

# Confirmed minutes



**CITY OF MELBOURNE**

## **Future Melbourne Committee Minutes**

**Meeting Number 66  
Tuesday 14 November 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  
Councillor Jason Chang  
Councillor Davydd Griffiths  
Councillor Jamal Hakim  
Councillor Philip Le Liu (via Zoom)  
Councillor Rohan Leppert  
Councillor Kevin Louey

### **Apology**

Councillor Elizabeth Doidge

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee  
On Tuesday 21 November 2023

# **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 Eastern 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 Cr Doidge.

Prior to commencement of formal meeting proceedings, the Lord Mayor read out two statements.

### **Statement on conflict**

The City of Melbourne acknowledges the ongoing trauma stemming from conflicts in Israel and Gaza. That hurt is felt deeply around the world and in our community.

At the City of Melbourne, we understand we have a leadership role to play. Our responsibility is to promote the de-escalation of tensions in our city.

We aim to maintain respect for the values that underpin our multicultural community and encourage civility in our democracy. We want to promote cohesion, accordingly we are not taking any action that we believe will cause conflict or division in our community.

We respect the right to peaceful protests and freedom of expression. Melbourne is a proud multicultural city, and we encourage everyone to demonstrate respect, harmony and kindness during these turbulent times.

Racism, vilification and discrimination have no place in our city. We do not tolerate statements and speech that incite hatred or aggression.

Displaying compassion and humanity is critical at this time.

Melbourne is stronger because of our diversity and respect for differences.

We want peace in our city and peace in our world.

### **Condolence Statement – Marc Besen**

Before the meeting gets underway, I wanted to take the opportunity to acknowledge the passing of Marc Besen, who passed away on 7 November, aged 99.

As a businessman Marc was the co-founder of what became the Sussan clothing retail group, bringing a wealth of economic benefit and jobs to our city.

The Besen Family Foundation was established in 1978 by Marc and his wife Eva to fund philanthropic endeavours, including building the world renowned and first Australian privately funded Public Modern Art Museums – TarraWarra in the Yarra Valley.

Marc served as trustee for both the National Gallery of Victoria and the Australian National Gallery, and deputy chair of the National Museum of Australia. He was heavily involved with the Victorian State Opera and, as a member of the International Council of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

On behalf of the City of Melbourne, we recognise Marc's significant contribution to Melbourne business, art, culture and our creative community and extend our condolences to his four children and their families.

## **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 65 held on Tuesday 24 October 2023 be confirmed.*

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.

### **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-14-November-2023.aspx>

#### **Gaza conflict**

Katrina Walker asked why the City of Melbourne has not made a public statement about the conflict in Gaza. Katrina mentioned that the municipality is home to thousands of refugees and residents, including some who have fled the violence from Israel, and some from similar violence elsewhere and mentioned the hundreds of thousands of protestors who have taken to the streets of Melbourne to demonstrate their support for the people of Palestine, urging the City of Melbourne to call for an immediate ceasefire.

The Lord Mayor thanked Katrina for the question and referred to the statement on the conflict made at the start of the meeting.

#### **Circular Economy in Kensington community organisations (question referred from 24 October meeting)**

Jacqueline van Heerden asked a question relating to the collaborative work led by Transition Town Kensington to redesign food and waste systems at Kensington community organisations to a more sustainable local model. Jacqueline asked if Council will demonstrate its commitment to establishing and further developing effective and efficient circular economy practices which align to Council's Neighbourhood Priorities by enshrining an on-going appropriate annual allocation of funds in each annual budget cycle.

Cr Leppert, Environment Portfolio Lead, thanked Jacqueline for the question and advised that the circular economy team and Kensington Neighbourhood partner has an ongoing working relationship with the community through the Circular Economy Precinct in Kensington. Cr Leppert noted that the City of Melbourne is prioritising capital investments so that community groups will have tangible materials and items beyond the projects timeframe. Cr Leppert advised that Council is aware of the allocated funding timeframe from Sustainability Victoria ending in June 2024 but could not commit to resourcing at this time. Council continues to offer grant programs for the community to pursue projects. Cr Leppert suggested Jacqueline make use of the annual plan and budget process to make sure both her expectations and those of the Kensington community are made clear.

#### **Retrofitting public housing towers**

Chris Thrum asked a question in relation to the State Government's decision to redevelop 44 public housing towers, specifically about the possibility of retrofitting and refurbishing the existing buildings. Chris asked if the City of Melbourne could share knowledge from Cr Doidge's attendance at the Retrofit & Repurpose Summit 2023 to advocate for refurbishment of the towers rather than demolition.

