CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 11 December 2012

Held at the
Council Conference and Reception Centre
City Hall, Little Malop Street, Geelong
commencing at 7.00pm

COUNCIL:

Cr. K. Fagg - *Mayor*	(G21 Geelong Regional Alliance, Governance Regional Cities, Women in Community Life)
Cr. T. Ansett *(Windermere)*	(Heritage, Rural Communities)
Cr. L. Ellis *(Coryule)*	(Coastal Communities, Infrastructure, Parks and Gardens)
Cr. J. Farrell *(Beangala)*	(Community Safety, Education and Youth)
Cr. K. Fisher *(Corio)*	(Community Development)
Cr. B. Harwood *(Kardinia)*	(Enterprise Geelong)
Cr. M. Heagney *(Brownbill)*	(Arts and Culture, Central Geelong)
Cr. J. Irvine *(Austin)*	(Sport and Recreation)
Cr. E. Kontelj *(Cowie)*	(Aboriginal Affairs, Multicultural Affairs)
Cr. Dr. S. Kontelj *(Kildare)*	(Finance)
Cr. R. Macdonald *(Cheetham)*	(Major Projects, Planning, Knowledge Economy)
Cr. R. Nelson *(Deakin)*	(Major Events, Tourism)
Cr. A. Richards *(Buckley)*	(Environment & Sustainability, Transport, Primary Industries)

SECTION A - PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Acknowledgements 1

Apologies 1

Leave of Absence 1

Confirmation of Minutes 1

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest 2

Presentation 2

Question Time 2-4

Petitions 4

SECTION B – REPORTS

1. Amendment C242 and Planning Permit Application (1527/2010) Proposed Barrabool Hills Neighbourhood Shopping Centre, Highton 5-43
2. Consideration of Panel Report and Adoption Amendment C243 – Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GREP) Native Vegetation Precinct Plan and Environment Significance Overlay Schedule 4 44-45
3. Proposed Light Tower Signage at Simonds Stadium – Planning Scheme Amendment C284 46-51
4. Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan 52-63
5. Department of Sustainability and Environment – Waste Policy Review 64-72
6. Albert Street Laneways, Geelong West – Proposed Construction SRC333 – Declaration of Charge 73-81
7. Councillor Community Grants Program 2012/2013 – Summary of Allocations 1 July to 25 September 2012 82-92
8. Community Arts and Festivals Grants Program 2012/2013 93-101
9. Sale of Land to VicRoads Pioneer Road Widening 102-105
10. Financial Management Report – September 2012 106-112
11. Constitutional Recognition of Local Government 113-115
12. Role of Mayors, Councillors and Chief Executive Officers in Emergency Management 116-138
13. Sale of Industrial Land – Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GREP) *(Confidential)* 139
14. Audit Advisory Committee Summary Report *(Confidential)* 140
15. Contractual Matter *(Confidential)* 141

SECTION C - NOTICES OF MOTION

SECTION D - COMMON SEAL REGISTER

SECTION E - ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

SECTION F - PLANNING DELEGATIONS

SECTION G - CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND RECEPTION CENTRE CITY HALL, LITTLE MALOP STREET, GEELONG TUESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2012 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Cr K Fagg (Chair), Crs T Ansett, L Ellis, J Farrell, K Fisher, B Harwood, M Heagney, J Irvine, E Kontelj, S Kontelj, R Macdonald, R Nelson, A Richards

Also present: S Griffin (Chief Executive Officer), J Wall (General Manager Corporate Services), P Bettess (General Manager Economic Development, Planning and Tourism), G Van Driel (General Manager City Services), J McMahon (General Manager Community Services), D Frost (General Manager Projects, Recreation and Central Geelong), J Brown (Manager Administration and Governance), R Bourke (Governance Co ordinator), J Merlo (Senior Media Officer)

OPENING: The Mayor declared the meeting open at 7.00pm

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The Mayor acknowledged that we are here today on the land of the Wathaurong People and we pay our respects to Aboriginal elders past and present.

APOLOGIES: Nil.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Cr Richards moved, Cr Ellis seconded –

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr Macdonald from 21 December 2012 to 20 January 2013, inclusive, and Cr Heagney from 22 December 2012 to 7 January 2013, inclusive.

Carried.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Cr Ansett moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 November 2012 be confirmed and signed.

Carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Cr Richards declared an Indirect Interest by Close Association in Agenda Item 3 – Proposed Light Tower Signage at Simonds Stadium – Planning Scheme Amendment C284, in that he is President of Geelong Harness Racing Club which may include a future application for signage.

Cr Eddy Kontelj declared a Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item 15 – Contractual Matter, in that the subject contractor is a large and significant customer of his employer

PRESENTATION:

Cr Farrell presented the Mayor with a trophy awarded to the City of Greater Geelong in relation to the L2P Mentoring Program. L2P is a community based volunteer program designed to provide young learner drivers with equal access to driving experience and instruction.

QUESTION TIME:

Question Time is an opportunity for questions to be addressed to Council and while the minutes record the general content, they do not purport to be a transcript of what was said by individuals. Likewise Councillor or Officer verbal responses are in summary form only. Views expressed may not be the views of Council.

Council's practice is to provide a separate document on its website setting out questions and responses including any more detailed written responses which may be provided subsequent to the meeting.

Paul Secen asked the following questions in relation to Amendment C243:

1) The proponents of C243 are relying solely on the evidence of Ecology and Heritage Partners engaged by the City of Greater Geelong. Does Council have any other reports to substantiate the finding of Ecology and Heritage Partners?

Peter Bettess responded that mapping of the grassland is being carried out by the Department of Sustainability that maps the grassland and classifies the situation. Report of ecology is looking at more detail of this classification. The study is where the grasslands exist and it exists in north of the industrial estate, shown in map attached to report.

Jeff Wall responded the question would be taken on notice.

2) When did Council first start to purchase land in the NCE and what was the last figure paid (and date) for a block of land in the NCE? A senior strategic planner submitted (to the hearing panel) that Council would consider an amendment to zone the NCE to Public Conservation and Resource Zone at a time when all the land was in public ownership. Why and how much is Council currently offering landowners in order to acquire private land for conservation purposes? What is the intention of Council in regards to this land should it fail to convince all landowners to forfeit their land?

QUESTION TIME:

Jeff Wall responded that the future of the land is that it cannot be built on and is a voluntary purchase not compulsory. The land is subject to planning requirements and it would be restricted for that purpose.

Peter Bettess responded that the land is covered by grasslands protected under Federal legislation and requires approval to remove or disturb those grasslands.

3) Does Council have a copy of the 'more appropriately scaled plan (or plans) into the NVPP that identifies the area of significant vegetation and property boundaries in both the GREP and NCE areas' as recommended by the panel?

Peter Bettess responded that Council does have such a plan, but would take the question on notice.

4) Being that the glassland is within a bushfire zone, and that grassland fires are the biggest threat this season (as reported by Council), will bushfire prevention measures affect the conservation values of the NCE?

Gary Van Driel responded that slashing some of that area is not detrimental, in fact fire protection works actually enhance the area. Works are subject to negotiation with the Municipal Fire Protection Officers.

Anne Brackley addressed Council as follows:

In community meetings during June and August this year more than 200 people came together to discuss issues that they faced because of the proposed town boundary changes to Drysdale.

During the meetings the council officers spoke of the growth of Ocean Grove and compared that growth and the town boundary changes to Ocean Grove in Drysdale and its necessary boundary changes.

Cr Macdonald at the opening of the new shelter at Clifton Springs Tennis Club the other evening also referred to the current growth in Drysdale area.

How does the Council reconcile these words but resolves to reduce the size of the Drysdale township, our residents don't understand these contradictory words and action.

What can be done to ensure that the words Council says aligns with the actions the Council takes?

Jeff Wall responded that the growth in Drysdale has been quite significant and Council needs to consider and make decisions for the future. There have been different views and I believe Council has taken on board those views. The proposal is currently out for exhibition with regard to areas 3 & 4 and people have the opportunity through this process to raise their views/comments.

Cr Macdonald added there are two different issues – boundary review and the development of Drysdale as part of the area growth plan.

QUESTION TIME:

Colin Wallace asked:

1) As part of the Ropeworks Planning Permit, the permit holder/owner was to provide Council with $100,000 for post-development traffic mitigation works and Council was to provide the permit holder/owner with half-yearly summaries for up to five years of investigations/works undertaken and associated costs. The Ropeworks development, called Pakington Strand, opened in November 2008.

   In relation to this, would the Mayor and other Councillors note that, when in 2011 my wife and I requested copies of these half-yearly summaries from Council, we were told that no half-yearly summaries had been provided to the permit holder/owner, with no explanation and no undertaking to do something about it, even though two and a half years, that is five periods of half a year, had gone by since the opening and I ask, why did this evident breech of the Ropeworks Planning Permit on Council's part occur?

The Mayor noted the first part of the question.

Peter Bettess indicated he would have to check the details, but believed it was done with the consent of the permit holder, in that reports from Council were not required as all works were performed to their satisfaction.

PETITIONS: Nil.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source:	**Economic Development, Planning & Tourism - Strategic Implementation**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Index Reference:	**Amendment C242 Barrabool Hills Shopping Centre, Highton - Consideration of Submissions Subject: Council Reports 2012**

Summary

- The purpose of this Council report is to consider submissions to Amendment C242 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.
- Amendment C242 is a combined Planning Scheme Amendment/Planning Permit application for the proposed Barrabool Hills Neighbourhood Shopping Centre, 4-46 Province Boulevard, Highton. The combined application has been made by planning consultants ERM Melbourne on behalf of Lascorp Development Group (Aust) P/L.
- The application seeks to rezone an area of approximately 1.45ha from Residential 1 zone to Business 1 zone, remove Design and Development Overlay 14 from the land being rezoned, amend Schedule 1 to the Business 1 Zone to include the floor area for the neighbourhood centre and obtain planning permit approval for the construction of a shopping centre.
- At its meeting of 26 June 2012, the Council resolved to exhibit the amendment and permit, subject to authorisation from the Minister for Planning. Authorisation was received on 24 July 2012.
- Public Exhibition of Amendment C242 commenced on 6 September 2012 until 8 October 2012.
- The Council received 31 submissions. Submissions comprised pro forma letters in support of the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre and individual written submissions. The general breakdown of submissions is:
    - 13 “Pro forma” submissions supporting the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre;
    - 18 individual written submissions from local residents, landowners, developers and service authorities (Includes late submissions).
- The individual written submissions include 6 letters of objection; 4 letters from service authorities, and 6 submissions of support and 2 letters commenting on the aspects of the amendment and planning permit application.
- Four late submissions were received from the EPA (no objection) and three local residents (supporting the shopping centre).
- In accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Council must now either: change the Amendment in the manner requested by the objecting submissions; refer submissions to an Independent Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning; or abandon the Amendment or part of the Amendment.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

- Council officers have considered all submissions and do not recommend any departures from what was exhibited.
- This report addresses the issues raised in the submissions and recommends they be referred to an Independent Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning.

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr Nelson seconded -

Having considered all submissions to Amendment C242 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, Council resolves to:

1) request the Minister for Planning to appoint an Independent Panel under Part 8 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;

2) refer all submissions to the Panel;

3) submit to the Panel its response to the submissions generally as outlined in this report.

Carried.

Report

Background

At its meeting on 25 October 2011, the Council considered a combined Planning Scheme Amendment/Planning Permit application made by planning consultants ERM Melbourne on behalf of Lascorp Development Group (Aust) P/L to enable the development of a new neighbourhood shopping centre at 4 – 46 Province Boulevard, Highton (Appendix 1 provides a site location plan).

The Council resolved to exhibit the amendment to rezone the 1.45 ha site from Residential 1 zone to Business 1 zone, remove Design and Development Overlay 14 from the land being rezoned, amend Schedule 1 to Business Zone 1 to include the floor area for the neighbourhood centre and obtain planning permit approval for the construction of a shopping centre, subject to Ministerial authorisation. (Appendices 2, 3, and 4 provide copies of the existing zoning and proposed zoning/overlay changes)

On 3 November 2011, Council wrote to the Minister for Planning requesting authorisation to prepare and exhibit Amendment C242 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Authorisation by the Minister for Planning was received on 28 November 2011 (Authorisation No. 20119).

Following authorisation from the Minister for Planning, the developer sought Council's support for revised plans for the shopping centre development. The developer submitted revised plans showing a decrease in the building foot print from 4660 sq metres to 3895 sq metres. This was achieved by reducing the number of speciality shops from eleven to seven. The revised plans also deleted the 97 space basement car park resulting in 181 car spaces being located in front of the building compared to 93 in the original plans.

At its meeting on 26 June 2012, Council considered the revised plans for the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre. Council resolved to support the preparation and exhibition of the amendment, subject to Ministerial authorisation.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

The main features of the exhibited plans are:

- Full line supermarket at 3200 sq metres;
- 7 Speciality shops totalling 695 sq metres;
- Associated signage.
- 195 car parking spaces (181 customer car parking spaces; 14 staff spaces);
- Landscaping within and around the development;
- Loading dock located at the northern end of the building, accessed off Stoneleigh Crescent.

Appendix 5 provides a copy of the site layout for the Neighbourhood Shopping Centre.

On 3 July 2012, the Council wrote to the Minister for Planning requesting re-authorisation to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme. On 24 July 2012, the Minister for Planning re-authorised the Council to prepare the amendment (Authorisation No. 20119).

In accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Amendment C242 was formally exhibited between 6 September 2012 and 8 October 2012.

As exhibited, the amendment proposes to:

- Rezone the subject land from Residential 1 zone to Business 1 zone;
- Remove the Design and Development Overlay 14 from the land being rezoned; and
- Amend the Schedule to the Business 1 zone to include a maximum floor space limit for shops on site.

As exhibited, the Planning Permit application seeks approval:

- To construct buildings and works associated with the development of a neighbourhood shopping centre;
- For dispensation from the car parking provisions at Clause 52.06; and
- For signage.

The updated Wandana Development Plan (showing a neighbourhood shopping centre at the proposed location), pursuant to Development Plan Overlay Schedule 6 of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, was informally exhibited with amendment C242. At the request of Council officers, the applicant was advised that the proposed location for the neighbourhood shopping centre was not generally consistent with the identified 'potential retail area' in the approved Wandana Development Plan and consequently required the plan to be updated.

A notice of the preparation of the Amendment appeared in the Victorian Government Gazette on 6 September 2012. Notices appeared in the Geelong Independent on 31 August 2012 and the Geelong Advertiser on 1 September 2012.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

Letters and notices were sent to relevant Government Departments, statutory authorities, community groups and to all landowners directly affected by the proposal on 30 August 2012.

As a consequence of the formal exhibition exercise, Council Officers noted that Clause 21.07-8 City of Greater Geelong Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy requires amendment to reflect the proposed neighbourhood centre at Wandana. This change was not part of the amendment nor was it exhibited.

The proposed changes to Clause 21.07-8 are reflected in Appendix 6. The proposed changes are minor and do not effect the outcome of the formal exhibition exercise. Appendix 6 confirms the changes as follows:

- The retail activity centre hierarchy map (Page 7) has been amended to show the Wandana Heights area as an identified "Neighbourhood Centre" (Map ref no.30).
- The retail activity centre hierarchy table (Page 8) has been amended to remove the reference to Wandana Heights as a "potential neighbourhood centre" and reference the Wandana area as a "neighbourhood centre". (Changes are in red text).

In addition to the proposed changes to Clause 21.07-8, an amendment is required to Schedule 3 to Clause 52.28-3 Gaming, which prohibits gaming machines in a shopping complex. The proposed Barrabool Hills neighbourhood shopping centre is now listed in Schedule 3 to Clause 52.28-3. The proposed changes are shown in red text at Appendix 7.

Discussion

As a consequence of the formal exhibition of Amendment C242, a total of 31 submissions were received.

For the purposes of this report, a more detailed breakdown of submissions indicates:

- 19 submissions in support of the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre;
    - 13 Pro forma submissions- Support is given due to the lack of convenient access to a neighbourhood centre in the area; the vacant status of the site; and lack of community meeting space in the Barrabool Hills area.
    - 6 written submissions- Focused on the necessity for a neighbourhood centre in this area, the potential to reduce traffic and increase more sustainable modes of transport, capacity pressure on existing retail centres in the locality. Comments were also received in relation to the design and landscaping treatment.
- 2 written submissions commenting on the design of the proposed development, including use of materials on the façade of the building and the implementation of mature landscaping.
- 6 written submissions objecting to the proposed neighbourhood centre. Objections raised issues in relation to lack of strategic justification, inconsistent strategic planning process, inappropriate site/location, impact on residential amenity and neighbourhood character, increase in traffic and noise, sufficient existing retail services in the locality.
- 4 submissions from Government agencies with recommendations but no objections.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

- Pursuant to the Planning and Environment Act 1987, the Council is required to consider all submissions made to an Amendment and must:
- Change the Amendment as requested by the submissions; or
- Refer the submissions to an Independent Panel appointed by the Minister for planning; or
- Abandon the Amendment.

Appendix 8 contains a schedule providing a summary of the submissions to C242 and Council Officer's recommended response to each submission.

Subject to the Minister for Planning appointing an Independent Panel to hear all submissions, the themes discussed below, in addition to the responses provided in Appendix 8, will form the basis of Council's submission to the Panel Hearing.

Policy Justification

The policy justification for the proposed neighbourhood centre has been challenged by a number of submitters. Submissions focused on the lack of strategic planning policy justification for the proposed neighbourhood centre and the adoption of an inconsistent planning process.

Officer response:

It is acknowledged that existing planning policy/strategic studies do not specifically identify the subject site for a neighbourhood shopping centre. Nevertheless, there is substantial strategic planning justification to support such a proposal in the Wandana area to provide for, in an accessible manner, the growing population.

For the purposes of this report to Council, it is necessary to review the policy justification for a neighbourhood centre in this area.

Council's adopted Wandana Structure Plan (1998), encapsulated in the MSS at Clause 21.15 Wandana, provides for the future development of this growth area.

The Structure Plan shows the proposed location for a neighbourhood centre south-west of the site proposed by amendment C242. However, policy support is provided by one of the Strategies for retail development in the Wandana area, as set out in Clause 21.15-2, which states:

> "*Locate a small neighbourhood shopping centre so that it has direct access to the collector street system*".

The subject land is located on Province Boulevard, which has a wide 13.2m carriageway within a 24 metre road reservation. This road is being developed as a major collector road into the new growth area.

The Wandana growth area is subject to Development Plan Overlay Schedule 6 (DPO6) to Clause 43.04. One of the requirements of the development plan is for:

> "*the designation of a site in the vicinity of Scenic Road for the provision of retail facilities*."

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

The Wandana Development Plan, which was approved by Council, as required by DPO6, prior to the subdivision and development of this area, makes provision for a "*potential retail area*" on land on the north side of Province Boulevard, immediately west of Scenic Road, with the Baptist church site (i.e. the land now proposed for the shopping centre) designated "to be retained for church use."
Given the proposed neighbourhood centre site is not generally consistent with identified "*potential retail area*" in the approved Wandana Development Plan, the applicant was advised by Council officers that it would be necessary for an amended development plan, pursuant to DPO6, to be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority, prior to the issue of the planning permit they have sought. The amended development would show the revised location of the neighbourhood centre i.e. on the subject land at 4-46 Province Boulevard. To ensure transparency in the planning process, the amended development plan was informally exhibited with the amendment documentation for C242.

Council's adopted Retail Strategy is referred to in Clause 21.07 of the MSS and a potential neighbourhood centre in the Wandana Heights area is shown on the Retail Centre Hierarchy Map at Clause 21.07-8. Council's Retail Strategy (Page 37) recognises the potential need for a new centre at Wandana Heights and capacity constraints on the Highton Shopping Centre as follows:

> *"New neighbourhood centres are required where there is substantial urban growth, and this Strategy supports the investigation of the development of a new supermarket-based shopping centre at Wandana to serve this area and relieve capacity constraints on the Highton Shopping Centre".*

Clause 22.03 Assessment Criteria for Retail Planning Applications, which also emanates from Council's Retail Strategy, details information to be provided in seeking planning approval for retail developments and the requirement for applicants to submit an Economic Impact Assessment (EIA). Accordingly, the applicant's consultants have prepared an EIA for the proposed shopping centre.

The following conclusions of the applicant's EIA are generally supported:-

- There appears to be a demand for a neighbourhood shopping centre in this locality particularly based on strong market growth.
- There will be no significant impact on any existing retail centres, which will continue to serve their role in the hierarchy.
- The development is likely to provide a net community benefit by providing improved accessibility to a new supermarket – based centre for residents of the surrounding area, new competition resulting in competitive pricing for consumers and increased local employment opportunities.

In summary, Council officers assessment of the applicant's strategic planning justification for the proposed neighbourhood centre has determined that there is a sound planning policy basis to support the proposal.

<u>Siting and Design</u>

A number of submissions raised concerns regarding the potential impact of the proposed development on the residential amenity/character of the area. Submissions focused on, among other things, the scale and siting of the proposed development, inconsistent overall design and development in the context of the surrounding residential character, use of materials and landscaping.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

Officer response:

The subject site and surrounding area is steeply undulating, which presents challenges for the development from an urban design perspective.

The shopping centre building will be cut into the hill such that it will be at a significantly lower level than the adjoining church, potentially reducing its overall effect on the urban environment.

To create a generally level site for the development, there will be a need for substantial filling up to and exceeding 4 metres behind retaining walls to be placed on the south-west portion of the site, along the Stoneleigh Crescent and Province Boulevard frontages.

The impact of both the filling behind high retaining walls and the shopping centre buildings themselves, particularly along the northern section of Stoneleigh Crescent, will be quite imposing, rising to heights of between 10 – 13 metres above the Stoneleigh Crescent footpath, with minimal setbacks of generally 6 - 9 metres. Many of the residential properties along Stoneleigh Crescent have been designed to take advantage of views to the north-west. The applicant's shadow plans show that there will be no impact on these properties in terms of overshadowing or loss of daylight.

The exhibited plans show a revised building footprint and revised car park layout from the plans originally considered by Council in October 2011. The removal of the basement car park has resulted in the provision of additional car parking spaces to the front of the building. While this is not considered a positive urban design outcome, the revised footprint has had the effect of increasing the set back of the retail buildings from Province Boulevard and Stoneleigh Crescent.

The enlarged car park will be at a higher level than Stoneleigh Crescent but will be visible to a small number of properties directly opposite in Province Boulevard. On the other hand, it will have minimal detrimental impact on the substantial number of dwellings to the south and west, which enjoy middle distance views of the subject land and beyond. The applicant has submitted perspective plans of the shopping centre taken from Leigh Rd and Avondale Avenue, which overlook the site approx 250 metres away (These plans were considered in Councils report of 26 June 2012). These plans demonstrate the sort of middle distance views from a substantial number of residential dwellings generally to the south of the site from where the full extent of the shopping centre and car park will be visible. The plans demonstrate the shopping centre only forms a small part of a wider view over the Barwon River valley from these properties.

Notwithstanding the increase in car parking spaces to the front of the neighbourhood centre, the building is set back from Province Boulevard by some 75 metres and Stoneleigh Crescent by some 6-9 metres, which assists in reducing the potential visual impact of the proposed development on properties at Province Boulevard/Stoneleigh Crescent.

The proposed neighbourhood centre is supported by a contemporary retail development design, using materials and landscaping that seek to integrate the development within its residential surroundings. Significant landscaping treatment is proposed along the western and southern boundaries of the site, including within the car park area and treatment to the western façade of the building. Once established and mature, the proposed landscaping will assist the integration process of the neighbourhood centre within its surroundings.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

While considerable attention has been paid to building design and landscaping to reduce the overall effect of the building bulk and retaining walls on the residential environment, the proposed design and treatment of the neighbourhood centre will not satisfy everyone's expectations.

Traffic and Noise

Objecting submissions to C242 predominantly focused on the issues of increased traffic and noise and associated implications of pedestrian safety. The issue of traffic and noise related to both customer traffic and traffic associated with truck deliveries and waste collection. The objecting submissions consider that these implications will affect the residential amenity and character of the neighbourhood.

Officer response:

The proposed development will result in increased traffic within the surrounding area. As a consequence of the additional traffic and associated shopping centre activities (service deliveries/waste collection/split systems), there will also be an increase in noise.

To the extent possible, these issues will be addressed by permit conditions. For example, the draft planning permit includes permit conditions dealing with delivery and loading and waste collection, amenity and noise emissions and signage. The conditions include the restriction of shopping centre activities to certain hours. Nevertheless, the proposed shopping centre will generate further traffic and activity to the immediate area. However, Province Boulevard is a major collector road serving the Wandana growth area. Province Boulevard is 13.2 metre carriageway in a 24 metre road reserve and is suitable to accommodate future traffic arising from the proposed development. Stoneleigh Crescent is also a 13.2 metre carriageway in a 24 metre road reservation, including two footpaths.

The applicant's traffic report confirms the suitability of the surrounding road network and intersections to accommodate the increase in traffic arising from the proposed development. The traffic report states that both the Scenic Rd/Province Blvd/Ridge Rd intersection and Province Blvd/Stoneleigh Crescent intersection will operate within acceptable limits during peak hour, with minimal queues and delays. The proposed on-site car parking provision has been deemed suitable.

In relation to pedestrian safety, both Province Boulevard and Stoneleigh Crescent have footpaths on either side of the road. Pedestrians can cross over at the Province Boulevard/Stoneleigh Crescent intersection. The existing pedestrian set-up at this intersection is indicated by way of dropped kerbs and median strips/pedestrian refuges that allow pedestrians to cross one half of the road reservation at a time.

Having considered all submissions, it is considered that the amendment has sufficient merit for it to proceed to an Independent Panel to be appointed by the Minister for Planning.

It is recommended that Council request the Minister for Planning appoint an Independent Panel to hear all submissions made to the amendment.

1. AMENDMENT C242 AND PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION (1527/2010) PROPOSED BARRABOOL HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

The proposed development is not expected to result in any adverse environmental impacts because the subject land is substantially vacant and contains no significant vegetation.

The potential reduction in the length and time of shopping trips undertaken by the community served by the neighbourhood shopping centre will be environmentally beneficial.

Financial Implications

Approval of the proposed development is unlikely to result in any financial implications for the Council.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The amendment is considered to be consistent with Clause 11.01-2 Activity Centre planning and 17.01-1 Business of the State Planning Policy Framework by making provision for a conveniently located neighbourhood activity centre to serve the needs of this new residential area.

The Amendment is consistent with Clauses 21.07 and 22.03 of the Local Planning Policy Framework which are derived from Council's Retail Strategy and generally consistent with Clause 21.15 Wandana resulting from the Wandana Structure Plan, as set out in detail in this report.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

In accordance with Section 80 (c) of the Local Government Act, Peter Bettess General Manager, Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, declares an indirect financial interest in that he owns Woolworths shares.

Risk Assessment

The processing of this amendment is considered to be low risk.

Social Considerations

It is considered that the Amendment will result in an overall net community benefit by improving accessibility to retail goods and services for the local community, increasing retail choice and competition and providing for employment in the local area.

Communication

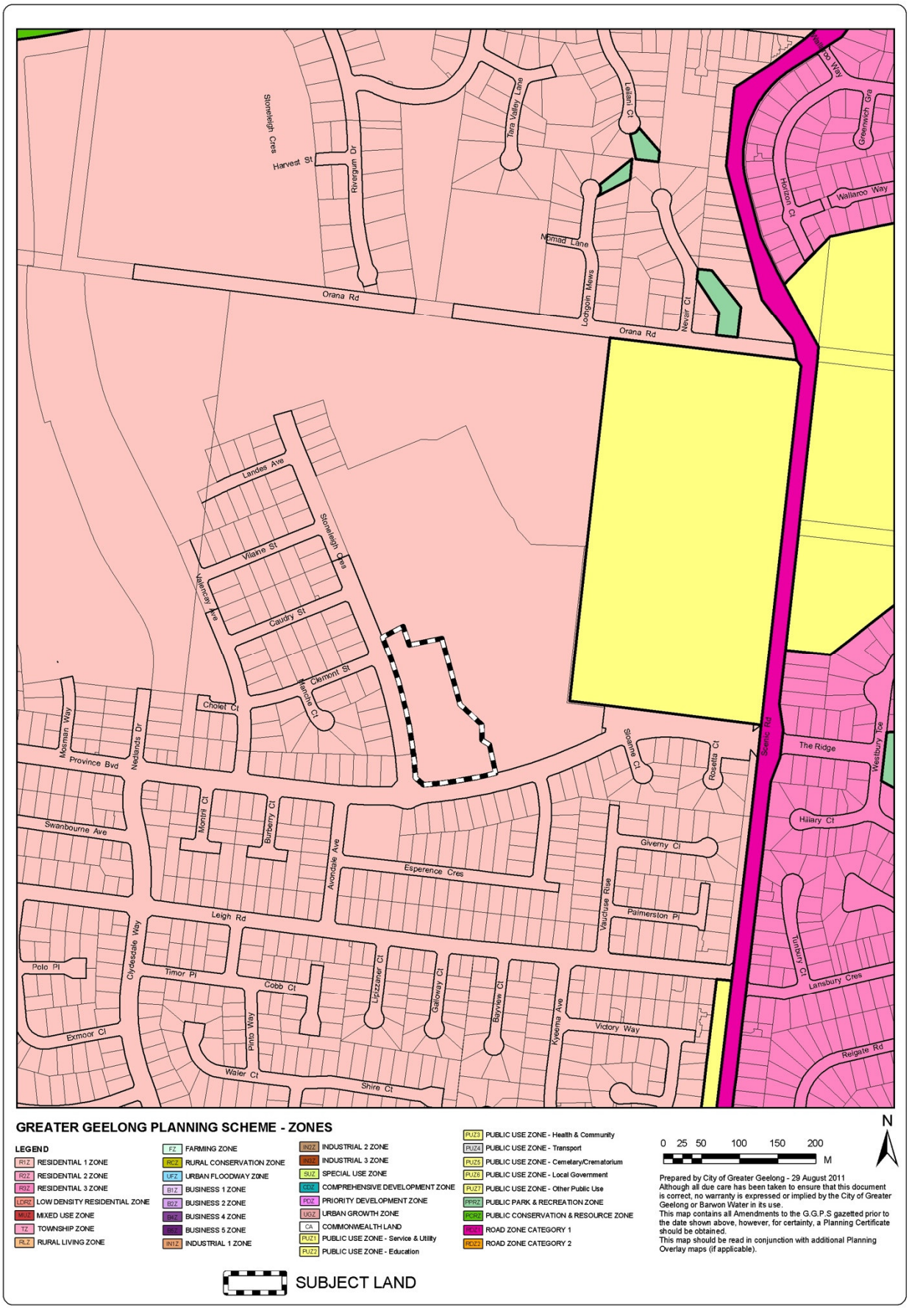
This amendment and accompanying permit have been formally exhibited in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. This process provided an opportunity for full public comment. As a consequence of the formal exhibition period and the receipt of a number of submissions, which have not been resolved, referral to an Independent Panel is required, subject to agreement by the Minister for Planning.

All submitters will be advised of the appointment of Planning Panel by Panels Victoria and will be afforded an opportunity to appear at the panel Hearing.

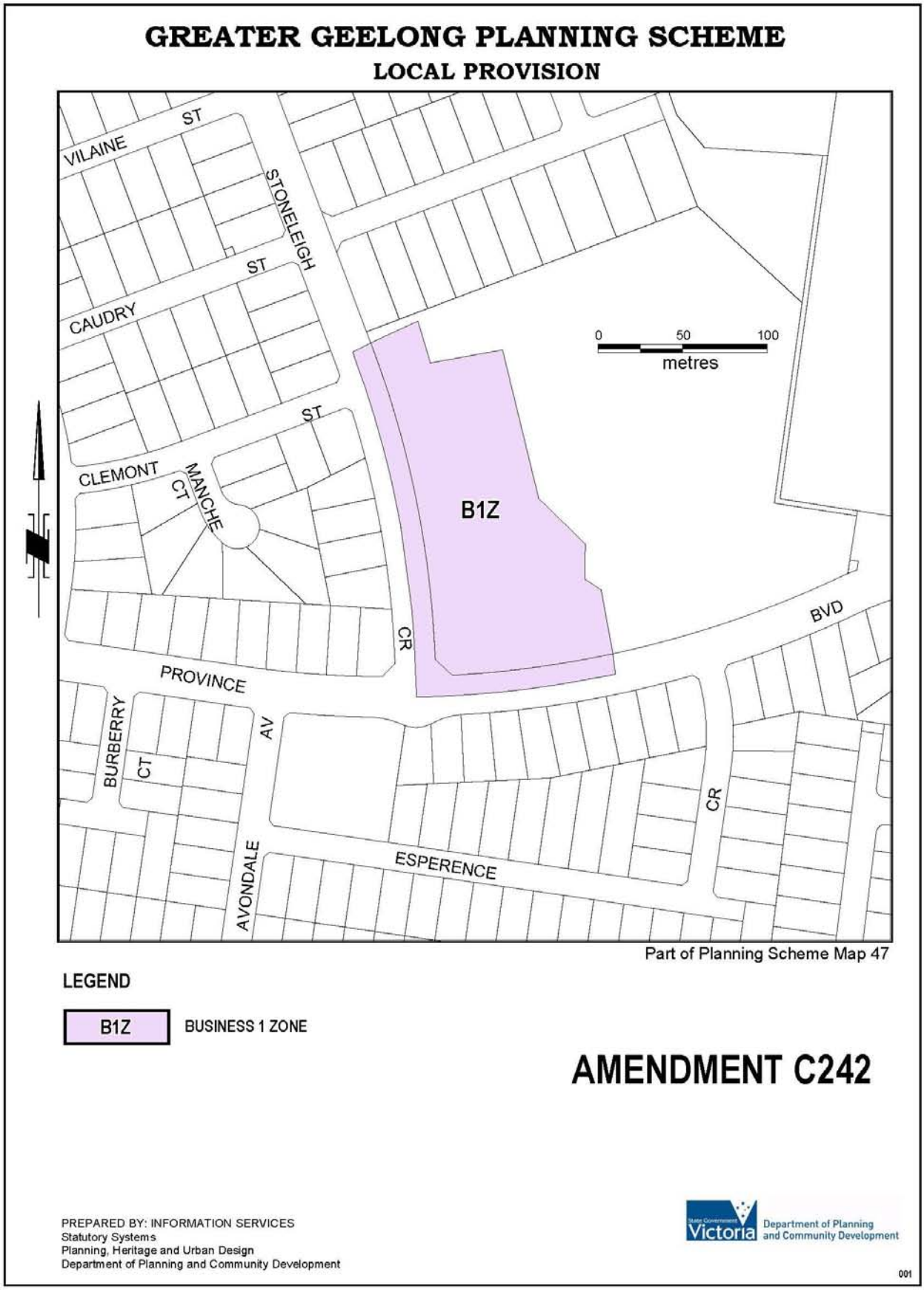
Appendix 1 Subject Land



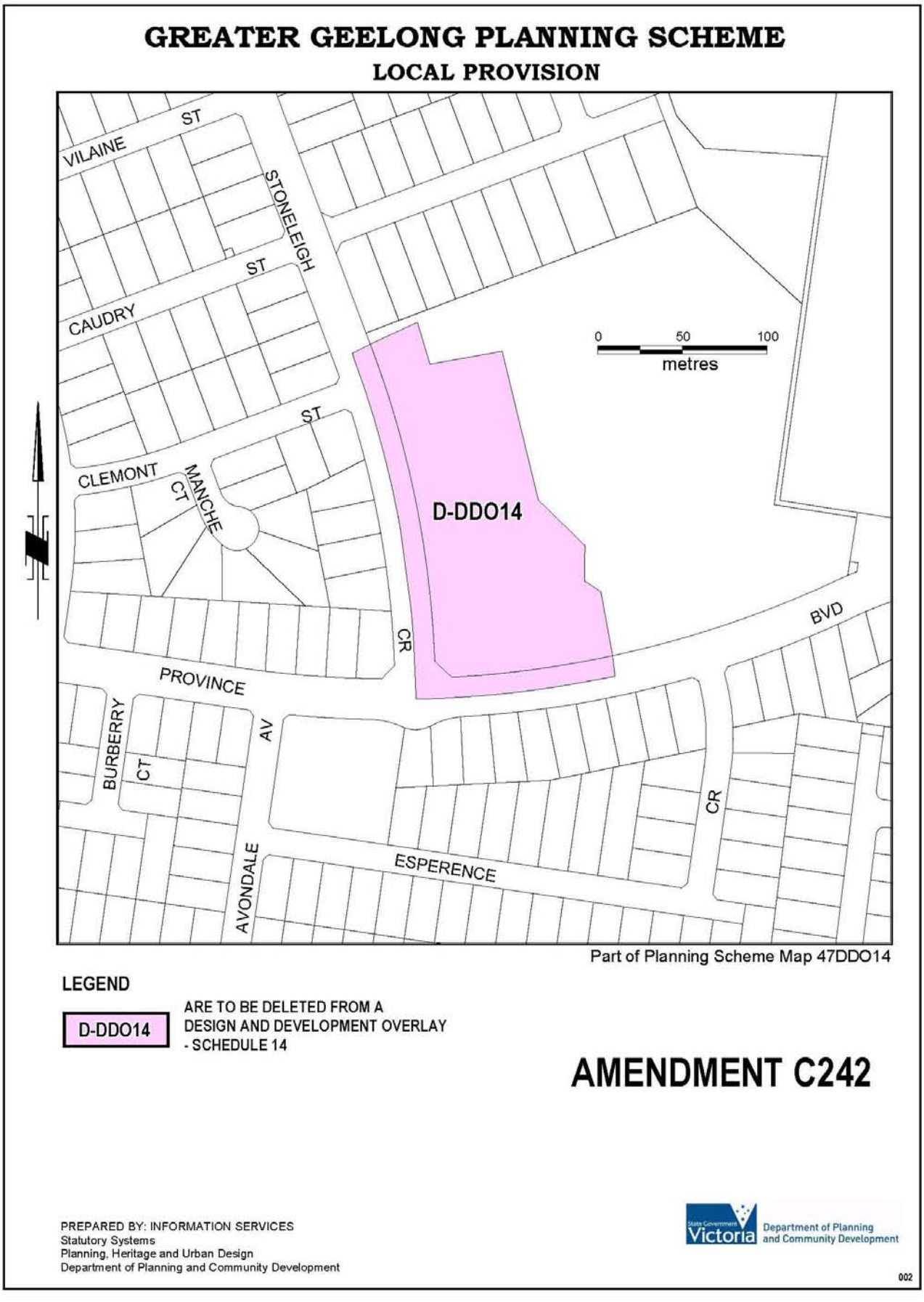
Appendix 2 Existing Zoning Plan



Appendix 3 Proposed Business 1 zone



Appendix 4 Proposed removal of DDO14



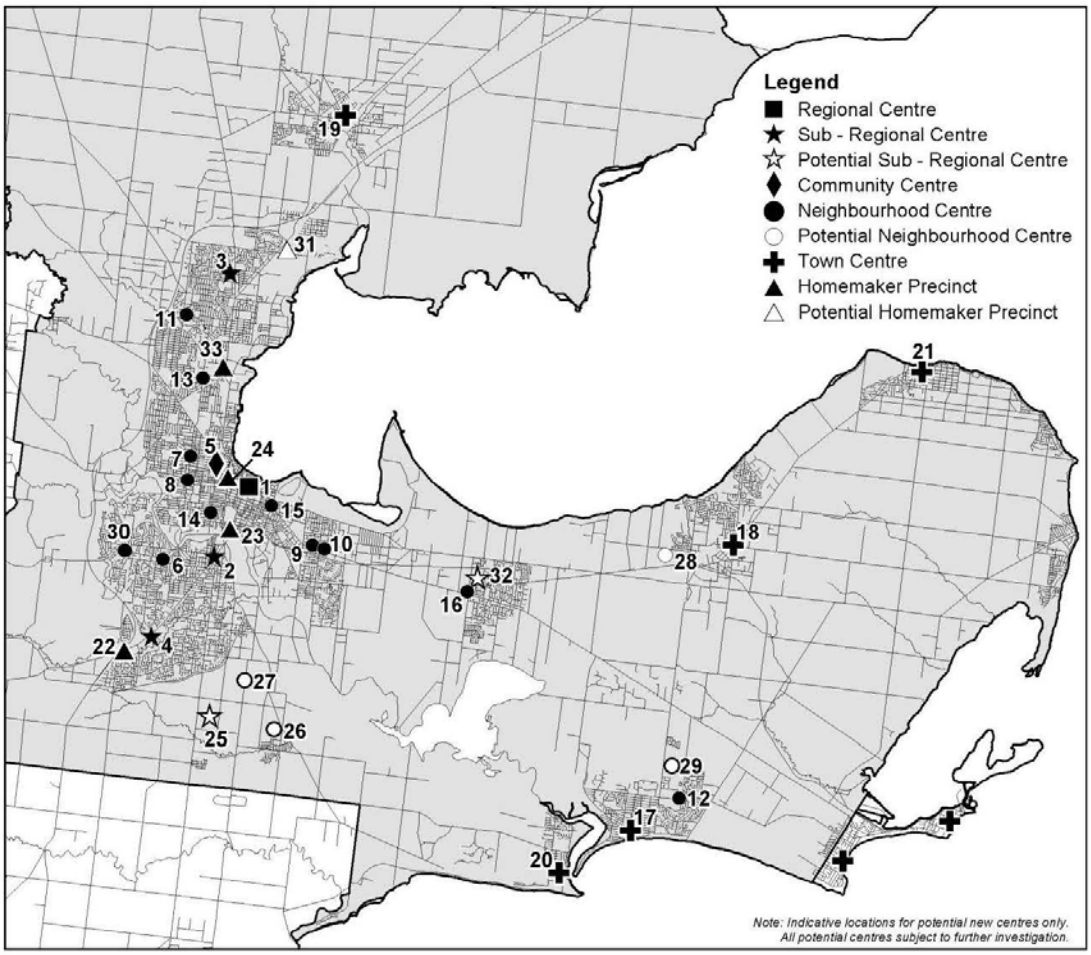
Appendix 5 Proposed Neighbourhood Shopping Centre- Site Layout



Appendix 6 Revised Clause 21.07-8 City of Greater Geelong Retail Acitvity Centre Hierarchy

21.07-8 City of Greater Geelong Retail Activity Centre Hierarchy

__/__/____
C242



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG RETAIL ACTIVITY CENTRE HIERARCHY		
LEVEL IN HIERARCHY	**IDENTIFIED CENTRES**	**INDICATIVE FLOORSPACE AND EXAMPLE KEY TENANTS**
Regional Centre	Central Geelong (1)	More than 100,000 sqm Department store, discount store(s), mini major(s), supermarkets(s) and extensive range of specialties
Sub-regional Centres	Belmont (2), Corio Village (3), Waurn Ponds (4)	15,000 sqm to 35,000 sqm Discount department store(s), mini major(s) supermarket(s) and specialties
Community Centre	Pakington Street (Geelong West) (5)	10,000 sqm to 25,000sqm Supermarket(s), mini major(s) and specialties
Neighbourhood Centres	Highton (6), Shannon Avenue (Geelong West) (7), Shannon Avenue (Newtown) (8), Bellarine Village (9), Newcomb Central (10), Bell Post (11), Ocean Grove marketplace (12), Separation Street (13), Pakington Street (Newtown) (14), Geelong East (15) Leopold (16) Wandana Heights (30)	2,500 sqm to 25,000 sqm Supermarket (small or full line), primarily convenience oriented specialties
Town Centres	Ocean Grove (Town Centre) (17), Drysdale (18), Lara (19), Barwon Heads (20), Portarlington (21)	1,500 sqm to 15,000 sqm Supermarket, mini major(s), specialties
Homemaker Precincts	Waurn Ponds (22), Moorabool/Fyans (23), Geelong West (24), North Geelong (33)	5,000 sqm to 50,000 sqm Large restricted retail type tenants
Potential Subregional Centres	Armstrong Creek (25), Leopold (32)	
Potential Neighbourhood Centres	Armstrong Creek East (26), Armstrong Creek Horseshoe Bend Rd (27), Jetty Road Growth Area (28), Ocean Grove north east growth corridor (29), ~~Wandana Heights (30)~~	
Potential Homemaker Precincts	Corio (31)	

Appendix 7 Revised Clause 52.28-3 Gaming

GREATER GEELONG PLANNING SCHEME

03/11/2011
C188

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 52.28-3

Prohibition of a gaming machine in a shopping complex

Name of shopping complex and locality	Land description
Market Square Shopping Centre, Geelong	62 Malop St, Geelong
Bay City Plaza Shopping Centre, Geelong	95 - 121 Malop St, Geelong
Waurnvale Shopping Centre (Town and Country Shopping World), Grovedale	Land on the southwest corner of Princes Highway and Pioneer Rd, Grovedale, also known as 173 - 199 Pioneer Rd, Grovedale
Bellarine Village Shopping Centre, Newcomb	Land on the northwest corner of Bellarine Highway and Glenwood St, Newcomb, also known as 27-37 Bellarine Highway, Newcomb
Meadowvale Village Shopping Centre, Norlane	Land on the east side of Anakie Rd, Norlane (south of Bosbury St) also known as 290-306 Anakie Rd, Norland
Corio Village Shopping Centre, Corio	Land bounded by Bacchus Marsh Rd, Purnell Rd, Goulburn Ave and Gellibrand St, Corio. also known as 83A Purnell Rd, Corio
Grovedale Shopping Centre, Grovedale	Land on the southwest corner of Heyers Rd and Burdoo Drive, Grovedale, also known as 79 Heyers Rd, Grovedale
Drysdale Village Shopping Centre, Drysdale	Land south of Wyndham St, Drysdale bounded by Wyndham St, Eversley St, Palmerston St, and Portarlington Rd, and land north of Wyndham St, Drysdale, bounded by Wyndham St, Carolanne Drive, Clifton Springs Rd and the commencement of the existing Residential 1 zone boundary
Newcomb Shopping Centre, Newcomb	Land on the northeast corner of Bellarine Highway and Wilsons Rd, Newcomb, also known as 71 Bellarine Highway, Newcomb
The Centreway, Lara	Land on the east and west sides of The Centreway, Lara, east of Waverley Rd
Leopold Shopping Centre, Leopold	Land on the corner of Bellarine Highway and Melaluka Road, Leopold.
Aldi Supermarket, Corio	Land on the south west corner of Broderick Road and the Princes Highway, part of 465 Princes Highway also known as Lot 1 on PS423406M.
Jetty Road Neighbourhood Activity Centre	South-west corner of the land at 148-166 Jetty Road, Drysdale.

