

Unconfirmed minutes



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Future Melbourne Committee Minutes

**Meeting Number 65
Tuesday 24 October 2023
6.00pm**

Kensington Town Hall

Present

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

Apologies

Councillor Jason Chang
Councillor Elizabeth Doidge

To be confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee
On Tuesday 14 November 2023

U n 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 6.00pm.

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 25 October 2023.
- apologies were received from Councillors Chang and 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 Leppert

That the minutes of meeting No 64 held on Tuesday 3 October 2023 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, 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.

Presentation for Kensington community

The Lord Mayor asked the Committee to temporarily suspend the Governance Rules to allow for a presentation from officers.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

That the Governance Rules be suspended to enable presentations from officers on the Kensington neighbourhood priorities.

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

The Governance Rules were suspended at 6.07pm.

The Committee received a presentation from Melanie Del Monaco, Kensington Neighbourhood Partner and Jonathan Kambouris, Director City Projects.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

That the Governance Rules be resumed.

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

The Governance Rules were resumed at 6.15pm.

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5. Public questions

Extension of Public Question Time

Due to the number of public questions received prior to the meeting, a procedural motion was considered to extend Public Question Time for 15 minutes, allowing for a total of 30 minutes.

Moved: Lord Mayor Sally Capp

That public question time be extended for 15 minutes.

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

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

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-24-October-2023.aspx>

Solar panels on Flemington and Kensington Bowling Club

Drew Sheehan referred to the 133 solar panels installed by the City of Melbourne on the roof of the Flemington and Kensington Bowling Club and asked when they would be connected.

Cr Griffiths, City Transport, Infrastructure and Operations Deputy Portfolio Lead thanked Drew for the question and advised that the process to connect the solar panels has been initiated, and assured Drew that Council is doing everything it can to ensure quick connection of the solar panels.

Macaulay Structure Plan

Simon Harvey asked for an update on the Macaulay Structure Plan adopted in 2021, including when the Macaulay Planning Scheme Amendment will be progressed and expected timeframes.

Simon also asked about the future of the Macaulay Structure Plan in the context of the recent Victorian Government Housing Statement whereby certain Council planning powers are proposed to be taken over by the Minister for Planning near suburban train stations, and the implications for Kensington with two train stations 500 metres from each other.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, City Planning Portfolio Lead thanked Simon for the question and advised that Council lodged the Macaulay Planning Scheme Amendment with the Minister for Planning in 2022 seeking authorisation to exhibit the Planning Scheme Amendment. The Minister for Planning has recently requested further information from the City of Melbourne and officers are collating a response. The Deputy Lord Mayor further advised that once the authorisation is provided, the Amendment will be exhibited and the community will be notified and invited to make a written submission, noting that the consultation process will include a number of information sessions. The Deputy Lord Mayor advised that Council will notify the Department of Transport and Planning and the Minister's office of the community's desire to progress the Amendment.

In relation to the planning powers referred to in the Victorian Government Housing Statement, the Deputy Lord Mayor advised that Council is aware of the Victorian Government's intention to see more intensive planning development around train stations, however more detail on the specifics has not yet been provided. Council will continue to advocate for development outcomes that align with the Structure Plan in any instances where the Victorian Government is the decision maker, and will also continue to engage with the Victorian Government over future planning reform in the interests of the community.

U n c o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

Docklands emergency preparedness

Katy Send raised concerns about the City of Melbourne's emergency preparedness in Docklands, and requested more attention to be drawn to it, citing rising global environmental and security threats. The Docklands community urges the City of Melbourne to have highly affirmative emergency plans and actions; contingency plans in place and widespread regular emergency education community meetings, campaigns and practical exercises.

Cr Dr Ball, Health, Wellbeing and Belonging Portfolio Lead thanked Katy for the question and advised that the City of Melbourne chairs the Municipal Emergency Management Committee, which has developed a Municipal Emergency Management Plan which links in with the State and Regional Emergency management plans. The Committee meets quarterly and at each meeting reviews a number of identified risks within the Plan, so that all risks are reviewed annually.

Cr Dr Ball further advised that each year an exercise is conducted involving all parties of the Committee and community. The aim of the annual exercise is to select a relevant scenario, which is then extensively planned to ensure as many aspects of the scenario is tested for preparedness and response. A post review is conducted immediately after the exercise to identify the strengths and weaknesses. In 2022, the exercise was a flood related hypothetical scenario in the North Melbourne area.

Cr Dr Ball assured Katy that 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, noting that flooding from sea level rise is principally managed by Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government. City of Melbourne takes remedial action in Docklands to reduce impacts of flooding from storm surges through various measures including operating and maintaining a pump station in Docklands.

Docklands additional funding to support neighbourhood and community development activities

Katy Send followed up on a resolution of the Special Future Melbourne Committee meeting held on 20 June 2023 in relation to agenda item 3.1 (subsection 1.2.2.), specifically asking how the additional funding of \$100,000 to support neighbourhood and community development activities in Docklands has been spent in the months of July, August, September and October 2023.