Cr Leppert, Sustainable Building Portfolio Deputy Lead thanked Chris for the question and advised that Council understands the news has generated uncertainty for many in the community. Cr Leppert noted that the City of Melbourne supports those living in public housing and are meeting with support agencies and government representatives to better understand the process, what this means for our community, the views of community members and what additional support might be needed. Cr Leppert noted that public housing is owned by the State and therefore Council does not have detailed information regarding which buildings may be nearing the end of their useful and safe life. Cr Leppert agreed that there were many benefits to retrofitting existing buildings where it can be shown that the end result will provide comfortable and efficient homes for residents and which meet legal requirements. Cr Leppert advised that Council feels it is incumbent on the State Government to disclose the status of each tower so the rationale behind the decision can be understood and potentially be accepted by the community.

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

### **Traffic Management, North and West Melbourne**

Emma Cook raised a number of concerns regarding pedestrian consideration in traffic managements in North and West Melbourne. In particular Emma referred to recent changes to the intersection of Roden Street and King Street, with concerns around the safety of the pedestrian crossing, the lack of a dropped kerb on King Street, as well as a tram separation kerbing on Abbotsford Street making it difficult to cross safely.

The Lord Mayor, City Transport, Infrastructure and Operations Portfolio Lead thanked Emma for bringing these concerns to Council's attention and advised that pedestrian safety and amenity is considered in all Council projects and pedestrians and other vulnerable road users are treated as a highest priority. The Lord Mayor stated that the Roden Street and King Street intersection is controlled by the Department of Transport and Planning and that Council would advocate to finalise and signalise the intersection moving forward for the safety of pedestrians. The Lord Mayor also noted that as part of the Roden Street Linear Park proposal being investigated, the City of Melbourne is looking to narrow Roden Street which will improve pedestrian safety when crossing. The Lord Mayor advised that the tram separated kerbing has been introduced to reduce accidents between trams and cars, and then noted there are gaps in the kerbing to allow pedestrians to cross as well as a zebra crossing that has been installed at Abbotsford Street / Molesworth Street.

### **Discontinuance of corporation lane 1091 – King Street, West Melbourne**

Karl Hessian asked a question relating to the City of Melbourne commencing the statutory process of discontinuing and selling part of corporation lane 101 at the rear of 559-577 King Street, West Melbourne. Karl asked if Councillors would wait until the Minister for Planning has made a decision on the development application at this location before considering a resolution on the final decision of this proposed discontinuance and sale.

The Lord Mayor, City Transport, Infrastructure and Operations Portfolio Lead thanked Karl for the question and noted that while the Minister had not yet determined the Planning Application, Council was able to consider the road discontinuance and sale prior to the outcome of the this decision.

The Lord Mayor provided the following advice from officers by way of explanation:

Council received an application to purchase part of the Road. Management then completed the relevant internal and external consultation and the road discontinuance proposal was assessed against the Retention of Road and Reserve Principles set out in the Road and Reserve Discontinuance Policy.

Management ascertained that the Road does not meet the principles for retention in accordance with the Road and Reserve Discontinuance Policy and may be suitable for discontinuance and sale. The recommendation to consider the proposed discontinuance is subject to a number of conditions including the discontinuance be unlimited in height and depth to accommodate the basement structure of a proposed redevelopment of the site (559-577 King Street) with specific reference to the development application being considered by the Minister.

The Future Melbourne Committee considered a report on 24 October 2023 concerning the Ministerial Planning Referral for the development application (TPM-2022-20) and resolved to support the development application. This included a recommendation that "prior to the commencement of the development, the portion of Corporation Lane 1091 which is proposed to be built on must be formally discontinued, purchased and consolidated with the subject land".

A resolution of Council is required for a final decision on the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road after the completion of the statutory process.

The Lord Mayor then referred Karl to the following report for reference:

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/committees-meetings/meeting-archive/MeetingAgendaItemAttachments/1040/18394/OCT23%20FMC%20AGENDA%20ITEM%206.4.pdf>

### **Emergency Preparedness in Docklands**

Katy Send submitted 16 public questions which were further to public questions raised at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting of 24 October 2023. The questions related to the Municipal Emergency Management Plan, Community Emergency Risk Assessment, Docklands Emergency Preparedness and other similar topics.

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Cr Dr Ball, Health, Wellbeing and Belonging Portfolio Lead thanked Katy for her questions and advised that they will be taken on notice and a written response provided to Katy.

### **6. Reports from management**

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

#### **Submissions/Correspondence**

In relation to Agenda item 6.1, Parkville Heritage Review – Commencement of Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendments C443 and C444:

##### **Request to speak:**

- Rob Moore, Parkville Association.

##### **Item of correspondence:**

- John Miskas.

In relation to Agenda item 6.3, Opportunity for international engagement, Lord Mayor, COP28, Dubai, November/December 2023:

##### **Request to speak and item of correspondence:**

- Chris Thrum.