Barrabool Hills Neighbourhood Shopping Centre	Land on the south-west corner of Province Boulevard and Stoneleigh Crescent, Highton, also known as 1-46 Province Boulevard, Highton.

Appendix 8 Summary of Submissions Table

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
1.			Pro forma 1 (Support)	Supports the development of the neighbourhood centre and rezoning of the vacant land for the reasons below: • There currently is not a convenient neighbourhood centre in the area and she would like to be able to have the option to walk or ride to and from the shops. The proposed development would allow her to do this. • The site is currently vacant and, in her view, would make an excellent site for a shopping centre. • The Barrabool Hills area generally lacks a community meeting place and she believes the shopping centre will assist in providing a community space for local residents, in conjunction with the Church.	• The submitter's support for the proposed neighbourhood centre is noted. • The proximity of the proposed neighbourhood centre to the site identified for the community centre, immediately to the south-west across the Province Blvd/Stoneleigh Crescent intersection, will provide for good connections between in the future. A pedestrian access between the neighbourhood centre and Baptist Church has also been proposed in the plans.
2.			Objection	• Submission is very brief stating they are against the rezoning of this residential area.	• The submitter's objection to the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre is noted.
3.			No Objection	• The existing water and sewerage infrastructure in the area has enough capacity for the proposed development. • Requests the developer to meet a number of conditions in relation to water and sewer infrastructure.	• Comments noted. • The Council has amended the draft planning permit to reflect the inclusion of Barwon Water's recommended conditions. An updated draft planning permit is attached to this report at

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
					Appendix 8.
4.			Comments	• Overall the design isn't bad. • The feature tiles on the highest part of the building is a look that will date quickly and badly. Why can't the materials reflect and blend in with the surroundings? Using stone, stack stone would make it blend better. • Shopping Centre should have colours and materials that make it unobtrusive to the residential surroundings and should be heavily planted with tall and medium height trees.	• The submitter's comments regarding the overall design of the proposed shopping centre are noted. • The proposed neighbourhood centre is such that it reflects a non-residential use. The design of the building is contemporary in nature and uses materials that represent the aspiration of the developer for the overall design. The painted precast panels in feature colours will provide for a suitable external treatment on the relevant sections of the proposed building. • Landscaping is an integral part of the proposed development, which will assist the integration of the neighbourhood centre within the surrounding area. The proposed landscaping treatment will implement trees along the western and southern boundaries of the site. Planting is also proposed on the building and also, within the car park area.
5.			No Objection		• No action required.
6.			Objection	• Will be greatly affected by the proposed Shopping Centre. Concerned how the proposed shopping centre will affect her property and the local area. The site is not suitable for future development, growth and expansion. There is an abundance of land in the Highton area that could better faciltiate a development of this type- why not refurbish these centres?	• The subject land is considered suitable for the proposed neighbrouhood centre. This is on the back of a review of the strategic justification for the neighbourhood centre and in the context of the future growth of the wider urban growth area. Existing Council strategies e.g. adopted Retail Strategy, confirms the requriement to alleviate capacity constraints on the Highton Village Centre. The centre has limited capacity to grow. In this context, the Retail Strategy also supports the investigation of the development of a new shopping centre at Wandana to serve this growth area.

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				• Suburb is currently very peaceful and picturesque- volumes of additional traffic will de-value properties. The only exit/entry point- directly opposite her property. Existing problems reversing out of property due to fall/slope of the road and cars driving above speed limit.	• The concerns regarding existing traffic are acknowledged. There is an existing speed limit along Province Blvd. It is understood to be 50km/hr. The gradient of Province Blvd is also quite steep, which will require consideration by future users of the neighbouhood centre when entering and exiting the centre. The increase in traffic will be noticeable, however, the road network has been demonstrated to be suitable to accommodate the future increase. The implementation of road marking prior to the opening of the store will assist in directing traffic appropriately and safely.
7.			Support	• Believes that this is a great concept. • Extreme doubts over the traffic report and parking that will be available. o Reports/Plans do not take into account that people will change their shopping behaviour once the centre is built- existing residents in Highton will travel to the new Shopping Centre- this has not been taken into account in the traffic or parking plans. o The plan indicates that there are parallel parks available on the streets. However, there are no	• The applicant's traffic report has considered the impacts of the proposed development on the surrounding road network. • The traffic report does refer to the availability of parallel parks along Province Blvd. However, the report confirms that the proposed development provides for an appropriate amount of on-site car parking spaces required for the proposed retail

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				traffic lights or pedestrian crossings- this will be a danger for pedestrians.	services. The report states that there is a surplus of car parking spaces provided for when assessed against statutory car parking requirements for developments of this nature. However, the draft planning permit (condition no.14) has also been updated to reflect the requirement for the developer to submit plans, prior to the occupation of the building, for line marking for on-street parking and associated signage. Council will seek to control the extent of parking on Province Boulevard, particularly on the development side (See Appendix 9). At present, there are pedestrian footpaths on either side of Province Blvd. Pedestrians can cross at the Province Blvd/Stoneleigh Crescent intersection.
8.			Objection	Purchased their property for the following reasons: • Located close to new Ring Rd but far enough away to avoid traffic noise; • Located within easy access to Waurn Ponds & Highton SC; • Good safe location and environment to raise a family; • New development, style of housing suited needs. Reasons for opposition: • Vastly increased traffic along Province Blvd; Substantially increased traffic noise, including HGV's and waste trucks; Higher risk of accident/injury from increased traffic.	• The submitter's comments in relation to the purchase of their property are acknowledged. • The proposed neighbourhood centre will result in an increase in traffic through the area and consequently, increased traffic noise. However, the planning permit has sought to address these issues by way of planning permit conditions e.g. delivery and loading times and waste collection times, amenity and noise. The applicant's traffic report has considered the impact on the surrounding road network. The report concludes that

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
					the existing road network is sufficient to accommodate the increased levels of traffic. In terms of pedestrian safety, the existing pedestrian footpath and crossing points at the Province Blvd/Stoneleigh intersection will be retained.
				• Existing accessible shopping centre locations; Waurn Ponds has the room to expand.	• Existing Council strategies e.g. adopted Retail Strategy, has identified issues with existing retail centres. The Highton village Centre is constrained and requires alleviation. The proposed neighbourhood centre will assist with capacity issues in the Highton Village Centre.
				• Gathering of '*undesirables*'- this is a serious concern.	• The proposed neighbourhood centre is considered to provide for an overall net community benefit offering additional retail services to this growing residential growth area, employment opportunities to the local population and providing for a communal space for people to meet.
9.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
10.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
11.			Support	• Proximity to Highton shops is a frustrating issue. Whilst within walking distance, it is very difficult to walk given the hills, especially with children.	• The proposed location for the neighbourhood shopping centre will provide for an accessible location for residents living in the surrouding area to do their shopping. It is acknowledged though that the topogrpahical nature of the surrounding area to the proposed development will remain challenging for pedestrains in certain parts.
				• No central facilities in the Highton area with little community interaction.	• The retail facilities provided by the neighbourhood centre should assit in meeting the demand of the surrounding resident population. There are existing communtiy facilities in the area i.e. the Baptist Church, however, the proposed

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
					development will offer a different service to the local community. There is the potential for greater community interaction.
				• Highton shopping centre is overpopulated and parking is very difficult. Additional shopping centre would take pressure off Highton Village and serve residents of old Highton, Wandana Heights and The Province area.	• Council is aware that there are capacity constraints at the Highton Village Shopping area. The proposed development should assist in alleviating such pressures.
12.			Support	• The submitter is thrilled at the prospect of a neighbourhood centre being built within a few hundred meters of their property. • Closest shopping centre is Bellevue Ave, Highton- at times impossible to get parking, resulting in us and others bypassing this shopping centre altogether. • Area is growing fast- shopping centre will help reduce traffic with many families having a shopping centre within walking distance. • The view out of our back window looks directly across to where the shopping centre will be and yet we are still very excited about having our own 'local' supermarket close by. • Understand that delivery trucks	• The submitter's comments in relation to existing retail service centres in the area, associated parking issues, proximity of the proposed shopping centre to their property and truck delivery times are noted. • The location of the proposed neighbourhood centre should assist with people adopting more sustainable modes of transport, especially those living in the surrounding residential area. • The impact of the proposed development is such that it requires detailed design consideration and the implementation of appropriate landscaping in order to best integrate the proposed neighbourhood centre into the surrounding context. The proposed scheme of measures has had particular regard to the integration of the proposed development. • Delivery and loading times have been dealt with by way of a

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				may concern some residents on Stoneleigh Crescent but with some restrictions placed on delivery times, this problem can be substantially reduced.	condition on the planning permit.
13.			Objection	• Existing houses on Province Blvd will have their visual and noise amenity severely affected by the rezoning of the subject land. The proposal is being imposed on the residents, will take away the amenity of the area, is inconsiderate, will devalue the housing in the immediate area and should be located elsewhere. Key issues: • Council Planning • Impact • Traffic • Signage • Landscaping	• The submitter should note that the issue of property de-valuation is not a material planning consideration. Notwithstanding this, the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre will increase traffic in the surrounding area and will likely result in increased noise. However, the proposal is located on one of the key connector roads into the wider residential growth area. Province Blvd provides for an accessible location to the neighbourhood centre both from within the residential area and Scenic Road. Province Blvd is capable of accommodating the increased traffic levels arising from the neighbourhood centre. The extent to which these issues can be mitigated has been assessed by the respective reports/assessments submitted to the Council as part of the rezoning and planning permit application. The planning permit has sought to address any potential issues in relation to traffic, noise, goods deliveries, plant and equipment and landscaping by way of permit conditions. The applicant has considered the requirements for car parking for retail services. The outcome of their assessment finds a surplus in provision set against the statutory requirements. However, the draft planning permit (condition no.14) has also been updated to reflect the requirement for the developer to submit plans, prior to the occupation of the building, for line marking for on-street parking and associated signage. Council will seek to control the extent of parking on Province Boulevard, particularly on the development side. (See Appendix 9)

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				○ Clause 21.5 includes a strategy to locate a SMALL neighbourhood activity centre- this proposal is not small and does NOT respect the neighbourhood character.	• Prior to the opening of the supermarket, Council will seek to implement a scheme of measures to control the extent of car parking on Province Boulevard, particularly on the development side of Province Boulevard. • It is acknowledged that Clause 21.5 includes a strategy for a small neighborhood centre in this area. In order to justify a proposal of this size, the applicant was required to address the criteria of Clause 22.03 Assessment criteria for retail planning applications. The applicant has submitted an economic impact assessment for a neighbourhood shopping centre of some 3,895 sq m. The EIA has concluded that there appears to be a demand for such services at the proposed scale in this area, which will result in an overall net community benefit. The strategic justification for the proposed neighbourhood centre has been considered and demonstrated. The Council's adopted Retail Strategy is referred to in Clause 21.07 of the MSS and a potential neighbourhood centre in the Wandana area is shown in the Retail Centre Hierarchy map at Clause 21.07-9. Council' Retail Strategy (P.37) recognises the potential need for a new centre at Wandana and the requirement to relieve capacity constraints at the Highton Shopping Centre. While none of these documents identify this particular site, the need for a centre in this general area is identified.
				○ Hours of operation are not neighbour friendly (very long operating hours) ○ All signage appears to be standard Woolworths signage, which does not suit the character of the area.	• The daily operational hours of such retail services are long. However, neighbourhood shopping centres are generally associated with expected peak customer shopping times. • The proposed signage has been assessed as part of the planning permit and considered suitable for the purposes of the retail facility, subject to the applicant satisfying the relevant permit conditions which, among other things, seek to control the potential impact on adjoining land and road reserve. The

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				○ Does not respect the neighbourhood character. Visual impact, noise impact and lack of neighbourhood feel will be dominated by a large commercial facility.	signage reflects the proposed Woolworths logo, which is the intended operator of the facility. • The proposed external treatment works to the neighbourhood shopping centre provide for a range of materials that seek to integrate the development within the surrounding residential area. The impact of the proposed retail development, in urban design terms, will undoubtedly be a contentious issue for respective residents in the area. The applicant has given particular consideration to the siting and massing of the proposed development, including setting back the development some 75 m from Province Blvd. Landscaping will be implemented prior to the occupation of the building. The landscape plan submitted describes the species proposed for treatment along the site boundaries (principally the southern and western boundaries.) An acoustic report has been submitted by the applicant to consider the noise impact of the proposed development. However, the requirement for an acoustic fence/soundproof walls to block the noise from the car park would not result in a good urban design outcome.
14.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
15.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
16.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
17.			Pro forma 1 & comments (Support)	Additional comments: • Local specialty shops will offer youth employment opportunities bakery/café/chemist/dry cleaner etc.	• The submitter's comments are noted in relation to the provision of employment opportunities for the local population.

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
18.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
19.			Objection	• Currently building dream home on Clemont St/Stoneleigh Cr and we are not happy with the proposed planning of a supermarket. When we bought our block, we were not given any indication that the vacant area would be a business zone. We are very disappointed and think it is not necessary to build another supermarket as there are sufficient amount of businesses around the Highton area.	• It is acknowledged that the proposed site has not historically been identified for a neighbourhood centre. However, as part of the Council's assessment of the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre, Council considered the strategic context for the need for a neighbourhood shopping centre in this general area. The strategic justification for the proposed neighbourhood centre is supported by existing planning policy/studies and by the applicants. An economic impact assessment was submitted in support of the proposals, concluding the ability of this area to accommodate a new neighbourhood shopping centre. There are existing retail centres in the general area, however, capacity constraints have been identified in certain centres i.e. Highton Village Centre
20.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
21.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
22.			Comments	Comments: • Wants mature trees upon installation. This will soften the impact of the development to the local residents in the area.	• The landscape proposals provide for a range of tree species to be planted along the boundaries of the proposed neighbourhood shopping centre. Twenty two 'Yellow Bloodwood' trees, which reach a height of some 12 metres upon maturity, are proposed for planting along the western and southern boundaries of the site. The plans are not specific with regard to the maturity of the trees at planting. • The planning permit requires that the landscaping works be carried out prior to the occupation of the building.

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
23.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
24.			Objection	The submitter objects as follows: • There is no strategic planning support for a Neighbourhood Centre of this size at this location; • The Amendment is inconsistent with the aims and the requirements of Schedule 6 to the Development Plan Overlay;	• The submitter should note that the plans for the proposed neighbourhood centre were revised as per Council's report on 26 June 2012. The revised plans show a reduced floor space of 3,895 sq m and not, as repeatedly referred to in the submitter's letter, 4660 sq m. • It is acknowledged that the proposed site is not specifically identified for a neighbourhood centre. However, Clause 21.15 Wandana of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme refers to the requirement to locate "a small neighbourhood shopping so that it has direct access to the collector street system'. The proposed neighbourhood centre of 3,895 sq m is supported by an economic impact assessment, prepared by the applicant's consultants in accordance with Clause 22.03 Assessment of Criteria for Retail Planning Applications. The EIA demonstrates the ability of this area to accommodate a neighbourhood centre of the proposed size. The location of the proposed neighbourhood centre, adjacent to a key collector road leading into the heart of the wider residential growth area, provides for good accessibility. Province Blvd provides convenient access to Scenic Road from within the expanding growth area. The applicant's traffic report has concluded that the existing road network and intersection are sufficient to accommodate the future increase in traffic resulting from the proposed development. • The Development Plan Overlay Schedule 6 (DPO6) to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme for the Wandana Growth Area states, as one of its requirements for the development plan, is for "the designation of a site in the vicinity of Scenic Road for the provision of retail facilities." The Council has

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
					since approved the development plan, which makes provision for a potential retail area on land on the north side of Province Blvd immediately west of Scenic Road. While the proposed development is not generally consistent within this statement, the applicant has been requested by Council officers to amend the development plan, pursuant to DPO6, and submit it for approval by the Council. The updated Wandana Development Plan has been informally exhibited as part of the exhibition of Amendment C242.
				• The use and development of this site as proposed will have a detrimental impact on the amenity of the surrounding residential precinct;	• The integration of the proposed neighbourhood centre within the wider residential context is a challenge in urban design terms. Notwithstanding this, the applicant has sought to carefully site and mass the building on the subject land in order to mitigate any significant adverse impact on adjoining property owners. For example, a 75m setback from Province Blvd and extensive cut and fill to leave the neighbourhood centre substantially lower than the adjoining Baptist Church. The proposed design of the shopping centre will not be considered appropriate by certain landowners. Through the use of building materials and appropriate landscaping, the external treatment of the building and site boundaries will assist with the integration of the proposed development.
				• The development is incongruent with the site context and therefore is an undesirable development at this location;	• The proposed neighbourhood centre is not considered to be out of context with the surrounding area or the aspirations for the wider growth area. If the proposed development were to take place on the potential area identified by existing Wandana Development Plan west of Scenic Road, the site context would not be too dissimilar to that being proposed under Amendment C242.
				• The proposed reduction in the	• In relation to car parking, the submitter should note that as a

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				provision of car spaces is inappropriate and will impact on parking in the surrounding residential area; • A planning scheme amendment of this magnitude should be considered in the context of a broader review of the Wandana Structure Plan. Inconsistent strategic planning process- not part of wider review of strategic planning documents.	consequence of the revised floor plans, the requirement for car parking spaces has been reduced. Consequently, the figures referred to in the submission are not relevant. The Council's traffic unit is satisfied with the car parking arrangements, subject to certain permit conditions being met. The applicant's traffic report finds that there is a surplus of on-site car parking spaces. • Council officers assessment of the proposed neighborhood centre focused on the strategic planning merits of the proposal. As it stands, there is substantial strategic planning justification for the proposed development in this area.
25.			No Objection		• No action required.
26.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
27.			Pro forma 1 (Support)		
28.			(Late Submission)	• No objection • Recommend the consideration of a number of conditions to be attached to the planning permit.	• The Council has amended the draft planning permit to reflect the inclusion of the EPA's recommended conditions. An updated draft planning permit is attached to this report.
29.			Support (Late Submission)	• Shopping Centre should not be seen as an option but a necessity. The growing number of houses in this locality require a shopping centre.	• The submitter's support for the proposed shopping centre is noted.

No	Name	Address	Submission Type	Summary of submission	Council officer response
				• Highton Village- grossly inadequate and overcrowded with nowhere to expand.	
30.			Support (Late Submission)	• Existing Highton Village shopping Centre is under extreme pressure arising from the growth of Highton. • Proposed shopping centre shopping centre should be seen as a necessity.	• The submitter's support for the proposed shopping centre is noted.
31.			Support (Late submission)	• Owns a lot at 53 Stoneleigh Cr and thinks this is a great idea.	• The submitter's support for the proposed shopping centre is noted.

Appendix 9 Updated draft Planning Permit

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

Permit No.: 1527/2010

Planning Scheme: Greater Geelong Planning Scheme

Responsible Authority: City of Greater Geelong

PLANNING PERMIT

(DRAFT)

GRANTED UNDER DIVISION 5 OF PART 4 OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

ADDRESS OF THE LAND:	4-46 Province Boulevard, Highton
THE PERMIT ALLOWS:	Development of the land for Shop, Business identification signs and internally illuminated signs and a reduction in the number of car parking spaces required, generally in accordance with the endorsed plans.

THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS APPLY TO THIS PERMIT:

Amended Plans

1. Prior to the commencement of development, amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the responsible authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and three copies must be provided. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans dated 21 February 2012 but modified to show:
   a) The introduction of a pedestrian link/stairway to enable access from Stoneleigh Crescent; (Note: The secondary link to Stoneleigh Crescent does not have to be DDA compliant). Sign/s must be placed at the Stoneleigh Crescent link directing pedestrians to the DDA compliant access.
   b) Full details of screening and roof mounted plant and equipment including, section plan, materials, colours and profiles;
   c) Location of waste storage area/s which are fully screened from public view;
   d) Any changes necessary to respond to the requirements specified as a condition by the Department of Transport;
   e) A revised landscape plan which is generally in accordance with the plan prepared by J. Patrick (dated Feb 2012), which included details of the proposed 'green wall' on the west elevation, additional landscaping in the car park area including along the main internal pedestrian path and store entrance.

Layout not altered and satisfactory completion

2. The development as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

3. Once the development has started it must be continued and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Date Issued: DRAFT (7/11/12)	**Date Permit comes into operation: Not Specified** (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	**Signature for the Responsible Authority**

Landscaping

4. Prior to the occupation of the building, the landscaping works shown on the endorsed plans must be carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

5. The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, including that any dead, diseased or damaged plants are to be replaced.

Amenity and Noise Emissions

6. Emissions from the site must comply with the requirements of EPA publication N3/89 Interim Guidelines for control of noise from industry in country Victoria and in accordance with the State Environment Protection Policy (Control of Noise from Commerce, Industry and Trade (No. N-1 (SEPP N-1) to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

7. The amenity of the area must to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority not be adversely affected by the use or development as a result of:
   a) transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
   b) appearance of any building, works, stored goods or materials;
   c) emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products or oil; or
   d) the presence of vermin.

Engineering, Vehicle Access and Car Parking

8. Prior to the commencement of site works, the developer is required to submit a drainage strategy to the Responsible Authority for approval. This shall take the form of a Site Stormwater Management Plan (SSMP), and include the following minimum information:
   a) Site analysis (survey, existing drainage system in and adjacent to the site, existing services, other constraints);
   b) Details of required cut and fill;
   c) Drainage design for the development including layout plans, design details and calculations and hydraulic grade lines;
   d) Pipe sizes and grades, location of pits, and details of outlet(s);
   e) On-site detention with capacity for runoff generated by the critical 10 year ARI rainfall event, with the discharge rate limited to equivalent pre-development levels;
   f) A portion of the 'surplus land' area may be required to accommodate such features;
   g) Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) features to achieve current best practice pollutant removal targets, and;
   h) A fee of 3.25% of the total cost of any civil works external to the site, excluding GST, is payable to Council for design checking and supervision.

9. Prior to the occupation of the buildings, the site must be drained in accordance with approved plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

10. Any redundant vehicular crossings are to be replaced with kerb and channel to match existing construction in the street to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

11. Prior to the development commencing, detailed engineering design plans detailing car parking facilities are to be prepared by a suitably qualified engineer and submitted and approved by the Responsible Authority.

Date Issued: DRAFT (7/11/12)	**Date Permit comes into operation: Not Specified** (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	**Signature for the Responsible Authority**

12. Prior to the occupation of the building, the areas set aside for the parking of vehicles and access lanes as shown on the endorsed plans must be:
    a) Constructed and properly formed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the plans;
    b) Surfaced with an all weather seal coat;
    c) Drained, and
    d) Line marked to indicate each car space and all access lanes, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

13. Car spaces, access lanes and driveways must be kept available for these purposes at all times to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Road works

14. Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Responsible Authority and prior to the occupation of the building, road upgrading works at the two intersections (Scenic Road/Province Boulevard and Province Boulevard/Stoneleigh Crescent) must be undertaken in accordance with plans submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plans must show all works necessary to ensure that islands are fully mountable and strong enough to withstand heavy vehicles and the placement of advisory signage discouraging the use of engine brakes, along with linemarking for on-street parking and associated signage. *(Note: With the written consent of the Responsible Authority, the works may be deferred for an agreed time period to enable performance monitoring of the intersections to establish extent of upgrade works required in consultation with Council's Traffic Engineering Unit. An Agreement under Section 173 of the Planning & Environment Act may be required to satisfy this condition).*

Bicycle Parking

15. Bicycle spaces must be provided near the entrance and in accordance with the endorsed plans.

Construction Management

16. Prior to commencement of any construction on this site, a detailed Construction Management Plan must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. This plan must detail the following:
    a) A staging plan for all construction phases including indicative dates for commencement and completion;
    b) Intended access for construction vehicles;
    c) Engineering assessment of assets that will be impacted on by construction and recommended techniques to minimise any adverse impact;
    d) Details of actions to be implemented to in the event of damage to abutting assets;
    e) Details of where construction personnel will park;
    f) Hours/days of construction;
    g) Phone numbers of on-site personnel or other supervisory staff to be contactable in the event of issues arising on site;
    h) Details of site cleanliness and clean up regimes; and
    i) Material storage.
    j) Construction and post-construction activities must be in accordance with EPA Publication 275 Construction Techniquies for Sediment Control 1991 or as amended.

    When approved this Construction Management Plan shall form part of this permit as it relates to the development.

17. During the construction phase of the development, the following conditions must be met to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:
    a) only clean rainwater shall be discharged to the stormwater drainage system;

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b) stormwater drainage system protection measures shall be installed as required to ensure that no solid waste, sediment, sand, soil, clay or stones from the premises enters the stormwater drainage system;
c) vehicle borne material from the premises shall not accumulate on the roads abutting the site;
d) all machinery and equipment must be cleaned (if required) on site and not on adjacent footpaths or roads; and

Plant and equipment

18. Unless otherwise approved by the Responsible Authority, all plant and equipment must be contained within the envelope of the buildings and concealed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and in accordance with the endorsed plans.

Delivery and loading and waste collection/storage

19. The loading bay area must remain free and available for this purpose at all times to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

20. Except with the prior consent of the Responsible Authority deliveries to the supermarket must only occur between the hours of:
7.00am – 10.00pm daily (with no restriction to the number of deliveries); and
10.00pm – 7.00am (with not more than one delivery between these hours).

Deliveries to the premises must be in accordance with EPA Publication 1254 (Noise Control Guidelines 2008) or as amended.

21. No reversing beepers may be used by trucks making any night-time deliveries between the hours of 10.00pm and 7.00am. Any refrigeration units on the trucks are also to be turned off during this time.

22. Waste and compactor collection must only take place between the following hours:
7.00am and 8.00pm (Monday to Saturday)
9.00am and 8.00pm (Sundays and Public Holidays)

Waste collection must be in accordance with EPA Publication 1254 (Noise Control Guidelines 2008) or as amended.

23. Any compactor must only operate between 7:00am and 8:00pm on any day.

24. Waste must only be stored in accordance with the endorsed plans and to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

25. Noise from the operation of truck mounted refrigeration units must be in accordance with EPA Publication 1254 (Noise Control Guidelines 2008) or as amended.

Signage and lighting

26. Outdoor lighting and signage must be designed, baffled and located to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority to prevent any adverse effect on adjoining land or road reserve.

27. The location and details of signs, as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority unless exempt under the provisions of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

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28. Approval for the signage allowed under this permit expires 15 years from the date of issue.

Conditions Required by the Department of Transport

29. Before the development starts, or other time agreed in writing with the Responsible Authority, amended plans to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and the Director of Public Transport must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and three copies must be provided. The plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted with the application but modified to show:
    a) One bus bay on the east side of Stoneleigh Crescent;
    b) A concrete hard stand area;
    c) An increase in the number of bicycle parking spaces for customers provided near the main entrance in line with statutory requirements.

30. Prior to the occupation of the development, all works outlined on the endorsed plans must be completed to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Transport, and deemed compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act – Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002, at the full cost to the permit holder.

31. The permit holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that disruption to existing bus operations along Province Boulevard is kept to a minimum during the construction of the development. Foreseen disruptions to bus operations and mitigation measures must be communicated to the Director of Public Transport fourteen days (14) prior.

Expiry of permit

32. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

    a) The development has not commenced within two years of the date of this permit.

    b) The development is not completed within four years of the date of this permit.

    The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three months afterwards.

Permit Notes Specified by Barwon Water (Ref: L006952)

Water:

1. *The payment of New Customer Contributions for water for each additional metered connection within the development.*
2. *The Owner/Developer will need to apply to Barwon Water for details regarding new water tappings which will include details of the required tapping size.*
3. *Fire protection services will need to be allowed for in the hydraulic design for the development. The Owner/Developer will need to provide a hydraulic design to Barwon Water.*

Sewer:

4. *The payment of New Customer Contributions for sewer for each additional metered connection within the development.*
5. *The Owner/Developer will be required to enter into a Trade Waste Agreement with Barwon Water.*

Date Issued: DRAFT (7/11/12)	**Date Permit comes into operation: Not Specified** (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	**Signature for the Responsible Authority**

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

(If the permit has been amended, include the following table indicating the date and nature of amendments included in the amended permit)

Date of amendment	Brief description of amendment
-	-

Date Issued: DRAFT (7/11/12)	**Date Permit comes into operation: Not Specified** **(or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)**	**Signature for the Responsible Authority**

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PERMIT

WHAT HAS BEEN DECIDED?

The Responsible Authority has issued a permit. The permit was granted by the Minister administering the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** under section 96I of that Act.

WHEN DOES THE PERMIT BEGIN?

The permit operates from a day specified in the permit being a day on or after the day on which the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation.

WHEN DOES A PERMIT EXPIRE?

1. A permit for the development of land expires if -
   - the development or any stage of it does not start within the time specified in the permit; or
   - the development requires the certification of a plan of subdivision or consolidation under the **Subdivision Act 1988** and the plan is not certified within two years of the issue of a permit, unless the permit contains a different provision; or
   - the development or any stage is not completed within the time specified in the permit, or, if no time is specified, within two years after the issue of the permit or in the case of a subdivision or consolidation within 5 years of the certification of the plan of subdivision or consolidation under the **Subdivision Act 1988**.
2. A permit for the use of land expires if -
   - the use does not start within the time specified in the permit, or if no time is specified, within two years after the issue of the permit; or
   - the use is discontinued for a period of two years.
3. A permit for the development and use of land expires if -
   - the development or any stage of it does not start within the time specified in the permit; or
   - the development or any stage of it is not completed within the time specified in the permit, or, if no time is specified, within two years after the issue of the permit; or
   - the use does not start within the time specified in the permit, or, if no time is specified, within two years after the completion of the development: or
   - the use is discontinued for a period of two years.
4. If a permit for the use of land or the development and use of land or relating to any of the circumstances mentioned in section 6A(2) of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, or to any combination of use, development or any of those circumstances requires the certification of a plan under the **Subdivision Act 1988**, unless the permit contains a different provision-
   - the use or development of any stage is to be taken to have started when the plan is certified; and
   - the permit expires if the plan is not certified within two years of the issue of the permit.
5. The expiry of a permit does not affect the validity of anything done under that permit before the expiry.

WHAT ABOUT APPEALS?

- Any person affected may apply for a review of -
  - a decision of the responsible authority refusing to extend the time within which any development or use is to be started or any development completed; or.
  - a decision of the responsible authority refusing tot extend the time within which a plan under the **Subdivision Act 1988** is to be certified, in the case of a permit relating to any of the circumstances mentioned in section 6A(2) of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**; or.
  - the failure of the responsible authority to extend the time within one month after the request for extension is made.
- An application for review is lodged with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.
- An application for review must be made on an Application for Review form which can be obtained from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, and be accompanied by the applicable fee.
- An application for review must state the grounds upon which it is based.
- An application for review must also be served on the Responsible Authority.
- Details about applications for review and the fees payable can be obtained from Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

2. CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT & ADOPTION AMENDMENT C243 – GEELONG RING ROAD EMPLOYMENT PRECINCT (GREP) NATIVE VEGETATION PRECINCT PLAN & ENVIRONMENT SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY SHEDULE 4

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source:	**Economic Development, Planning & Tourism – Strategic Implementation**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Index Reference:	**Subject: Council Reports 2012** **Application: C243 – Reports Council & Other**

Summary

- Amendment C243 is a Council initiated amendment to:
  - incorporate a Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP) into the planning scheme and,
  - amend the extent of the application of Schedule 4 to the Environment Significance Overlay (ESO4) in a manner consistent with the NVPP.
- Exhibition of the Amendment resulted in the receipt of total of 15 submissions. The submissions consisted of 9 submissions from landowners within the New Corio Estate (NCE) objecting to the amendment, 1 submission on behalf of a landowner within the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GREP) supporting the amendment and seeking the deletion of the ESO4 from additional land beyond the investigation area on which the NVPP is based and 5 submissions from public authorities which do not object to the Amendment.
- Council resolved at its meeting of 12 April 2012 to refer the Amendment and submissions to an Independent Planning Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning.
- A Directions Hearing was held in Geelong on 18 June 2012.
- The Panel Hearing was held in Geelong on 16 July 2012.
- The Independent Panel has recommended that the Amendment be adopted generally as exhibited, with minor modifications.
- It is recommended that the Amendment be adopted as described in this report.

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr Ansett seconded -

That Council:

1) **adopt Amendment C243 in the form as outlined in Appendix 2-1 (A) – (E) to this report, consistent with the changes recommended by the Planning Panel;**

2) **adopt the Geelong Ring Road Native Vegetation Precinct Plan in the form contained at Appendix 2-2 (A) to this report, subject to incorporation of Appendix 2-2 (B) *Ecological Values within the New Corio Estate*, consistent with the recommendation of the Planning Panel; and**

3) **submit the adopted Amendment together with the prescribed information to the Minister for Planning requesting approval.**

2. CONSIDERATION OF PANEL REPORT & ADOPTION AMENDMENT C243 – GEELONG RING ROAD EMPLOYMENT PRECINCT (GREP) NATIVE VEGETATION PRECINCT PLAN & ENVIRONMENT SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY SHEDULE 4 (CONT'D)

Resolution (Cont'd)

Procedural Motion:

Cr Harwood moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded –

That consideration of the report be deferred.

Carried.

Cr Richards declared an Indirect Interest by Close Association in Agenda Item 3 – Proposed Light Tower Signage at Simonds Stadium – Planning Scheme Amendment C284, in that he is President of Geelong Harness Racing Club which may include a future application for signage and left the meeting room at 7.35pm prior to discussion.

3. PROPOSED LIGHT TOWER SIGNAGE AT SIMONDS STADIUM – PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C284

Portfolio: **Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source: **Economic Development, Planning and Tourism - City Development**
General Manager: **Peter Bettess**
Index Reference: **Application C284**

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's in-principle support for an amendment to the planning scheme to amend the Schedule to the Public Park and Recreation Zone to allow for signage on the light towers at Simonds Stadium to be considered for a planning permit.
- The proposal seeks to erect advertising signage on the soon to be constructed light towers at Simonds Stadium Kardinia Park. The signage is classified as promotion or major promotion signs, and is currently prohibited in the Category 4 advertising control applicable to the site.
- The sponsorship and advertising for the light towers is intended to offset the electricity operating costs of the light towers.
- To meet this timeline a fast-track process is being sought with a section 20(4) Ministerial amendment preferred to guarantee that the land is rezoned and planning permit issued prior to the commencement of the 2013 AFL home and away season.
- In the event that the Minister for Planning does not consent to a ministerial amendment, it is proposed to seek a section 20(2) 'no public exhibition' amendment process.
- Category 2 advertising control will allow for a permit application to be made for the signage sought on the light towers. This provides the opportunity for community views to be taken into account.
- The benefits to the local sporting community from the sponsorship and advertising outweigh any effect on third parties.

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr S Kontelj seconded -

That Council supports the:

1) **preparation of a planning scheme amendment to amend the schedule to the Public Park and Recreation Zone to include the land at 360 – 380 Moorabool Street Geelong (Simonds Stadium) in the Category 2 for advertising signage; and**

2) **amendment being processed as either a section 20(4) Ministerial amendment or a section 20(2) "no public exhibition" amendment under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.**

Carried.

3. PROPOSED LIGHT TOWER SIGNAGE AT SIMONDS STADIUM – PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C284 (CONT'D)

Report

Background

Simonds Stadium is undergoing a multi-million dollar transformation to upgrade the facility to a capacity of approximately 33,500 for AFL and other sporting/entertainment events and community uses. The scope of the project includes the installation of light towers at the Stadium to facilitate increased usage by a wider variety of sports, such as a future Geelong team in the national 20/20 cricket league.

Simonds Stadium is located at 360 – 380 Moorabool Street Geelong, and sits within the broader Kardinia Park. The surrounding Kardinia Park is the base for community sport with facilities including a cricket oval, football oval, public swimming pool and a regional netball complex.