Cr Dr Ball, Health, Wellbeing and Belonging Portfolio Lead thanked Katy for the question and advised that the City of Melbourne has been working to support the transition of The Centre's pop-up neighbourhood house in Docklands to continue programs and activities, and noted that part of the committed \$100,000 has been used for this purpose. Cr Dr Ball further advised that the remaining funding has been used to establish the Docklands Stakeholder Working Group, which has identified three top priorities of focus. It is expected that some activities identified through these priorities may require funding to progress and this will be discussed at the next meeting of the Working Group scheduled for the end of November.

Labelling of yellow maxi bins on Macaulay Road

Sheila Byard raised concerns regarding inadequate labelling of yellow maxi bins for new residents on Macaulay Road, noting that a number of bins were not collected due to incorrect materials inside. Sheila requested that Council reinstate educational signage on the exterior of the maxi bins.

Cr Griffiths, City Transport, Infrastructure and Operations Deputy Portfolio Lead thanked Sheila for the question and advised that Council's waste contractor, Citywide, will be in contact with the building manager to provide education and advice on what should be disposed of in the yellow bins. Cr Griffiths further advised that the uncollected bins will in this instance be collected for landfill.

Open space in Kensington

John Widmer asked what the City of Melbourne open space policy is in relation to numbers of residents, citing the progression of various developments in the precinct in which John lives and only one park servicing the area.

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Cr Leppert, Environment Portfolio Lead thanked John for the question and advised that while a number of small open space expansions had occurred near to Macaulay, most significantly the Kensington Station Park, the Macaulay Structure Plan actions are yet to be delivered. These actions include the doubling of the size of the Robertson Street Park when development is considered but the most important is the expansion of open space alongside Moonee Ponds Creek. The Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan has been scheduled for release by the Victorian Government since 2019, and both the Victorian Government and Council have released Structure Plans for Arden and Macaulay which rely on creek access to contribute to the open space that current and future populations will need.

Cr Leppert expressed frustration with the Victorian Government's inaction in not granting a community lease to Council for the VicTrack land between the Moonee Ponds Creek and Stubbs Street, which Council would seek to improve and beautify, for the benefit of the thousands of new residents that will call Kensington home.

At this point in the meeting the time for consideration of questions expired.

6. Reports from management

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

Submissions/Correspondence

In relation to Agenda item 6.1, **Planning Permit Application: TP-2022-23 204-208 Albert Street, East Melbourne:**

Requests to speak:

- Brad Marsh, President, ACVP Residents Inc.
- Graham Sussex
- Neil Faulkner
- Greg Bisinella, President, East Melbourne Group (via Zoom)
- George Ioannou (via Zoom)
- Lynden Wilkie (via Zoom)
- Patrick Brennan, Contour.

Items of correspondence:

- Nicholas Dow
- Dylan Heywood
- Brad Marsh
- Greg Bisinella
- Graham Sussex
- Antony Anderson
- George Ioannou
- Shelley Christine Knight
- Madeleine Moore, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
- Louise Hinchin
- Gordon New
- Stephanie Herrod.

In relation to Agenda item 6.3, **Planning Permit Application: TP-2021-709 620-632 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne:**

Request to speak:

- Paul Little, Planning & Property Partners.

Item of correspondence:

- Natasha Wilson.

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In relation to Agenda item 6.4, **Ministerial Planning Referral: TPM-2022-20 559-577 King Street, West Melbourne:**

Requests to speak:

- Karl Hessian
- Daniel Soussan, Tract & Raymond Mah, DKO Architecture.

Item of correspondence:

- Karl Hessian.

In relation to Agenda item 6.7, **National Housing and Homelessness Plan Issues Paper – City of Melbourne Submission:**

Request to speak and item of correspondence:

- Chris Thrum.

Planning Section

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

6.1 Planning Permit Application: TP-2022-23 204-208 Albert Street, East Melbourne

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of planning permit application TP-2022-23 for the land at 204-208 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Brad Marsh, President, ACVP Residents Inc.
- Graham Sussex
- Neil Faulkner
- Greg Bisinella, President, East Melbourne Group
- George Ioannou
- Lynden Wilkie
- Patrick Brennan, Contour.

The Lord Mayor left the meeting at 7.19pm, and returned at 7.21pm.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit subject to the conditions outlined in the delegate report (refer to Attachment 4 of the report from management).

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

U n c o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

Variation to order of business

Moved: Lord Mayor Sally Capp

That the meeting proceed with the agenda items listed in part 6 in the following order: 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.7, 6.2, 6.6.

Moved: 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, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

6.3 Planning Permit Application: TP-2021-709 620-632 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of a planning permit application seeking approval for the partial demolition of a significant graded heritage building and the construction of a 25-storey residential hotel at 620-632 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Cr Hakim declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* due to owning a property near the proposal, and left the meeting at 7.46pm prior to discussion taking place.

Paul Little, Planning & Property Partners addressed the Committee.

