *Hold a special meeting to receive the report of the People's Panel; and*

1.3.3. *Provide a written, public response to the Panel's recommendations.*

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

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, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

### 7. General business

There were no items of general business.

### 8. Urgent business

There were no items of urgent business.

### 9. Public questions

Peter Kelly raised a query with Councillors regarding places of worship in Fishermans Bend.

The Lord Mayor advised that officers will get in touch with Peter.

### 10. Closure of meeting to the public

Moved: Cr Hakim

1. *That pursuant to section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, the meeting of the Council be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the item under the following category:*

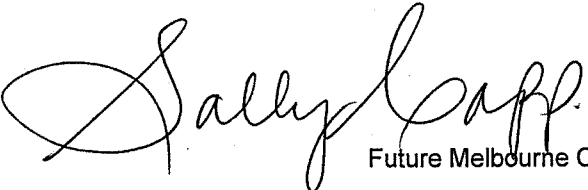
1.1. *Agenda item 14.1 as it contains Council business information which if released would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations.*

Seconded: Cr Doidge

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, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

The Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed to the public at 7.11pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 19 September 2023.

  
Chair  
Future Melbourne Committee