G21 has outlined the financial and economic outcomes and benefits for Victoria and the G21 Region from the redevelopment of the Stadium as:

- An additional $49.3 million to the regional economy over the next 10 years
- Direct employment of up to 47 FTEs and indirect employment of up to 21 FTEs over the construction phase
- Direct ongoing employment of up to 6 FTEs per year.
- The redevelopment also provides outcomes and benefits in the following areas:
    - Social (e.g. increased community usage of Skilled Stadium through the development of new multi-use facilities within Stage 3)
    - Sports Development (e.g. improved spectator facilities and increased opportunities to host major events)
    - Environmental (e.g. reduction of the stadium's Carbon footprint through the incorporation of state-of-the-art Environmentally Sustainable Design features and Universal Design Principles).

The land is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). The default advertising sign Category for this Zone is Category 4 – Sensitive areas. There are no overlays.

The Geelong Football Club has raised with Council the need to obtain a planning permit for signage to be installed on the four new light towers. It has been determined that the type of signage proposed is not permitted within the current provisions of the PPRZ. To support the proposed advertising signs, Council is seeking an amendment to the Schedule to the PPRZ to change the advertising signage Category applicable to Simonds Stadium. Rezoning of the land is not proposed.

Discussion

Four new light towers are proposed to be erected at Simonds Stadium at the completion of the Players Stand development.

The Club intends to generate revenue from the signage to help off-set electricity costs associated with the lights but not be too intrusive to the community.

3. PROPOSED LIGHT TOWER SIGNAGE AT SIMONDS STADIUM – PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C284 (CONT'D)

The signage could include:

- A full wrap around the bottom of the pole. Approximately six metres high. This can easily be replaced and changed.
- Pole signage above the roof lines of the stadium and only facing inwards.

The signage is to remain in place for 12 months of the year.

Advertising sign provisions

Advertising sign provisions are contained in the Particular Provisions section of the Planning Scheme at Clause 52.05. This clause specify categories of advertising control, with the zone provisions specifying which category of advertising control applies to the zone.

There are 4 categories of advertising control, including Category 1 – Business areas with minimum limitation, Category 2 – Office and Industrial with low limitation, Category 3 – High Amenity areas with medium limitation and category 4 – Sensitive areas with maximum limitation. Each category has differing permittefd and prohibited signs.

Kardinia Park (including Simonds Stadium) is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone and is subject to advertising signage Category 4 - Sensitive areas. The light tower signage contemplated by the Geelong Football Club is classified as either a promotion sign or a major promotion sign.

Promotion signs are signs of less than 18 square metres, and major promotion signs are 18 square metres or greater signs that promote goods, services, an event or any other matter, whether or not provided, undertaken or sold or for hire on the land or in the building on which the sign is sited.

Legal Advice

Legal advice has been sought and obtained from Harwood Andrews Lawyers about whether the advertising signs proposed on the light towers can be the lawful subject of a planning permit application. The legal advice concluded that the proposed signage is prohibited under the Category 4 signage provisions that apply to the land within the PPRZ.

If the proposed signage is to be realised there is a need to address the nature of signage controls through the schedule to the PPRZ.

Harwood Andrews advises that a ministerial advisory committee considered the advertising provisions in 2007, and specifically addressed the issue of the restrictive nature of the signage provisions in the PPRZ. Submissions from various Councils sought to lessen the control to make it a Category 2 control. The Committee determined not to change the provisions at the time due to the wide variability of context and locations of the PPRZ across the State and that a more detailed analysis of signage was required. The Committee noted that the schedule to the PPRZ already provided for local variations which Council's could use to manage local need and circumstances.

3. PROPOSED LIGHT TOWER SIGNAGE AT SIMONDS STADIUM – PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C284 (CONT'D)

Subsequent to this advisory committee report, a number of Council's have sought planning scheme amendments to list particular reserves in the Schedule to the PPRZ and allocate those reserves a different advertising signage Category. For example, Maroondah Planning Scheme was amended in 2008 to change the Schedule to the PPRZ to allow for 20 Council recreation reserves to be classified as signage Category 3 (high amenity areas). A similar situation exists in the Banyule Planning Scheme.

More recently, advertising signage in a public reserve within a PPRZ was recently the subject of a ministerial intervention with respect to the Bendigo Planning Scheme where advertising signage was prohibited in a reserve in which a football ground was situated. The Minister determined to intervene to exempt himself from the requirements of section 17, 18 and 19 of the Act, with the effect that third parties would not have the opportunity to make submissions to the planning authority in relation to the amendments and for that submission to be considered by a panel. The Minister considered this appropriate because the "benefits to the local sporting community of bringing forward the opportunity for advertising signs, of as type normally associated with a sporting ground of this nature, and associated sponsorship – outweigh any effect on third parties". The amendment identified a particular reserve in the schedule to the PPRZ and Urban Floodway Zone as land to which advertising sign Category 2 would apply.

Recommended Action

Harwood Andrews recommends that Council consider preparing a similar amendment to the Scheme to identify Simonds Stadium in the Schedule to the PPRZ as advertising signage in either Category 2 (low limitation) or Category 1 (minimum limitation). The Minister should be requested to exempt himself from the requirements of sections 18, 18 and 19 of the Act on the same grounds as the Bendigo example, that is, that the benefits to the local sporting community outweigh any effect on third parties.

Clause 52.05-8 provides for Category 2 – Office and industrial areas. Section 2 of Clause 52.05-8 provides that a permit is required for any sign not in Section 1 and the proposed signs are not included in Sections 1. Section 3 of Clause 52.05-8 provides that no signs are prohibited. If Simonds Stadium Park were identified in the Schedule to the PPRZ as being Category 2 or indeed Category 1 for advertising signs, Council could issue a permit for the proposed signs.

As advised by Harwood Andrews, this would allow the applicant to apply for a planning permit for the signs and for Council to regulate the use with appropriate conditions. It is noted that the light towers will be set back from residential areas and the prominent road frontage, that being to Moorabool Street, is of a relatively robust commercial nature.

As recommended by the legal advice, it is proposed to seek a ministerial amendment to change the planning scheme in a timely manner on the grounds that the type of advertising proposed is appropriate for the location and its sporting ground nature, and to meet the commencement of the 2013 AFL season.

Should the Minister choose not to prepare an amendment, it is recommended that the Minister be requested to grant Council an exemption from the notification requirements of Sections 17, 18 and 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and to proceed with a Section 20(2) amendment.

3. PROPOSED LIGHT TOWER SIGNAGE AT SIMONDS STADIUM – PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C284 (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

The proposed amendment will facilitate a planning permit to be issued for promotion and major promotion signs. The signs will be established on the light towers of Simonds Stadium and will be visible in the surrounding area. They are intended to of minimal intrusion to the local area.

Financial Implications

The proposed amendment has no financial impost on Council's budget.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The Planning Scheme allows for the Schedule to the PPRZ to be amended to prescribe an appropriate advertising sign category for Simonds Stadium. This has been done previously for the Ocean Grove Park which is nominated as being in signage Category 3.

Council's *Advertising Sign Guidelines, November 1997* provide guidance about the objectives and policies relating to the various categories and types of signage, and give guidance for planners assessing signage applications. These have been reviewed but as yet no amendment has been prepared to update the Planning Scheme.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

In accordance with section 80(c) of the local Government Act no Council officers have any direct or indirect interest in the matters to which this amendment relates.

Risk Assessment

The change to the signage Category applied to Simonds Stadium poses minimal risk to Council. The signage sought for Simonds Stadium light towers will require a planning permit and will be assessed primarily under the particular provisions at Clause 52.05.

Social Considerations

The amendment to the signage Category applied to Simonds Stadium will have minimal social impacts. Matters of a social nature in terms of amenity etc are covered under Clause 52.05 and in the 2012 Guidelines.

Communication

Request will be made to the Minister for Planning seeking his preparation of the amendment to the Planning Scheme.

Appendix 1 – Subject Land Map



Cr Richards re-entered the meeting room at 7.37pm

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN

Portfolio: **Environment and Sustainability – Cr Richards**
Source: **City Services – Environment and Natural Resources**
General Manager: **Gary Van Driel**
Index Reference: **Council Reports 2012**

Summary

- The purpose of this Report is to seek formal endorsement by Council of the *Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan* (2012) for the Kingston Park Reserve in Ocean Grove following a public exhibition and community consultation period of six weeks.
- The intent of the *Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan* (2012) is to provide an integrated master plan and management plan for the site, to guide future management of both the conservation reserve area and the recreational facilities within the Park.
- An internal working group was established with representatives from Parks and Support Services, City Services, Fire Management, Sport and Recreation and co-ordinated via the Environment and Natural Resources Department to guide the preparation of the Plan and ensure that key outcomes and recommendations from existing background documents were included.
- A detailed public exhibition and community consultation process of six weeks duration, was undertaken following the release of the draft plan involving the distribution of an information leaflet and questionnaire, public notices and articles in local media, copies of the plan distributed to those who attended the Community Forum and copies of the Master Plan and Management Plan displayed in Ocean Grove including Kingston Park and on www.geelongaustralia.com.au. A total of 6 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 2 detailed written responses by the closing date of 5/10/12. The comments have been reviewed, responses provided and changes made to the Plan where appropriate (see Attachment 1: *Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Summary Community Consultation Draft Master Plan and Management Plan, 2012*).

- The final Plan contains (Refer to Attachment 1 – *previously supplied*):
    - Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan
    - Summary Report Community Consultation Outcomes
    - Summary Community Consultation Master Plan and Management Plan
    - Existing Conditions Plan
    - Existing Vegetation Communities Plan
    - Master Plan
    - Management Plan

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

Cr Farrell moved, Cr Richards seconded -

That Council:

1) **notes the outcomes of the public exhibition and community consultation process as documented in *Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Summary Community Consultation Draft Master Plan and Management Plan 2012* (see Table One and Appendix 1);**

2) **formally endorses the *Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan* (2012).**

Carried.

Report

Background

Kingston Park is a 12.5 ha reserve, owned by the City of Greater Geelong (CoGG), located to the north-east corner of the intersection of Grubb Road and Shell Road in Ocean Grove. The Park is bounded by Adco Grove and Coolamon Close to the north, residential properties directly adjoining the Park to the west, south and north-east corner, and the Geelong Revival Centre Camp to the east. The Ocean Grove CFA and The Mex restaurant are also located to the south-west corner of the Park.

The Park is used by the local community and organisations for passive recreation activities with facilities including a playground, a picnic shelter and BBQ area, a public toilet block, a cottage housing the Girl Guides of Victoria, and a network of informal walking tracks in the 6.5ha conservation area located in the eastern section of the Park.

The cottage located at the southern end of the open grass field is owned and operated by the Girl Guides Association of Victoria and the site is leased from the CoGG.

The Rotary Club of Ocean Grove has a licence agreement with Council to operate a summer community craft market in Kingston Park on the first Sunday of each month from October until Easter of the following year.

The Park features a population of Bellarine Yellow Gums, which are listed as 'endangered' in Victoria according to *'Rare or Threatened Vascular Plants in Victoria - 2000'* (DSE 2003) and listed as 'threatened' under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* 1988. The Park also contains one of the few near intact endangered vegetation communities 'EVC 175 Grassy Woodland' in the Otway plains bioregion left on the Bellarine.

Asset Management of the Park is shared between Sport and Recreation on the west side, and Environment and Natural Resources Department on the east side.

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

The need for this Plan arose from on-going fire management issues raised by a number of residents, mostly on the southern boundary of the Reserve, combined with a need to provide a more integrated and planned approach for the management of both the conservation reserve area and the recreational facilities. Key elements of the project include:

- Mapping the existing vegetation on the site.
- Liaising with CoGG Environment and Natural Resources, Sport and Recreation, Parks and Support Services, Fire Management and City Services Officers.
- Consulting with the local residents adjoining the reserve and other local community stakeholders groups.
- Preparing a Draft Master Plan addressing the following:
    - Vegetation management, pedestrian access and the interface between bushland areas and adjoining private property.
    - Vehicle access, car parking and pedestrian paths/safety.
    - Management and provision of active and passive recreation areas and facilities.
    - Management of other community events such as the Ocean Grove Craft Market.
- An internal working group was established with representatives from Parks and Support Services, City Services, Fire Management, Sport and Recreation co-ordinated by the Environment and Natural Resources Department to guide the preparation of the draft plan and ensure that key outcomes and recommendation from existing background documents were included.
- Key outcomes and recommendations from existing background documents were used to inform the development of the plan. These included:
    - *Biodiversity Strategy*, City of Greater Geelong, 2003
    - *Ocean Grove Structure Plan*, City of Greater Geelong, 2007
    - *Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan*, Insight Leisure Planning, PJ O'Reilly & Associated, 2010
    - *The Vegetation of Kingston Park Conservation Area – Assessment of Conservation Significance*, Mark Trengove Ecological Services, 2012
    - *Draft City of Greater Geelong Municipal Fire Management Plan*, October 2011-2014
    - *Ocean Grove Township Protection Plan*, CFA, 2011
    - *Domestic Animal Management Plan*, City of Greater Geelong,2008

A community consultation process was conducted as part of the research and analysis phase of this project. An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform preparation of the Kingston Park Master Plan. The questionnaire was designed to identify existing use of the Park, key values, issues and opportunities to be considered in preparation of the master plan. 1181 information leaflet/questionnaires were letter box dropped to residents in the local area and another 50 copies were provided to both the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre and the Bellarine Aquatic Centre in late September 2011.

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

Additional information leaflet/questionnaires were also available at the community workshop held on the 12/10/2011 at the Ocean Grove CFA and from the City's Environment and Natural Resource Department working on site through October 2011. Notices were placed in the Bellarine Times 4/10/11 and Ocean Grove The Voice on 5/10/11. A total of 95 questionnaires were completed and returned along with four detailed written responses by closing date of 21/10/2011 as part of the initial consultation process prior to the preparation of the draft Plan.

A further six week public exhibition and community consultation phase was undertaken following the release of the draft Plan. An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform finalisation of the Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan. Public notices were displayed in the City News from 24/08/2012 - 25/08/2012 and in the Ocean Grove Voice 5/09/2012, and an article about the draft Plan featured in The Ocean Grove Voice on 5/09/2012 on page 7. A Copy of the draft Plan was sent to the Working Group for comment and a total of 23 copies of the draft Plan and Information Flyer and Feedback form were mailed to all those who attended the Community Forum. A total of 6 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 2 detailed written responses by the closing date of 5/10/12.

Discussion

The *Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan* (2012) has been developed in close consultation with existing site users and community stakeholders. The Plan seeks to address the key objectives for the project including ongoing protection of key environmental and cultural heritage values and the staged improvement of passive and active recreational facilities.

Following a report to Council in August 2012 the draft Plan was released for a period of 6 weeks for public exhibition and community consultation. The summary of the outcomes of the consultation is detailed in *Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Summary Community Consultation Draft Master Plan and Management Plan, 2012* (see Attachment 1). Table One summarises the key issues raised in the questionnaire, responses and the recommendation. No significant changes were made to the Plan as a result of the public exhibition and community consultation process.

Table One: Summary Response to the Key Issues Raised During the Consultation Process

No.	Plan Ref	SUMMARY OF COMMENT	RESPONSE
1	22	Improve tree maintenance along residential fencelines.	Retention of existing mature trees along boundaries is to maintain their contribution to habitat values and screening of views to rear private property fencelines from within the Reserve. The Plan recommends removing lower limbs from these trees to assist with mowing access and maintenance and continuation of ongoing monitoring of structural stability. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

2	22	Retain Pine trees as they are apart of Kingston Park's heritage.	Pine trees are to be retained subject to ongoing review of their health and structural stability. A staged program of replacement will be commenced to retain character as they reach the end of their Useful Life Expectancy (ULE). New planting will be undertaken using indigenous Bellarine Yellow Gums propagated from seed from existing trees in the Park to complement the significant bushland biodiversity values of the Park. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
3	2.8 Sign-age	Interpretive signage important for environmental values	Plan recommends the investigation of the provision of temporary seasonal interpretive signage in the conservation area to assist local park users and visitors in identifying wildflowers and other key species. ***Recommendation: Change from a medium to high priority.***
4		Improve vehicle management with speed humps.	Kingston Park is only open to local traffic and there are no roads through the park hence establishment of new traffic control devices within the unsealed car parking areas is not recommended. Review of traffic speeds on surrounding roads is outside the scope of the Plan and suggestions for speed humps outside the Park should be referred directly to Engineering Services for consideration. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
5	20	Create pond/ wetland feature	There is a large underground stormwater drain through the Park however the depth of the drain and lack of available open space which could be used for establishment of a wetland without requiring vegetation removal is limited. The short sections of existing open channel also contain some significant existing vegetation including Black Bristle-rush Chorizandra enodis. Control weeds and maintain biodiversity values with targeted revegetation consistent with the modified hydraulic regime is the preferred approach to maximise habitat and biodiversity values at Kingston Park. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

6	1	Active sports should be planned in the new development areas north of Kingston Park. No support for soccer pitches shown during community workshop. Oppose future sporting events or infrastructure in Kingston Park. Zone 4C Open Grass area is not to be planned for active competitive sport, Junior Soccer is not supported	The Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan Final Report May 2010 is a Council endorsed plan providing recommendations for catering to the future active sporting needs in the Ocean Grove northern growth area where new residential development will be concentrated. The plan recommends that the 8ha of land to be acquired in the growth area for open space is to be developed as an integrated active recreation reserve to include: • Two multi-use ovals, one with lighting to training standard • Two netball courts • Basic sports pavilion • Adequate car parking Kingston Park is identified in the report as a reserve which could accommodate two junior soccer pitches. The report notes that this would only be recommended if the demand for soccer outstrips the existing capacity of the two pitches at Shell Road Reserve. The report notes that additional facilities or sports use of Kingston Park in addition to the junior soccer pitches is not recommended. The planned new facilities mean that it is unlikely that Kingston Park will be needed for this use. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
7		Minimise fuel reduction burning.	The fenced conservation area has been identified as EVC 175 Grassy Woodland. This ecological vegetation class is listed as being 'Endangered' in the Otway Plains Bioregion and Kingston Park is one of the remaining large areas of relatively intact Grassy Woodland vegetation on the Bellarine Peninsula. Use of fuel reduction burning is a key management tool in reducing threat from wildfire and promoting and maintaining the health and biodiversity of the remnant bushland in the Park. Controlled burns will be undertaken in accordance with best practice management principles and in close consultation with the CFA and adjoining residents. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
8		Retain natural vegetation and characteristic of the park.	There is no intent to change or alter the natural vegetation characteristics of the Park. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

9		Do not support multi-use of the Mirrabooka Cottage for local groups	The Plan notes that the existing building is owned by the Girl Guides and the site is leased from the CoGG. The Plan indicates that as with any existing building located on Council open space when future lease agreements are negotiated opportunities to increase community access and multi use of the building where practical will be considered. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
10		Important to recognize the role of the Mirrabooka Cottage its history of how it was developed.	There was limited information available on the history of Mirrabooka Cottage available for review during preparation of the draft Plan. ***Recommendation: Review information provided by Guides Victoria and include a brief summary on history for the report.***
11		Letter was received from Council 3/11/2011 stating that a buffer zone of approx 25m to 10m was to be maintained at the rear of the properties and nothing has been done since.	As outlined in the Management Plan KPMP-04 the 8-10m wide Primary Buffer Zone 2B adjoining residential private properties will be slashed 8-10 times per year. Slashing is to be undertaken in the same cycle as the mowing undertaken in preparation for the Rotary Market e.g. the week before the first Sunday of each month between October and Easter. 2C Secondary Buffer Zone; An assessment will be undertaken at the start of each fire season with officers from Council's Environment unit, CFA and the MFPO to determine if further mowing works are required within adjoining areas of Zone 2C. If required extra mowing will be undertaken in the Secondary Buffer Zone, if possible in January, after the native grass has set seed to minimise environmental impacts. ***Recommendation: Change to plan***
12		Encourage industrial properties adjacent to the park to clean up their yards	Unfortunately this works are outside the scope of the Plan. Suggestions should be forwarded directly to Council Local Laws or taken up directly with the business concerned. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***

The Plan contains (Refer to Attachment 1):

- Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan
- Summary Report Community Consultation Outcomes
- Summary Community Consultation Master Plan and Management Plan
- Existing Conditions Plan

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

- Existing Vegetation Communities Plan
- Master Plan
- Management Plan

• The Park has been divided into a four zones and sub-zones defined by common management aims/objectives (refer Attachment 2: Management Plan). The four management zones and sub-zones are as follows:

Zone 1: Bellarine Yellow Gum Conservation Areas

Zone 2: Fenced Grassy Woodland Conservation Area
- Zone 2A Natural Remnant Grassy Woodland
- Zone 2B Primary Fire Break Zone
- Zone 2C Secondary Buffer Zone

Zone 3: Parkland Areas
- Zone 3A Scattered Woodland
- Zone 3B Primary Fire Break Zone
- Zone 3C Drainage Channel:
- Zone 3D Future Revegetation Areas

Zone 4: Recreation Areas
- Zone 4A Adco Grove picnic area, car park and playground area
- Zone 4B Guide Hall
- Zone 4C Open grass area

The following is a summary of the overall management objectives for the park:

- Protect and enhance the remnant vegetation including the population of Bellarine Yellow Gums and the existing conservation area and undertake staged restoration works where required to increase biodiversity and habitat corridor value while maintaining required fire breaks and views from adjoining properties for security.
- Maintain existing dog on lead in the conservation area and investigate dogs off lead area in the open grass area of the Park.
- Upgrade existing regulatory signage and investigate provision of new interpretation signage.
- Protect and enhance the conservation area while improving and maintaining the required fire breaks from adjoining properties.
- Improve passive recreation areas and facilities, including installation of additional seats.
- Review vehicle access and the existing car parking areas and investigate removal of unused car parks and revegetation
- Improve pedestrian circulation and safety in the Park.
- Investigate applying PCRZ (Public Conservation and Resource Zone) zoning to existing conservation areas within the Park

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

Kingston Park contains a thriving population of Bellarine Yellow Gums *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* located inside the fenced conservation zone and scattered around the Park. These trees are protected under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and the healthy and naturally regenerating population at Kingston Park has been assessed as of National significance. The Park also contains in excess of 6.5 hectares of remnant Grassy Woodland (Ecological Vegetation Community 175).

This vegetation is listed as significant, as most naturally occurring remnants on the Bellarine Peninsula have been cleared. Both of these significant biodiversity assets will continue to be managed by the Environment and Natural Resources Department, including ongoing removal of exotic weeds and aggressive natives such as Sweet Pittosporum and Tea Tree, followed by carefully planned ecological burning to promote groundlayer biodiversity values and reduce fuel loads.

The Assessment of Conversation Significance Report (Mark Trengrove 2012) commissioned by the City of Greater Geelong concluded that the conservation area on the eastern side of Kingston Park and the recorded areas of scattered remnant vegetation in the western side of the Park have the following conservation values:

- State conservation significance for the occurrence of Bellarine Yellow Gum that it is listed as 'Endangered' within Victoria and is listed for protection under the Victorian Flora and Guarantee Act (1998) (DSE).
- Endangered vegetation community 'EVC 175 Grassy woodland' in the Otway plains bioregion (DSE).
- Very High Conservation Significance vegetation (Habitat Hectare Assessment/DSE).
- National botanical significance for it population of Bellarine Yellow Gum (CoGG Biodiversity Plan).
- Regional significance for its Grassy Woodland vegetation (CoGG Biodiversity Plan).
- Population of Black Bristle-rush and the Drooping Sheoke which is of Regional Conservation Significance.
- High (State) zoological significance for its habitat values, that includes fallen timber, mature trees with hollows and a shrub layer (CoGG Biodiversity Plan).

The Plan has no direct implications on energy use and green house emissions other than in the infrastructure installation stages.

Any re-vegetation will be undertaken with indigenous species as they are best suited to the local conditions, requiring minimal watering particularly once established.

A key component of implementation of the Plan will be to *Buy with the Environment in Mind* a part of the City's EcoChallenge initiative.

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

Financial Implications

An overview of the indicative capital costs and recommended implementation framework (i.e. priorities) for each of the key improvements actions identified is listed in Table 1. Details about of the implementation and costing against each action can be found in Attachment 1: Implementation Schedule.

Total works are estimated at $382,700. In the 2012-2013 Council Business Plan an allocation of $30,000 has been made to implement some actions in the passive recreation area. Key actions identified for the fire break zones in Zone 2 and Zone 3 can be undertaken as part of normal work. A further business case will be prepared to support the implementation of the Plan.

- The priorities are as follows:
  - Mandatory (i.e. required by legislation or regulation)
  - Critical (i.e. risk mitigation or safety)
  - High
  - Medium
  - Low
  - Ongoing
- **Table One: Indicative Capital Costs and Implementation Framework.**

	High	**Med**	**Low**	**Annual Maintenance Cost**
Zone 1 – Bellarine Yellow Gum Conservation	$14,500	Nil	Nil	$2,320
Zone 2 – Fenced Grassy Woodland Conservation	$7500	Nil	$44,400	$18,126
Zone 3 – Parkland Areas	$17500	$29,000	$141,700	$13,887
Zone 4 - Recreation Areas	Nil	$27,600	$100,500	$4,562
PROJECT WORKS PRIORITIES	**$39500**	**$56600**	**$286,600**	**$38,895**
Total Works			**$382,700**	

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The rare and threatened Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* is found mostly scattered in the western area of Kingston Park, with a few clusters identified in the fenced conservation area in the east of the Park. These trees are protected under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.*

The Plan recognises that all community members have equal rights to participate in and enjoy the benefits of public open space. The development of the Plan has considered and incorporated solutions to facilitate and encourage access for all wherever possible.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council staff engaged in development of this Plan has a direct or indirect interest in the development of the *Kingston Park Master Plan and Management Plan* (2012).

Risk Assessment

The area of remnant bushland may be subject to wildfire. The Park also requires ongoing use of fire to promote regeneration and enhance biodiversity values. To minimise risk adjoining properties, the CoGG in close consultation with the CFA will continue to maintain designated buffer zones along private property boundaries and will continue to liaise closely with residents regarding fire risk in the Park. By maintaining the area in a manner that befits the vegetation community, the dual goal of minimising fuel is also achieved. Weed growth and inappropriate fire regimes increase the risk of developing high fuel loads. By working towards optimal biodiversity outcomes, fuel is kept to a minimum whilst still providing the best possible ecosystem services.

Implementation of the actions in the Plan will reduce the potential for damage to the environmental and cultural values of the site through inappropriate access and works. Appropriate risk management measures will be put into place when implementing the Plan. Management of risk will also be considered during any design and construction phase.

Social Considerations

The implementation of the *Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan* (2012) will provide a direct social benefit via the improvement of passive recreation areas and facilities, including installation of additional seats improved pedestrian circulation and safety in the Park. Indirect social benefits will be derived from improved environmental conditions for the conservation of biodiversity and habitat values within the Park.

4. KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONT'D)

Communication

A community consultation process was conducted as part of the research and analysis phase of this project. An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform preparation of the *draft Kingston Park Master Plan and Management Plan*. The questionnaire was designed to identify existing use of the Park, key values, issues and opportunities to be considered in preparation of the Master Plan. 1181 information leaflet/questionnaires were letter box dropped to residents in the local area and another 50 copies were provided to both the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre and the Bellarine Aquatic Centre in late September 2011. Additional information leaflet/questionnaires were also available at the Community Workshop held on 12/10/2011 at the Ocean Grove CFA and from the City's Environment and Natural Resource Department working on site through October 2011. Notices were placed in the Bellarine Times on 4/10/11 and Ocean Grove The Voice 5/10/11. A total of 95 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 4 detailed written responses by closing date of 21/10/2011 (see Attachment 1: Summary Report Community Consultation Outcomes).

A community consultation phase for six weeks was undertaken following the release of the draft Plan. An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform finalisation of the Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan. Public notices were displayed in the City News from 24/08/2012 - 25/08/2012 and in the Ocean Grove Voice 5/09/2012, and an article about the Plan featured in The Ocean Grove Voice on 5/09/2012 on page 7. A Copy of the draft Plan was sent to the Working Group for comment and a total of 23 copies of the Plan and Information Flyer and Feedback form were mailed to all those who attended the Community Forum. A total of 6 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 2 detailed written responses by the closing date of 5/10/12 (see Attachment 1: *Kingston Park Summary Community Consultation Draft Master Plan and Management Plan*, 2012) *previously supplied.*

Kingston Park Ocean Grove
Master Plan and Management Plan







DECEMBER 2012

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ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES UNIT

Prepared by

Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd

REVISION	DATE	AMENDMENT
E	05/12/2012	Final Amendments to Fire Break Zone Mowing
D	21/11/2012	Final Report
C	29/06/2012	Revised Draft – Sport and Rec comments supplied 21/06/12
B	04/05/2012	Revised Draft
A	30/11/2011	Draft for CoGG comment

Table of contents

		Page No.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS		
1.0	**INTRODUCTION**	**1**
1.1	Study Area	1
1.2	Summary of project scope and methodology	1
1.3	Site Context	2
1.4	Background documents	3
2.0	**EXISTING CONDITIONS**	**10**
2.1	Land ownership and management	10
2.2	Historical context	10
2.3	Environmental values	12
2.4	Adjoining land use	15
2.5	Access and circulation	17
2.6	Existing site infrastructure	19
2.7	Community stakeholders	20
2.8	Consultation	24
3.0	**DRAFT PLANS**	**25**
	KPMP-01 - Existing Conditions Plan	24
	KPMP-02 - Existing Vegetation Communities Plan	25
	KPMP-03 - Master Plan	26
	KPMP-04 - Management Plan	27
4.0	**MANAGEMENT ZONES**	**30**
5.0	**IMPLEMENTATION**	**37**
6.0	**CONCLUSION**	**45**
5.0	**BIBLIOGRAPHY**	**46**

INDEX OF FIGURES

Figure 1.	Site Context	1
Figure 2.	Biodiversity Map (Biodiversity strategy 2003, CoGG)	3
Figure 3.	Structure Plan (Ocean Grove Structure Plan, Adapted 27 Feb 2007)	6
Figure 4.	Informal Junior Soccer Pitches (Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan, May 2010)	7
Figure 5.	Ocean Grove Bushfire Threat Map (CFA Ocean Grove Township Protection Plan 2011)	9
Figure 6.	Land Management (CoGG Planning Scheme 2011)	11
Figure 7.	2001 Aerial	14
Figure 8.	2005 Aerial	14
Figure 9.	2008 Aerial	14
Figure 10.	Licensed area for the Rotary Community Market	23
Figure 11.	Rotary Market Layout	23

APPENDICES

A	Community Consultation Report - Research and Analysis phase
B	Community Consultation Report - Draft Masterplan and Management Plan
C	Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee Letter

Acknowledgements

The project is being guided by a Project Working Group made up of relevant City of Greater Geelong Council officers including:

Rodney Thomas	Manager Environment and Natural Resources Unit, CoGG
Brendan Gaudion	Manager of Parks and Support Services, CoGG
Jeanette Spittle	Land Management Coordinator, CoGG
Ned Turcinov	Land Management Officer, CoGG
Kristyn Aquilina	Recreation and Open Space Project Development Officer, CoGG
Adrian Cobb	Parks and Support Services, CoGG
Alex Shackelton	Conservation Reserves Team, CoGG
David Scurrie	Fire Prevention Officer, CoGG

We would also like to thank all the residents and people who responded to the questionnaire and enthusiastically attended the community workshop giving valuable input and direction for the development of the Master Plan and Management Plan for Kingston Park.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Study area

Kingston Park is a 12.5 ha reserve located to the north-east corner of the intersection of Grubb Road and Shell Road in Ocean Grove. The park is bounded by Adco Grove and Coolamon Close to the north, residential properties directly adjoining the park to the west, south and north-east corner and the Geelong Revival Centre Camp to the east. The Ocean Grove CFA and The Mex restaurant are also located to the south-west corner of the park. The park is used by the local community and organisations for passive recreation and activities, and provides facilities including a playground, a picnic shelter and BBQ area, a public toilet block, a cottage housing the Girl Guides of Victoria, and a network of informal walking tracks in the 6.5ha conservation area located in the eastern half of the park. The park features a population of Bellarine Yellow Gums, which are considered as 'endangered' in Victoria according to *'Rare or Threatened Vascular Plants in Victoria - 2000'* (DSE 2003) and listed as 'threatened' under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.*



Figure 1. SITE CONTEXT (Source: Melways Map 484)

1.2 Summary of project scope and methodology

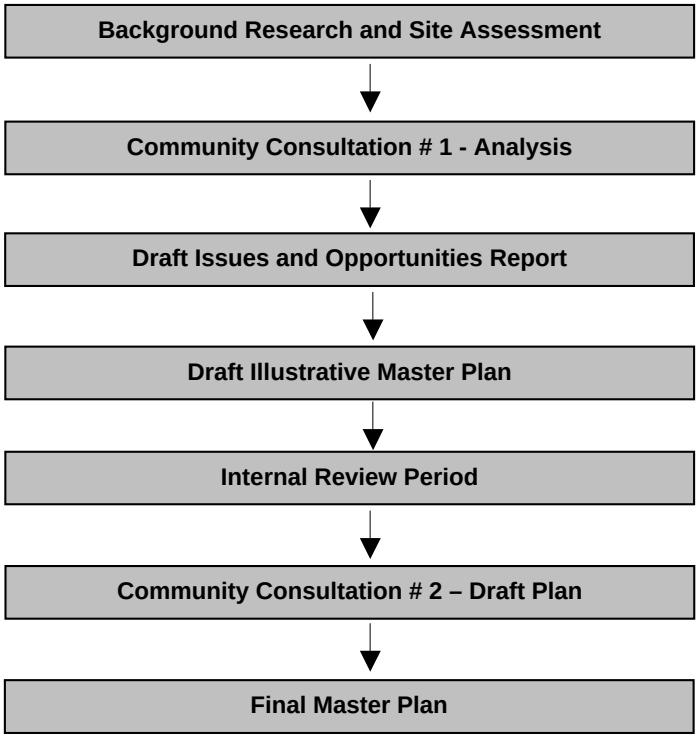
1.2.1 Project Scope

The scope of this project is to prepare an integrated master plan for the site to guide future management of both the conservation reserve area and the recreational facilities. Key elements of the project will include:

- Assist in mapping the existing vegetation assessment of the site as prepared by Mark Trengove.
- Liaise with CoGG Environment, Recreation and Parks and Support Services Officers.

- Consult with the local residents adjoining the reserve and other local community stakeholders groups.
- Prepare a Draft Master Plan addressing the following:
  - Vegetation management, pedestrian access and the interface between bushland areas and adjoining private property.
  - Vehicle access, car parking and pedestrian paths/safety.
  - Management and provision of active and passive recreation areas and facilities.
  - Management of other community events such as the Ocean Grove Craft Market.

1.2.2 Project methodology



1.3 Site context

The township of Ocean Grove is located in the south of the Bellarine Peninsula, and is bounded to the west by the Barwon River, the Lake Victoria wetlands to the east and the Bass Strait to the south. Ocean Grove was established in the 1880s and has since developed into an attractive and popular coastal destination for both permanent residents and visitors.

The town is experiencing strong growth, especially with the subdivision of the land located in the north-east area of the township, opposite the Ocean Grove Nature Reserve. Kingston Park is now located on the northern edge of the township, however the new residential development will result in the park having a more central location in Ocean Grove.

In 2006, the estimated population was approximately 11,814 persons, increasing to approximately 12,371 persons in 2010. The projected population for Ocean Grove in 2020 ranges from 14,648 to 21,184 persons, when using the low (2%), medium (3%) and high (4%) growth rates adopted in the Ocean Grove Structure Plan 2007.

1.4 Background documents

The following is a brief summary of the key outcomes and recommendations from existing background documents that will inform development of the Master Plan. For more detailed descriptions please refer to the original report.

1.4.1 Biodiversity Strategy, City of Greater Geelong, September 2003

This Strategy details the context of biodiversity in Geelong, its importance, value and legislative obligations for its protection. The Biodiversity inventory is provided in summary whilst the Strategy itself details the Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, Commitment and Targets to ensure Biodiversity protection and enhancement. Biodiversity is defined as 'the totality of the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur. It is the natural wealth of the earth, which supplies all our food and much of our shelter and raw materials' (COGG, 2003). Kingston Park and its existing conservation area has been identified in this Strategy as a significant Primary biodiversity zone.



Figure 2. BELLARINE PENINSULA BIODIVERSITY MAP (CoGG Biodiversity Strategy 2003)

Key targets for biodiversity include:

- No further species loss
- Application of net gain concept to areas undergoing redevelopment
- An increase of 20% cover of local indigenous vegetation from 2000 levels by 2010
- Increase in conservation reserves in the primary conservation network by 10% by 2010
- Increase in levels of specialised management and maintenance of conservation reserves
- A co-ordinated program of ecological burning for fuel reduction by 2005

- Reduction in environmental weeds on council managed conservation reserves by 50% by 2010
- Reduction of noxious weeds on all council reserves by 90% by 2010
- Offset greenhouse emissions by 10% from 2000-levels using revegetation projects
- Appropriate maintenance and increase of native vegetation on road reserves

1.4.2 Ocean Grove Structure Plan, City of Greater Geelong, 2007

The Ocean Grove Structure Plan was commissioned by the City of Greater Geelong and prepared by Hansen Partnership in conjunction with ARRB, MacroPlan and EarthTech. This plan provides a strategic framework for the future growth and development of the town to the year 2020 to cater for its increasing appeal as a destination for both permanent residents and tourists and building upon the towns attributes, opportunities and the community vision. The aim of the Structure Plan by 2020 is for Ocean Grove to be a sustainable sized community with:

- A distinctive character, making it a desirable place to live, visit and work
- Excellent range of retail and commercial services and employment opportunities
- A reputation for providing a broad range of environmentally sensitive coastal and rural based tourist activities and accommodation, associated with the beach and wetlands, arts, food and wine
- A mix of housing choices for all residents and which apply energy and water conservation principles
- A built form which creates an attractive and unique coastal character
- A successful and viable Town Centre which is attractive and vibrant with ample parking, a good mix of activities and convenient pedestrian access
- Appropriate community and social services and infrastructure which meet community needs
- A coastal environment which is highly valued, accessible and managed in a manner which enhances and protects environmental, landscape and habitat values
- An interconnected environment with safe and attractive pedestrian/bicycle and open space linkages, attractive streetscapes and a functional road network serviced by a local public bus service

Key Urban Growth Principles/Directions of the Structure Plan that have possible implications for Kingston Park include:

Urban Growth Principles/Directions:

- Accommodate an increase in the town's population of up to 21,000 persons by 2020
- Accommodate the majority of this growth within a designated growth corridor to the north-east of the town between Grubb and Banks Roads with clear development principles to be applied to: residential, industrial, retail, education (primary school) and open space (including multi-purpose sports ovals) land use and facilities, staging, augmentation of services and provision of landscaping, road, bus and pedestrian linkages, community infrastructure and the use of sustainability practices;
- Establish a settlement boundary to maintain a compact urban form and rural/coastal setting and character;

- Identification of a future growth boundary to accommodate the potential for a long term population of between 25,000 - 30,000

Infrastructure:

- Support development of Shell Road Reserve and Surf Side Centre as a major sporting and community hub with the addition of an aquatic centre, multi-purpose community facilities with allowance for the relocation of the Bellarine Health Centre, Neighbourhood House and support services particularly aimed at older persons and youth;

Population Growth:

- The population of Ocean Grove in 2001 was 10,055 people and the population in 2005 was estimated to be around 10,850 people. The future population growth of the town up to the year 2020 is based on three scenarios, adopting low (2%), medium (3%) and high (4%) growth rates. At these rates the population increase would range from 3,798 to 10,334 resulting in a total projected population for Ocean Grove ranging from 14,648 to 21,184 people.
- If the high growth scenario prevails than the total population by the year 2020 is forecast to be 21,184. Over time the age profile of the population is expected to change considerably. Based on the high growth scenario show the population of Ocean Grove is expected to continue to age, with an increase in the proportion of young people between 14 and 23.
- Long term, ongoing expansion of the town beyond a total population of between 25,000 - 30,000 is not advocated as it is considered that this would result in a significant loss of the unique setting and character of the town that makes it popular for residents and tourists alike and runs contrary to coastal planning principles.

Open Space and Community Facilities:

- The majority of growth up to 2020 is to be accommodated within a north-east corridor between Grubb and Banks Road and will include space for:
    - a regional open space area (an area of between 4-5 ha to accommodate active sports fields); NB: To be included in Stage 1
    - a primary school site occupying 3- 4ha;
- Support the potential for Bellarine Health Centre and Neighbourhood house to be clustered around Surfside, provides a major community hub of social infrastructure that is adjacent to schools and centrally located to provide access for the wider community.
- Improve visual and pedestrian connections to Kingston Park.