Cr Louey left the meeting at 7:50pm, and did not return.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit subject to the conditions set out in the delegate report (refer to Attachment 4 of the report from management).

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, Griffiths, Le Liu and Leppert.

Cr Hakim returned to the meeting at 7.55pm.

6.4 Ministerial Planning Referral: TPM-2022-20 559-577 King Street, West Melbourne

The purpose of this report was to advise the Committee of a Ministerial Planning Application seeking approval for the development of land at 559-577 King Street, West Melbourne. The application also includes proposed works over a Council laneway, Corporation Lane 1091.

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Karl Hessian
- Daniel Soussan, Tract.

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 7.56pm, and returned at 7.58pm.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor

That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to advise the Department of Transport and Planning that the Melbourne City Council does not object to the application subject to the conditions outlined in the delegate report (refer to Attachment 4 of the report from management).

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, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu and Leppert.

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6.5 Victorian Government Modernising Sign Requirements Discussion Paper – City of Melbourne Submission

The purpose of this report was to seek endorsement of the City of Melbourne submission to the Victorian Government Modernising Sign Requirements Discussion Paper (August 2023) prepared by the Department of Transport and Planning.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
 - 1.1. *Approves the City of Melbourne submission to the Victorian Government Modernising Sign Requirements Discussion Paper (August 2023) (Attachment 2 of the report from management) subject to the following amendments:*
 - 1.1.1. *Change the position on proposal 5 from one of general support to one of seeking further justification for the proposal;*
 - 1.1.2. *Rewriting the commentary at part 3.5.3 to read: “If a Council has a policy or program in place to improve the visual appearance of hoardings, whether or not that policy or program sits inside the relevant planning scheme, any updates to VPP signage provisions should not result in the erosion of the purpose or impact of that policy or program. The City of Melbourne’s ‘Creative Hoardings’ program, currently being trialled, could be made redundant by blanket planning permit exemptions of the type proposed. An alternative approach could be to set the planning permit exemption for signage on hoardings at 10% if the Council has a policy or program in place to beautify hoardings, or 25% if no such policy or program is in place. In any event, the City of Melbourne welcomes any opportunity to further discuss how creative hoardings could be encouraged and adopted in the context of this proposal.”*
 - 1.1.3. *Replacing the words “planning authority” with “responsible authority” in part 3.7.1.*
 - 1.1.4. *Adding a section 5 with heading “Request for formal opportunity to consider final version of new particular provision prior to gazettal” and ordinary text “Given the unique role that the central city plays in the economy and life of Melbourne and Victoria, as well as its inclusion of the highest density development and construction and the potential for greatest visual clutter and distraction if there are any unintended consequences from the way updated provisions are drafted, the City of Melbourne requests a formal opportunity of no less than three weeks for Council planners to comment on the proposed final version of any updated or new particular provisions, so that any potential problems can be identified and considered prior to gazettal.”*
 - 1.2. *Authorises the General Manager Strategy, Planning and Climate Change to make editorial changes, corrections, formatting and design necessary to finalise the City of Melbourne submission on the Victorian Government Modernising Sign Requirements Discussion Paper prior to submission.*

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, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu and Leppert.

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

U n c o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

6.7 National Housing and Homelessness Plan Issues Paper – City of Melbourne Submission

The purpose of this report was to seek approval of the City of Melbourne Submission to the National Housing and Homelessness Plan Issues Paper.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee approves the City of Melbourne Submission to the National Housing and Homelessness Plan Issues Paper (Attachment 3 of the report from management), with the following additions, with renumbering of recommendations accordingly:*
 - 1.1. *Recommendation 3: Legislate the right to adequate housing to be achieved progressively, in accordance with our obligations under articles 2 and 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.*
 - 1.2. *Recommendation 9: Establish a dedicated child and youth homelessness plan. This should be underpinned by the voice of children and young people, with their best interests a primary consideration.*
 - 1.3. *Recommendation 18: Redevelopment of public housing, including mixed tenure developments, should result in a net increase in public housing units and capacity, and should not be driven solely by financial outcomes. Social impacts must be considered, including the need to minimise disruption to and displacement of residents. Residents must be informed in languages they understand, and afforded active, free and meaningful opportunities to participate in decisions about public housing redevelopment.*

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, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu and Leppert.

Procedural motion

Moved: Lord Mayor Sally Capp

1. *That the remaining reports from management be referred to the Council meeting 31 October 2023:*
 - 1.1. *Agenda item 6.2, Planning Permit Application: TP-2023-388 Birrarung Marr, Batman Avenue, Melbourne*
 - 1.2. *Agenda item 6.6, Draft Place and Road Naming Policy – Community Consultation*

Moved: 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, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu and Leppert.

7. General business

There were no items of general business.

8. Urgent business

There were no items of urgent business.

9. Public questions

All remaining questions submitted to this meeting will be referred to the Committee meeting on 14 November 2023, and submitters will be contacted directly.

U n c o n f i r m e d m i n u t e s

10. Closure of meeting

The Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.18pm.

To be confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 14 November 2023.

Chair
Future Melbourne Committee