#### **Planning Section**

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece 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 Parkville Heritage Review – Commencement of Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendments C443 and C444**

The purpose of this report was to seek endorsement of the Parkville Heritage Review July 2023 (the Review) and approval to commence Planning Scheme Amendments for interim heritage controls (Amendment C443) and permanent controls (Amendment C444) to implement the Review.

The Lord Mayor Sally Capp declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(3)(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* due to having received a campaign donation from a party who is affected by the proposal, and left the meeting at 5.58pm prior to discussion taking place.

Cr Campbell declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(3)(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* due to having received a campaign donation from a party who is affected by the proposal, and left the meeting at 5.58pm prior to discussion taking place.

Cr Louey declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(3)(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* due to having received a campaign donation from a party who is affected by the proposal, and left the meeting at 5.58pm prior to discussion taking place.

The Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to sections 128(3)(d) and 128(3)(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* due to his employment by University of Melbourne, who is affected by the proposal, and having received a campaign donation from a party who is affected by the proposal. The Deputy Lord Mayor left the meeting at 5.51pm prior to discussion taking place.

Cr Leppert assumed the role of Chair as Deputy Lead of the City Planning Portfolio.

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Rob Moore, Parkville Association.

## Confirmed minutes

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
  - 1.1. *Approves the Parkville Heritage Review July 2023 (Attachment 2 of the report from management).*
  - 1.2. *Authorises management to progress actions to implement the findings of the Parkville Heritage Review Volume 2: Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment 2023 (Attachment 2 of the report from management) including the following:*
    - 1.2.1. *continue to consult with Traditional Owners about interpretation of the places identified in the Review, including via the Aboriginal Melbourne Interactive Map*
    - 1.2.2. *consult with Heritage Victoria about recognition of the Aboriginal values of places on the Victorian Heritage Register.*
  - 1.3. *Requests that the Minister for Planning prepare and approve Parkville Heritage Review Interim Controls Planning Scheme Amendment C443 (Attachment 3 of the report from management) pursuant to section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Act).*
  - 1.4. *Seeks authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Parkville Heritage Review Planning Scheme Amendment C444 (Attachment 4 of the report from management) in accordance with the Act.*
  - 1.5. *Applies to Heritage Victoria to nominate International House Complex at 197-259 Royal Parade and Commonwealth Serum Laboratories (CSL) 39-79 (part) Poplar Road, Parkville to the Victorian Heritage Register.*
  - 1.6. *Authorises the General Manager Strategy, Planning and Climate Change to make any required policy neutral changes to the amendment documentation prior to exhibition, should other amendments that affect the same provisions in the Melbourne Planning Scheme be gazetted prior to the public exhibition of these amendments.*
  - 1.7. *Authorises the General Manager Strategy, Planning and Climate Change to make any further minor editorial and referencing changes to Planning Scheme Amendments C443 and C444 as required.*

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Councillors Dr Ball, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu and Leppert.

The Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillors Campbell and Louey returned to the meeting at 6.14pm.

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

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 6.15pm and did not return.

Cr Dr Ball left the meeting at 6.15pm.

### **6.2 Heat Safe City Principles**

The purpose of this report was to seek approval from the Future Melbourne Committee of the City of Melbourne's Heat Safe City Principles.

Cr Dr Ball returned to the meeting at 6.16pm.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
  - 1.1. *Approves the Heat Safe City Principles (Attachment 2 of the report from management) as a framework to inform the City of Melbourne's approach to heat risk reduction activities.*

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- 1.2. *Authorises the General Manager Strategy, Planning and Climate Change to make editorial changes, corrections, formatting and design necessary to finalise the Heat Safe City Principles prior to their publication.*

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, Leppert and Louey.

### **6.3 Opportunity for international engagement, Lord Mayor, COP28, Dubai, November/December 2023**

The purpose of this report is to seek Future Melbourne Committee approval for the Lord Mayor to travel to Dubai to participate and present at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 28) for the period 30 November to 6 December 2023.

Chris Thrum addressed the Committee:

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*
  - 1.1. *Approves the Lord Mayor's participation at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Dubai between 30 November and 6 December 2023 at an estimated cost to Council of \$3450.*
  - 1.2. *Notes that a report will be prepared for the Future Melbourne Committee or Council within 60 days of return from travel.*

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, 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**

There were no further public questions.

### **10. Closure of meeting to the public**

Moved: Cr Hakim

*That pursuant to section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Act), the meeting of the Council be closed to members of the public for the consideration of agenda item 14.1 as it contains private commercial information which if released would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.*

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, Chang, Griffiths, Hakim, Leppert and Louey.

The Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed at 6.35pm.

## Confirmed minutes

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 21 November 2023.

  
Chair  
Future Melbourne Committee