Figure 3. OCEAN GROVE STRUCTURE PLAN MAP (Ocean Grove Structure Plan 2007, Page A6, Figure 2)

1.4.3 Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan, Insight Leisure Planning, P J O'Reilly & Associates, Final Report May 2010

This infrastructure plan, prepared for the City of Greater Geelong and finalised in May 2010, builds on Council's existing strategic planning framework for Ocean Grove to plan for the formal outdoor sporting needs of the current and future residents. The plan considers the opportunities to maximise the use of the three main active recreation reserves, namely Shell Road Reserve, Collendina Reserve and Memorial Reserve, and provides recommendations for catering to the future active sporting needs in the Ocean Grove northern growth area where new residential development will be concentrated. The plan recommends that the 8ha of land to be acquired in the growth area for open space is to be developed as an integrated active recreation reserve to include:

- Two multi-use ovals, one with lighting to training standard
- Two netball courts
- Basic sports pavilion
- Adequate car parking
- 'Informal' park facilities such as walking paths, playground, BBQ facilities, half-court basketball, landscaping, security lighting and park furniture, to promote broader community use and passive enjoyment.

Kingston Park is identified in the report as a reserve which could be modified to accommodate two junior soccer pitches with minimal impact on the rest of the reserve. The report notes that this would only be recommended if the demand for soccer outstrips the existing capacity of the two pitches at Shell Road Reserve. The report notes that additional facilities or sports use of Kingston Park in addition to the junior soccer pitches is not recommended.



Figure 4. INFORMAL JUNIOR SOCCER PITCHES (Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan, 2010)

1.4.4 The Vegetation of Kingston Park Conservation Area - Assessment of Conservation Significance, Mark Trengove Ecological Services, January 2012

This report was commissioned by the City of Greater Geelong and prepared by Mark Trengove Ecological services in February 2011 and updated in January 2012, to provide an assessment of the current conservation significance of the vegetation of the dedicated conservation area at Kingston Park. The assessment concluded that the park's vegetation communities are consistent with EVC 175 Grassy Woodland, which is currently listed as 'endangered' in the Otway Plains bioregion. The report notes that within the context of the Bellarine Peninsula and the larger Otway Plains, the existing vegetation at Kingston Park is considered to be highly significant as it constitutes one of the few remaining larger relatively intact and diverse examples of Grassy Woodland vegetation. The site was also noted in the report as being of:

- National botanical significance for its population of Bellarine Yellow Gums
- Regional significance for its Grassy Woodland vegetation
- High (State) Zoological significance for its habitat values which included fallen timber, mature trees with hollows and a shrub layer

Please refer to Section 2.3 of this report for additional information on environmental values of Kingston Park.

1.4.5 Draft City of Greater Geelong Municipal Fire Management Plan, October 2011-2014

The purpose of this document is to chart the planned and co-ordinated implementation measures that will minimise the occurrence, and mitigate the effect, of bushfire, grassfires, residential and industrial fires on the community. This Fire Management Planning document identifies long-term objectives and

approaches to managing fire risk and identifies actions that can be taken to contribute to community safety.
This plan seeks to reflect the direction emanating from the State sponsored Integrated Community Fire Management Planning (ICFMP) project to deliver an increased integrated approach to all fire issues between agencies and the community. Through a continuous improvement philosophy of agencies and enhanced community feedback, the plan will progressively close the gap between identified risks and on ground treatments over the next planning cycle of three years.

The fire season is generally from late October through to late March during spring and summer. The start of normal fire seasons coincides with strong north-west to south-west winds, which often prevail during this period. The majority of serious bushfires occur from this period when the normal rainfall pattern has been interrupted by drought.

Dangerous bushfire seasons are most commonly associated with two or more of the following factors in combination:

- Occurrence of an extended drought period
- Multiple lightning strikes associated with dry thunderstorm activity in mountainous areas
- NW to SW wind patterns in spring and summer
- Lower than average rainfall in association with a negative EI Nino Southern Oscillation cycle

The CFA Act has a set number of requirements in section 55A and 43, including:

- To prevent the occurrence of fire and to minimise the danger of the spread of fire on and from, any land, road or property vested in it or under control, care or management of the City of Greater Geelong.
- To identify areas, buildings and land use in the City of Greater Geelong which are at particular risk in case of fire.
- To specify how each risk is to be treated.
- To specify who is responsible for treating those risks.

1.4.6 Ocean Grove Township Protection Plan, CFA, November 2011

The Township Protection Plan was developed for Ocean Grove in 2011 by the CFA, in partnership with the City of Greater Geelong. The plan advises that the Fire Authorities have assessed Ocean Grove as having a high bushfire or grassfire risk. The Township Protection Plan provides recommendations to Ocean Grove residents on how to prepare and what to do in case of fire. Kingston Park is identified in the plan as an area of forest fire threat.

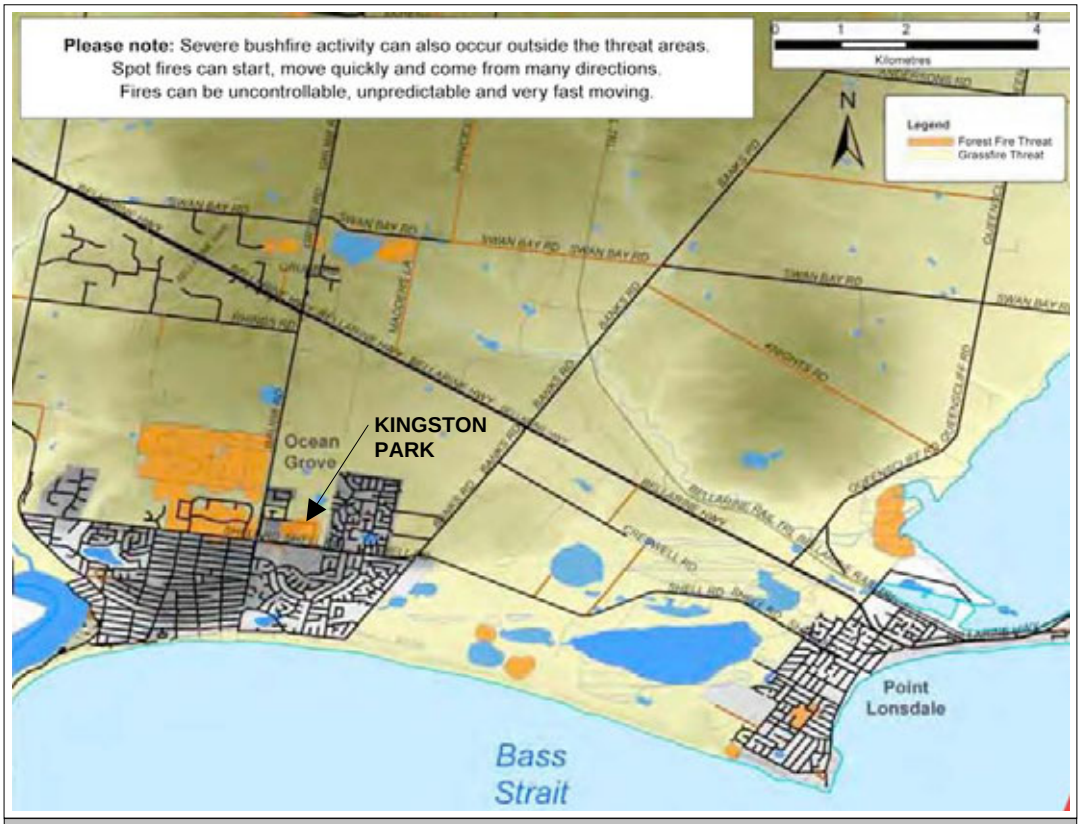


Figure 5. Ocean Grove Bushfire Threat Map (CFA Ocean Grove Township Protection Plan 2011)

1.4.7 Domestic Animal Management Plan, City of Greater Geelong, 2008

The City of Greater Geelong has one of the largest dog and cat populations in the state. Critical to animal management is the concept of responsible pet ownership and the plan is designed to address issues and set parameters for dogs and cats in public spaces in accordance with the Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act.

OFF LEASH AREAS
In general, dogs are allowed unleashed in public parks and reserves. Signs are to clearly indicate those parks or reserves where dogs are required to be on a leash or are prohibited from entering. On leash areas include:

- All roads and footpaths/nature strips;
- High use areas (for example the Waterfront Precinct in Geelong)
- Sporting grounds and ovals during times of organised sports (as defined by a formal booking with Council which includes times booked for sports practice/training);
- Shared use paths or walking paths and the areas within five (5) meters either sides of the abutting edge of the path (except those paths located on the Fyansford Common);
- Within ten (10) meters of children's play equipment;
- Within ten (10) meters of picnic and barbecue areas and/or table and associated seating.

Please note that a review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan will be completed in 2012 by Council.

2.0 Existing conditions

2.1 Land ownership and management

2.1.1 Land ownership

The existing site for Kingston Park is owned and managed by the City of Greater Geelong. Beyond the south-west corner of the park, the land where the Ocean Grove Fire Station is located is owned by the CFA, and The Mex restaurant (4-12 Grubb Road) is privately owned.

2.1.2 Land Management

The majority of the site is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). The sealed car park associated with The Mex restaurant in the south-west corner of the park is zoned as Business Zone 1 (B1Z). Residential properties immediately adjacent to the park are zoned as Low Density Residential (LDRZ) and properties to the north of Adco Grove are zoned Industrial Zone 1 (IN1Z). There are no planning overlays applied to the site.

Investigate rezoning of the fenced conservation area on the eastern side of the park from PPRZ to PCRZ (Public Conservation and Resource Zone) to reflect existing protection and management of the relatively intact and highly significant remnant vegetation in this area.

2.2 Historical context

2.2.1 Indigenous Cultural Heritage

Up until European settlement in the late 18th century, the Barwon Coast area, including Ocean Grove, would have been inhabited by the Aboriginal people, particularly the Wathaurung. With the abundance of water and fish, the Aborigines would have occupied important sites around the coastal area, including Barwon Park and Barwon Heads Village Park in Barwon Heads, where Aboriginal archaeological materials and artifacts were identified in an assessment completed for the City of Greater Geelong by Terraculture in 2001.

There is limited Cultural Heritage information available specific to Kingston Park. A map provided by the CoGG shows a registered site located to the north-east of Kingston Park. The Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

2.2.2 Non Indigenous History

The land upon which Ocean Grove is located was bought by William Bonsey in 1854. The population at the time consisted of a small community of fishermen and farmers. The Ocean Grove area was subdivided in 1887 and developed based on the precepts of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the township was named after the Ocean Grove settlement in New Jersey, U.S.A.

The history of Kingston Park itself is not well documented. It was noted during the community consultation that the site was set aside as public open space and established as a park about 50 years ago.

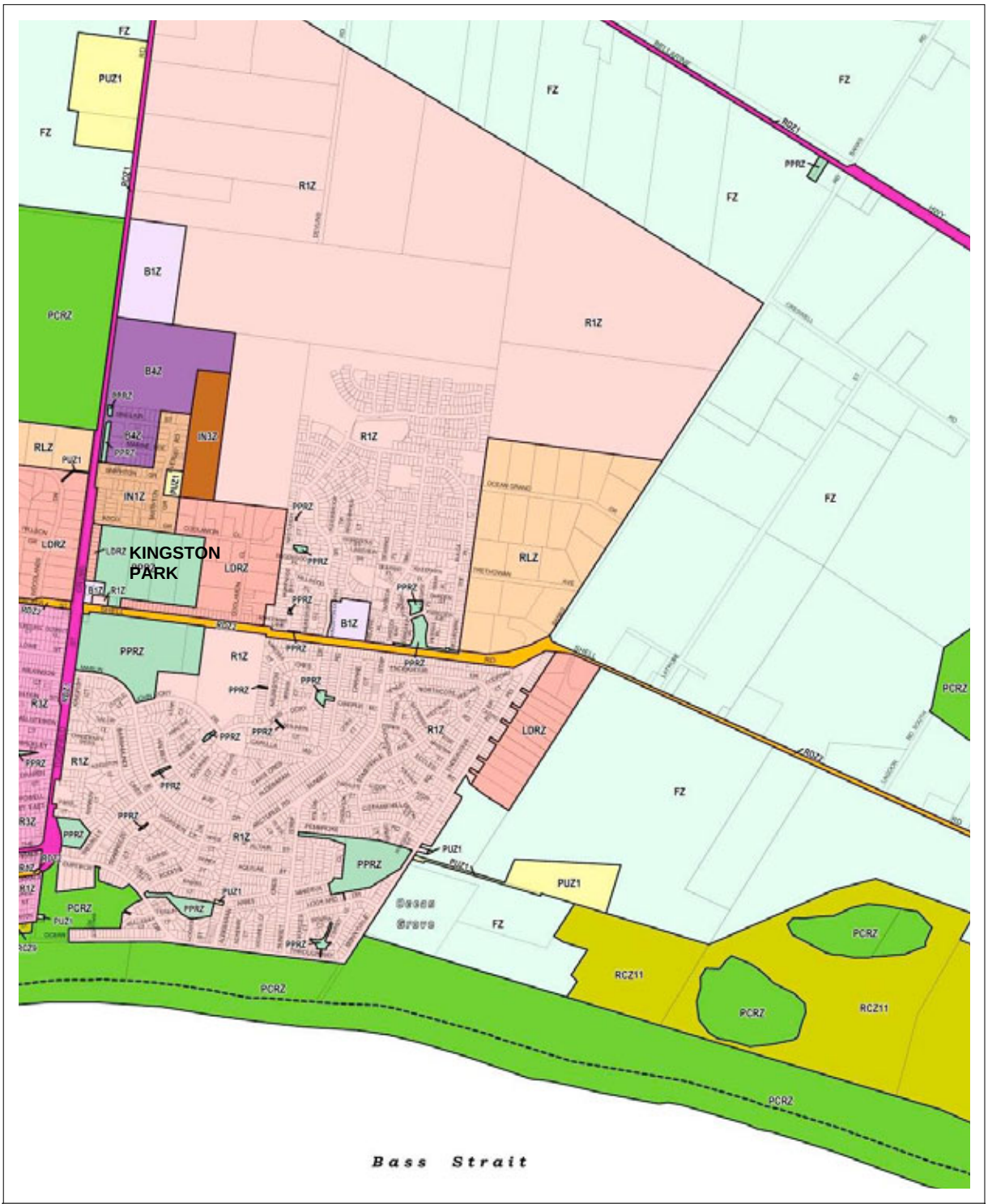


Figure 6 EXISTING LAND ZONING (CoGG Planning Scheme 2011)

2.3 Environmental values

2.3.1 Flora

The rare and threatened Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* is found mostly scattered in the western area of Kingston Park, with a few clusters identified in the fenced conservation area in the east of the park. These trees are protected under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and the healthy and naturally regenerating population at Kingston Park has been assessed as of National significance. The remnant EVC 175 Grassy Woodland vegetation, contained within the fenced conservation area is also endangered. This area is actively managed by the City's Environment and Natural Resources Unit incorporating the Conservation Reserves Team, including extensive and ongoing removal of exotic weeds and aggressive natives such as Sweet Pittosporum and Tea Tree followed by carefully planned ecological burning to promote groundlayer biodiversity values and reduce fuel loads.

The Assessment of Conversation Significance report (Mark Trengrove 2012) commissioned by the City of Greater Geelong concluded that the conservation area on the eastern side of Kingston Park and the recorded areas of scattered remnant vegetation in the western side of the park have the following conservation values:

- State conservation significance for the occurrence of Bellarine Yellow Gum that it is listed as 'Endangered' within Victoria and is listed for protection under the Victorian Flora and Guarantee Act (1998) (DSE).
- Endangered vegetation community 'EVC 175 Grassy woodland' in the Otway plains bioregion (DSE).
- Very High Conservation Significance vegetation (Habitat Hectare Assessment/DSE).
- National botanical significance for it population of Bellarine Yellow Gum (CoGG Biodiversity Plan).
- Regional significance for its Grassy Woodland vegetation (CoGG Biodiversity Plan).
- High (State) Zoological significance for its habitat values that includes fallen timber, mature trees with hollows and a shrub layer (CoGG Biodiversity Plan).

Other significant species identifies in the park include the Black Bristle-rush and the Drooping Sheoke which is of Regional Conservation Significance.



Photo 1. Bellarine Yellow Gum



Photo 2. Black Bristle-rush



Photo 3. Bellarine Yellow Gums behind toilet block

The CoGG's Environment and Natural Resource Unit incorporating the Conservation Reserves Team have conducted extensive weed removal works and controlled burns over the years, to promote natural regeneration and reduce fuel loads within the park's conservation area. The aerial photos in figures 7, 8 and 9 show the works carried out from 2001 when the area was dominated by Pittosporum and Tea Tree to the extensive regeneration of indigenous vegetation by 2008.



Photo 5. Conservation area



Photo 6. Conservation area



Photo 7. Conservation area



Photo 8. Conservation area

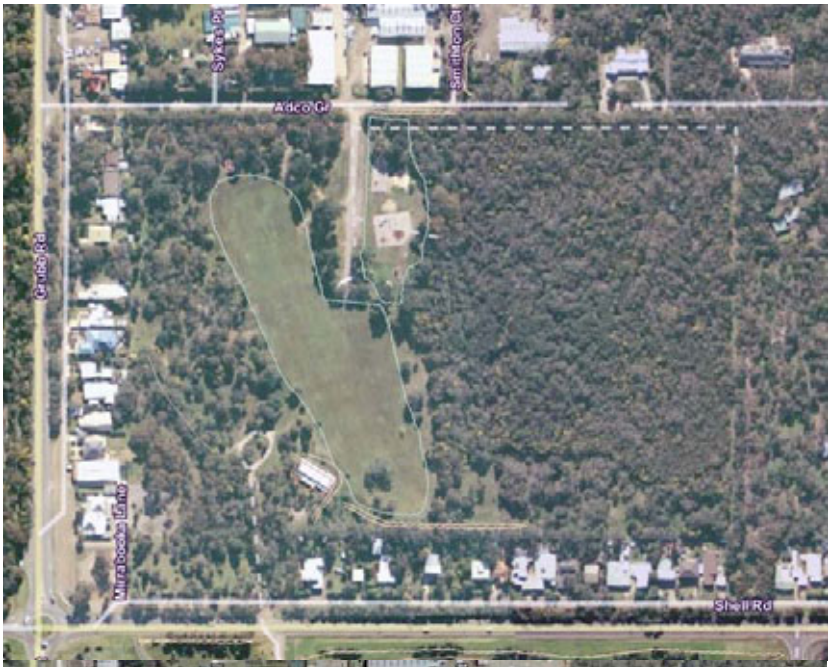


Fig 7. 2001 Aerial



Fig 9. 2005 Aerial



Fig 8. 2008

2.3.2 Fauna

A formal fauna assessment of Kingston Park has not been conducted, however the Assessment of Conservation Significance report (Mark Trengrove 2012) concludes that the park is of State Zoological Significance for its habitat values that includes fallen timber, mature trees with hollows and a shrub layer. Nesting boxes have also been located in some of the trees located in the south-west corner of the park.



Photo 9. Existing nesting box



Photo 10. Conservation area

2.4 Adjoining land use

2.4.1 Residential properties

Kingston Park is bounded to the west, south and north-east by residential properties. The typical fencing type is timber paling fences, with many properties having an outlook onto the park and access gates into the park. The existing vegetation along the southern boundary of the conservation area and adjacent to residential properties may present a fire risk if left unmanaged.



Photo 11. Residential property adjacent to conservation area



Photo 12. Residential property fencing along south boundary

2.4.2 Geelong Revival Centre Camp

The Geelong Revival Church Camp site is located immediately to the east of Kingston Park. The land is zoned as Low density residential (LDZ1) and is regularly used for summer camping.

2.4.3 Mex Hotel and associated Car Park

This restaurant is located to the south-west of Kingston Park and its sealed car parking facility is located at the back of the building, in the south-west corner of the park. The car park is located on CoGG land and zoned as Business Zone (B1Z). The car park contains several mature Bellarine Yellow Gums and the proximity of the asphalt surface and use of planted Yellow Gums of unknown provenance in revegetation present a significant threat to the health of these trees.



Photo 13. The Mex Hotel and Car Park

2.4.4 Ocean Grove CFA

The Ocean Grove Fire Station is located to the south-west of Kingston Park, at the corner of Shell Road and Grubb Road. The CFA regularly use the park for training purposes and assists with fuel reduction and ecological burns.



Photo 14. Pedestrian access gate to Geelong Revival Centre Camp



Photo 15. Ocean Grove Fire Station

2.5 Access and circulation

2.5.1 Vehicle access and circulation

Grubb Road is the primary arterial leading to Ocean Grove and Shell Road is a secondary arterial, as identified in the Ocean Grove Structure Plan 2007. With the new residential development in the north of Kingston Park it is anticipated that there will be an increase in traffic in this area, especially at the Grubb Road / Shell Road intersection. The Ocean Grove Structure Plan recommends improvement works at this major road junction.

Vehicle access to Kingston Park is via the main park entry at Adco Grove in the north, and the unsealed vehicular track to the Girl Guides and car park off Shell Road in the south of the park. Vehicles can also park in the Mex Restaurant car park in the south-west corner of the park. An existing maintenance vehicle access track runs along the south, east and north boundary of the conservation area.



Photo 16. Main vehicle entry to Park from Adco Grove



Photo 17. Vehicle access to sealed car park at Grubb Road



Photo 18. Shell Road entry

2.5.2 Car Parking

The main car park is located to the north of the park, with a sealed access road but no sealed or defined car parking bays.

Secondary unsealed car parks are also located to the south of the park, adjacent to the Girl Guides cottage.

A sealed car park behind the Mex Restaurant can also be used as car parking to gain access to the park.



Photo 19. Existing unsealed car park from Shell Road entry



Photo 20. Existing unsealed car park behind the Girls Guide



Photo 21. Existing sealed car park behind The Mex Restaurant

2.5.3 Pedestrian access and circulation

Pedestrians access the park from the main entry points at Adco Grove, Shell Road and The Mex car park. There are also several pedestrian access gates along Coolamon Close and along the eastern boundary of the conservation area. There are existing walking tracks in the fenced conservation area, which are to have minimal maintenance as unsealed bushland tracks to allow the potential regeneration of the Grassy Woodland vegetation. There are no formal walking tracks in the unfenced area of the park.

As noted in the Structure Plan 2007 and confirmed during the Community Consultation phase, pedestrian links to the park need to be improved. A key focus will be on the implementation of pedestrian crossings at the Grubb Road/ Shell Road intersection, and improved links from the future residential communities to the north of the park.



Photo 22. Tracks along west boundary of conservation area



Photo 23. Existing walking tracks in Conservation area



Photo 24. Existing maintenance track along east boundary



Photo 25. Pedestrian access gate along east boundary

2.6 Existing site infrastructure

2.6.1 Informal recreation

The park provides park facilities and infrastructure for informal activities, including a playground, BBQ facilities, a picnic shelter, a toilet block with male and female toilets, and scattered seats and picnic tables. The open grass areas are also used for passive recreation including walking and dog walking.



Photo 26. Existing playground and seat



Photo 27. Public toilet block



Photo 28. Picnic Shelter



Photo 28. BBQ Facilities



Photo 29. Existing open grass area

2.6.2 Signage

Existing signage in the park is located at the park entry and access points into the park and conservation area. Some of the signs are dated and will require review and update by the CoGG. There is no interpretation signage in the park and conservation area.



Photo 30. Park entry sign



Photo 31. Dated regulatory signage

2.6.3 Drainage and Sewer

Asset plans supplied by Barwon Water indicate that existing underground sewer and stormwater pipes are located in the west end of the park, generally running along the property fence lines from Adco Grove and to the east of the CFA to Shell Road Reserve. An overland drainage channel also directs any overland flows to the area immediately east of the CFA compound.

2.7 Community stakeholders

2.7.1 Girl Guides Association of Victoria / Mirrabooka Brownie Cottage

The Mirrabooka cottage is located at the southern end of the open grass field and is owned and operated by the Girl Guides Association of Victoria. The site is leased from the City of Greater Geelong. The cottage was erected in 1969 by Rotary Clubs of Geelong, Geelong West, Belmont and Geelong East. The cottage is used for guides and is open to community groups, disability groups and family groups. The lodge can be booked for group camps and is occasionally leased out to Guide Groups from across Victoria and Australia. The building has 6 bedrooms with bunk beds accommodating 2-6 people per room. Other facilities include a kitchen, dining room, sitting room, bathroom and public telephone. The

Ocean Grove and Barwon Heads Girl Guides currently conduct their weekly meetings offsite however they have a locked storage room at the Mirrabooka Brownie Cottage.



Photo 32. Girl Guides Association of Victoria



Photo 33. Mirrabooka Cottage

2.7.2 Ocean Grove Rotary Club / Summer Market

The Rotary Club of Ocean Grove has a licence agreement in place with Council to operate a summer Community Craft Market in Kingston Park on the first Sunday of each month from October until Easter of the following year. The licence covers an area of approximately 24,475m2 including the open grassed area, the carpark at Adco Grove, the picnic and BBQ area and the playground. A range of conditions are listed in the licence agreement, including:

- The licensee is to ensure that all litter is placed in bins provided by the Licensor.
- The licensee is to pay for the provision of electricity to the premises during the term of the licence.
- The Licensee must not store any equipment on site and at the end of each market must ensure that the area is left clean and in a tidy condition at the end of each market day.
- The balance of Kingston Park must be maintained clear of stalls and be available for passive recreation and public access must be maintained to all adjoining recreation areas to the satisfaction of the licensor.
- The amenity of the area must not be detrimentally affected by the use, through the:
  - (a) transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land
  - (b) appearance of any stall, works or materials
  - (c) emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil
  - (d) presence of vermin.
- The licensee must provide an appropriately trained and identifiable (i.e safety vest) person to direct traffic for the total period of set up (stall holder arrivals) and pack-up (stall holder departures).
  A risk assessment must be completed for all aspects of the market including setup, operation and pack up. This should identify all reasonably likely risks and hazards and identified actions to mitigate those risks. Such risks/hazards may include, but is not limited to:
  - vehicle movements
  - unsafe structures
  - pedestrian safety power supply (power leads covered, no device adaptors)
  - food product risk.

At each market day the Rotary Club will have a designated person responsible for auditing, monitoring and managing safety.

The market is a key tourist attraction during the months it operates and is a major fundraiser for the club. All the proceeds are allocated to the Rotary's supported charities.



Photo 34. Ocean Grove Rotary Club Summer Market



Photo 35. Summer market stalls

The market stalls are typically chalk marked on the open grass field and an area for overflow parking is managed and marshalled by the Rotary Club members.

Issues and opportunities identified by the Market Committee (Rotary Club letter dated 14.11.2011) include:

- The existing toilet block is in poor condition and is to be upgraded.
- Upgrade outdoor electricity supply at the toilet block to a minimum of 4 outlets for food/coffee stalls at the market.
- The car park surface at the Adco Grove entry is to be resurfaced.
- Improve directional signage to Kingston Park, including permanent signage on the Bellarine Highway near Mitre 10, provision of permanent signage on Shell Road (east and west) leading up to the Grub and Shell Roads intersection, provision of improved signage on Grubb Road at the junction with Adco Grove.
- Provision of additional rubbish bins and seating.



Figure 10. Licenced area for the Rotary Community Market

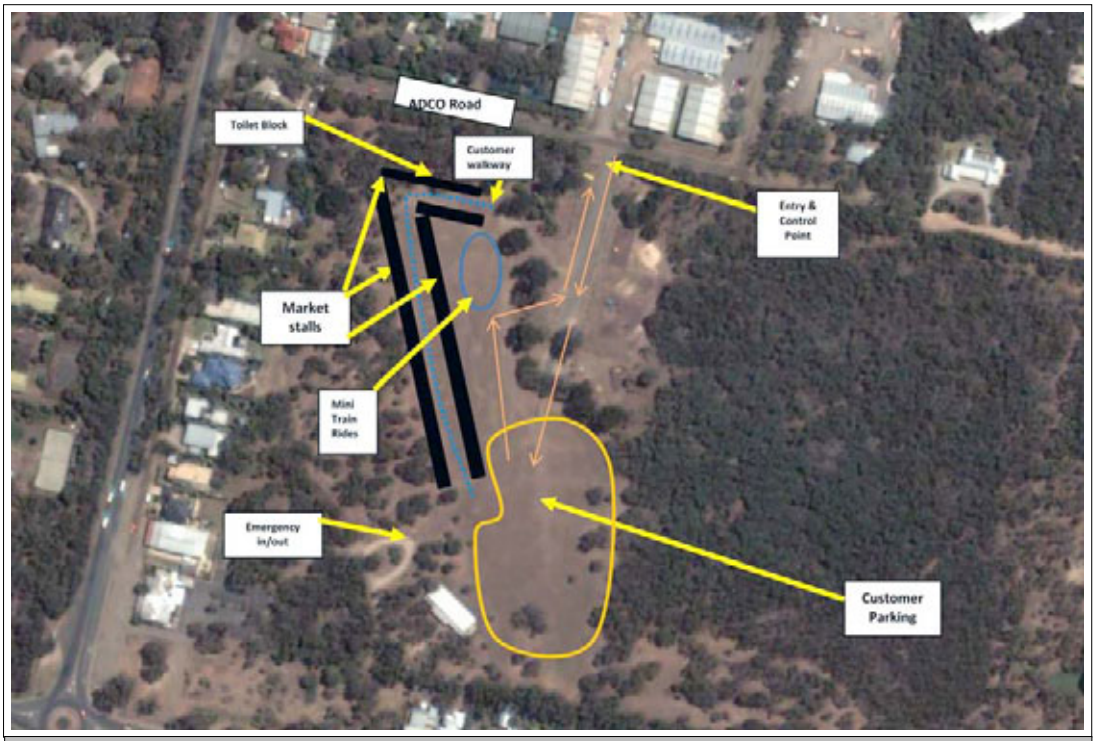


Figure 11. Rotary Market Layout (Rotary Club of Ocean Grove)

2.8 Consultation

2.8.1 Consultation at the Research and Analysis Phase

A community consultation process was conducted as part of the Research and Analysis Phase of this project.

An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform preparation of the Kingston Park Master Plan. The questionnaire was designed to identify existing use of the park, key values, issues and opportunities to be considered in preparation of the master plan.

1181 Information Leaflet/Questionnaires were letter box dropped to residents in the local area and another 50 copies were provided to both the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre and the Bellarine Aquatic Centre in late September 2011. Additional Information Leaflet/Questionnaires were also available at the Community Workshop held 12/10/2011 at the Ocean Grove CFA and from the City's Environment and Natural Resource Unit team members working on site through October 2011.

Notices were placed in the Bellarine Times 4/10/11 and Ocean Grove The Voice 5/10/11.

A total of 95 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 4 detailed written responses by closing date of 21/10/2011. The responses have been summarised. Refer Appendix A.

2.8.2 Consultation at the Draft Master Plan Stage

The draft plan and report was displayed for public comment. Feedback received was reviewed and used to inform amendments and changes to the Draft Plan and Implementation Priorities where appropriate. Refer Appendix B.

3.0 Plans

KPMP-01 Existing Conditions Plan

KPMP-02 Existing Vegetation Communities Plan

KPMP-03 Master Plan

KPMP-04 Management Plan



THOMPSON BERRILL LANDSCAPE DESIGN P/L

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

EXISTING CONDITIONS
KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE

AUGUST 2012
DWG No. KPMP-01
SHEET 1 OF 1
SCALE 1:1000 @ A1



EXISTING VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

Remnant indigenous vegetation at Kingston Park has been classified as EVC 175 Grassy Wooland. Vegetation Sub Communities identified by Mark Trengove (2011) include:

- A — Bellarine Yellow Gum dominate - relatively intact understory
- B — Swamp Gum / Drooping Sheoke / Golden Wattle dominate - relatively intact understory
- C — Bellarine Yellow Gum dominate - partially intact understory (slashed Wallaby-grass dominated)
- D — Bellarine Yellow Gum / Drooping Sheoke dominate - partially intact understory
- E — Swamp Gum dominate - partially intact understory (slashed Wallaby-grass dominated)
- F — Sweet Bursaria / Cherry Ballart / Golden Wattle dominate - understory exotic
- G — Bellarine Yellow Gum / Swamp Gum / Drooping Sheoke / Sweet Bursaria dominate - relatively intact understory (slashed grassy diverse understory)
- H — Bellarine Yellow Gum dominate - partially intact understory
- I — Swamp Gum / Drooping Sheoke / Black Wattle / Sweet Bursaria dominate - relatively intact understory (slashed and unslashed areas)
- J — Swamp Gum / Drooping Sheoke dominate - partially intact understory (slashed Wallaby-grass dominated)
- K — Golden Wattle / Hedge Wattle dominate - partially intact understorey
- L — Drooping Sheoke / Golden Wattle dominate - relatively intact understorey
- M — Scattered Wallaby-grass on playing field

SCATTERED SIGNIFICANT SPECIES

- 70 — Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon spp bellarinensis* Refer Mark Trengove Report
- Ce — Black Bristle-rush *Chorizandra enodis*

SCATTERED SPECIES

- Av — Drooping Sheoke *Allocasuarina verticillata*
- Al — Black Sheoke *Allocasuarina littoralis*
- Eo — Swamp Gum *Eucalyptus ovata var ovata*

DRAWING KEY

- Existing Yellow Gum
- Existing trees
- Native vegetation
- Existing Pine trees
- Existing road
- Existing unsealed access road
- Existing unsealed paths
- Existing unsealed carpark
- Drainage line
- Maintenance gates
- Pedestrian gates
- Signage
- Existing post and wire fence
- Existing residential property fence
- Existing pine log fence

THOMPSON BERRILL LANDSCAPE DESIGN P/L in association with Mark Trengove Ecological Services

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

EXISTING VEGETATION COMMUNITIES
KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE

NOVEMBER 2012
DWG No. KPMP-02
SHEET 1 OF 1
SCALE 1:1000 @ A1

OVERALL DESIGN INTENT

The overall design intent is to protect and the existing environmental and conservation values of Kingston Park while maintaining existing levels of passive recreation and facilities. Key overall recommendations include:

- Protect the significant Bellarine Yellow Gum population while improving links and buffer zones between areas of remnant Grassy Woodland vegetation inside and outside of the fenced conservation zone.
- Maintain clear fire access to adjoining residential properties and continue close liaison with the CFA to complete carefully planned fuel reduction and ecological burns to maintain and improve bushland biodiversity values.
- Continue to support and promote use of the existing grass areas for passive recreation, the craft market and informal sport while minimising provision of permanent built facilities within the park.
- Undertake staged upgrade of existing picnic and play facilities to cater for existing and future use.
- Improve pedestrian and cycle links to the park.

CONSERVATION VALUES

The rare and threatened Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* is found within the fenced conservation area and scattered around the park. These trees are protected under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and the healthy and naturally regenerating population at Kingston Park has been assessed as of National significance. The remnant Grassy Woodland vegetation (Ecological Vegetation Class EVC 175) contained within the fenced conservation area is also endangered. This area is actively managed by the City's Conservation Reserves Team including extensive and ongoing removal of exotic weeds and aggressive natives such as Sweet Pittosporum and Tea Tree followed by carefully planned ecological burning to promote groundlayer biodiversity values and reduce fuel loads.

BELLARINE YELLOW GUMS

Recommendations for the protection and management of the Bellarine Yellow Gums are to be completed in accordance with DSE Action Statement No.180 and include:

- Continue weed control, minimise disturbance within the tree protection zone and promote natural regeneration.
- Discourage the planting of other subspecies of Yellow Gum within the park and remove existing populations to reduce potential hybridisation between subspecies.
- Undertake seed collection, propagation and plant local provenance Bellarine Yellow Gums in the park as part of planned revegetation works.

FENCED GRASSY WOODLAND CONSERVATION AREA

The fenced conservation area has been identified as EVC 175 Grassy Woodland. This ecological vegetation class is listed as being 'Endangered' in the Otway Plains Bioregion and Kingston Park is one of the remaining large areas of relatively intact Grassy Woodland vegetation on the Bellarine Peninsula. The conservation area features a Swamp Gum *Eucalyptus Ovata var ovata* canopy, with smaller areas dominated by of Bellarine Yellow Gum and Drooping Sheoke *Allocasuarina verticillata*. The middlestorey and understorey vegetation is relatively intact and includes species such as the Golden Wattle Acacia pycnantha, Sweet *Bursaria Bursaria spinosa* and Wallaby-grass *Austrodanthonia spp.*

Recommendations for the protection and management of the remnant vegetation in the fenced conservation area include:

- Continue the ongoing weed control program to target weeds such as Large Quaking-Grass *Briza maxima*, and monitor for typical Grassy Woodland weed species such as Sweet Pittosporum *Pittosporum undulatum*, Boneseed *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, Cat's Ear *Hypochoeris radicata* and Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*.
- Maintain designated fire access buffer zones adjoining private property while ensuring no removal of existing vegetation other than identified environmental weed species without Council approval. Refer Management Plan.
- Continue controlled burns in the conservation area to reduce fuel biomass and promote natural regeneration of indigenous species.
- Upgrade and resurface the perimeter walking track (max 1.2m wide).
- Retain other internal bush tracks for maintenance and informal access only.
- Retain and enforce dog on lead controls at all times in the fenced conservation area.
- Liaise with adjoining residents to control spread of environmental weeds and prevent dumping of garden, green or hard waste.
- Investigate the need to undertake pest control to target rabbits and foxes.

RECREATION AND PARK FACILITIES

Kingston Park is a local open space reserve that provides for passive recreation. The park is popular with walkers and dog walkers and existing park facilities include a playground, BBQ, a picnic shelter, toilet block and picnic tables.

PLAYGROUND

2 Maintain existing playground facilities. Longer term investigate upgrading the play equipment to include natural materials and theme to complement the adjoining conservation area.

PUBLIC TOILET AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

3 Investigate upgrade of the outdoor electricity supply at the toilet block to a minimum of 4 outlets for food/coffee stalls at the market. Establish a new roof and repaint the existing toilet block.

BBQ FACILITY AND PICNIC SHELTER

4 Maintain the existing BBQ, picnic shelter and picnic tables. Provide additional picnic tables closer to the playground and longer term investigate establishment of a second picnic shelter and BBQ in this area.

SIGNAGE

- Establish improved directional signage to the park at Grubb Road and Shell Road.
- Liaise with Rotary to investigate seasonal market signage out on the Bellarine Hwy near Mitre 10.
- Investigate the provision of temporary seasonal interpretive signage in the conservation area to assist for local park users and visitors in identifying wildflowers and other key species.
- Upgrade park regulatory signage to current CoGG standards at the Adco Gr and Shell Rd entries.

ADCO GROVE ENTRY CAR PARK

The existing car park provides approx 100 spaces and is never at capacity outside of market days.

16 Review the layout to establish shade trees. Close the southern end of the car park and re grass to improve pedestrian links between the grass areas and playground. Retain 60 permanent car spaces and top dress to improve drainage using recovered site material.

17 Maintain existing capacity and access to grass overflow parking areas on market days.

18 Reinstate the park perimeter fencing to the north of the playground with new timber post and rail fence and review signage and safety.



PARKLAND REVEGETATION

There are isolated patches of remnant indigenous vegetation in the park outside the fenced conservation area along with areas of planted native shrubs and Eucalypts and large mature Pine Trees. Vegetation management recommendations for the park outside the fenced conservation area include:

19 Protect areas of remnant Grassy Woodland and Bellarine Yellow Gums. Install timber marker posts to clearly define the mowing boundary and hand over management of these areas to the CoGG Environment and Natural Resources Unit to undertake weed control and to promote natural regeneration with targeted ecological and fuel reduction burns.

20 There is a large stormwater drain through the park however there is some existing indigenous vegetation in the short sections of open channel including Black Bristle-rush *Chorizandra enodis*. Control weeds and maintain biodiversity values with targeted revegetation consistent with the modified hydraulic regime.

21 Maintain the primary fire buffer zone and 4x4m fire access for the CFA along private property boundaries. Refer Management Plan.

22 Monitor the health and Useful Life Expectancy (ULE) of the existing pine trees in the park and other large Eucalypts directly adjoining private property and recreational areas within the park. Establish a staged tree replacement program using indigenous Bellarine Yellow Gums propagated from seed from existing trees in the park.

23 Establish a planted revegetation buffer along the western edge of the fenced Grassy Woodland conservation area to reduce edge effect and weed invasion in the primary conservation zone. Investigate opportunities to involve local residents and schools to promote understanding and appreciation of the flora within the park. Refer Management Plan.

ROTARY CLUB SUMMER MARKET

The popular Ocean Grove Craft Market is run by the Rotary Club and licenced by CoGG. The market is held on the first Sunday of the month between October and April. The stalls are arranged at the north end of the open grass area and the southern section is used as informal car parking.

- Support continued use of the open grass areas of the park for the market.
- Monitor the stall and temporary car park layout to minimise impacts on indigenous vegetation outside the fenced conservation area.
- Liaise with the Rotary Club to complete upgrade of facilities such as car parking, gates, toilets, electricity supply and signage which are used as part of the market.

GUIDE HALL (Mirrabooka Cottage)

The existing building is owned by the Girl Guides and the site is leased from the CoGG. As part of future lease agreements investigate opportunities to increase multi use of the building.

GEELONG REVIVAL CENTRE CAMP

24 Liaise with the Church to protect areas of remnant vegetation and minimise spread of weeds into the remnant bushland. Liaise with the CFA to maintain fire breaks and access from Shell Road.

CIRCUIT WALKING TRACK

25 Establish a new 1.2m wide unsealed all weather walking path. Complete the path in stages providing links through a mix of parkland and bushland settings to eventually establish a loop track around the park of over 1.6km.

26 Continue to use the existing maintenance track as part of the walking trail loop. Longer term resurface to establish a 1.2m wide unsealed all weather walking path.

DRAWING KEY

- Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon spp bellarinensis*
- Black Bristle-rush *Chorizandra enodis*
- Drooping Sheoke *Allocasuarina verticillata*
- Black Sheoke *Allocasuarina littoralis*
- Swamp Gum *Eucalyptus ovata var ovata*
- Existing trees
- Native vegetation
- Existing Pine trees
- New indigenous overstorey trees
- New indigenous vegetation
- Existing road
- Existing unsealed access road
- Existing unsealed track
- New unsealed path
- Pedestrian link
- Vehicle access
- Existing stormwater drain
- Existing Sewer
- Maintenance gates
- Pedestrian gates
- Existing Signage
- New Signage
- New picnic tables
- New seats
- Existing post and wire fence
- Existing residential property fence
- Existing pine log barrier
- New pine log barrier
- New post and rail fence
- Existing buildings
- Items to be removed

OPEN GRASS AREAS

1 Retain the open grass area for informal passive recreation, the craft market and dog walking. Retain the entire park as dog on lead on designated market days and if required for junior soccer games. As identified in the Ocean Grove sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010 this area could be modified through line marking and top dressing to accommodate two junior soccer pitches with minimal impact on the rest of the reserve however no formal permanent infrastructure is to be installed on the site.

MEX HOTEL AND CAR PARK

There are three mature Bellarine Yellow Gums in the sealed asphalt car park located within the park behind the hotel. The car park restricts opportunities to encourage natural regeneration and may impact on tree health.

5 Remove asphalt from around mature Bellarine Yellow Gums and remove other planted Yellow Gums of unknown provenance to prevent potential hybridisation.

SHELL ROAD ENTRY UNSEALED CAR PARK

6 Retain the existing unsealed car park and provide additional overstorey shade trees.

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND LINKS

7 Install a pedestrian access gate at the north-west corner of the park to improve the pedestrian and cycle links from the future residential developments to the north of the park.

8 Review fencing and improve pedestrian access and safety at the Adco Grove entry and links to Smithton Gv.

9 Maintain existing pedestrian and cycle access to the park from Coolamon Close. Longer term improve links to the future residential developments to the north-east of the park.

10 Maintain existing informal pedestrian links through the Geelong Revival Centre Camp, east of the park and through to Bellarine Secondary College. Investigate new maintenance and emergency vehicle access at the south-east corner of the park.

11 Investigate improved pedestrian access across Shell Road and Grubb Road to improve safety and accessibility from existing residential areas south and west of the park.

RUBBISH BINS

12 Provide additional rubbish bins at the Adco Gv picnic area and car park off Shell Rd.

13 Liaise with Rotary to ensure provision of additional temporary bins on market days.

SEATS

14 Provide additional seats around the park in a mix of shady and sunny spots connected by the proposed walking track.

BIKE RACKS

15 Provide new bike racks at the playground and guide hall.

LAND MANAGEMENT

The existing park is owned and managed by the City of Greater Geelong. The CoGG Environment and Natural Resources Unit including the Conservation Reserves Team manage the fenced conservation area and other areas of remnant vegetation around the park including the Bellarine Yellow Gums. The CoGG Sport, Recreation and Open Space Unit manage all other areas of the park.

CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUES

The Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation is the Registered Aboriginal Party for this area.There are no recorded sites of cultural and/or archaeological significance at Kingston Park, however the need for a Cultural Heritage Management Plan is to be confirmed prior to undertaking any works involving ground disturbance.

THOMPSON BERRILL LANDSCAPE DESIGN P/L

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

MASTER PLAN

KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE

AUGUST 2012
DWG No. KPMP-03
SHEET 1 OF 2
SCALE 1:1000 @ A1
0 10 20 30 50 m



MANAGEMENT ZONES

Refer Kingston Park Master Plan Draft Report May 2012, Chapter 4.0 for Management Zones description.

DRAWING KEY

- ZONE I BELLARINE YELLOW GUM CONSERVATION AREAS

FENCED GRASSY WOODLAND CONSERVATION AREA

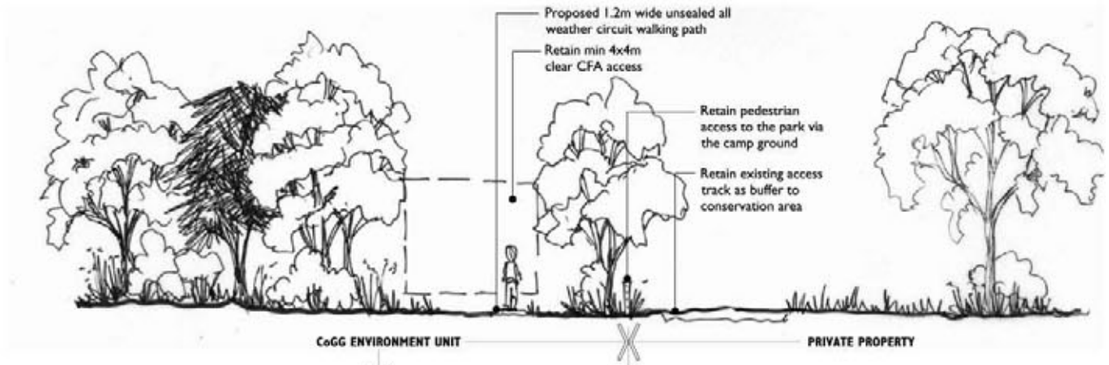
- ZONE 2A NATURAL REMNANT GRASSY WOODLAND
- ZONE 2B PRIMARY FIRE BREAK ZONE
- ZONE 2C SECONDARY BUFFER ZONE

PARKLAND AREAS

- ZONE 3A SCATTERED WOODLAND
- ZONE 3B PRIMARY FIRE BREAK ZONE
- ZONE 3C DRAINAGE CHANNEL
- ZONE 3D FUTURE REVEGETATION AREAS

RECREATION AREAS

- ZONE 4A ADCO GROVE PICNIC AREA, CAR PARK AND PLAYGROUND
- ZONE 4B GUIDE HALL AND CAR PARK
- ZONE 4C OPEN GRASS AREA



2A CONSERVATION ZONE

Retain and protect the existing indigenous vegetation and continue weed control program to target environmental weeds to improve the environmental values of the conservation area and promote natural regeneration of the bushland.

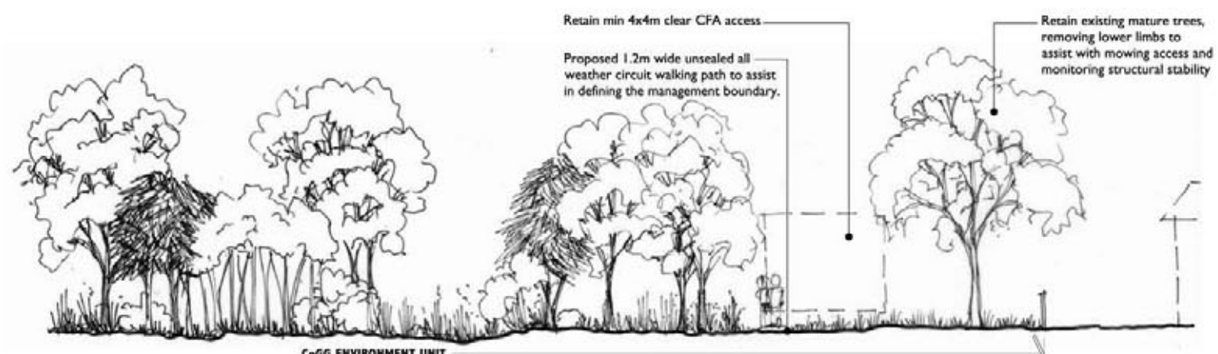
2C SECONDARY BUFFER ZONE

Establish a secondary buffer zone 10-15m wide. Retain established trees and patches of indigenous shrub. Actively control tree/shrub regrowth to focus on retention of groundlayer species biodiversity, using weed control and targeted fuel reduction /ecological burns. Slashing by CRT 1-2 times per year.

GEELONG REVIVAL CENTRE CAMP

Liaise with the Geelong Revival Centre to retain and protect areas of remnant vegetation and minimise spread of weeds into the conservation area.

SKETCH SECTION A-A



2A CONSERVATION ZONE

Retain and protect the existing indigenous vegetation and continue weed control program to target environmental weeds to improve the environmental values of the conservation area and promote natural regeneration of the bushland.

2C SECONDARY BUFFER ZONE

Establish a secondary buffer zone 20 - 25m wide. Retain established trees and patches of indigenous shrub. Actively control tree/shrub regrowth to focus on retention of groundlayer species biodiversity, using weed control and targeted fuel reduction /ecological burns. Undertake slashing to reduce fuel loads in periods of high fire risk and/or prior to fuel burns in the larger remnant bushland area. Subject to season assessment by CoGG and CFA additional mowing may be undertaken in the first 5 metres closest to the Primary Buffer Zone, utilising a high degree of machinery hygiene to prevent introduction of weeds.

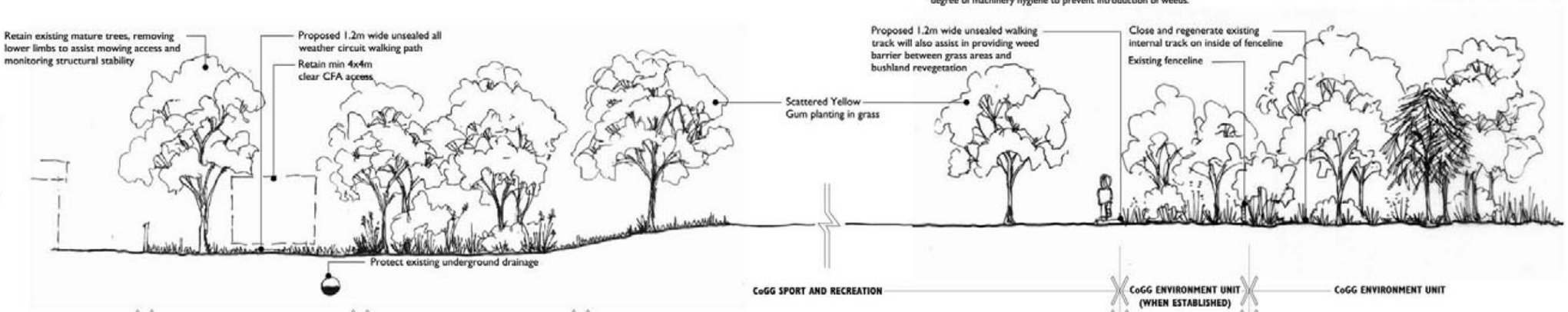
2B PRIMARY BUFFER ZONE

Retain a primary fire break zone 8-10m wide along the private properties to the southern edge of the bushland. Retain existing established and significant trees located in this zone and prune lower branches to keep tree trunks clear of branches to a minimum of 3m above ground level. Slashing to be undertaken in the same cycle as the mowing conducted in preparation for the Rotary Market, utilising a high degree of machinery hygiene.

PRIVATE PROPERTY

Liaise with adjoining residents to encourage use of indigenous garden planting and to control spread of weeds / dumping of green waste.

SKETCH SECTION B-B



PRIVATE PROPERTY

Liaise with adjoining residents to encourage use of indigenous garden planting and to control spread of weeds / dumping of green waste.

3B PRIMARY BUFFER ZONE 3A

Retain existing 8-10m wide primary fire break zone along fenceline. Retain existing established trees and remove shrubs/saplings to enable mowning of grass 6-8 times per year.

I BELLARINE YELLOW GUMS ZONE

Retain existing established and significant trees in areas with remnant vegetation. Remove non indigenous trees/shrubs, complete groundlayer weed control and undertake revegetation. Revegetate with new Bellarine Yellow Gums and species consistent with a Grassy Woodland EVC.

SKETCH SECTION D-D

CoGG SPORT AND RECREATION

4C PARKLAND ZONE

Retain open grass area and continue to manage for passive recreation, the craft market and for dog walking. Establish new scattered Bellarine Yellow Gums along the edge of the grassed area for shade.

CoGG ENVIRONMENT UNIT (WHEN ESTABLISHED)

3D REVEGETATION ZONE

Undertake staged revegetation 5-10m wide using indigenous species consistent with a Grassy Woodland EVC to provide a buffer to remnant bushland areas. Investigate potential community/school planting in this area.

CoGG ENVIRONMENT UNIT

2A CONSERVATION ZONE

Retain and protect the existing indigenous vegetation and continue weed control program to target environmental weeds to improve the environmental values of the conservation area and promote natural regeneration of the bushland.

SKETCH SECTION C-C

Please note sketch sections are not intended to illustrate specific conditions at a particular individual property location but are intended to graphically illustrate principles of management adjoining that entire boundary only.

THOMPSON BERRILL LANDSCAPE DESIGN P/L

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

MANAGEMENT PLAN
KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE

DECEMBER 2012
DWG No. KPMP-04
SHEET 2 OF 2
SCALE VARIES @ A1

4.0 Management Zones

The study area has been divided into a number of different zones that have been defined by common management aims. This section describes existing conditions and management recommendations for each of the management zones in the park. Refer to the Management Plan for further detail.

The following is a summary of the overall management objectives for the park:

- Protect and enhance the remnant vegetation including the population of Bellarine Yellow Gums and the existing conservation area and undertake staged restoration works where required to increase biodiversity and habitat corridor value while maintaining required fire breaks and views from adjoining properties for security.
- Maintain existing dog on lead in the conservation area and investigate dogs off lead area in the open grass area of the park.
- Upgrade existing regulatory signage and investigate provision of new interpretation signage.
- Protect and enhance the conservation area while improving and maintaining the required fire breaks from adjoining properties.
- Improve passive recreation areas and facilities, including installation of additional seats.
- Review vehicle access and the existing car parking areas and investigate removal of unused car parks and revegetation
- Improve pedestrian circulation and safety in the park.
- Investigate applying PCRZ (Public Conservation and Resource Zone) zoning to existing conservation areas within the park.

4.1 Zone 1 Bellarine Yellow Gum Conservation Areas

Areas of the park which contain Bellarine Yellow Gums and are to be protected and managed by the CoGG Environment and Natural Resource Unit in accordance with the requirements of DSE Action Statement No.180.

The overall management intent is to ensure protection of the existing trees and enhancement of natural regeneration where possible. Refer Kingston Park Ocean Grove Bellarine Yellow Gum Assessment (Mark Trengove January 2012).

Key management recommendations include:

- Continue monitoring of all Yellow Gums with internal annual audit of health, growth rate, seed collection and update on status of natural regeneration.
- Where Yellow Gums are located outside the existing fenced conservation area establish bollards/barriers outside the tree protection zone to define the management area, reduce disturbance from mowing and pedestrian access and to promote natural regeneration.
- Continue carefully targeted weed control to promote natural regeneration.
- Discourage the planting of other subspecies of Yellow Gum at Kingston Park to reduce hybridisation between subspecies.

- Undertake seed collection, propagation and planting of Bellarine Yellow Gum at the park as part of proposed revegetation works.
- Undertake appropriate net gain calculations and establish management goals and actions for 10 years, in consultation with Council's Environment Unit, to achieve net gain targets. Undertake review of goals and actions and undertake further vegetation assessment (habitat hectare assessment) every 3, 5 and 10 years.

4.2 Zone 2 Fenced Grassy Woodland Conservation Area

The 6.5ha fenced Grassy Woodland Conservation Zone comprises all areas within the existing fenced bushland area and is to be managed by the CoGG Environment and Natural Resource Unit.

The overall management intent is to maintain and protect the biodiversity and conservation values consistent with the Grassy Woodland EVC175 Ecological Vegetation Class.

There is limited Cultural Heritage information available specific to Kingston Park. A map provided by the CoGG shows a registered site located to the north-east of Kingston Park. The Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

Investigate rezoning of the fenced conservation area on the eastern side of the park from PPRZ to PCRZ (Public Conservation and Resource Zone) to reflect the existing protection and management of the relatively intact and highly significant remnant vegetation in this area.

4.2.1 Zone 2A Natural Remnant Grassy Woodland

The main area of bushland consists predominantly of a *Swamp Gum Eucalyptus ovata var ovata canopy*, with smaller areas dominated by of Bellarine Yellow Gum and Drooping Sheoke *Allocasuarina verticillata*. The middle storey and understorey vegetation is relatively intact and includes species such as the Golden Wattle *Acacia pycnantha*, Sweet Bursaria *Bursaria spinosa* and Wallaby-grass *Austrodanthonia sp.*

The overall management intent in this zone is to retain and allow natural processes consistent with the Grassy Woodland Ecological Vegetation Class.

Key management recommendations include:
- Continue on going weed control using only qualified staff/contractors to promote natural regeneration consistent with EVC 175 Grassy Woodland.
- Continue the ongoing weed control program to target all noxious weeds and weeds such as Large Quaking-Grass *Briza maxima,* and monitor for typical Grassy Woodland weed species such as Sweet Pittosporum *Pittosporum undulatum*, Boneseed Chrysanthemoides monilifera, Cat's Ear *Hypochoeris radicata* and Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*.
- Ensure no removal of existing vegetation other than identified environmental weed species without Council approval.

- Conduct controlled mosaic burning in the conservation area to reduce fuel biomass and promote natural regeneration of indigenous species.
- Ensure ongoing monitoring of biodiversity values.
- Retain existing informal maintenance/bush walking tracks through the core conservation area.
- Close the existing informal track located along the western boundary of the fenced conservation area and revegetate to protect and improve the native vegetation values and encourage park users to use the new walking track to the west of the conservation area fence.
- Retain and enforce dog on lead controls at all times in the fenced conservation area.
- Investigate the need to undertake pest control to target rabbits and foxes.
- Undertake appropriate net gain calculations and establish management goals and actions for 10 years, in consultation with Council's Environment Unit, to achieve net gain targets. Undertake review of goals and actions and undertake further vegetation assessment (habitat hectare assessment) every 3, 5 and 10 years.

4.2.2 Zone 2B Primary Fire Break Zone

Private properties directly adjoin the bushland on the eastern and southern boundaries. These areas may be subject to risk and the overall management intent is to maintain an 8-10m wide firebreak between the fenceline and the natural bushland areas.

Key management recommendations include:

- Continue to maintain CFA standard 4x4m vehicle access.
- Remove shrubs and dense regeneration of tree species, undertaking regular slashing of grass to maintain a clear 8-10m wide buffer zone adjoining the private property fence. Slashing is to be undertaken in the same cycle as the mowing undertaken in preparation for the Rotary Market e.g. the week before the first Sunday of each month between October and Easter.
- An assessment will be undertaken at the start of each fire season with officers from Council's Environment Unit, CFA and the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer to determine if further mowing works are required within adjoining areas of Zone 2C. If required extra mowing will be undertaken in the Secondary Buffer Zone, if possible in January, after the native grass has set seed to minimise environmental impacts.
- Retain existing mature trees (predominantly Southern Mahogany *Eucalyptus botryoides*, which are not indigenous to Ocean Grove) removing dead wood and all lower branches to a minimum height of 3m above ground to improve access for slashing and continue to monitor the structural stability where overhanging boundary fences.
- Ensure a high degree of machinery hygiene at all times to minimise potential spread of exotic weeds. Wash down all machinery at the depot prior to cutting of grass e.g. bring the machine directly to site and ensure areas within the conservation zone are cut first.
- Liaise with adjoining residents to minimise potential spread of exotic and native weeds into the bushland from adjoining private property including

preventing dumping of green waste and encouraging back yard planting using indigenous species of local provenance.
- Liaise with residents about the Town Protection Plan, monitoring of fuel loads and providing fire access on adjoining private property.
- Establish the unsealed walking path on the alignment of the existing maintenance track where possible to assist in defining the boundary of this zone to the secondary buffer zone.
- Retain and enforce dog on lead controls at all times in the fenced conservation area.

4.2.3 Zone 2C Secondary Buffer Zone

Establish a secondary buffer zone of between 20-25m between the bushland zone and the primary fire break zone.The overall intent in this zone is to actively manage the vegetation including control and removal of dense shrub and tree regrowth, predominantly Drooping Sheoke *Allocasuarina verticillata*, Golden Wattle *Acacia pycnantha* and Sweet Bursaria *Bursaria spinosa*, to ensure retention and protection of the diverse species mix in open areas of groundlayer vegetation. This is intended to maintain biodiversity values which may be lost due to light/competition under natural conditions and to provide an increased buffer zone width adjoining private property during periods of high fire risk.

Key management recommendations include:
- Retain established trees and existing patches of shrubs. Actively control dense regeneration of targeted weed and non-indigenous species using targeted weed control and small scale mosaic burns to maintain biodiversity values.
- Remove dead trees and shrubs as a high priority.
- Prior to undertaking fuel reduction/ecological burning in the main bushland area and/or during periods of high fire risk undertake spraying and additional brushcutting if required to reduce fuel loads.
- Ensure a high degree of machinery hygiene at all times prior to any brushcutting activities in this area.
- Establish the unsealed walking path on the alignment of the existing maintenance track where possible to assist in defining the boundary of this zone to the secondary buffer zone.

4.3 Zone 3 Parkland Areas

These areas are managed primarily for passive recreational use compatible with conservation values of the park. Many areas within this zone contain areas of remnant vegetation however there has also been active planting of natives and high levels disturbance and of invasion of exotic species causing fragmentation.

The overall management intent in this zone is to retain the existing character of informal passive open space reserve consisting of scattered indigenous trees with slashed grass/indigenous groundlayer understory.

4.3.1 Zone 3A Scattered Woodland

Key management recommendations include:

- Retain existing trees and defined areas of indigenous shrubs/mid storey. Undertake staged replacement of native/exotic trees with indigenous trees consistent with a Grassy Woodland EVC. Prioritise removal of those trees which may contribute to hybridisation with the Bellarine Yellow Gums.
- Protect existing areas of remnant indigenous groundlayer vegetation patches of established midstorey shrubs using a mulch/herbicide boundary to define the mowing/slashing zone.
- Maintain as slashed grass 2-4 times per year.

4.3.2 Zone 3B Primary Fire Break Zone

Private properties directly adjoin the parkland areas along the western boundary.

Key management recommendations include:

- Continue to maintain CFA standard 4x4m vehicle access.
- Remove shrubs and dense regeneration of tree species undertaking regular slashing of grass 6-8 times per year as determined by the season to maintain a clear 8-10m wide buffer zone adjoining the private property fence.
- Retain existing mature trees (predominantly Southern Mahogany *Eucalyptus botryoides*, which are not indigenous to Ocean Grove) removing dead wood and all lower branches to a minimum height of 3m above ground to improve access for slashing and continue to monitor the structural stability where overhanging boundary fences.
- Liaise with adjoining residents to minimise dumping of green waste and hard rubbish.
- Liaise with adjoining residents to ensure there is no storage of private equipment/materials within the park.
- Liaise with residents about the Town Protection Plan, monitoring of fuel loads and providing fire access on adjoining private property.
- Establish the unsealed walking path to assist in defining the boundary of this zone to the secondary buffer zone.

4.3.3 Zone 3C Drainage Channel

The remains of the former drainage line include an open channel which contains patches of Black Bristle-rush and areas of indigenous ephemeral wetland vegetation.

Key management recommendations include:

- Maintain the existing channel and investigate opportunities to increase access to low flows including potential water quality treatment opportunities for runoff from the CFA and Mex Hotel car parks.
- Protect existing areas of remnant indigenous ephemeral wetland vegetation in the channel. Establish a clear herbicide boundary buffer to define the mowing/slashing edge and undertake staged control of weeds.
- Continue to monitor build up of mosquito larvae in wet periods, as part of ongoing city wide program.

4.3.4 Zone 3D Future Revegetation Areas

Revegetation is to be undertaken in stages aimed at increasing buffers to remnant bushland areas and linking isolated fragments to maximise habitat values. When completed revegetation areas will be managed by the Environment and Natural Resource Unit while isolated tree planting will continue to be maintained by Parks and Gardens.

Key management recommendations include:

- Ensure all revegetation is undertaken using species consistent with EVC 175 Grassy Woodland using plants propagated from seed collected locally or within the reserve.
- Establish a planted revegetation buffer along the western edge of the fenced Grassy Woodland conservation area to reduce edge effect and weed invasion in the primary conservation zone.
- At the Mex car park, remove asphalt from around mature Bellarine Yellow Gums and remove other planted Yellow Gums of unknown provenance to prevent potential hybridisation.
- Tree planting is to be undertaken using Bellarine Yellow Gums propagated using seed collected from trees on site.
- Where possible co ordinate works as part of school or local community group programs to build local knowledge and appreciation of the indigenous flora values in the park.

4.4 Zone 4 Recreation Areas

Kingston Park is a local open space reserve that provides for passive recreation for the local Ocean Grove community.

4.4.1 Zone 4A Adco Grove picnic area, car park and playground area

The existing recreation area will continue to be managed by CoGG Parks and Support Services Unit.

Key management recommendations include:

- Maintain existing level of passive recreational facilities including playground, BBQ, picnic shelter and public toilet. Undertake maintenance and staged longer term upgrade/replacement using materials to complement the adjoining conservation area.
- Review the layout to establish shade trees. Close the southern end of the car park and re grass to improve pedestrian links between the grass areas and the playground.
- Retain 60 permanent car spaces and top dress to improve drainage using recovered site material. Maintain access to grass overflow parking areas on market days.

4.4.2 Zone 4B Guide Hall

The Guide Hall will continue to be managed in accordance with the terms of the existing lease.

Key management recommendations include:

- As part of future lease agreements investigate opportunities to increase multi use of the building.
- Retain the existing unsealed Shell Road entry car park and provide additional overstorey shade trees.

4.4.3 Zone 4C Open grass area

The existing open grass areas will continue to be managed by CoGG Parks and Support Services Unit.

Key management recommendations include:

- Continue to maintain existing grass areas in accordance with existing parkland standards.
- Support continued use of the open grass areas for the market while minimizing the placement of permanent infrastructure in the park.
- Support the potential use of the open grass areas if required for junior soccer while minimising the installation of permanent infrastructure.
- Investigate formalising the status of dogs in the open grass area away from the playground and picnic areas as part of the review of the CoGG Domestic Animal Management Plan. Replace redundant signs and retain entire park as a dog on lead on designated market days and if required for Junior Soccer.
- Undertake annual, ongoing control program for Cape Weed *Arctotheca calendula* and Oxalis Purpurea to reduce spread into conservation areas.

5.0 Implementation

The following section provides an overview of the indicative capital costs to implement each of the key improvements actions identified, and presents these actions within an overall recommended implementation framework (i.e. priorities). Please note all works estimates for planning purposes only and are subject to funding.

The priorities are as follows:

- Mandatory (i.e. required by legislation or regulation)
- Critical (i.e. risk mitigation or safety)
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Ongoing

5.1 Summary of Indicative Costs and Priorities

	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE
Zone 1 – Bellarine Yellow Gum Conservation	$14,500	Nil	Nil	$2,320
Zone 2 – Fenced Grassy Woodland Conservation	$7,500	Nil	$44,400	$18,126
Zone 3 – Parkland Areas	$2,500	$29,000	$156,700	$13,887
Zone 4 - Recreation Areas	Nil	$27,600	$100,500	$4,562
PROJECT WORKS PRIORITIES	$24,000	$56,600	$301,600	$38,895
TOTAL WORKS			$382,700	

Indicative Cost Detailss

The tables on the following pages provide a detailed breakdown of the indicative costs for each action.

Exclusions and Assumptions

The following exclusions and assumptions have been made in determining the indicative preliminary opinion of probable cost information:

- The indicative costs are provided for budget guidance purposes only, the cost of individual projects may vary significantly depending on the construction method used, materials, site conditions, engineering requirements and final designs.
- Prices do not include GST

- No allowance has been made for professional fees (i.e. building and construction drawings), these could add a further 10% to key individual projects.
- No allowance has been made for a project contingency, a minimum allowance of 5% of the total project cost is recommended.
- No allowance has been made for volunteer labour or in-kind support.
- No allowance has been made for statutory planning costs or requirements. It is assumed these will be borne by Council.
- Prices quoted are based on current rates; no allowance has been made for cost escalations associated with time delays.
- No allowance has been made for service upgrades or improvements (i.e. power, water).

KINGSTON PARK OCEAN GROVE MASTER PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE Prepared by TBLD P/L for City of Greater Geelong, Refer Drawing No KPMP-01 & KPMP-02. Note preliminary opinion of probable cost estimates are for planning purposes only and subject to detailed design.

Plan Number	No.	Action Name	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
ZONE 1 - BELLARINE YELLOW GUM CONSERVATION										
19	1.1	Protect areas of remnant Grassy Woodland and Bellarine Yellow Gums outside the fenced conservation area. Provisional estimate only subject to confirmation of final numbers/location of Yellow Gums.Install timber marker posts to clearly define the mowing boundary.	900	lin.m	$15	$13,500	High	Environment	Sports & Rec	$270
19	1.2	Continue weed control, minimise disturbance within the tree protection zone and promote natural regeneration.	10,500	m2	$0.10		High	Environment		$1,050
19	1.3	Discourage the planting of other subspecies of Yellow Gum within the park and remove existing populations to reduce potential hybridisation between subspecies. Provisional estimate only.	1	Item		$500	High	Environment		
19	1.4	Undertake seed collection, propagation and plant local provenance Bellarine Yellow Gums in the park as part of planned revegetation works	1	Item		$500	High	Environment	Local nursery	
19	1.5	Continue monitoring of all Yellow Gums with internal annual audit and report on health, growth rate, seed collection and update on status of natural regeneration.	1	Item			High	Environment	DSE	$1,000
19	1.6	Undertake appropriate net gain calculations and establish management goals and actions for 10 years, in consultation with the Environment Unit, to achieve net gain targets. Undertake review of goals and actions and further vegetation assessment (habitat hectare assessment) every 3,5 and 10 years.				N/C	High	Environment		
		SUB TOTAL ZONE 1				$14,500			MAINTENANCE	$2,320
ZONE 2 - FENCED GRASSY WOODLAND CONSERVATION										
	ZONE 2A - Natural Remnant Grassy Woodland (Primary Conservation Area)									
	2.1	Continue on going weed control using only qualified staff/contractors to promote natural regeneration consistent with EVC 175 Grassy Woodland.Target all noxious weeds and weeds such as Large Quaking-Grass *Briza maxima*, and monitor for typical Grassy Woodland weed species such as Sweet Pittosporum *Pittosporum undulatum*, Boneseed *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, Cat's Ear *Hypochoeris radicata* and Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*.	65,500	m2	$0.10		High	Environment		$6,550
	2.2	Undertake annual and ongoing monitoring of biodiversity values.	1	Item			High	Environment	DSE	$500
	2.3	Continue controlled mosaic burns in the conservation area to reduce fuel biomass and promote natural regeneration of indigenous species. Note it is assumed that major burns only be completed once every 3-5 years.	2	Days			Ongoing	Environment	CFA	$4,000
	2.4	Retain internal bush tracks for maintenance and informal access only.				N/C	Ongoing	Environment		

Plan Number	No.	Action Name	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
	2.5	Close the existing informal track located along the western boundary of the fenced conservation area and revegetate to protect and improve the native vegetation values and encourage park users to use the new walking track to the west of the conservation area.	1	Item		$2,500	High	Environment		$500
	2.6	Maintain existing signage and enforce existing dog on lead restrictions at all times in the fenced conservation area.				N/C	Ongoing	Environment	Local Laws	
	2.7	Investigate the need to undertake pest control to target rabbits and foxes using the most appropriate methods.				N/C	Low	Environment	DPI / Adjoining Land owners	
	2.8	Investigate the provision of temporary seasonal interpretive signage in the conservation area to assist for local park users and visitors in identifying wildflowers and other key species.	1	Item			High	Environment		$500
	2.9	Undertake appropriate net gain calculations and establish management goals and actions for 10 years, in consultation with the Environment Unit, to achieve net gain targets. Undertake review of goals and actions and further vegetation assessment (habitat hectare assessment) every 3,5 and 10 years.				N/C	High	Environment		
	ZONE 2B - Primary Fire Break Zone									
21	2.10	Remove shrubs and dense regeneration of tree species to maintain CFA standard 4x4m vehicle access. Retain existing mature trees removing dead wood and all lower branches to a minimum height of 3m above ground to improve access for slashing and monitor the structural stability where overhanging boundary fences.	1	Item		$5,000	High	Environment	CFA	$500
21	2.11	Undertake regular slashing of grass 6-8 times per year as determined by the season to maintain a clear 8-10m wide buffer zone adjoining the private property fence.	4,000	m2	$0.50		High	Environment	Parks Unit	$2,000
21	2.12	Ensure a high degree of machinery hygiene at all times to minimise potential spread of exotic weeds. Wash down all machinery at the depot prior to cutting of grass eg. bring the machine directly to site and ensure areas within the conservation zone are cut first.				N/C	High	Environment	Parks Unit	
21	2.13	Liaise with adjoining residents to minimise potential spread of exotic and native weeds into the bushland from adjoining private property including preventing dumping of green waste and encouraging back yard planting using indigenous species of local provenance.				N/C	High	Environment		
21	2.14	Liaise with residents about the Town Protection Plan, monitoring of fuel loads and providing fire access on adjoining private property.				N/C	High	Environment	CFA & CoGG Fire Prevention Officer	
26	2.15	Longer term establish an unsealed perimeter walking path (max 1.2m wide) to assist in defining the boundary of this zone to the secondary buffer zone.	740	lin.m	$60	$44,400	Low	Environment	Sports & Rec	$1,776
	ZONE 2C - Secondary Buffer Zone									
	2.16	Retain established trees and existing patches of shrubs. Remove dead trees and shrubs and actively control regrowth of dense regeneration of targeted tree/shrub species using targeted weed control and small scale mosaic burns to maintain biodiversity values.	18,000	m2	$0.10		High	Environment	CFA	$1,800
	2.17	Prior to undertaking fuel reduction/ecological burning in the main bushland area and/or during periods of high fire risk undertake additional brushcutting and spraying to reduce fuel loads if required.				N/C	Medium	Environment		

Plan Number	No.	Action Name	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
	2.18	Ensure a high degree of machinery hygiene at all times prior to any slashing activities in this area.				N/C	High	Environment	Parks Unit	
9	2.19	Maintain existing pedestrian and cycle access to the park from Coolamon Close. Longer term improve links to the future residential developments to the north-east of the park.				N/C	High	Environement	Sports & Rec & Planning	
10	2.20	Maintain existing informal pedestrian links through the Geelong Revival Centre Camp, east of the park and through to Bellarine Secondary College. Investigate a new maintenance and emergency vehicle access at the south-east corner of the park.				N/C	High	Environment	Sports & Rec & Planning	
24	2.21	Liaise with the Geelong Revival Centre Camp to protect areas of remnant vegetation and minimise spread of weeds into the remnant bushland.				N/C	High	Environment	Planning	
26	2.22	Longer term establish an unsealed perimeter walking path (max 1.2m wide) to assist in defining the boundary of this zone to the secondary buffer zone. (Included in 2.13)					Low	Environment	Sports & Rec	
		SUB TOTAL ZONE 2				$51,900			MAINTENANCE	$18,126
ZONE 3 - PARKLAND AREAS										
	ZONE 3A - Scattered Woodland									
19	3.1	Retain existing trees and defined areas of indigenous shrubs/mid storey and protect existing areas of remnant indigenous groundlayer vegetation patches of established midstorey shrubs using a mulch/herbicide boundary to define the mowing/slashing zone.	1	Item			Medium	Sport & Rec	Environment & Parks Unit	$500
19	3.2	Undertake stages replacement of native/exotic trees with indigenous trees consistent with a Grassy Woodland EVC. Prioritise removal of those trees which may contribute to hybridisation with the Bellarine Yellow Gums. Refer 1.3.	1	Item		$5,000	Medium	Sport & Rec	Environment & Parks Unit	$100
	3.3	Maintain as slashed grass 2-4 times per year.	12,500	m2	$0.25		Ongoing	Sports & Rec	Parks Unit	$3,125
25	3.4	Establish a new 1.2m wide unsealed all weather walking path in stages.								
25		STAGE 1 - Guide Hall to Adco Grove Car Park	345	lin.m	$60	$20,700	Low	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	
25		STAGE 2 - Adco Grove Car Park to The Mex Car Park, including short section of new path to the north-west corner of the park	420	lin.m	$60	$25,200	Low	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	
25		STAGE 3 - The Mex Car Park to Guide Hall	125	lin.m	$60	$7,500	Low	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	
7	3.5	Install a pedestrian access gate at the north-west corner of the park to improve the pedestrian and cycle links from the future residential developments to the north of the park.	1	Item	$500	$500	Low	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	
8	3.6	Review park fencing along the Adco Gv interface and upgrade to post & rail fence, including to the north of the playground. Improve pedestrian access and safety at the Adco Gv entry and links to Smithton Gv.	1	Item		$10,000	Low	Sport & Rec	Environment & Parks Unit	$200
11	3.7	Investigate improved pedestrian access across Shell Road and Grubb Road to improve safety and accessibility from existing residential areas south and west of the park.				N/C	Low	Traffic Engineering	Sport & Rec	

Plan Number	No.	Action Name	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
	3.8	Establish improved directional signage to the park at Grubb Road and Shell Road.	3	No.	$500	$1,500	Low	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club	$30
	3.9	Liaise with Rotary to investigate seasonal market signage out on the Bellarine Hwy near Mitre 10.	1	Item	$500	$500	Low	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club	$10
	ZONE 3B - Primary Fire Break Zone									
21	3.10	Remove shrubs and dense regeneration of tree species to continue to maintain the primary fire buffer zone and 4x4m fire access for the CFA along private property boundaries. Retain existing mature trees removing dead wood and all lower branches to a minimum height of 3m above ground to improve access for slashing.	1	Item		$2,500	High	Sport & Rec	Environment	$500
22	3.11	Monitor the health and Useful Life Expectancy (ULE) of the existing pine trees in the park and other large Eucalypts directly adjoining private property and recreational areas within the park.	1	Item			Ongoing	Sport & Rec	Environment & Parks Unit	$500
22	3.12	Establish a staged tree replacement program using indigenous Bellarine Yellow Gums propagated from seed from existing trees in the park.	1	Item		$5,000	Medium	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	$500
	3.13	Undertake regular slashing of grass 6-8 times per year as determined by the season to maintain a clear 8-10m wide buffer zone adjoining the private property fence.	2,900	m2	$0.50		Ongoing	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	$1,450
	3.14	Liaise with adjoining residents to minimise dumping of green waste and hard rubbish.				N/C	Medium	Sport & Rec	Environment & Parks Unit	
	3.15	Liaise with adjoining residents to ensure there is no storage of private equipment/materials within the park.				N/C	Medium	Sport & Rec	Local Laws	
	3.16	Liaise with residents about the Town Protection Plan, monitoring of fuel loads and providing fire access on adjoining private property.				N/C	Ongoing	Sport & Rec	CFA & CoGG Fire Prevention Officer	
25	3.17	Establish 1.2m wide unsealed walking path (no edging) to assist in defining the boundary of this zone to the secondary buffer zone.	730	lin.m	$60	$43,800	Low	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	$1,752
	ZONE 3C - Drainage Channel									
20	3.18	There is a large stormwater drain through the park however there is some existing indigenous vegetation in the short sections of open channel including Black Bristle-rush *Chorizandra enodis*. Control weeds and maintain biodiversity values with targeted revegetation consistent with the modified hydraulic regime.	1	Item		$5,000	Medium	Sports & Rec	Environment	$4,000
	3.19	Maintain the existing channel and investigate opportunities to increase access to low flows including potential water quality treatment opportunities for runoff from the CFA and Mex Hotel car parks.				N/C	Low	Sports & Rec	CFA / Land holders & Environment	
	3.20	Continue to monitor build up of mosquito larvae in wet periods as part of the existing city wide program.				N/C	Low	Sports & Rec	Environment	

Plan Number	No.	Action Name	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
	ZONE 3D - Future Revegetation Areas									
23	3.21	Establish a planted revegetation buffer along the western edge of the fenced Grassy Woodland conservation area to reduce edge effect and weed invasion in the primary conservation zone.								
23		STAGE 1 - Adjacent to playground picnic area	350	m2	$40	$14,000	Medium	Sport & Rec	Environment	$280
23		STAGE 2 - Adjacent to open grass areas	800	m2	$40	$32,000	Low	Sport & Rec	Environment	$640
	3.22	Ensure all revegetation is undertaken using species consistent with EVC 175 Grassy Woodland using plants propagated from seed collected locally or within the reserve.				N/C	High	Sport & Rec	Environment	
	3.23	Where possible co ordinate works as part of school or local community group programs to build local knowledge and appreciation of the indigenous flora values in the park.				N/C	Medium	Sport & Rec	Environment	
5	3.24	At the Mex car park, remove asphalt from around mature Bellarine Yellow Gums and remove other planted Yellow Gums of unknown provenance to prevent potential hybridisation.	1	Item		$15,000	Low	Sport & Rec	Environment	$300
		SUB TOTAL ZONE 3				$188,200			MAINTENANCE	$13,887
ZONE 4 - RECREATION AREAS										
	ZONE 4A - Adco Grove Picnic Area, Car Park and Playground Area									
2	4.1	Maintain existing playground facilities. Longer term investigate upgrading the play equipment to include natural materials and theme to complement the adjoining conservation area.	1	Item		$50,000	Low	Sport & Rec		$1,000
3	4.2	Investigate upgrade of the outdoor electricity supply at the toilet block to a minimum of 4 outlets for food/coffee stalls at the market. Provisional estimate only.	1	Item		$3,000	Low	Facilities	Rotary Club	$60
3	4.3	Establish a new roof and repaint the existing toilet block.	1	Item		$15,000	Medium	Facilities	Rotary Club	$300
4	4.4	Maintain the existing BBQ, picnic shelter and picnic tables. Provide additional picnic tables closer to the playground and longer term investigate establishment of a second picnic shelter and BBQ in this area.	1	Item		$25,000	Low	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club	$500
12	4.5	Provide additional rubbish bins at the picnic area and car park off Shell Rd.	2	No.	$500	$1,000	Medium	Sport & Rec	Waster Services Unit	$20
13	4.6	Liaise with Rotary to ensure provision of additional temporary bins on market days				N/C	Low	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club	
14	4.7	Provide additional seats around the park in a mix of shady and sunny spots connected by the proposed walking track.	5	No.	$1,800	$9,000	Medium	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	$180
15	4.8	Provide new bike racks at the playground and guide hall.	2	No.	$800	$1,600	Medium	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	$32
16	4.9	Review the layout to establish shade trees. Close the southern end of the car park and re grass to improve pedestrian links between the grass areas and playground. Retain 60 permanent car spaces and top dress to improve drainage using recovered site material.	1	Item		$20,000	Low	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit Environment	$400

Plan Number	No.	Action Name	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
17	4.10	Maintain existing capacity and access to grass overflow parking areas on market days.				N/C	Ongoing	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club & Parks Unit	
	4.11	Liaise with the Rotary Club to complete upgrade of facilities such as car parking, gates, toilets, electricity supply and signage which are used as part of the market.				N/C	High	Sport & Rec	Property	
	ZONE 4B - GUIDE HALL									
	4.12	The existing building is owned by the Girl Guides and the site is leased from the CoGG. As part of future lease agreements investigate opportunities to increase multi use of the building.				N/C	Low	Sport & Rec	Property	
6	4.13	Retain the existing unsealed Shell Road entry car park and provide additional overstorey shade trees.	1	Item		$2,500	Low	Engineering Services	Environment, Parks Unit & Sport & Rec	$50
	ZONE 4C - Open Grass Area									
1	4.14	Retain the open grass area for informal passive recreation, the craft market and and dog walking. As identified in the Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010 the area could be modified through line marking and top dressing to accommodate two junior soccer pitches with minimal impact on the rest of the reserve however no formal permanent infrastructure is to be installed on the site.				N/C	Low	Sport & Rec		
	4.15	Investigate formalising the status of dogs in the open grass area away from the playground and picnic areas as part of the review of the CoGG Domestic Animal Management Plan. Replace redundant signs and retain entire park as a dog on lead on designated market days and if required for Junior Soccer.	2	Signs	$500	$1,000	Medium	Sport & Rec	Local Laws	$20
	4.16	Support continued use of the open grass areas of the park for the Rotary Club Summer Market.				N/C	Ongoing	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club	
	4.17	Monitor the market stall and temporary car park layout to minimise impacts on indigenous vegetation outside the fenced conservation area.				N/C	Ongoing	Sport & Rec	Rotary Club & Environment	
	4.18	Undertake annual and ongoing control program for Cape Weed *Arctotheca calendula* and *Oxalis purpurea* to reduce spread into conservation areas.	20,000	m2	$0.10		Ongoing	Sport & Rec	Environment	$2,000
		SUB TOTAL ZONE 4				$128,100			MAINTENANCE	$4,562

SUBTOTAL PROJECT WORKS (ex GST)			$382,700
Detailed Design / Contract Administration (10%)			$38,270
Contingencies (10%)			$38,270
TOTAL WORKS (Incl GST)			$459,240

TOTAL ANNUAL MAINTENANCE $38,895

6.0 Conclusion

The Kingston Park Master Plan has been developed in close consultation with existing site users and community stakeholders. The plan seeks to address the key objectives for the project including ongoing protection of key environmental and cultural heritage values and the staged improvement of passive and active recreational facilities.

Kingston Park contains a thriving population of Bellarine Yellow Gums *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* located inside the fenced conservation zone and scattered around the park. These trees are protected under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and the healthy and naturally regenerating population at Kingston Park has been assessed as of National significance. The park also has over 6.5 hectares remnant Grassy Woodland EVC 175. This vegetation is listed as significant as most naturally occurring remnants on the Bellarine Peninsula have been cleared. Both of these significant biodiversity assets will continue to be managed by the Environment and Natural Resources Unit including ongoing removal of exotic weeds and aggressive natives such as Sweet Pittosporum and Tea Tree followed by carefully planned ecological burning to promote groundlayer biodiversity values and reduce fuel loads.

Kingston Park is a neighbourhood level open space reserve. The park provides passive recreation facilities for the local Ocean Grove community and is subject to higher levels of use during seasonal holiday periods and during the summer market season. The overall intent is to maintain the existing balance between passive recreation and bushland conservation. The focus will remain on maintenance and management of existing passive recreational facilities consistent with the significant conservation values of the park.

The area of remnant bushland may be subject to wildfire. The reserve also requires ongoing use of fire to promote regeneration and enhance biodiversity values. To minimise risk adjoining properties and the CoGG in close consultation with the CFA will continue to maintain designated buffer zones along private property boundaries and will continue to liaise closely with residents regarding fire risk in the park. By maintaining the area in a manner that befits the EVC, the dual goal of minimising fuel is also achieved. Weed growth and inappropriate fire regimes pose a larger likelihood of developing high fuel loads. By working towards optimal biodiversity outcomes, fuel is kept to a minimum whilst still providing the best possible ecosystem services.

Community consultation completed as part of the analysis phase and on the draft plan recommendations has confirmed the importance of the natural values of the park to the Ocean Grove community. The Master Plan seeks to provide a balanced, realistic and achievable framework to guide future management of the park which will continue to be a key conservation resource and open space reserve within Ocean Grove.

7.0 Bibliography

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APPENDIX A

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT - DURING RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PHASE

Kingston Park Ocean Grove Masterplan

SUMMARY REPORT
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
Undertaken during the research and analysis phase of the project

Prepared by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd
for
City of Greater Geelong

November 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE #

1. INTRODUCTION 3

2. INFORMATION LEAFLET QUESTIONNAIRE #1 RESPONSES 3

2.1 Location of respondents 3
2.2 Why and how often people visit Kingston Park 4
2.3 Values of Kingston Park 4
2.4 Issues/Opportunities to be addressed in the master plan 5
2.5 Summary of written submissions 6

ATTACHMENT 1
Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan Information Leaflet #1

ATTACHMENT 2
Community Information Session Meeting Notes - 12.10.11

1. INTRODUCTION

An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform preparation of the Kingston Park Master Plan. The questionnaire was designed to identify existing use of the park, key values, issues and opportunities to be considered in preparation of the master plan.

1181 Information Leaflet/Questionnaires were letter box dropped to residents in the local area and another 50 copies were provided to both the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre and the Bellarine Aquatic Centre in late September 2011. Additional Information Leaflet/Questionnaires were also available at the Community Workshop held 12/10/2011 at the Ocean Grove CFA and from City of Greater Geelong Conservation Reserves Team Members working on site through October 2011.

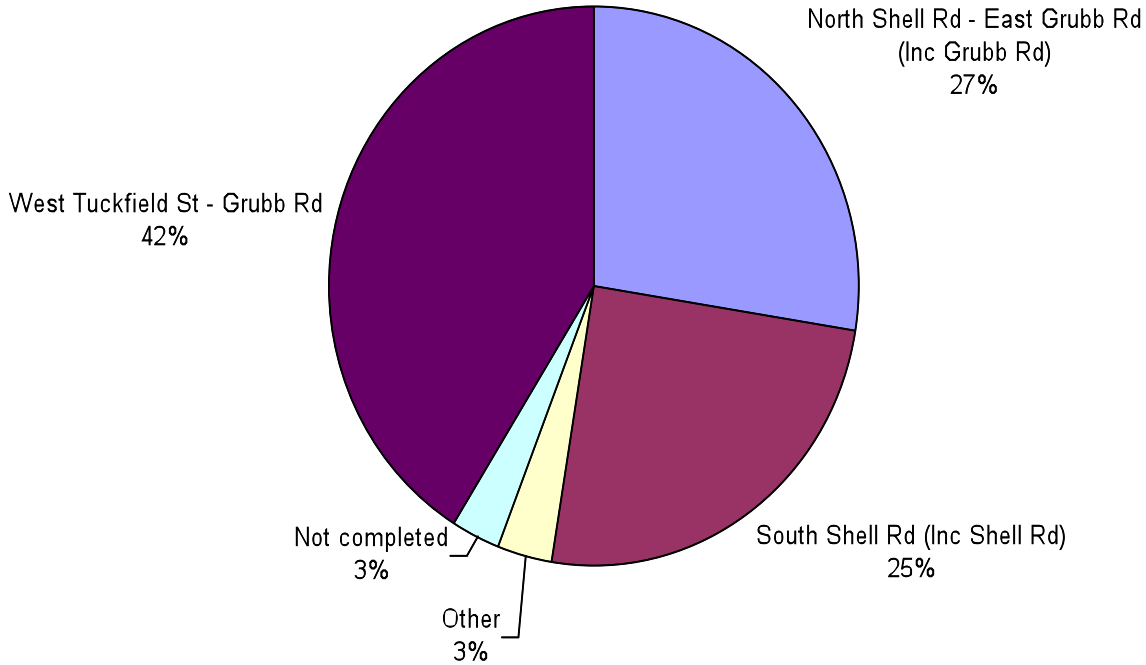
Notices were placed in the Bellarine Times 4/10/11 and Ocean Grove The Voice 5/10/11.

A total of 95 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 4 detailed written responses by closing date of 21/10/2011. The responses have been summarised.

2. INFORMATION LEAFLET QUESTIONNAIRE #1 RESPONSES

2.1 Location of respondents

Respondents were asked to provide their street name. Responses indicate that over 67% of respondents who currently use Kingston Park need to cross busy Shell Road or Grubb Road/Tuckfield Street.



2.2 Why and how often people visit Kingston Park

The Ocean Grove Craft Market held at the park on the first Sunday of the month from October to April is the most popular single reason to visit the park. Walking and dog walking are also popular with higher levels of weekly/daily use for these activities.

Total Use	Reasons to Visit the Park	Daily	2-3 Times per week	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	Never	Not completed
79%	The Market	0%	0%	1%	53%	20%	5%	21%
73%	Walking/Exercise	18%	12%	16%	14%	7%	6%	27%
62%	Use the playground	4%	4%	6%	19%	16%	13%	38%
63%	Walking the Dog	20%	14%	7%	6%	4%	12%	37%
64%	Nature appreciation	13%	7%	9%	18%	9%	7%	36%
58%	Bush Walking	3%	6%	8%	20%	11%	9%	42%
51%	Use open grass areas	11%	9%	8%	12%	5%	5%	49%
49%	Informal recreation	6%	3%	7%	16%	8%	8%	51%
45%	Picnic/BBQ	0%	0%	1%	11%	16%	18%	55%

Other reasons to visit noted in responses included using the park for bike riding and relaxing.

2.3 Existing Park Values

Respondents highlighted the natural character and environmental significance of the park as key values while its central location and importance as local open space and as a meeting place were also well supported values

47%	Natural character
44%	Open space
26%	Indigenous vegetation
22%	Peace and quiet
22%	Birdlife and fauna
18%	Walking tracks
18%	Dog walking
15%	Playground
11%	Location - limited open space in residential area
11%	Informal recreation/games
10%	Young families
7%	Community Market
7%	Location - close to home
6%	Knowledge it's there
5%	Lack of formal facilities
5%	Community involvement/connection
5%	Welcoming
3%	Location - centre of Ocean Grove
3%	BBQ/picnic areas
1%	No vandalism
1%	No sporting clubs are there
1%	Safe from the road and traffic
1%	Car park

2.4 Issues and Opportunities to be addressed

Respondents were asked to indicate what issues or opportunities they thought were most important to be considered in the master plan.

Infrastructure

9	Toilets need upgrading
7	Infrastructure kept to a minimum/do not need any more
3	More undercover areas
3	More seating
3	Upgrade BBQ
2	Upgrade seating
2	New rotunda
2	More BBQs
2	Maintain the self-closing gates to conservation area
1	Provide infrastructure with a more natural/rustic feel
1	Upgrade fencing for safety along Adco Grove
1	No increase in car parks/car parking
1	Need small sports club room (no late activites)
1	Need more toilets
1	Need Community Building for hire
1	Improve car park maintenance
1	Increase seating on the walking tracks
1	Provide drinking water facilities

Recreation

9	No formal recreation or soccer ground
8	Dogs not kept on a lead is an issue
7	Improve walking track maintenance
6	Playground upgrade
4	Need dogs waste Bags/Bins
2	Provide informal running track
2	Enforcement needed for dog droppings
2	Additional designated fenced area for dogs
2	Need a soccer ground
2	Need a circuit bike track for children
1	Retain dog walking in bushland on lead
1	Relocate playground closer to tables
1	Provide interactive signage
1	Provide exercise equipment
1	Provide directional signage
1	No bright lights or lighting
1	Extend walking tracks to future growth areas
1	Improve access to the park for bicycle riders
1	Improve access to the park from residential growth corridors

Vegetation

9	Ensure vegetation is well maintained
5	Remove dead wood for fire prevention
3	More indigenous planting
3	Improve shrub and tree maintenance for fire prevention
3	Continue weed maintenance
2	Monitor trees bordering houses to prevent damage

2	Create buffer zones
2	Consider Botanical Gardens
2	Not enough shade
2	Conserve and re-plant Yellow Gums
1	Upgrade tracks to reduce soggy areas
1	Provide fire escape routes

Other

17	Retain natural state
7	Need to protect birdlife and fauna
5	Retain open space area
3	Improve litter control
2	Stabilise gravel off main access road
1	Vehicle access, not restricted to protect grass areas
1	Its location needs to be promoted
1	Noise, too loud from traffic on main road
1	Implement strong legislative acts to restrict developments
1	Entrance unsafe at Adco grove, non-fenced area close to a main road
1	Incorporate Active in Parks Program
1	Investigate the acquisition of the church camp to incorporate into park

2.5 Summary of written submissions

In addition to the returned questionnaires, another 4 longer written submission letters were received. A summary of key issues and opportunities raised in these more detailed submissions has been included below.

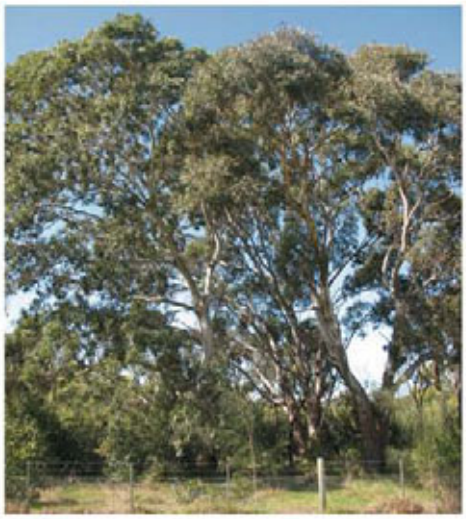
- Good opportunity to make Kingston Park a venue for the Geelong Active in Parks Program.
- Previous fire prevention works resulted to a lot of damage and destruction to the park. Council needs to create a balance between fire prevention and conservation.
- Organised sporting facilities will bring heavy usage, cars and subsequent damage to the environment. There are many other more suitable areas for a soccer ground, such as the Shell Rd Reserve.
- The entrance at Adco Grove has a 15m section without a gate. The heavy traffic on that road is a potential hazard for children playing in the playground or BBQ areas. A self closing security gate should be considered.
- 1m pole and 4-5 wire stand fencing along Adco Grove/ park reserve may also be a potential hazard for children climbing through or over, fencing needs to be upgraded around the perimeters.
- Poor workmanship every time the verge of the road is graded (some potholes are filled, others are disregarded).
- The self closing gates as the fenced off conservation area are a problem as they do not work. Suggested that regular maintenance is carried out.
- The preservation of the highly valued remnant woodlands of Kingston Park is paramount to any future management plans and no expansion of the current “playing” field into the woods should be allowed.
- Preservation of the existing indigenous vegetation should be maintained.
- Important to maintain the playground and BBQ areas as they are a valuable resource to the community.

ATTACHMENT 1

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan Information Leaflet #1

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Information Leaflet #1

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan







Kingston Park in Ocean Grove is a 12.5 hectare public open space reserve owned and managed by City of Greater Geelong. Located behind the Ocean Grove CFA on Shell Road the reserve contains a fenced area of remnant bushland and passive open space area with facilities including BBQ picnic area, playground, public toilet, Guide's Hall and open grass area. The reserve's network of informal tracks is used locally for walking and dog walking and the reserve is home to the popular Ocean Grove Sunday Craft Market.

The rare and threatened Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* is found within the fenced conservation area and scattered around the park. These trees are protected under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and the healthy and naturally regenerating population at Kingston Park has been assessed as of National significance. The remnant EVC 175 Grassy Woodland vegetation, contained within the fenced conservation area is also endangered. This area is actively managed by the City's Conservation Reserves Team including extensive and ongoing removal of exotic weeds and aggressive natives such as Sweet Pittosporum and Tea Tree followed by carefully planned ecological burning to promote groundlayer biodiversity values and reduce fuel loads.

What is the plan for?
Ocean Grove, like many other areas along the coast, is experiencing strong growth as a popular destination for both permanent residents and tourists. The objective of the master plan is to establish a clear strategic direction for future management of the reserve in consultation with community stakeholders. These include local residents, CFA, Rotary (Craft Market Management Committee), Geelong Field Naturalists, Guides and other park users. Key issues and opportunities to be considered in the plan include:

- Protection and management of the Bellarine Yellow Gums and Grassy Woodland Conservation Area as required under legislation.
- Fire management, including fuel reduction and ecological burns to maintain both public safety and biodiversity values.
- Pedestrian access and circulation including links to the broader Ocean Grove open space network.
- Investigation of any potential archaeological or cultural heritage values.
- Provision and future management of recreational infrastructure in the reserve including walking tracks, car parks, craft market facilities, public toilets, BBQ, picnic and play facilities.
- Proposed provision for junior soccer as outlined in the adopted Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2010.

Where is the project up to?
The project is in the first phase of research to assess site use and values and identify if there are any additional issues and opportunities to be considered in preparation of the plan.

How can you be involved?
A community workshop to discuss issues and opportunities to be considered in the plan will also be held:

Workshop Wednesday 12 October 2011 5.30pm–7.30pm, Ocean Grove Fire Station, 5 – 11 Shell Road, Ocean Grove.

To register for the workshop, receive another copy of the information leaflet questionnaire or for further information please contact: *the City's Environment and Natural Resources Unit on 5272 4785.*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____ EMAIL _____

Council is collecting the personal information requested on this form for research and analysis. Council will solely use the personal information for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. The respondent understands that the personal information provided is for the purposes of this and future research by the City and that they may apply to Council for access, deletion and/or amendment of the information. Council may disclose your personal information to third parties such as contractors or agents to provide services on our behalf. Council requires that the information is not used for any other purpose. Provision of personal information is optional. You can contact Council's Privacy Officer on 5227 0270 for further information on the City's privacy policy.

If you would like to be kept informed about the project, please fill out your name and address and return to the City of Greater Geelong.

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Questionnaire

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan

Please complete the questionnaire on behalf of you and your family, fold and **return by Friday October 21 2011** using mail (free of charge) or drop into the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre or Bellarine Sport and Aquatic Centre.

Q1. Your street name: _____

Q2. Why and how often do you visit Kingston Park?

	daily	2-3 times per week	weekly	monthly	yearly	never
Walking/Exercise	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Walking the dog	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bush walking	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Use open grass areas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Use the playground	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	daily	2-3 times per week	weekly	monthly	yearly	never
The Market	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Picnic/BBQ	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nature appreciation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Informal recreation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (please list)						
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

first fold

Q3. What do you value about Kingston Park?

Q4. What issues or opportunities do you think need to be considered in the master plan?

* Please feel free to attach any further comments, thoughts and ideas, fold and return .

second fold

Delivery Address:
PO Box 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

ATTENTION: ENVIRONMENT UNIT

FOLD DIAGRAM
Once completed fold questionnaire as diagram shows:



No stamp required if posted in Australia

City of Greater Geelong
Reply Paid 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

ATTACHMENT 2

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan Community Meeting Notes 12.10.11

MEETING NOTES

Kingston Park Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan

Community Workshop # 1

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, Ocean Grove Fire Station

Attendees:
17 local community members
Rodney Thomas (RT), Manager, Environment & Natural Resources Unit, CoGG
Jeanette Spittle (JS), Co-ordinator Land Management, Environment & Natural Resources Unit, CoGG
Ian Beswicke (IB), Catchment Officer, Ocean Grove CFA
Steve Gibbs (SG), Captain, Ocean Grove CFA
Matthew Bolton (MB), Associate, Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd
Marc Chung (MC), Landscape Architect, Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd

1.0 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & PROJECT BACKGROUND

RT welcomed all to the meeting and gave a brief outline of the project scope, the intent of the meeting and background to the project.

2.0 BRIEF OUTLINE OF PROJECT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

MB provided a brief overview of the project process and timeline.

3.0 BRIEF PRESENTATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS AND SITE ANALYSIS

MB gave a brief presentation summarising the existing conditions of the park and the bushland regeneration works that have been undertaken from 2001 through to 2009 by the City of Greater Geelong to improve the environmental and habitat values of the park's conservation area. An existing vegetation communities plan was prepared (in association with Council's Conservation Reserves team and Mark Trengove Ecological Services), that classifies the park's remnant existing vegetation as EVC 175 Grassy Woodland, which is currently listed as 'Endangered' in the Otway Plains bioregion by DSE. Significant species identified in the park include the Bellarine Yellow Gum, which is of State Significance and listed for protection under the Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, and the Black Bristle-Rush that has also been identified as a significant species.

A query was raised as to whether any of the of Bellarine Yellow Gums found in close proximity to residential property fences, could be impacted on by fire buffer zone management works. MB confirmed that assessment indicates that none of the Bellarine Yellow Gums identified in the vegetation assessment are located immediately adjacent to residential properties.

4.0 WORKSHOP SESSION

The next part of the meeting was run as a workshop with comments and feedback from people present, recorded onto butcher's paper.

4.1 IDENTIFY KEY STRENGTHS AND VALUES OF KINGSTON PARK RESERVE

- The park is used every day by the community for walking and dog walking.
- Conservation values of the park are to be recognised.
- The park is a valuable community asset, which caters for a wide range of users.
- The central location of the park within Ocean Grove is valued as it caters for the existing residents and will cater for the future population in the northern development area.
- The park is an outstanding location to hold the summer market organised by the Rotary Club, which is supported by the community.
- The informality and natural beauty of Kingston Park provides an opportunity to get away from urban sprawl and provides a different experience to the more active recreation reserves like Shell Road Reserve.
- The park is valued as a meeting place where park users meet and socialise informally.
- The park is sometimes used by people who are not from Ocean Grove, eg car clubs and the occasional camping van.
- Passive open space is valued and important
- Kids of all ages use the park every day because it is a large and secure open space. The local childcare centre also visits the park occasionally.
- The native vegetation communities and wildlife in the park are valued by the community.
- The park has been in existence for about 50 years and has always been well used and valued by the community.
- Spotlighting tours are organised with the Girl Guides.
- The park provides an area of significant indigenous vegetation which has low maintenance costs.
- There is little or no vandalism in the park.
- The park acts as a good training facility for the Ocean Grove CFA. The Rotary Club supports the CFA in raising funds on summer market days.
- The park's proximity to schools provides educational opportunities for school groups.
- The park is used by personal training groups.
- There has been only one reported fire in the park in 30 years.
- Proximity of the Ocean Grove CFA to the park.

4.2 IDENTIFY KEY ISSUES/WEAKNESSES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE MASTER PLAN AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

- The park is adjacent to a growth corridor where new development will occur, which will put more pressure on Kingston Park in terms of use.
- Residents along the southern boundary of the park are concerned that the bushland character of the conservation area adjoining their properties poses a fire risk.
- The limited maintenance of the internal tracks in the conservation area. Spiny native wattles have overgrown on the tracks, which can potentially cause injuries to track users and dogs. The need for balance between the right of access and the management of conservation areas means that formal tracks are typically not recommended. The construction and maintenance of these tend to bring unwanted

weeds to the bushland areas, and reduces the informal bush feel; which draws people to the area in the first place.

- Pressure coming from urban sprawl and future residential developments is threatening to overtake open space.
- The potential development of active sports in Kingston Park through the establishment of informal soccer pitches as recommended in the Ocean Grove Infrastructure Plan is seen as an issue due to the potential loss of open space for passive recreation, creeping development.
- Enforcement of dogs on lead in conservation area.
- The potential impact of cats/feral cats on the existing wildlife in conservation area.
- Pest control in the conservation area to target foxes/rabbits is required.
- The existing sign that says 'Dogs are banned' should be changed as this is a key value of the park.
- The lack of park facilities such as seats and rubbish bins.
- Clarify the lease of the Girl Guides building.
- Mosquitoes in the reserve and in the general area.
- Need to enforce picking up of dog waste by owners, especially in the open field and the conservation area.
- Pedestrian access to the park across Shell Road and Grubb Road is very difficult, and a pedestrian crossing is required.
- The lack of pedestrian access links to the park from the east and north east residential areas.
- Vehicle entry/exit from the park is difficult, especially on Shell Road.
- Not enough mowing off the back fences of properties along the southern boundary of the park. Seasonal mowing along the boundary is required to reduce fire risk.
- The use of the park for the Rotary Market with vehicles driving and parking on the grass areas and chalk marks left on the ground after the market. It was noted that these disappear a few days later.
- Green waste and hard rubbish dumping in the park contributes to the spread of weeds and increased fire risk, cost to council in clean up.
- The CFA noted the need to provide fire breaks with continuous 4x4 maintenance vehicle access around the park, especially within the conservation area.

4.3 OPPORTUNITIES

- Retain open space for informal use to counter urban sprawl.
- Have designated dog off leash areas within the park.
- Plant additional Yellow Gums and undertake revegetation with plant species appropriate for the site.
- Consider planting of fire resistant species to act as fire breaks.
- Investigate for releasing wallabies/wildlife into the conservation area.
- Investigate establishment of a community garden in the park. It was confirmed that another site in Ocean Grove has already been selected. It was also noted that a traditional community garden would not be recommended in this park because the risk of spread of unwanted weeds into the conservation area.
- The CFA highlighted the importance of their proximity to the site and support for ongoing use of fire as a management tool.
- Thinning of existing vegetation directly abutting residential properties and improved maintenance of grass buffers.
- Increase public awareness of the park and existing indigenous vegetation in the park through interpretive signage/ walking tours.
- Additional seats in shady positions, especially along the southern end of the park.
- Additional park facilities such as bike racks.
- Improve pedestrian access across the main roads to the park.

- Consider the acquisition of the Geelong Revival Church Camp in the future to include part of as Kingston Park.
- Consider the interface of future development with the park, eg if the Geelong Revival Church Camp is redeveloped, the new buildings need to be at an offset distance from the park boundary to minimise fire risk for new properties and ensuring the protection of the environmental values of the conservation area.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

- Consultation with Stakeholders and Agencies
- Draft Master Plan and Management Plan will than be prepared and displayed as a draft for comment.
- Consultation period on the Draft Master Plan and Management Plan with the community in early 2012
- Final Master Plan and Management Plan for endorsement by Council mid 2012.

6.0 MEETING CLOSE

RT thanked all for their attendance and input.

APPENDIX B

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT - DRAFT MASTER PLAN AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove
SUMMARY COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
Draft Master Plan and Management Plan

Prepared by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd
for
City of Greater Geelong

December 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE #

1. INTRODUCTION 1

2. INFORMATION LEAFLET QUESTIONNAIRE #1 RESPONSES 1

2.2 Which actions do you think are the highest priority 1

2.3 Summary of general comments

3. SUMMARY RESPONSE TO THE KEY ISSUES 2

ATTACHMENT 1
Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan
Information Leaflet #2

REVISION	DATE	AMENDMENT
C	05/12/2012	Final
B	21/11/2012	Final Draft
A	13/11/2012	Draft for CoGG Environment Unit comment

1. INTRODUCTION

An information leaflet and questionnaire was prepared to seek feedback from the local community to inform finalisation of the Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan

Public notices were displayed in the City News from 24/08/2012 - 25/08/2012 and in the Ocean Grove Voice 5/09/2012, and an article about the plan featured in The Ocean Grove Voice on 5/09/2012 on page 7.

A Copy of the draft plan was sent to the Working Group for comment and a total of 23 copies of the plan and Information Flyer and Feedback form were mailed to all those who attended the Community Forum.

A total of 6 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 2 detailed written responses by the closing date of 5/10/12 The responses have been summarised below.

2.0 INFORMATION LEAFLET QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

2.2 Which actions from the Draft Master Plan do you think are the highest priority?

2 Upgrade existing toilet block
1 Fire protection
1 Increase electricity capacity for market activity
1 Management of existing vegetation
1 Provide more shelter
1 Retain natural character
1 Support all the objectives
1 Upgrade car park

2.2.3 Summary of general comments

Below is a summary of the general comments included in the survey for the Kingston Park Draft Master Plan.

- Improve tree maintenance along residential fencelines
- Importance of buffer zones approx. 25m re: Ltr from Council dated 3/11/12
- Interpretive Signage important for environmental values
- Improve vehicle management with speed humps
- Create pond/ wetland feature
- Zone 4C Open Grass area is not to be planned for active competitive sport, Junior Soccer is not supported
- Active sports should be planned in the north of Kingston Park
- No support for soccer pitches shown during community workshop
- Opposes future sporting events or infrastructure
- Retain Pine trees as they are apart of Kingston Park's heritage
- Minimise fuel reduction burning
- Encourage industrial properties adjacent to the park to clean up their yards
- Retain natural vegetation and characteristic of the park
- Important recreation area for Mirrabooka Brownie Cottage Users
- Do not support multi-use of the venue for local groups
- Important to recognize the role of the Guides Victoria property and its history

SUMMARY RESPONSE TO THE KEY ISSUES RAISED DURING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

Key comments/issues from the returned questionnaires

The following tables summarises the key issues raised in the questionnaire responses.

No.	Plan Ref	SUMMARY OF COMMENT	RESPONSE
1	22	Improve tree maintenance along residential fencelines.	Retention of existing mature trees along boundaries is to maintain their contribution to habitat values and screening of views to rear private property fencelines from within the reserve. The plan recommends removing lower limbs from these trees to assist with mowing access and maintenance and continuation of ongoing monitoring of structural stability. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
2	22	Retain Pine trees as they are apart of Kingston Park's heritage.	Pine trees are to be retained subject to ongoing review of their health and structural stability. A staged program of replacement will be commenced to retain character as they reach the end of their Useful Life Expectancy (ULE). New planting will be undertaken using indigenous Bellarine Yellow Gums propagated from seed from existing trees in the park to complement the significant bushland biodiversity values of the park. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
3	2.8 Sign-age	Interpretive signage important for environmental values	Plan recommends investigate of the provision of temporary seasonal interpretive signage in the conservation area to assist for local park users and visitors in identifying wildflowers and other key species. ***Recommendation: Change from a medium to high priority.***
4		Improve vehicle management with speed humps.	Kingston Park is only open to local traffic and there are no roads through the park hence establishment of new traffic control devices within the unsealed car parking areas is not recommended. Review of traffic speeds on surrounding roads is outside the scope of the plan and suggestions for speed humps outside the park should be referred directly to Engineering Services for consideration. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
5	20	Create pond/ wetland feature	There is a large underground stormwater drain through the park however the depth of the drain and lack of available open space which could be used for establishment of a wetland without requiring vegetation removal is limited. The short sections of existing open channel also contain some significant existing vegetation including Black Bristle-rush Chorizandra enodis. Control weeds and maintain biodiversity values with targeted revegetation consistent with the modified hydraulic regime is the preferred approach to maximise habitat and biodiversity values at Kingston Park.

No.	Plan Ref	SUMMARY OF COMMENT	RESPONSE
			Recommendation: No change to plan
6	1	Active sports should be planned in the new development areas north of Kingston Park. No support for soccer pitches shown during community workshop. Oppose future sporting events or infrastructure in Kingston Park. Zone 4C Open Grass area is not to be planned for active competitive sport, Junior Soccer is not supported	The Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan Final Report May 2010 is a Council endorsed plan providing recommendations for catering to the future active sporting needs in the Ocean Grove northern growth area where new residential development will be concentrated. The plan recommends that the 8ha of land to be acquired in the growth area for open space is to be developed as an integrated active recreation reserve to include: • Two multi-use ovals, one with lighting to training standard • Two netball courts • Basic sports pavilion • Adequate car parking Kingston Park is identified in the report as a reserve which could accommodate two junior soccer pitches. The report notes that this would only be recommended if the demand for soccer outstrips the existing capacity of the two pitches at Shell Road Reserve. The report notes that additional facilities or sports use of Kingston Park in addition to the junior soccer pitches is not recommended. The new facilities planned mean that it is unlikely that Kingston park will be needed for this use. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
7		Minimise fuel reduction burning.	The fenced conservation area has been identified as EVC 175 Grassy Woodland. This ecological vegetation class is listed as being 'Endangered' in the Otway Plains Bioregion and Kingston Park is one of the remaining large areas of relatively intact Grassy Woodland vegetation on the Bellarine Peninsula. Use of fuel reduction burning is a key management tool in reducing threat from wildfire and promoting and maintaining the heath and biodiversity of the remnant bushland in the park. Controlled burns will be undertaken in accordance with best practice management principles and in close consultation with the CFA and adjoining residents. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
8		Retain natural vegetation and characteristic of the park.	There is no intent to change or alter the natural vegetation characteristics of the park. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
9		Do not support multi-use of the Mirrabooka Cottage for local groups	The plan notes that the existing building is owned by the Girl Guides and the site is leased from the CoGG. the plan indicates that as with any existing building located on Council open space when future lease agreements are negotiated opportunities to increase community access and multi use of the building where practical will be considered.

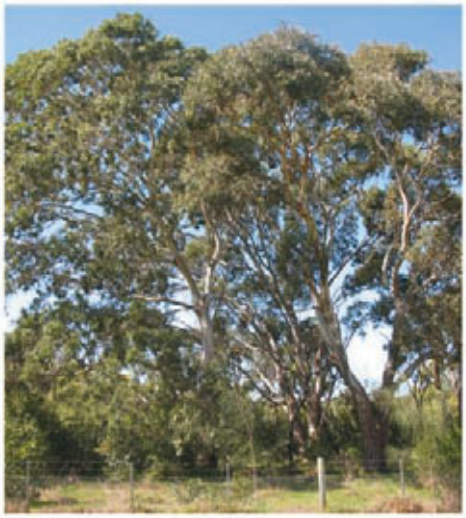
No.	Plan Ref	SUMMARY OF COMMENT	RESPONSE
			Recommendation: No change to plan
10		Important to recognize the role of the Mirrabooka Cottage its history of how it was developed.	There was limited information available on the history of Mirrabooka Cottage available for review during preparation of the draft plan. ***Recommendation: Review information provided by Guides Victoria and include a brief summary on history for the report.***
11		Letter was received from Council 3/11/2011 stating that a buffer zone of approx 25m to 10m was to be maintained at the rear of the properties and nothing has been done since.	As outlined in the Management Plan KPMP-04 the 8-10m wide Primary Buffer Zone 2B adjoining residential private properties will be slashed 6-8 times per year. Slashing is to be undertaken in the same cycle as the mowing undertaken in preparation for the Rotary Market e.g. the week before the first Sunday of each month between October and Easter. An assessment will be undertaken at the start of each fire season with officers from Council's Environment Unit, CFA and the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer to determine if further mowing works are required within adjoining areas of Zone 2C. If required extra mowing will be undertaken in the Secondary Buffer Zone, if possible in January, after the native grass has set seed to minimise environmental impacts. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***
12		Encourage industrial properties adjacent to the park to clean up their yards	Unfortunately this works are outside the scope of the plan. Suggestions should be forwarded directly to Council Local Laws or taken up directly with the business concerned. ***Recommendation: No change to plan***

ATTACHMENT 1

Kingston Park Information Leaflet #2

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Information Leaflet #2

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan



Kingston Park in Ocean Grove is a 12.5 hectare public open space reserve owned and managed by City of Greater Geelong. Located behind the Ocean Grove CFA on Shell Road the reserve contains a fenced area of remnant bushland and passive open space area with facilities including BBQ picnic area, playground, public toilet, Guide's Hall and open grass area. The reserve's network of informal tracks is used locally for walking and dog walking and the reserve is home to the popular Ocean Grove Sunday Craft Market.

The rare and threatened Bellarine Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. bellarinensis* is found within the fenced conservation area and scattered around the park. These trees are protected under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and the healthy and naturally regenerating population at Kingston Park has been assessed as of National significance. The remnant EVC 175 Grassy Woodland vegetation, contained within the fenced conservation area is also endangered. This area is actively managed by the City's Environment and Natural Resources Unit including extensive and ongoing removal of exotic weeds and aggressive natives such as Sweet Pittosporum and Tea Tree followed by carefully planned ecological burning to promote groundlayer biodiversity values and reduce fuel loads.

What is the plan for?

Ocean Grove, like many other areas along the coast, is experiencing strong growth as a popular destination for both permanent residents and tourists.
The objective of the master plan is to establish a clear strategic direction for future management of the reserve in consultation with community stakeholders. These include local residents, CFA, Rotary (Craft Market Management Committee) and other park users.

Where is the project up to?

Following consultation with the key agencies and the local community, a Draft Master Plan has been prepared for comment.

Where can you see the Draft Master Plan and Report?

Copies of the Draft Master Plan and Report will be displayed at City of Greater Geelong Customer Service Centres at:

- Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre, Presidents Avenue, Ocean Grove
- Bellarine Aquatic Centre, 70 Shell Road, Ocean Grove
- City Hall, Gheringhap Street, Geelong
- 100 Brougham Street, Geelong

A full version can be viewed on the City's website www.geelongaustralia.com.au

If you require any further information please contact: *City's Environment and Natural Resources Unit on 5272 4785.*

The completed submissions on the Draft Master Plan must be returned to the City by **October 5 2012** using mail (free of charge) or drop into the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre or Bellarine Sport and Aquatic Centre.

Overall Objectives of the Plan

- Protect the significant Bellarine Yellow Gum population while improving links and buffer zones between areas of remnant Grassy Woodland vegetation inside and outside of the fenced conservation zone.
- Maintain clear fire access to adjoining residential properties and continue close liaison with the CFA to complete carefully planned fuel reduction and ecological burns to maintain and improve bushland biodiversity values.
- Continue to support and promote use of the existing grass areas for passive recreation, the craft market and informal sport while minimising provision of permanent built facilities within the park.
- Undertake staged upgrade of existing picnic and play facilities to cater for existing and future use.
- Improve pedestrian and cycle links to the park.

Summary of community consultation outcomes

1181 Information Leaflet/Questionnaires were letter box dropped to residents in the local area and another 50 copies were provided to both the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre and the Bellarine Aquatic Centre in late September 2011. A Community Workshop was held at the Ocean Grove CFA on 12 October 2011, which was attended by 17 local community members. Notices were placed in the Bellarine Times 4/10/11 and Ocean Grove The Voice 5/10/11. A total of 95 questionnaires were completed and returned along with 4 detailed written responses.

Key site values identified included:

47%	Natural character	11%	Location - limited open space in residential area
44%	Open space	11%	Informal recreation/games
26%	Indigenous vegetation	10%	Young families
22%	Peace and quiet	7%	Community Market
22%	Birdlife and fauna	7%	Location - close to home
18%	Walking tracks	6%	Knowledge it's there
18%	Dog walking	5%	Lack of formal facilities
15%	Playground	5%	Community involvement/connection

Key issues identified to be addressed in the Master Plan included:

- Continue management of existing vegetation in the park for fire prevention.
- Retain natural character of the park.
- Protection of existing indigenous flora and fauna.
- Retain open space area for passive recreation.
- Upgrade of the park facilities and provide additional seating.
- Effective dog control regulations.
- Improve conservation area walking track maintenance.

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CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Questionnaire

Kingston Park Reserve Ocean Grove Master Plan and Management Plan

Please review the Draft Master Plan and complete the questionnaire, fold and **return by Friday October 5 2012** using mail (free of charge) or drop into the Ocean Grove Customer Service Centre or Bellarine Sport and Aquatic Centre.

Your street name: _____

Which actions from the Draft Master Plan do you think are the highest priority.

1. _____

first fold

2. _____

3. _____

Please add any other comments you have on the Draft Kingston Park Master Plan.
(Attach additional comments if there is insufficient space provided below)

second fold

Delivery Address:
PO Box 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

FOLD DIAGRAM
Once completed fold questionnaire as diagram shows:



No stamp required if posted in Australia

ATTENTION: ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES UNIT

City of Greater Geelong
Reply Paid 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

APPENDIX C

MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE LETTER

PO Box 104
GEELONG 3220 AUSTRALIA
DX22063 GEELONG

TELEPHONE 03 5227 0270
FACSIMILE 03 5227 0277
www.geelongaustralia.com.au

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Jeanette Spittle
Co ordinator Land Management, Environment
& natural Resources
PO Box 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

20-June-2012

Dear Jeanette

Re: Draft Kingston Park Master Plan and Management Plan

At the February 2nd 2012 meeting of the joint Borough of Queenscliffe and City of Greater Geelong Council Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC), the matter of the above Draft Kingston Park Master Plan was discussed.

Copies of the map supplied detailing the current fuel reduced zone in the park being along the rear of the houses facing Shell Road and at the rear of the houses facing Grubb Road were produced and discussed.

Then the proposed maps with the Primary fire break zones 2B &3b and the Secondary buffer zone 2C were discussed. I informed the group that the current works undertaken along the western boundary of the park, combined with the grassed oval area and the maintained strip on the southern boundary provided a more than satisfactory fuel break for the park.

The MFMPC was very supportive of the proposed works as detailed in the above plan and supports the implementation of this plan.

The interaction of all agencies in this process is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

David Skurrie (CoGG)
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BOQ & CoGG Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee
TELEPHONE 5272 5272
FACSIMILE 5272 4570
fireprevention@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW

Portfolio: **Environment and Sustainability – Cr Richards**
Source: **City Services - Infrastructure Operations and Waste**
General Manager: **Gary van Driel**
Index Reference: **Waste Management - Waste Management Strategies**

Summary

- In March this year the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) announced a review of the Victorian State Waste Policy (ie: the Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005). Submissions, in the form of a response to a thirty six item questionnaire, were received up until 3 May 2012.
- A comprehensive program of consultation was also conducted, involving councillors and waste management staff across the State.
- Council's formal response placed a high priority on the need for a state wide waste management strategic framework to provide direction to local government and regional waste management bodies for the development of waste processing infrastructure.
- On 28 October 2012 the Victorian Minister for Environment and Climate Change released the outcomes of this work in the form of a draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy. Comment on this document has been invited up until 23 November 2012.
- Council officers, directly and through the MAV, registered their concern about the limited period for comment, however, this has not changed.
- As a result a position, as outlined in this report, has been conveyed to the Department as an interim response, subject to possible amendment following consideration by Council.
- The draft Policy sets a vision for Victoria to have an '*integrated, statewide waste management and resource recovery system that provides an essential community service that protects the environment and public health, maximises the productive value of resources and minimises long-term costs to industry, government and households*', and addresses waste management issues under the following headings:
  - *Strong markets for products made from waste materials*
  - *Infrastructure and planning.*
  - *Protecting our environment and public health*
  - *Reducing illegal dumping and littering*
  - *Governance*
  - *Monitoring progress: A new approach*
- A key point summary of the draft Policy is attached to this report or a full copy of the draft Policy may be accessed on the DSE web site at http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/conservation-and-environment/sustainability/waste-management-and-resource-efficiency
- Ultimately the Policy will form the foundation of Council's own waste strategy, as currently being prepared, within a focus on the 'consolidation of existing waste services while observing and positioning itself to take advantage of opportunities to process additional waste materials'.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

- The draft Policy comprehensively reflects Council's position, acknowledges the need for State Government to 'provide the right conditions for strong markets, ensure markets can grow without undue burden from red tape, provide certainty in relation to regulatory settings, and where appropriate strategically reinvest back into the sector' and provides significant strategic direction.
- The next step in the process should be identifying timelines for the implementation of these actions.
- In 'positioning itself to take advantage of opportunities to process additional waste materials' and given this City's regional significance and past experience in the waste processing procurement process, Council should seek involvement in the development of the state wide integrated waste management and resource recovery system documentation.
- In addition to this support it is considered that the Policy could be improved if it:
    - addressed the roles of community education and waste avoidance
    - included reference to the waste hierarchy, and
    - addressed the lack of transparency around the distribution of landfill levy funding and focussed this funding on strategic waste projects
- It is recommended that Council formally make a submission of support for the draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy, seek an indication of timelines for the implementation of the proposed actions, offer to become involved and assist in the development of the statewide integrated waste management and resource recovery system documentation and propose amendments to the Policy around community education and the importance of waste minimisation, the waste hierarchy the need for greater transparency in the distribution of landfill levy funding.

Cr Richards moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded -

That Council:

a) advise the Department of Sustainability and Environment of its support for the draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy,

b) request advice on the timelines for the development of the proposed actions identified in the draft Policy document,

c) offer to be involved and assist, to the extent that it can, in the development of the statewide integrated waste management and resource recovery system documentation, and

d) advise that the Policy should:

- **address the role of community education and the importance of waste minimisation,**
- **include reference to the waste hierarchy as a guidance tool, and**
- **express concern at the lack of transparency in the distribution of landfill levy funds and the provision of funds for strategic waste management projects.**

Carried.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

Background

In March this year the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) announced a review of the Victorian State Waste Policy (ie: the Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005). Submissions, in the form of a response to a thirty six item questionnaire, were received up until 3 May 2012.

A comprehensive program of consultation was conducted, involving councillors and waste management staff from across the State.

Council's formal response placed a high priority on the need for a state wide waste management strategic framework to provide direction to local government and regional waste management bodies for the development of waste processing infrastructure. This response was developed from this Council's experience in the Total Waste Management System project, specifically the DiCom organics processing tender that clearly identified the need for proven technology identification, regulator support and the investigation of transport infrastructure to link potential waste feedstock to processing facilities.

On 28 October 2012 the Victorian Minister for Environment and Climate Change released the outcomes of this work in the form of a draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy and comment has been invited up until 23 November 2012. Council officers, directly and through the MAV, registered their concern about the limited period for comment, however, this has not changed.

As a result a position, as outlined in this report, has been conveyed to DSE as an interim response, subject to possible amendment following consideration by Council.

The draft Policy sets a vision for Victoria to have an '*integrated statewide waste management and resource recovery system that provides an essential community service that protects the environment and public health, maximises the productive value of resources and minimises long-term costs to industry, government and households*'.

The draft Policy addresses the identified waste management issues under the following headings and proposed strategic directions:

Strong markets for products made from waste materials

- Develop the right conditions for resource recovery industries to grow and mature in Victoria.
- The landfill levy will continue to send a market signal that incentivises resource recovery industries and provides certainty to Victorian industries and businesses.
- Support business and industry to realise economic benefits by boosting resource productivity.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

- Infrastructure and Planning.

    - Develop a diversified portfolio of infrastructure to properly manage the projected mix and volumes of waste materials.
    - Foster planning that promotes efficient material flows through a cost-effective statewide network of infrastructure.
    - Align planning and project delivery requirements for waste management and resource recovery infrastructure with land-use and transport planning under the Planning and Environment Act 1989 and the Transport Integration Act 2010.
    - Support industry investment in waste to energy infrastructure proposals that deliver strong environmental, public health and economic outcomes for Victoria.

Protecting our environment and public health

- Minimise the environmental and public health impacts of landfills and facilitate their long-term purpose of receiving treated, residual waste.
- Minimise the environmental and public health impacts of the broader waste management system.
- Support community aspirations to minimise waste and increase the transparency of the price of waste management.
- Promote product stewardship to minimise environmental impacts.

Reducing illegal dumping and littering

- Reduce litter to provide safer communities and healthier environments.

Governance

- Appoint an expert committee to review current arrangements and provide advice to the Minister in a report by April 2013.

Monitoring progress: A new approach

- Develop a knowledge management system to rationalise data, identify and rectify data quality issues and modelling accuracy."

The following statements from within the draft Policy document provide a further incite to the proposed direction:

- The major change that is proposed is to allow the strength of markets for products and commodities produced from recovered waste to be the key determinant of the infrastructure, operations and transport mix for the waste and recovery industry.

- The Victorian Government's role will be to provide the right conditions for strong markets, ensure markets can grow without undue burden from red tape, provide certainty in relation to regulatory settings, and where appropriate strategically reinvest back into the sector.

- The government will also provide the foundations for environment and public health protection – the non-negotiables – through appropriate policy, regulatory, information provision and planning functions.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

- The final policy will set a long-term 30 year vision for waste management and resource recovery in Victoria. It will also set policy priorities that will guide action over the next ten years.

- A multi-pronged approach of education, infrastructure and enforcement is needed to prevent litter and to create cleaner environments and safer community spaces.

- As our cities grow, securing land for our waste management facilities is a challenge……. finding and securing land for waste management facilities is likely to become even more difficult.

- The state government will provide more information about, and the integration of, land use planning and infrastructure needs, and ensuring that businesses and the community have access to information on how they can contribute to resource recovery policy goals.

- the Victorian Government will provide the necessary certainty to encourage investment and innovation in Victoria's waste management and resource recovery system.

- Strong demand for recovered materials and the products made from them is fundamental to the successful recovery of these materials. It is also the most efficient way of diverting waste from landfills.

- Decisions on the collection, recovery and processing of different organic wastes must be driven by the end product wanted by the market.

- Develop an organics strategy that targets market solutions for green waste and food waste.

- The ongoing purpose of the landfill levy is to provide incentives to encourage the development of strategic resource recovery industries in Victoria.

- The Victorian Government is proposing that future levy increases will only apply to strategic materials such as untreated organics (e.g garden and food waste) that create environmental and public health risks, form a high proportion of waste to landfill and can be reused.

- The Victorian Government will also support and encourage the waste industry and local government to maximise the opportunities for cost effective recycling collection services opportunities for SMEs

- A holistic view of waste infrastructure and the system is needed so that Victoria can secure the right array of infrastructure for the future.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

- The Victorian Government will adopt a holistic approach to planning infrastructure investment. This will promote compatibility between materials, infrastructure, transport, land use planning and markets for recovered materials. It will deliver improved value for industry and the community by targeting investment where the biggest environmental, public health and economic gains can be made. Government will promote infrastructure investment that is driven by the commercial 'pull' from sustainable markets for recovered materials.

- Government will work with local government and industry investors to plan for infrastructure and logistics as a connected 'hub and spoke' (distributed) network. Major facilities that process (or hold) significant volumes of waste, or provide specialised processing capacity for target materials (such as asbestos), will be identified and planned as *hubs*.

- To facilitate the efficient movement of waste across the hub and spoke network, waste flows will be managed as material types instead of by sectoral streams (municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial, and construction and demolition). This will optimise hub infrastructure across the network and allow the greater economies of scale needed for sustainable recovery infrastructure.

- As well-located and connected hubs and spokes are essential to the efficient and effective operation of the Victorian waste management and resource recovery system, the Victorian Government will act to protect their long term viability. In particular, where suitable sites are likely to be limited, it will work with industry and local government to retain or secure strategic land for hubs, integrated with Victoria's freight and transport logistics corridors.

- Developing cost benefit guidelines, consistent with Department of Treasury and Finance requirements, will strengthen government's assessment of investment proposals.

- A statewide infrastructure plan will be developed and periodically reviewed to provide strategic, long-term direction to the market. The plan will be shaped by the holistic approach to infrastructure.

- Establish an appropriate statutory underpinning for the statewide plan to ensure it can be implemented, focusing on linking the infrastructure schedules directly into the statutory land-use and transport planning systems.

- A rigorous long-term infrastructure needs analysis will provide the basis for a whole-of state plan.

- The Victorian Government will encourage and support industry investment in advanced technology that can convert waste into energy or fuel products (but not incineration). This support is contingent on proponents demonstrating that investment will deliver strong environmental, public health and economic outcomes for Victoria.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

- The Victorian Government will minimise the long-term effects of closed landfills on the environment and surrounding communities, by requiring landfill owners to incorporate the cost of post-closure management into the operational phase of the landfill, and will also require owners to pay for any post-closure impacts.

- Ensure a full range of support mechanisms for closed landfills

- In recognition of the long-term impacts of landfill, the Victorian Government is signalling its intent that ultimately the purpose of landfills will be to contain treated, residual waste. 'Treated, residual' wastes are materials that have been through a process to extract all materials with economic value

- The Victorian Government will ensure there are clear performance standards for waste management and resource recovery facilities. For technologies new to Victoria, this will include clear guidance on the standards expected and how compliance with them will be assessed.

- The Victorian Government will work with local government to ensure Victorians have the information and support they need to make environmentally good practical and informed choices.

- Understanding the link between the household budget and the efficient use of household consumables is an opportunity to reduce waste and the cost of living. Government assistance in this area will support people to save what was previously 'wasted' money.

- The Victorian Government will continue to partner with local government and industry to support national product stewardship programs that are introduced under the Commonwealth *Product Stewardship Act 2011.*

- The Victorian Government will ensure that local government has the tools necessary to deter and apprehend illegal dumpers. This may require further support to local government agencies to educate the community, investigate incidents and enforce the law.

- The role of local government within the waste management system should be acknowledged and supported.

- The Victorian Government can support good industry and local government investment in waste by providing clear policy direction, and suitable incentives and approaches to risk management.

- Once feedback on the draft policy has been received, commitments in the final policy will be developed. The commitments will reflect the proposed actions in each chapter, and they won't be finalised until those actions are agreed. We will consolidate the proposed actions so that we can commit to clear deliverables by a certain date in the final policy.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

Discussion

The draft Policy appears to be more of a strategic document that conveys strategic direction and proposed actions. The document outlines not just what is to be achieved but also provides many initiatives around how it will be achieved. Most importantly it clearly conveys a significant role for the State Government.

More specifically it addresses in some detail the key recommendation of this Council to the review, being the need for a statewide waste management strategic framework that incorporates technology options, transport linkages, the role of the regulator, the future role of landfills and governance processes. The draft Policy also acknowledges the importance of knowledge in the decision making processes to achieve better outcomes, reduce risk and to ultimately assist with the setting of targets to ensure that these are realistic and achievable. It also endorses waste to energy as a preferred option for the processing of organic waste.

The only aspect that is missing to complete the Policy as a strategic document is the addition of specific timelines for the proposed actions.

The one issue raised in the draft Policy of some concern to local government is the potential environmental impact of closed landfills. This issue has already been identified within Council's internal risk audit processes and site assessments have been completed. The draft Policy acknowledges that this issue will require 'consultation with industry and local government to explore the financial impacts of closed landfills'.

It is therefore considered that Council should support the draft Policy and advise DSE accordingly, noting that the document not only establishes policy position but also provides strategic direction, particularly with regards to future waste processing opportunities, and that Council would now be interested to see timelines placed against the proposed actions.

It should also be noted that Council is currently preparing a waste management strategy based on the strategic position of a '***focus upon the consolidation of its existing waste services while observing and positioning itself to take advantage of opportunities to process additional waste materials should proven means of processing be identified.'***

The draft Policy will now provide the direction for Council's strategy in terms of improving current services and moving towards the processing of additional waste materials. Also, in terms of 'positioning itself to take advantage of opportunities to process additional waste' it is considered appropriate that Council, given its position as a major regional centre and having experienced first hand the processes involved in securing a waste treatment facility, should seek to be involved and to assist to the extent that it is able in the development of the state wide integrated waste management and resource recovery system documentation.

In terms of possible improvements in the Policy the following aspects are considered to be worth raising in Council's submission:

- There is minimal reference to the role of community education and waste minimisation. These aspects should be included and their roles outlined.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT - WASTE POLICY REVIEW (CONT'D)

- There is no reference to the waste hierarchy for waste materials (ie: the preferred processes for dealing with waste materials – landfilling at the bottom to recycling/reuse to waste avoidance at the top) and it is considered that this provides a worthwhile guidance tool, and
- The need for greater transparency around the distribution of landfill levy funds and alignment of current and additional funding to strategic waste management projects.

Environmental Implications

The draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy is in itself designed to reduce the environmental impact of the waste we produce. The draft Policy also identifies strategic directions and lists proposed actions.

Financial Implications

As this report seeks a response to a State Government policy position there are no direct financial impacts. Future programs and projects as a result of the Policy will be assessed and reported on at that particular time.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy is a key strategic document for the management of waste in Victoria. When finalised it will be the foundation document for future provision of waste services within the State. As such Council will be obliged to comply with the direction outlined in the Policy.

The aspects specific to this Council will be included in Council's waste management strategy, as currently being prepared.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council officers have any direct or indirect interest in this matter, in accordance with Section 80(C) of the Local Government Act.

Risk Assessment

There are no notable risks to Council in providing this response to DSE.

Social Considerations

There are no immediate social considerations in the responses provided in this report.

Ultimately the Policy should provide direction for waste management practices within Victoria that may have some social considerations, however, Council will be able to address these matters at a future time as part of the consideration of that aspect of the waste service delivery.

Communication

Other than the submission of Council's response to DSE there are no communications issues as a result of this report.

Draft Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy
Key Points Summary

Minister's Foreword

Effective and efficient waste management plays a critical role as an input to the functioning of a world class economy, such as Victoria's. It is an essential service, a foundation piece to a healthy environment and improved public health outcomes. It is a growing industrial sector in its own right, creating value, employment and wealth for the state.

Waste management also drives productive resource use by recovering and recycling discarded materials that still have economic value. There is a strong community and industry preference for recycling.

The review of Victoria's waste policy has brought to bear a number of suggested reforms. The major change that is proposed is to allow the strength of markets for products and commodities produced from recovered waste to be the key determinant of the infrastructure, operations and transport mix for the waste and recovery industry. The Victorian Government's role will be to provide the right conditions for strong markets, ensure markets can grow without undue burden from red tape, provide certainty in relation to regulatory settings, and where appropriate strategically reinvest back into the sector.

The government will also provide the foundations for environment and public health protection – the non-negotiables – through appropriate policy, regulatory, information provision and planning functions.

1 Introduction

The Victorian Government is committed to providing long-term policy direction and leadership for waste management to drive investment certainty and excellence in environmental performance.

The major change that is proposed is to allow the strength of markets for products and commodities produced from recovered waste to be the key determinant of the infrastructure, operations and transport mix for the waste and recovery industry.

The Victorian Government's role will be to provide the right conditions for strong markets, ensure markets can grow without undue burden from red tape, provide certainty in relation to regulatory settings, and where appropriate strategically reinvest back into the sector.

For the purpose of this draft policy, 'waste' refers to solid materials that have been discarded by consumers or businesses.

The draft policy also seeks comment on a proposed vision, objectives and set of policy principles for waste management and resource recovery. It tests whether the proposed goals and strategic directions will correct the problems within the current policy framework (*Towards Zero Waste*) and can allow Victoria to lead the nation in waste management and resource recovery.

The final policy will set a long-term 30 year vision for waste management and resource recovery in Victoria. It will also set policy priorities that will guide action over the next ten years.

It is proposed that the policy's progress will be reviewed by the end of 2018, and that the entire policy will be reviewed by the end of 2023.

The Victorian waste management system covers generation, collection and transport, sorting and processing, recycling and reprocessing, export, reuse and disposal.

In November 2009, all Australian environment ministers agreed to the *National Waste Policy: Less Waste More Resources.* The national policy aims to:

- Avoid waste being generated;
- Reduce the amount of waste for disposal of to landfill;
- Manage waste as a resource;
- Ensure that waste treatment, disposal and reuse is undertaken in a safe, scientific and environmentally sound manner; and
- Contribute to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, energy conservation and production, waste efficiency and the productivity of the land.

The reasons for underachievement in relation to municipal solid waste encompass a lack of effective planning, leadership, coordination and oversight. This has had consequences for the effective implementation of TZW."

These findings echo a 2000 VAGO report into municipal solid waste, and the advice of industry and local government stakeholders.

As the TZW mid-term review shows, encouraging Victorians to create less waste in the first place remains a serious challenge.

We also have a legacy of old facilities, particularly landfills, which do not meet today's more stringent environmental standards.
These problems are exacerbated when we put biologically active animal or plant materials, such as garden and food waste, into landfills.
Excluding the costs of diverting it from landfill, the potential value of this waste to the Victorian economy is estimated to be at least $30 million. Realising the value in this waste is an opportunity for growth and development of Victoria's businesses and would also make a significant contribution to meeting the desires of the Victorian community to reduce our reliance on landfill.

As our cities grow, securing land for our waste management facilities is a challenge. As population increases, our waste generation increases and as we strive for world's best practice environmental standards, finding and securing land for waste management facilities is likely to become even more difficult.

A multi-pronged approach of education, infrastructure and enforcement is needed to prevent litter and to create cleaner environments and safer community spaces.

Victorians achieved good recycling rates across all waste streams from the mid 2000s, however, as the TZW mid-term review identified, improvements have recently slowed. The flattening performances suggest that the more accessible and affordable options to recycle have already been acted on and that new initiatives are needed to realise further environmental, economic and social benefits of greater resource efficiency in Victoria.

The Victorian Auditor General found that a major failing of TZW in relation to the management of municipal waste, was the coordination and governance of the waste management system. The long term accountabilities were not in place to ensure sufficient delivery of the TZW's targets and actions. Reaching targets relies on all the players in the waste management system – public and private organisations as well as households – all doing their part.

We need to put significant effort into improving co-ordination throughout the waste management system to maximise its efficiency.

The Victorian Government's proposed 30 year vision for waste management is to have an integrated statewide waste management system that provides an essential community service, protects the environment and public health, maximises the productive value of resources and minimises the long-term costs to industry, government and households.

Within this vision the policy approach is clear
– the Victorian Government will perform its role and provide the foundations for environmental and public health protection through appropriate policy, regulatory, information provision and planning functions. These are the basic and clear roles of state government
– the not-negotiables.

The changes needed to create an integrated statewide system that will ultimately be guided and designed by the strength of products and commodities produced from recovered waste. The strength of the market 'pull' is proposed as a key determinant of the mix of infrastructure that Victoria will invest in over the next 30 years.

The Victorian Government's role will be to ensure markets can grow without undue burden from red tape, provide certainty about regulatory settings and strategically reinvest back into the sector. The role will also include more information about, and the integration of, land use planning and infrastructure needs, and ensuring that businesses and the community have access to information on how they can contribute to resource recovery policy goals. Through this, the Victorian Government will provide the necessary certainty to encourage investment and innovation in Victoria's waste management and resource recovery system.

The five major goals that will help drive the vision over the next decade. These are:

- A new vision for waste
- To facilitate strong markets from recovered waste
- To facilitate a waste management and resource recovery system that maximises the productive value of waste
- To reduce the environmental and public health risks of waste
- To reduce illegal dumping and littering
- To reform institutions and governance to effectively drive the achievement of waste and resource recovery policy objectives

The policy should have the following benefits for Victoria:

- Reduced impacts to ground and surface water from landfill leachates.
- Reduced impacts on local communities of odour, noise, dust and litter from landfills and
- other waste management facilities.
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions intensity of waste to landfill, by measures that are complimentary to the carbon price.
- Reduced amount of waste entering the waste management system.
- Increased productivity of materials in the economy.

2 A new vision for waste management in Victoria

The proposed vision and policy objectives make it clear that the Victorian Government's long-term direction for waste is to protect environmental and public health, to support Victoria's economy, and to address the ongoing coordination problems that have limited our ability to get the most value from waste. Critically, it confirms that environment and public health protection is a fundamental role for waste policy – and this makes Victoria's waste and resource recovery system an essential community service.

This lack of clear direction has also reduced the ability of Victorian Government agencies and local government to translate the overarching objectives into their strategic planning. As a consequence, investment has not targeted priorities, roles and responsibilities are unclear, overlap has developed, and businesses are encountering undue burden. Of greatest concern is the failure to adequately address environmental risk.

Victoria's integrated, statewide waste management and resource recovery system provides an essential community service that protects the environment and public health, maximises the productive value of resources and minimises long-term costs to industry, government and households.

All resource recovery and waste activities should be considered and managed as one integrated statewide waste system, which includes but is not limited to:

- clearly defined roles, responsibilities and accountabilities for all public sector entities involved in resource recovery and waste management.
- recognition that waste management is a shared responsibility between government, industry and the community.
- resource recovery and waste management priorities aligned to Whole-of-Government priorities.
- increased integration with land use planning, transport and development, to enable strategic planning in preparation for population growth.

- improved information management and data availability to allow better decision making.

What are the waste management principles?

The proposed principles are designed to drive long-term, positive change in the way the environment portfolio approaches decision making. The Victorian Government will commit to decision making that has been shaped by these principles.
These principles will guide us in making better, more consistent decisions that work towards achieving the vision and objectives for Victoria's waste management and resource recovery system. These principles have been developed to promote a transparent and evidence-based approach to the planning, building and operation of the waste management system.
While these principles can be described as good practice, the Waste Policy Review has found that much historical decision making has not been shaped by these ideas.
Arguably the most critical area of decision making that needs reform is *evidence based* decision making. Both the Victorian Auditor- General's Office (VAGO) 2000 report *Reducing Landfill: Waste Management by Municipal Councils,* and the 2011 report *Municipal Solid Waste Management* found that ineffective information and data management create challenges in waste. Given the increasing complexity of waste management, this needs to be reversed.

2.3.2 Proposed principles

2.3.2.1 Preamble to waste management principles
a. These principles provide guidance for making better, more consistent decisions that work towards achieving the common vision and policy objectives for Victoria's waste management system.
b. The Victorian Government will consider these principles when it is undertaking planning for waste management in Victoria.
c. These principles align with, are consistent with, and are subordinate to the principles in the *Environment Protection Act 1970.*

2.3.2. 2 The principle of transparent and informative decision making
a. The waste management and resource recovery decision making processes should be transparent and accessible.
b. All levels of government, industry and the community should be given access to reliable and relevant information to facilitate a good understanding of waste issues and processes that have informed a decision.
c. The views and interests of stakeholders should inform decision making.
d. The decision making process needs to consider the circumstance and needs of local communities, including appropriate flexibility in statewide strategies and plans that enable practical implementation for regional and rural areas.

2.3.2.3 Principle of evidence based decision making
a. When identifying and recommending waste management options the best available data, information and evidence should be used to support decision making.
b. When assessing significant waste management options a cost-benefit analysis that considers environmental, economic and social factors should be undertaken to compare options and determine the net benefit to the state.

2.3.2.4 Principle of integrated waste and resource recovery management
a. Recognising that Victoria's waste activities are best managed as one integrated statewide system, decisions need to consider system wide impacts and dependencies.
b. Decisions need to consider potential impacts on connecting systems, such as land use planning, transport, economic development and national material flows.
c. Decisions need to be coordinated between all levels of government, industry and the community to allow greater certainty for investors and community.

2.3.2.5 Principle of proportionate and appropriate Victorian Government intervention
a. Victorian Government programs, strategies, regulations, and investment in waste management should be proportionate to the significance of the environmental, public health and economic problems being addressed.
b. Risk analysis will inform the assessment of a waste management problem to determine the proportionate response and intervention.
c. Responses and interventions should clearly identify what will be achieved as a result of the intervention, strategy or program.

2.4 Achieving our vision for waste

The Victorian Government's vision for waste will be realised over the next 30 years.
We will facilitate the growth of an integrated statewide system that will be responsive to market demand for resources derived from waste. The strength of market demand will be a critical factor in determining the

appropriate mix of waste infrastructure to be established in Victoria over the next 30 years. This is a significant policy shift away from the previous model, which has seen the emergence of disjointed infrastructure, services and programs. In its place will evolve a statewide system of people, infrastructure, operations and transport that intelligently moves materials to where they can deliver environmental, public health and economic benefits to the state.
The Victorian Government will drive reduction in red tape to make Victoria a more attractive place to do business. We will increase information provision, and better coordinate roles and responsibilities to strengthen long term investment prospects.

3 Strong markets for products made from waste materials

Goal: To facilitate strong markets for recovered waste

Current planning for waste is largely driven by the 'push' to divert waste from landfills. This is not always matched by a consumer 'pull' for products made from this waste.
Strong demand for recovered materials and the products made from them is fundamental to the successful recovery of materials. It is also the most efficient way of diverting waste from landfills.

3.1 Strategic Direction: Develop the right conditions for resource recovery industries to grow and mature in Victoria.

Organics is an umbrella term for a number of biologically active wastes, including garden, food, paper, timber and textiles. Decisions on the collection, recovery and processing of these different organic wastes must be driven by the end product wanted by the market.
The Victorian Government has a role to facilitate the right market conditions for industries to recover and recycle organic waste, in order to achieve our aim of reducing organic waste to landfill.

3.1.2 Proposed actions

- Work with industry to improve the quantity and quality of material stocks that feed Victoria's resource recovery industry.
- Partner with industry to research and develop innovative technologies, and collection and sorting processes to improve the efficiency of recovering materials from waste.
- Where new product standards or specifications are needed, such as for the application of treated organic wastes to land, work with industry, the manufacturers of recycled products and potential users to develop standards or specifications, in cooperation with other governments. Where there are existing standards, work in co-operation with other Australian governments, to improve their consistency and recognition nationally.
- Assist early adopters to obtain the necessary information to overcome barriers to investment or product trials.
- Work with industry to identify and address other barriers that may inhibit market growth now and into the future such as to identify and address barriers to market development in recycling and energy recovery from organic wastes (including food, garden and timber).
- Develop an organics strategy that targets market solutions for green waste and food waste.

We now need to explore new ways to improve the quantity, quality and variety of material we recover.

We want reprocessors to be able to optimise their systems and maximise the profitability of their enterprises because they are supplied with sufficient volumes of uncontaminated material.
This means improving the quantity and quality of recovered materials collected through kerbside recycling services.

Product standards help to give consumers confidence that items made from recycled materials will be fit for purpose.

The composition of food waste is distinctly different from that of garden waste. They require infrastructure to process and are likely to result in different end products.

Garden wastes have a relatively mature market for the compost end product. This is because local government has collected garden wastes from transfer stations and households for a number of years.

The large-scale separation of food waste from general waste is a relatively new practice. The infrastructure and technology needed to process residual food waste is still evolving in Victoria. The degradation of food waste has much higher environmental and public health risks than those for garden waste. The development of an organics strategy will help to identify market solutions for dealing with these different types of organic wastes. This strategy will build on the Metropolitan Organics Plan where the Victorian Government, through the Metropolitan Waste Management Group, is working in partnership with local governments to increase the recovery, processing and beneficial use of organic waste by facilitating the procurement of organics processing facilities for metropolitan Melbourne.

3.2 Strategic Direction: The landfill levy will continue to send a market signal that incentivises resource recovery industries and provides certainty to Victorian industries and businesses.

The Victorian Government confirms that the on-going purpose of the landfill levy is to:

- Divert waste from landfill and promote recycling and recovery in line with community expectations about the appropriate management of waste.
- Send a clear signal to industry and local government that the Victorian Government is committed to facilitating appropriate resource recovery options by making them more cost competitive compared with landfills.
- Fund environmental protection activities in Victoria – including programs and activities involving state and local government and industry – that support the achievement of waste management objectives.
- Provide incentives to encourage the development of strategic resource recovery industries in Victoria.

The Victorian Government is proposing that future levy increases will only apply to strategic materials such as untreated organics (e.g garden and food waste) that create environmental and public health risks, form a high proportion of waste to landfill and can be reused. (See strategic direction 3.1)
This will send a strong signal that the Government wants to divert these materials to recovery processes, so that the significant environmental and public health risks of landfilling these materials – such as odour and leachate – are minimised.

3.3 Strategic direction: Support business and industry to realise economic benefits by boosting resource productivity.

The Victorian Government will also support and encourage the waste industry and local government to maximise the opportunities for cost effective recycling collection services opportunities for SMEs

The next ten years could see an almost 45 per cent increase in waste generation. This potential increase in waste generation would place enormous pressure on the waste management system, so it will be increasingly important to avoid generating waste in the first place.

Businesses need to understand how materials are used across the entire supply chain to identify where the biggest savings can be made. It is also important that SMEs, which may not have resources for in-house waste expertise, are supported so that they too can take advantage of waste minimisation opportunities.

4 Infrastructure and planning.

Goal: To facilitate a waste management and resource recovery system that maximises the productive value of waste

Most of the waste – about 70 per cent – is generated in metropolitan Melbourne.

The current approach to planning waste infrastructure is short-term, and regionally based.

This has made it hard for investors to secure both the land and waste materials needed to establish commercially viable recovery facilities.

A holistic view of waste infrastructure and the system is needed so that Victoria can secure the right array of infrastructure for the future.

4.1 Strategic direction: Develop a diversified portfolio of infrastructure to properly manage the projected mix and volumes of waste materials.

The Victorian Government will adopt a holistic approach to planning infrastructure investment. This will promote compatibility between materials, infrastructure, transport, land use planning and markets for recovered materials. It will deliver improved value for industry and the community by targeting investment where the biggest environmental, public health and economic gains can be made. Government will promote infrastructure investment that is driven by the commercial 'pull' from sustainable markets for recovered materials. This will promote the ongoing commercial viability of recovery facilities. Government will work with local government and industry investors to plan for infrastructure and logistics as a connected 'hub and spoke' (distributed) network. Major facilities that process (or hold) significant volumes of waste, or provide specialised processing capacity for target materials (such as asbestos), will be identified and planned as *hubs*.
The sequence of activities that move material from waste generators to hubs – for example collection, transport and sorting – will be described as 'spokes'. To facilitate the efficient movement of waste across the hub and spoke network, waste flows will be managed as material types instead of by sectoral streams (municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial, and construction and demolition). This will optimise hub infrastructure across the network and allow the greater economies of scale needed for sustainable recovery infrastructure.

As well-located and connected hubs and spokes are essential to the efficient and effective operation of the Victorian waste management and resource recovery system, the Victorian Government will act to protect their long term viability. In particular, where suitable sites are likely to be limited, it will work with industry and local government to retain or secure strategic land for hubs, integrated with Victoria's freight and transport logistics corridors. (See Strategic direction 4.3 below)
The Victorian Government will promote maximum flexibility to allow the market to adapt spoke activities to address changing waste volumes, compositions and flows over time. The Victorian Government will also work with local government to develop cost-effective approaches that will provide fair and equitable access to recovery systems and facilities.

4.1.2 Proposed actions

- Promote government infrastructure decision making in line with the hub and spoke distributed network approach.
- Collect, analyse and make available the full range of information needed by the market to make investment decisions, such as origin of waste generation, material flows, infrastructure stock and transport routes.
- Develop waste and resource recovery cost benefit analysis guidelines to inform government decision making for infrastructure and investment.
- Further develop government procurement guidelines for waste management facilities to ensure appropriate liabilities and to manage commercial risks such as industry monopolies.

4.1.3 Explaining our proposed policy and actions

Waste infrastructure needs to be planned as a system, so that return on investment can be maximised and costs to consumers are minimised.

A hub and spoke distributed network is the most economically feasible model, as it strategically locates facilities that scale up material collection, and can take advantage of existing freight transport corridors. Planning for:

- Hubs also allows Government to integrate major waste facilities into the strategic land use planning processes so that appropriate land can be secured and maintained over the life of the facility; and
- Spokes promotes the flexibility needed for the market to adapt collection, logistics and sorting activities to the needs of waste generators and receiving processors.

Managing waste flows as material types will help increase recovery opportunities by improving economies of scale. The reliable and consistent stream of waste generated by households can underpin the viability of recovery infrastructure. This is important because waste generated by businesses and industry is variable and fragmented, which has in the past prevented reliable access to the significant volumes of waste and recyclables needed to make recovery of commercial and industrial waste viable. Infrastructure duplication will also be minimised. In ideal market conditions investors would have access to all the system information and resources needed to plan, establish and operate infrastructure. Potential investors do not currently have adequate access to information about the waste system (including transport and land use considerations). Lack of information is a barrier to developing innovative and commercial recovery proposals, securing necessary feedstock, and identifying and securing appropriate land. It is appropriate for Government to address this market failure.

Rigorous economic assessment of government investments in and procurement of infrastructure projects is essential, although at times has been limited by lack of information about the full range of environmental and public health costs and benefits. Developing cost benefit guidelines, consistent with Department of Treasury and Finance requirements, will strengthen government's assessment of investment proposals. Over the past ten years we have also seen increasing consolidation of industry and infrastructure, which is allowing competitive economies of scale to be realised. In 2012, the top four Australian firms accounted for an estimated 31.6 per cent of total industry revenue, while the eight largest firms are estimated to account for 40 per cent of industry revenue (IBISWorld 2012, Industry report Q9634). This trend is likely to continue. Consolidation opens up opportunities for substantial, long-term investment in recovery infrastructure that can process the quantities of waste that in the past had to be sent to landfill. Consolidation also poses risks that may need to be managed by Government. This includes the risk of monopolies, and a lack of processing capacity in the event of a large facility closing due to commercial reasons or an emergency

4.2 Strategic direction: Foster planning that promotes efficient material flows through a cost-effective statewide network of infrastructure.

The Victorian Government will develop an integrated system of waste infrastructure to cater for the range and variety of waste materials generated across the state, from both households and businesses. This will involve waste facilities, such as large transfer stations, landfills and materials recovery facilities, as *hubs* connected by transport and collection routes (*spokes*).

A statewide infrastructure plan will be developed and periodically reviewed to provide strategic, long-term direction to the market. The plan will be shaped by the holistic approach to infrastructure set out in Strategic Direction 4.1 – *Develop a diversified portfolio of infrastructure to properly manage the projected mix and volumes of waste materials.* The plan is likely to include:

- A comprehensive audit of existing infrastructure across the state, including current and future capacity, and current environmental performance.
- Analysis of current and projected future waste generation across the state, including material types and volumes.
- Location of land use areas identified for residential and industrial growth.
- Transport considerations, such as strategic freight corridors and logistics hubs.
- Identification and assessment of possible new sites for waste facilities.
- Broad strategic priorities for waste, such as diverting organics towards recovery, and tackling problem materials such as asbestos.
- Contingency planning in the event of an emergency.

Proposed actions

- Prepare and periodically review a statewide infrastructure plan that includes metropolitan and regional infrastructure schedules.
- Establish an appropriate statutory underpinning for the statewide plan to ensure it can be implemented, focusing on linking the infrastructure schedules directly into the statutory land-use and transport planning systems.

A rigorous long-term infrastructure needs analysis will provide the basis for a whole-of state plan. Schedules will outline the waste and resource recovery infrastructure that will be needed in each region and at what times.

4.3 Strategic direction: Align planning and project delivery requirements for waste management and resource recovery infrastructure with land-use and transport planning under the *Planning and Environment Act 1989* and the *Transport Integration Act 2010.*

The Victorian Government recognises that long term strategic planning for waste infrastructure is essential to maintaining the workability and liveability of our neighbourhoods. This is the best way of avoiding conflicting land uses, and requires direct links between long term waste management planning and statutory land-use planning at every level.

We propose that land within the waste management system will be viewed and managed as a *waste estate,* to allow for the waste management needs of each city and region, and for the state as a whole. As populations grow and cities expand, the uses of the sites in this estate may shift, but the separation distance and transport links around sites will mean that they can continue to be used for waste and resource recovery management.

The development of the estate would be informed by the statewide infrastructure plan and schedules. Depending on land ownership and tenure, this may involve public acquisition overlays, reservation or long-term leases.

Landfills accepting organic wastes require large separation distances to reduce their neighbours' exposure to odour. Other waste and resource recovery facilities have similar problems. There have been notable examples of open windrow composting operations that have caused considerable local problems.

As a city gets larger, transfer stations become necessary to aggregate wastes into larger vehicles to more efficiently transport them to landfills on the city fringe.

4.3.2 Proposed actions

- The environment portfolio will work with relevant departments to better align land use planning with waste infrastructure planning.
- Streamline the approvals processes under the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and *Planning and Environment Act 1987* through better coordination between the approving agencies.
- Ensure precinct plans developed by responsible authorities, including the Growth Area Authority and local government, provide for waste and resource recovery infrastructure.
- Work to secure suitable sites and adequate buffers for future waste and resource recovery infrastructure needs through reservation, planning overlay or purchase.
- Retain land that is currently part of the waste management estate for ongoing use within the waste and resource recovery management system.
- Protect the separation distances of sites currently within the waste and resource recovery system from the encroachment of unsuitable uses, such as residential development.

To maintain the ability of the waste and resource recovery system to cater for changing needs as cities continue to grow, we need to retain land that is part of the waste management system within a waste management estate, These sites have valuable transport links and adequate separation distances, which give them ongoing value as sites for waste management infrastructure and, where suitable sites are scarce, this is a higher value to the community than the land would have for other uses. So in future, when for example a landfill closes, the land it occupies could be used for another waste management facility, such as a transfer station or a materials recovery facility.

Coordinated planning for waste infrastructure is the best way to harmonise industrial and urban needs.

4.4 Strategic direction: Support industry investment in waste to energy infrastructure proposals that deliver strong environmental, public health and economic outcomes for Victoria.

The Victorian Government will encourage and support industry investment in advanced technology that can convert waste into energy or fuel products. This support is contingent on proponents demonstrating that investment will deliver strong environmental, public health and economic outcomes for Victoria.

The Victorian Government will require proponents to submit a robust, evidence based application/s that:

- Includes a comprehensive technical and economic assessment of the full range of environmental, public health and economic benefits, costs and risks.
- Defines what energy or fuel product will be produced.
- Demonstrates how the proposal will impact on the Victorian waste management system, with particular emphasis on how the proposal will fit within the 'hub and spoke' distributed network.
- Demonstrates how the proposal integrates, or complements the Statewide Infrastructure Plan.
- Demonstrates how the proposal aligns with strategic land use plans, adjacent land use and how the proposal impacts on the transport system.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) will assess proposals through the works approvals and licensing process set out in the *Environment Protection Act 1970.* State and local government will at the same time assess the location and land-use planning aspects of proposals under relevant planning provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1989.* The Victorian Government will not support any type of waste to energy facility (e.g. incineration), that does not produce a useful end product, such as an energy or fuel product. This excludes the incineration of materials where it is required by law or recommended as the safest means for their disposal (e.g. clinical wastes).

4.4.2 Proposed actions

- Prepare and publish regular reports on national and international trends in the development of recovery technology, growth in markets for end products, and the potential for uptake in Victoria This may also include research and development.
- Provide guidance on how the environment protection principles under the *Environment Protection Act 1970* are applied to the assessment of approvals applications, such as waste to energy proposals, through EPA Victoria's review of approvals systems.
- Provide clear assessment requirements for waste to energy proposals.
- Update Clause 19 (Infrastructure) of the *State Planning Policy Framework* to ensure the Government's policy on waste to energy is embedded in the planning scheme.

Clear policy direction from the Victorian Government will promote investor confidence. Both local government and industry strongly agree that a lack of clear policy direction regarding advanced recovery infrastructure has been a barrier to investment. This is particularly the case for technologies that can produce energy and fuels.

The environment protection principles of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* provide guidance for all regulatory activities, including works approvals. Of these, Principle of wastes hierarchy' makes explicit mention of energy recovery from waste, identifying that it is a less preferable option than recycling or reuse, but preferable to disposal. Other principles, particularly the 'Principle of integration of economic, social and environmental considerations' do guide broader decision making, but in conjunction with the wastes hierarchy, creates uncertainty as to whether energy production takes preference over recycling. While the waste hierarchy has been successful as a guide to determine the most beneficial use of materials, it has limitations. This is particularly so for waste to energy, where it is overly simplistic to say that recycling green waste or organics into compost is always more desirable than energy recovery. A full economic assessment is needed to test any proposal's potential to deliver net environmental and economic benefits to the state. Government's proposed approach supports energy recovery from waste, provided that proponents can demonstrate that environmental, public health and economic outcomes will be achieved. In stating this, Government acknowledges that the overall waste and resource recovery system is likely to include an array of recovery infrastructure that manufactures a range of products – the ultimate mix will be shaped by the market.

5 Protecting our environment and public health

Goal: To reduce the environmental and public health risks of waste

5.1 Strategic direction: Minimise the environmental and public health impacts of landfills and facilitate their long-term purpose of receiving treated, residual waste.

Removing organic material from landfills will reduce environmental impacts such as methane emissions, and will improve amenity for residents due to reduced odour. There are ageing landfills that do not meet current requirements of best practice environmental management. We need to consider how legacy issues of past and current landfills will be addressed. Some are concerned that more stringent regulatory requirements have not given the operators enough time to adjust to increased costs, particularly in rural and regional areas.

The Victorian Government will minimise the long-term effects of closed landfills on the environment and surrounding communities, by requiring landfill owners to incorporate the cost of post-closure management into the operational phase of the landfill, and will also require owners to pay for any post-closure impacts.

Untreated material that generates a range of environmental and public health issues is a significant long-term liability that is both complex and expensive to manage over the life of a landfill. As awareness of this risk and its costs increases, the Victorian Government anticipates that only treated, residual waste will be landfilled. While this is a long-term proposition, prudent risk management requires the Victorian

Government work towards this objective. The strength of the pull of the market needs to be given adequate time to work.

5.1.2 Proposed actions

- Continue to require all new and existing landfills to be managed in accordance with EPA guidelines for *Best Practice Environmental Management: Siting, Design, Operation and Rehabilitation of Landfills.*
- Develop a consistent and simple way to apply financial assurances[4] to maintain appropriate environmental accountability for landfills.
- Ensure a full range of support mechanisms for closed landfills, specifically:
  –monitoring closed landfills to assess management practices and allow post closure management requirements to be updated, if necessary to protect the environment and human health.
  –providing technical advice and assistance to landfill operators to help them plan for, and comply with, post-closure management requirements.
  –in consultation with industry and local government, explore the financial impacts of managing closed landfills.

The condition of Victoria's 82 closed landfills varies, ranging from effective post-closure management, to poor management that breaches regulatory requirements. How well the environment is protected from a closed landfill is based on many different factors, including where the landfill is located, infrastructure design and management standards. Old landfill licences were based on old standards. Old regulatory approaches are not enough to satisfy the leachate and gas control standards we expect and need today. A closed landfill will be subjected to many drought and flood cycles, which can change the impact the landfill has on the surrounding community. Recent weather conditions have been wetter than the previous ten years, and because of this we have started to see more gas and groundwater contamination problems. EPA Victoria is now working with the owners of a number of closed landfills to ensure that there is appropriate landfill post-closure care and management. Requirements will be formalised in post-closure pollution abatement notices. This will help operators understand their obligations. It will also give communities certainty that they won't be suffering negative impacts into the future.

In recognition of the long-term impacts of landfill, the Victorian Government is signalling its intent that ultimately the purpose of landfills will be to contain treated, residual waste. 'Treated, residual' wastes are materials that have been through a process to extract all materials with economic value.

5.2 Strategic direction Minimise the environmental and public health impacts of the broader waste management system.

Regulatory requirements for advanced resource recovery technologies and composting facilities are not clear, which can result in lengthy decision making and be a barrier to private investment.

5.2.1 Proposed policy

The Victorian Government recognises that poor performance of the waste management system can cause significant environmental impacts to Victoria's waterways, air, and land, and reduce the liveability of communities. Impacts can occur across all parts of the system – from waste generation, transport, services, facilities, through to end products made from waste materials.
The viability of Victoria's waste industry is closely linked with community confidence. Poor performance of the waste management system jeopardises this confidence, and increases pressure on facilities to modify their practices, or close.

The Victorian Government will ensure there are clear performance standards for waste management and resource recovery facilities. For technologies new to Victoria, this will include clear guidance on the standards expected and how compliance with them will be assessed.

5.2.2 Proposed actions

- Explore ways to enshrine separation distances in planning decisions.
- Monitor technology trends, and actively plan and prepare for regulating technologies that are new to Victoria in consultation with local government and industry.
- Investigate options, including industry partnerships, co-regulation and regulation to prevent and remove stockpiles of waste that pose a significant risk to environment and public health.

Actively planning for new technologies in Victoria will provide greater certainty for industry about what they will need to comply with and how, and give the community confidence that these facilities will not affect environmental and public health.

5.3 Strategic direction Support community aspirations to minimise waste and increase the transparency of the price of waste management.

Any action to maximise the productive value of resources needs to make financial sense, and be a practical activity that can fit intothe day-to-day running of households. The Victorian Government will work with local government to ensure Victorians have the information and support they need to make environmentally good practical and informed choices.

5.3.2 Proposed actions

- Partner with local government to develop and deliver residential education campaigns that leverage on the success of *Get It Right On Bin Night.*
- Ensure communities have the information they need to make informed decisions that will help them save money by using household consumables more efficiently.

Understanding the link between the household budget and the efficient use of household consumables is an opportunity to reduce waste and the cost of living. Government assistance in this area will support people to save what was previously 'wasted' money.

5.4 Strategic direction Promote product stewardship to minimise environmental impacts.

The Victorian Government will continue to partner with local government and industry to support national product stewardship programs that are introduced under the Commonwealth *Product Stewardship Act 2011.*

5.4.2 Proposed actions

- Participate in national product stewardship strategies to facilitate the uptake of product stewardship schemes, including supporting local government to transition to national schemes.
- Contribute to the design and implementation of national product stewardship schemes to ensure they will be suitable and effective in Victoria.
- Consider developing trial product stewardship programs to help inform the development of new national schemes.

6 Reducing illegal dumping and littering

Goal: To reduce illegal dumping and littering

Providing adequate infrastructure and education is essential if littering is to be prevented.

There are a number of Victorian Government departments and agencies involved in the fight against illegal dumping and litter, and it is critical that roles and responsibilities are clearly defined.

Increases in the landfill levy are implicated as one cause of illegal dumping. As such, the removal of landfill levies, for priority materials such as asbestos, could encourage safe disposal.
By working closely with local government, industry and the community, the quality and quantity of data on illegal dumping can be strengthened. This will enable the Victorian Government to develop the most appropriate responses to this problem.

Increasing enforcement will be essential to reduce illegal dumping.

Education is also central to our approach. A consistent message ensures that everyone understands the rules and regulations, and why we have them. The dumping of asbestos is a particular concern given the threat it poses to human health. The Department of Sustainability and Environment will continue to work with other departments to develop appropriate strategies to prevent this behaviour and ensure safe disposal, which will include statewide targeted education and awareness programs.

The Victorian Government will ensure that local government has the tools necessary to deter and apprehend illegal dumpers. This may require further support to local government agencies to educate the community, investigate incidents and enforce the law.

6.1.2 Proposed actions

In partnership with local government and industry, the Victorian Government will:

- Clarify roles and responsibilities of government agencies.
- Build a greater knowledge base to accurately establish who is dumping illegally and why,
- where, what and what quantities.
- Educate industry, business, and community groups about their responsibilities to appropriately dispose of material, the risks of inappropriate disposal and the penalties if they break the law.
- Strengthen enforcement, to catch more dumpers.
- Support local government to educate, enforce and prosecute against smaller scale illegal dumping.
- Target the illegal dumping of asbestos and remove barriers to its safe disposal.
- Focus compliance and enforcement on illegal waste stockpiling.

In particular, the Victorian Government will investigate the use of technology to:

- Enhance enforcement, to make it easier to both report dumping and find illegal dumpers.
- Make it easier for businesses and the community to find waste management facilities and dispose of their rubbish and recyclables appropriately.

6.2 Strategic direction: Reduce litter to provide safer communities and healthier environments.

Tackling this problem requires an integrated response, with local government, community organisations, industry, and individuals working together.

The *Victorian Litter Strategy* emphasises a multipronged approach of education, enforcement and infrastructure.

While the most recent version of the *Litter Strategy* expires in 2014, these three fundamental aspects of litter prevention will remain core to the Victorian Government's policy on litter.

Importantly, local governments play the primary role in providing a safe and clean environment for their communities. So working with local government, to ensure that it has the tools necessary to undertake this task for many years to come, is a priority.

6.2.2 Proposed actions

- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of government agencies.
- Support Sustainability Victoria to successfully implement the new Victorian Litter Strategy when released.
- Collect improved data about littering and littering behaviour.
- Educate the community about the importance of appropriate litter disposal to protect the environment and keep the community safe.
- Provide adequate infrastructure so the community can best dispose of its waste appropriately and safely.
- Further encourage public participation in litter enforcement.
- Ensure that local government is adequately supported and has the resources and tools necessary to manage and prevent litter.

7 Governance

Goal: To reform institutions and governance to effectively drive the achievement of waste policy objectives.

Some of the future challenges in waste and resource recovery are beyond the scale achievable at a regional level.

The role of local government within the waste management system should be acknowledged and supported.

The Victorian Government can support good industry and local government investment in waste by providing clear policy direction, and suitable incentives and approaches to risk management.

7.1 Strategic direction: Appoint an expert committee to review current arrangements and provide advice to the Minister.

The Victorian Government will work with all those involved in the waste and resource recovery management system – including local government, industry and business, the waste industry and waste management groups – to develop and implement a twenty-first century system for directing, co-ordinating and monitoring the work of all organisations involved in managing waste.
Regional communities currently find it difficult to get the full benefits of the economies of scale that a statewide approach can provide. We need the institutional and management arrangements that will help to unlock this potential.

The Ministerial Advisory Committee will take the following into account and will report to the Minister by April 2013:

- That high quality waste and resource recovery services should be available widely across the state.
- Improving waste management services in regional communities.
- Achieving better standards in waste management and resource recovery systems may depend on realising economies of scale.
- Collaboration between State Government, local governments and industry to manage all waste streams in an integrated way has significant potential to increase the overall efficiency of the system.
- Investments in waste recovery infrastructure should be driven by evidence of market demand for its products.
- Avoiding potential conflicts of duty or interests.
- Strategic planning for the waste management system needs to be synchronised with related strategic planning for land use, transport and development (e.g. Regional Growth Plans).
- Strategic planning for waste and waste infrastructure needs to marry statewide direction effectively with local needs and priorities in each region.
- Plans for waste and resource recovery infrastructure should be incorporated within statutory land-use plans, like infrastructure for other essential services.
- How to encourage collaboration to develop a well-integrated statewide waste system.
- Aligning financial and service responsibility for waste management with decision making and planning.
- How to provide the necessary capacity within governance structures to cater for all waste streams.
- The Victorian Government needs to improve and maintain access to expertise for procurement of major infrastructure and the management of major technical contracts.

8 Monitoring progress: a new approach

We will build upon past successes to ensure we have an integrated waste management system that protects the environment, safeguards public health, maximises the productive value of resources and minimises long-term costs.

To ensure this is realised, we will improve our monitoring of the waste management system, carefully measure our performance and transparently report our findings.

This draft policy describes how the use of a variety of tools, from regulation and markets, to improved land-use planning, will result in the best *outcomes* for the Victorian environment, economy and people. These are described below.

The primary outcomes are the specific environmental, social and economic results we want to see as a consequence of the policy as a whole.

1 Reduced impacts to ground and surface water from landfill leachates.
2 Reduced impacts on local communities of odour, noise, dust and litter from landfills and other waste management facilities.
3 Reduced greenhouse gas emissions intensity of waste to landfill, by measures that are complementary to the carbon price.
4 Reduced amount of waste entering the waste management system.
5 Increased productivity of materials in the economy.

The enabling outcomes are the results we would like to see across the waste management system that will help us achieve environmental, public health and economic results for Victoria.

6 Reduced barriers to the market driven diversion of materials from landfill.
7 Victoria's waste management infrastructure system meets the needs of current and future waste management priorities.
8 We effectively regulate waste, with a regulatory system that meets recognised benchmarks for efficient design and implementation.
9 There are clearly defined roles, lines of accountability and oversight the waste management system.
10 The costs of the waste system are fairly and transparently paid by those who generate the waste.
11 Effectively monitoring, discouraging and penalising illegal dumping and littering.

Once feedback on the draft policy has been received, commitments in the final policy will be developed. The commitments will reflect the proposed actions in each chapter, and they won't be finalised until those actions are agreed. We will consolidate the proposed actions so that we can commit to clear deliverables by a certain date in the final policy.

"Recommendation: develop a knowledge management system to rationalise data, identify and rectify data quality issues and modelling accuracy."

Victorian Auditor-General, *Municipal Solid Waste Management*, June 2001.

The Victorian Government has begun and will continue to identify and address data management gaps across the waste management system, so that better, evidence based decisions can be made. We will also commit to a new level of transparency, so that everyone across the waste management system can access waste data and understand how the system is performing. Performance reports will be easy to access and understand and include the following sections:

- what *primary outcome* the performance indicator is attempting to measure, and how;
- factors that influence the performance indicator and *primary outcome*, including those factors beyond our control;
- how we are performing and how other factors are affecting this performance; and
- the methodologies used, data sets available and any limitations.

We need to ensure that the policy indicators and supporting data are of a sufficient quality to allow both confident decision-making and effective reporting. We also need to ensure that performance measurement is suitably flexible to allow for technological and other changes to the waste management system.
To ensure this occurs, comprehensive reviews of the policy indicators and knowledge management systems will be undertaken as part of the wider policy review by the end of 2018, and again by the end of 2023.

The proposed policy indicators are just that – an indication. They are an indication of performance against policy outcomes and an indication of other dynamics occurring across the waste system over time.

Validity is the extent to which an indicator directly measures the desired outcome or result that we are attempting to influence.

Reliability is the extent to which the indicator can be supported by reliable and complete data, including the viability and costs of data collection.

The Victorian Government commits to identifying a more accurate organics composition metric and methodology as part of the wider effort to improve data, data collection and knowledge management more generally.

Targets

"If they are to be effective, targets need to be acknowledged as relevant and appropriate by those responsible for their implementation. They should be evidence-based and achievable within set time frames. Progress against targets also needs to be measured reliably."

Victorian Auditor-General, June 2011

As discussed, the policy indicators are more like management tools than measures of performance. For this reason, and others described below, specific targets have not been set against these indicators. Instead, we propose to commit to very specific actions in the, *'Resource recovery policy commitments'* section.

While specific targets in the action plan will be useful in driving action during implementation, they add little value at the policy level and can lead to perverse outcomes.

"If a landfill diversion target has been set without rigorous analysis of the costs and benefits, its achievement is likely to impose net costs on the community"

Productivity Commission, 2006

If, however, the weight of stakeholder feedback and further evidence suggests that, on balance, specific policy targets and performance indicators should be set, the Victorian Government would need to assess the various costs and benefits of different target options. This would require a comprehensive analysis of a number of factors to helps us understand what is required from a risk based perspective

Given the time and costs involved in undertaking this assessment, the option to refrain from setting specific policy targets entirely should be seriously considered during the review period,

6. ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION - SRC 333 - DECLARATION OF CHARGE

Portfolio: **Infrastructure – Cr Ellis**
Source: **City Services - Engineering Services**
General Manager: **Gary Van Driel**
Index Reference: **Special Rates and Charges; Albert Street**

Summary

- This report relates to the proposed construction of laneways in Geelong West bounded by Clarence Street, Elizabeth Street and Albert Street (see Plan – Appendix 6-3).
- There is one east-west laneway, 4.88m in width, 2 north-south laneways 3.05m in width and 1 north-south laneway 3.66m in width.
- The predominant laneway has a basalt pitcher open drain along its centre line.
- Council has received complaints over a period of time which includes dust and flooding.
- There are 32 properties involved in the scheme. The total estimated cost is $128,470 and individual property costs are all $4014.09.
- Property owners receive benefit from the works by way of improved vehicular access, removal of nuisance, proper drainage and general amenity improvement.
- The scheme was advertised and 10 objections and 6 submissions were received. A Submissions Panel considered all matters and subject to further investigation regarding closure and sale of part of the laneway, agreed to recommend that Council proceed to adopt the scheme.
- The closure process was investigated and considered inappropriate through lack of support.
- The scheme has been prepared in accordance with the Special Rate and Charges provisions of the Local Government Act along with Council's Special Rates and Charges Policy.
- This report seeks a resolution by Council to "declare the charges for the construction of the laneways bounded by Clarence Street, Elizabeth Street and Albert Street, Geelong West."

Cr Ellis moved, Cr Heagney seconded -

That

1) The following declaration for a Special Charge be confirmed:

a) A special charge be declared for the period until the work has been completed and the scheme finalised.

b) The special charge be declared for the purpose of defraying any expenses incurred by Council in relation to the construction of the laneways bounded by Clarence Street, Elizabeth Street and Albert Street, Geelong West which project:

6. ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION - SRC 333 - DECLARATION OF CHARGE (CONT'D)

b1) Will provide proper vehicular access, proper drainage, removal of nuisance and enhancement to the general amenity for each of the properties included in the scheme;

b2) Council considers is or will be a special benefit to those persons required to pay the special charge (and who are described in succeeding parts of this Resolution); and

b3) arises out of Council's function of planning for and providing infrastructure for property owners.

c) The:

c1) cost of performing the function described in Part 1 (b) of this Resolution based on estimated cost, be recorded as $128,470.

c2) total amount of the special charge to be levied, as based on estimated cost, be recorded as $128,470.

d) It be recorded that, for the purposes of Section 163 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1989, the special charge proceeds will not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with the prescribed formula (R x C = S), the:

d1) 'benefit ratio' (R) being calculated at 100%, and representing the total benefits of the special charge scheme that will accrue as special benefits to all persons liable to pay the special charge; and

d2) 'community benefit' (C) being assumed as zero in the Albert Street laneways, Geelong West.

e) the following be specified as the area for which the special rate is so declared:

e1) the area within municipal district of Council highlighted in the plan attached to this Resolution ("the area").

f) the following be specified as the land in relation to which the special charge so declared:

f1) land within the area shown on the plan.

g) the following be specified as the criteria which form the basis of the special charge so declared:

g1) ownership of any land described in Part 1(e) of this Resolution.

h) the following be specified as the manner in which the special charge so declared will be assessed and levied:

h1) a unit of cost allocated to each property;

h2) the special charge will be levied by sending a notice to the person who is liable to pay, pursuant to section 163(4) of the Local Government Act 1989.

6. ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION - SRC 333 - DECLARATION OF CHARGE (CONT'D)

i) having regard to the preceding parts of this Resolution but subject to Section 166 (1) of the Local Government Act 1989, it be recorded that, subject to any further Resolution of Council, the special charge will be due and payable on the date(s) fixed under Section 167 of the Local Government Act 1989 as the date or dates on or by which Council's general rates are due.

2) there are no incentives declared as incentives to be given by Council for the payment of the special charge before the date(s) specified for its payment under Section 167 (3) of the Local Government Act 1989.

3) Council's Chief Executive Officer be authorised to levy the Special Charge in accordance with Section 163 (4) of the Local Government Act 1989.

Carried.

Report

Background

This project relates to the proposed construction of the "Albert Street" laneways. They consist of a main east-west laneway and 3 connecting north-south laneways. The main laneway has an open drain centrally placed constructed of basalt pitchers. At the east end this runs into an ineffective underground drainage system and flooding occurs particularly in relation to garages.

In late 2009 Council conducted a survey after a series of complaints and enquiries. Half of those who responded indicated a preference for construction.

A further survey has recently been carried out with 20 of the 32 owners responding. Eleven are in support of construction, eight against and one non committal. This is a similar result to the original survey with 13 in support and the same number against.

Construction involves excavation, placement of road pavement and sealing. It is also proposed to continue the surface drain along the eastern laneway to provide an effective drainage outlet.

The scheme proposal was advertised on 7 July 2012 and submission/objections invited. Council received 10 objections and 6 submissions from a total of 30 owners representing 32 properties. A Submissions Panel Hearing was convened on 9 October 2012. Objections lodged generally were based on:

- Inability to pay;
- No access to lane;
- Never used lane;
- Considered no benefit; and
- Concern that same charge is being applied to different sized blocks.

Submissions were generally based on

- Lack of drainage and flooding problems;
- Poor condition and general amenity; and
- Redevelopment is happening and laneway construction will complement this.

6. ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION - SRC 333 - DECLARATION OF CHARGE (CONT'D)

At least one owner did raise the issue of closing the north-south laneway, at the Elizabeth Street end. The land could then be sold to abutting owners. The Submission Panel considered this matter warranted further investigation. As a result a proposal was sent firstly to all those directly affected, this is, abutting this lane, and secondly to all other owners. The results of this survey were as follows:

Directly affected:	
Supporting road closure and sale	1
Not supporting road closure and sale	4
No response	4
Indirectly affected	
Supporting road closure and sale	3
Not supporting road closure and sale	4
No response	15

Any land sold by Council would be the subject of a valuation to determine an appropriate market price. Owners were advised of this.

Discussion

There can be no argument that properties do not receive a benefit from the construction of a road (in this case a laneway) abutting their properties. This principle has been confirmed in Courts and Tribunals many times. The benefits which properties receive include:

- Provision of sealed road access;
- Provision of proper drainage;
- Improvements to general amenity;
- Provides opportunity for access to rear of property;
- Assists with any redevelopment proposals; and
- Likely enhancement to property values.

The above provides sufficient grounds to satisfy the special benefit test. It is irrelevant if owners chose not to make use of a constructed road abutting the property. This is simply an indication that the property is not being used to its best and highest potential.

In order to discontinue and sell off a road, which Council has the powers to do, it is necessary to have almost unqualified support. If owners do not take up the offer to buy, Council may be left with small parcels of land which can often be land locked. Access and maintenance is then impossible. In this situation there was by no means, total support, but what appears to be a suggestion that it might be a good idea. This does not warrant Council pursuing a road discontinuance at this stage.

At any further stage, provided there is general agreement, Council may pursue this process. The fact that the road may be constructed does not limit Council's powers.

6. ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION - SRC 333 - DECLARATION OF CHARGE (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

This project allows for the development of orderly, urban infrastructure. During the course of construction and the manufacture and procurement of materials, there is expenditure of energy and green house emissions. This does cease however, when construction is complete.

The project does not create waste with the exception of some excess spoil.

The proposal does not affect any natural habitats.

Construction of drainage and a sealed pavement will reduce the amount of silt washed into the drainage system and eventually, Corio Bay.

Financial Implications

The project has a one off capital cost and there will be minimal ongoing maintenance costs. Given approval the scheme could proceed in this financial year.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The scheme has been prepared in accordance with the Special Rate and Charge provisions of the Local Government Act along with Council's Special Rates and Charges Policy.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

There are no Council Officers involved in the administration or subsequent construction of the works, who have a direct or indirect interest in the project.

Risk Assessment

There are no risks associated with Council proceeding to adopt the recommendation to declare the charges for the scheme.

Social Considerations

There are no social implications for Council proceeding to adopt the recommendation.

Communication

The scheme has been advertised giving all owners the opportunity to place submissions/objections before Council. A Submissions Panel Hearing has taken place giving owners the opportunity to discuss issues directly with the Panel of Councillors.

Appendix 6-1

SCHEDULE 'A'

The works for the construction of laneways in Geelong West bounded by Clarence Street, Elizabeth Street and Albert Street, which consists of excavation, pavement works, concrete works, drainage works, sealing, miscellaneous construction works, legal advice and professional services associated with survey, engineering design, drafting, supervision and administration of the project all as included in the cost estimate shown below.

ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST
COST ESTIMATE

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	RATE $	AMOUNT $
1.00	**General**				
1.01	Site establishment and setup		Item		10,000.00
1.02	Traffic Management		Item		2,000.00
1.03	Set out of works		Item		500.00
2.00	**Earthworks:**				
2.01	Excavation and disposal of material	160	cm	60	9,600.00
2.02	Saw cutting of asphalt	10	m	15	150.00
3.00	**Pavement Works**				
3.01	Supply and place 150mm compacted depth of Class 2 20 FCR	160	cm	120	19,200.00
3.02	Prepare existing pavement for sealing	1045	sqm	5	5,225.00
3.03	Supply and place 10mm non type N asphalt	1045	sqm	25	26,125.00
4.00	**Drainage**				
4.01	Connect stormwater drains to kerb		Item		500.00
4.02	Supply and lay 150mm drain PVC pipe	6	m	100	600.00
5.00	**Concrete**				
5.10	Supply and place 600mm wide open invert	2.5	m	145	362.50
5.20	Supply and place 125mm thick concrete paving	11	sqm	150	1,650.00
5.30	Supply and place pitcher spoon drain	47	m	200	9,400.00
6.00	**Provisional Items**				
6.10	Supply and place asphalt between edge of laneway and garage entrances	90	sqm	45	4,050.00
6.20	Relay existing pitcher spoon drain	75	m	200	15,000.00
				Subtotal	104,362.50
7.00	**Contingency – 10%**				10,436.25
8.00	**Design and Administration of Special Charge Scheme**				13,671.50
				Total	**128,470.00**

Appendix 6-2

SCHEDULE 'B'

PROPOSED SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME FOR ALBERT ST LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST

	COL 1	COL 2	COL 3	COL 4
	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	**TOTAL ESTIMATED COST**	**PROPERTY REFERENCE**	**PROPERTY DETAILS**
1	Lot 21 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207691	38-40 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
2	Lot 20 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207691	38-40 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
3	Lot 19 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207688	36 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
4	Lot 18 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207686	34 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
5	Lot 22 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207052	97 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
6	Lot 23 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207051	95 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
7	Lot 24 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207050	93 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
8	Lot 25 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207048	91 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
9	Lot 26 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207047	89 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
10	Lot 27 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207045	87 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
11	Lot 28 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207043	85 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
12	CP 157739	$ 4,014.69	207041	83 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
13	Pt Lot 31, Pt Lot 30 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207039	81 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
14	Lot 32 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207037	79 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
15	Lot 33 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207035	77 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
16	Pt Sec 8 CA 4	$ 4,014.69	207033	75 Clarence Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
17	Lot 1 PS 411163	$ 4,014.69	205932	76 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
18	Lot 2 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205934	78 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
19	Lot 3 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205936	80 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
20	Lot 4 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205938	82 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
21	Lot 5 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205938	82 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
22	Lot 6 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205940	84 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
23	Lot 7 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205941	84A Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
24	Lot 8 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205943	86 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
25	Lot 9 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205945	88 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
26	Lot 10 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205947	90 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
27	Lot 11 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205949	92 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
28	Lot 12 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205951	94 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
29	Lot 13 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	205953	96 Albert Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
30	Lot 17 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207684	32-32A Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
31	Lot 1 TP 255308, Lot 2 TP 255308	$ 4,014.69	207682	30 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218
32	Lot 14 LP 3334	$ 4,014.69	207680	28 Elizabeth Street, Geelong West VIC 3218

Appendix 6-3

PLAN



Attachment 6-1

PROCESS CHART

SPECIAL CHARGE PROJECTS – (Section 163 – Local Government Act 1989)

ALBERT STREET LANEWAYS, GEELONG WEST

Stage	***Status***	***Description***
Approval to prepare scheme	✓	Decision made to prepare scheme following consideration of surveys of property owners and feed back from the community. Council may then place the project in the budget system or proceed immediately to prepare a scheme. Scheme preparation involves survey, design and preparation of an apportionment of costs.
Intention to Declare Scheme	✓	Report to Council providing information on scheme including advice of impending advertising of scheme and declaration of charge. Seeks Council approval by resolution to proceed with process. 26 June 2012
Advertisement	✓	The scheme is advertised in the local newspaper and all allotted property owners are notified by mail. This advertisement indicates Council's intention and notification to 'declare' a scheme in a month's time. 7 July 2012
Submissions	✓	From the time of advertising property owners have 28 days (as set down by the Local Government Act) to lodge submissions, either in support or opposition to the scheme.
Submissions Review Panel Hearing	✓	A Submissions Review Panel is convened (quorum of three Councillors) and meets to consider submissions. Some submissions are written only, and other submitters may wish to be heard before the Panel. The Panel makes a recommendation to Council regarding the scheme. 9 October 2012
Declaration Report	✓	Any time 28 days after advertising the scheme and after the Submissions Review Panel has met and considered submissions, Council considers a report and may proceed to "declare" the charges in accordance with its advertised intent. Subsequent to this the Finance Manager issues the levy notices and there is a formal charge placed on the property. This is the final step in the process for Council to make a decision on the scheme.
Appeal		Property owners may lodge an application for review with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) within one month of issue of the levy notice. An appeal is listed, heard and determined by the Tribunal and this process generally takes three to four months. Decisions made by VCAT are binding on all parties.
Construction		Council may then proceed to construct the works. Invoices are issued seeking payment of the estimated cost within one month of commencement.
Final Cost Report		At the completion of the works the scheme is "finalised" taking into account actual costs incurred and payments are adjusted accordingly.

7. COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013 - SUMMARY OF ALLOCATIONS 1 JULY TO 25 SEPTEMBER 2012

Portfolio: **Governance – Mayor**
Source: **Community Services – Community Development**
General Manager: **Jenny McMahon**
Index Reference: **Subject: Councillor Community Grants Program 2012/13**

Summary

- The Councillor Community Grants Program has an annual budget allocation of $240,000. This amount is divided into the 12 council wards which equates to an annual allocation of $20,000 per Ward that is available to expend on groups that apply and are eligible under this grant program.
- As part of the accountability framework for managing the Councillor Community Grants Program, details of successful applications and allocations are reported to Council on a quarterly basis.
- Due to 2012 being a Council election year, a limit of $6,500 was set as the amount that could be allocated per Ward between 1July to 25 September 2012.
- Caretaker arrangements for the 2012 Council election period determined that no grant funds be approved during the election period between 25 September and 30 October 2012.
- This report provides a statement of allocations under the program during the period of 1 July to 25 September 2012 (see Attachment 7-1).
- The total amount funded under this program for period 1 July to 25 September 2012 was $64,720 allocated to 51 community organisations.

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr Macdonald seconded -

That Council:

1) Notes the statement of allocations granted to community groups and organisations for the period 1 July to 25 September 2012

2) Commends and congratulates the community groups and organisations who have received funding under the Councillor Community Grants Program for their efforts and contribution to the Geelong community.

Carried.

Report

Background

The Councillor Community Grants Program is for not-for-profit community groups and organisations who can apply for funds to support either ward based or municipal wide activities or events that will benefit the Geelong community.

In order to receive funds, applicants must comply with the established guidelines which govern the grant program.

As part of the ongoing accountability process, a report on the groups that have received funds is presented to Council on a quarterly basis.

7. COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013 - SUMMARY OF ALLOCATIONS 1 JULY TO 25 SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

Discussion

The total amount funded under this program for the period 1 July to 30 September 2012 was $64,720 allocated to 51 community organisations.

To ensure a fair and equitable level of available grant funds be maintained following the election of a new Council, a limit of $6,500 per Ward was set as the total amount that could be allocated in the period between the commencement of the 2012/2013 financial year and the election date (1 July – 27 October 2012).

In addition, as part of caretaker arrangements for the 2012 Council election period, it was determined that no grant funds be approved during the election period between 25 September and 30 October 2012.

The allocation of grants assists with meeting the objectives of Council by providing an opportunity to enhance the well-being of the community by building social capital and enabling community engagement through the provision of funds to assist with local activities.

Attachment 1 provides a list of groups, the title of the activities funded and the amounts that were allocated during this period, as well as a summary of balances.

Environmental Implications

Some of the projects supported via this grant program include a variety of environmental activities.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications. All funds to date have been expended in accordance with the Councillor Community Grants Guidelines and within budget.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The provision of grants to the community supports local, community organisations and endorses the aims of City Plan and the G21 Regional Plan.

This report is presented in accordance with the City of Greater Geelong Grants and Donations Policy.

The provision of grants is carried out in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

The Councillor Community Grants Program has provision in the assessment process to record any conflict of interest relating to each grant application that is assessed.

7. COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013 - SUMMARY OF ALLOCATIONS 1 JULY TO 25 SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

Risk Assessment

The Councillor Community Grants Program is governed in accordance with Council's monitoring, reporting and accountability framework.

Successful applicants are provided with an evaluation form for their completion and return to Council as a record of the outcome of the grant funding they received. Annual audits are also conducted on a sample group of grant recipients.

Social Considerations

The provision of the Councillor Community Grants Program provides an opportunity to support and strengthen communities to provide a broad range of activities for the benefit of the Geelong community.

Communication

The provision of the Councillor Community Grants provides an opportunity to support and strengthen communities to provide a broad range of activities for the benefit of the Geelong community.

Attachment 7-1
Pages 8

Councillor Community Grants Program 2012/13
List of Allocations – 1 July to 25 September 2012

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
AUSTIN	BARWON ADOLESCENT TASKFORCE	A PLACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	$ 2,350.00	
AUSTIN	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 100.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
AUSTIN	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUPS AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 300.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
AUSTIN	EAST GEELONG FOOTBALL/NETBALL CLUB	MINOR WORKS	$ 1,000.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
AUSTIN	EAST GEELONG LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB AUSPICED BY WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIPPING CONTAINER FOR STORAGE	$ 2,100.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
AUSTIN	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	RIDE ON MOWER&WHIPPER SNIPER	$ 650.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
TOTAL			$ 6,500.00	
BEANGALA	BARWON COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES	G21 MONTH OF ACTION	$ 500.00	
BEANGALA	BELLARINE SECONDARY COLLEGE	TEEN MENTOR PROGRAM	$ 1,100.00	
BEANGALA	BELLARINE WOODWORKERS INC	ELECTRICAL TAGGING COURSE	$ 250.00	**Beangala $250, Cheetham $800, Coryule $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1300.00**
BEANGALA	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 100.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
BEANGALA	CHURCH BY THE BAY	DEBUTANTE BALL	$ 700.00	
BEANGALA	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 100.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
BEANGALA	DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECT	$ 200.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $250, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
BEANGALA	GEELONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL	$ 50.00	**Beangala $50, Brownbill $200, Corio $500, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,350.00**
BEANGALA	GEELONG PLAYGROUP NETWORK AUSPICED BY ROSLYN PLAYGROUP	ESTABLISHMENT OF ON-LINE SYSTEM	$ 50.00	**Beangala $50, Buckley $200, Deakin $50, Kardinia $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $500.00**
BEANGALA	LEISURE NETWORKS ASSOC INC.	SPORTS ACCESS	$ 1,000.00	
BEANGALA	LIONS CLUB OF GEELONG (BREAKFAST)	BBQ TRAILER/SHELTER	$ 500.00	**Beangala - $500, Brownbill - $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,000**
BEANGALA	OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA	INDIGENOUS REF GARDEN - REFLECTION GARDEN	$ 500.00	
BEANGALA	RAINBOW RIDERS INC.	HORSE HARNESSES	$ 500.00	**Beangala $500, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $400,**

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
				Kardinia $250 –TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,950
BEANGALA	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 200.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
BEANGALA	SCOUT ASSOC.AUST VIC BRANCH	SCOUT CANOEING EVENT	$ 200.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $200 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,200.00**
BEANGALA	ST MARY'S SPORTING CLUB	STH AFRICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE	$ 100.00	**Beangala $100, Brownbill $100, Coryule $150, Cowie $500, Deakin $100, Kildare $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,450.00**
TOTAL			$ 6,050.00	
BROWNBILL	ARC SUPPORT & BARWON ABI NETWORK AUSPICED BY KARINGAL INC.	BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK 2012	$ 150.00	**Brownbill $150, Buckley $100, Cheetham $100, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**
BROWNBILL	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 200.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
BROWNBILL	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 200.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
BROWNBILL	DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECT	$ 250.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $250, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
BROWNBILL	EAST GEELONG LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB AUSPICED BY WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIPPING CONTAINER FOR STORAGE	$ 300.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
BROWNBILL	GEELONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL	$ 200.00	**Beangala $50, Brownbill $200, Corio $500, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,350.00**
BROWNBILL	GEELONG WEST CRICKET CLUB	CLUB ROOM REFURBISHMENT	$ 1,050.00	**Brownbill - $1,050, Coryule - $850 - TOTAL ALLOCTION - $1,900**
BROWNBILL	GEELONG WEST FIRE BRIGADE	AUTO DEFIBRILLATOR UNIT	$ 1,400.00	**Brownbill - $1,400, Kildare - $1,400 - TOTAL ALLOCATION - $2,800**
BROWNBILL	LIONS CLUB OF GEELONG (BREAKFAST)	BBQ TRAILER/SHELTER	$ 500.00	**Beangala - $500, Brownbill - $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION - $1,000**
BROWNBILL	NEWTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE INC	EQUIPMENT	$ 500.00	**Brownbill $500, Corio $500, Deakin $250, Kildare $1,000 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $2,250.00**
BROWNBILL	PROBUS CLUB-GEELONG CENTRAL	20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION	$ 250.00	**Brownbill $250, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $300 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
BROWNBILL	RAINBOW RIDERS INC.	HORSE HARNESSES	$ 500.00	**Beangala $500, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $400, Kardinia $250 –TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,950**
BROWNBILL	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 200.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
BROWNBILL	SCOUT ASSOC. AUST VIC BRANCH	SCOUT CANOEING EVENT	$ 500.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $200 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,200.00**
BROWNBILL	ST LUKES UNITING CHURCH	ELECTRICITY REDUCTION PROJECT	$ 200.00	
BROWNBILL	ST MARY'S SPORTING CLUB	STH AFRICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE	$ 100.00	**Beangala $100, Brownbill $100, Coryule $150, Cowie $500, Deakin $100, Kildare $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,450.00**

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
TOTAL			$ 6,500.00	
BUCKLEY	ARC SUPPORT & BARWON ABI NETWORK AUSPICED BY KARINGAL INC.	BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK 2012	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $150, Buckley $100, Cheetham $100, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**
BUCKLEY	BARWON HEADS SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE	QUILTING MACHINE	$ 430.00	
BUCKLEY	GROVEDALE COMMUNITY KITCHEN AUSPICED BY BARWON HEALTH	COMMUNITY KITCHEN ESTABLISHMENT EQUIPMENT	$ 1,000.00	
BUCKLEY	EAST GEELONG LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB AUSPICED BY WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIPPING CONTAINER FOR STORAGE	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
BUCKLEY	GEELONG PLAYGROUP NETWORK AUSPICED BY ROSLYN PLAYGROUP	ESTABLISHMENT OF ON-LINE SYSTEM	$ 200.00	**Beangala $50, Buckley $200, Deakin $50, Kardinia $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $500.00**
BUCKLEY	PROBUS CLUB-GEELONG CENTRAL	20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION	$ 200.00	**Brownbill $250, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $300 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
BUCKLEY	RAINBOW RIDERS INC.	HORSE HARNESSES	$ 200.00	**Beangala $500, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $400, