

12 November 2019

Notice of Motion, Cr Leppert: Cessation of City of Melbourne support for events that celebrate horse racing

Motion

That the Future Melbourne Committee:

1. Condemns the systemic cruelty and 'wastage' produced by the horse racing industry.
2. Directs management to amend and republish forthwith the City of Melbourne's Event Partnership Program guidelines and Triennial Sponsorship Program guidelines with an additional class of events added to the list of 'ineligible applications' being "Events that celebrate or involve horse racing."

Background

122 horses died on Australian racetracks between August 2018 and July 2019. This equates to at least one horse dying every three days on Australian racetracks. It is estimated that, each year, almost 10,000 others die in slaughterhouses. (ABC News)

Information exposed by ABC's 7.30 on 17 October 2019 has reignited an important debate about the sustainability of the horse racing industry, by exposing the extent of overbreeding in the industry and the vast difference between official data, and the true extent, of race horses sent to the abattoir.

This public debate includes City of Melbourne residents and ratepayers, many of which are arguing that the City of Melbourne should not be using ratepayer funds to celebrate an industry that relies on unsustainable and cruel practices.

Moved: Cr Rohan Leppert

Seconded: Cr Nicolas Frances Gilley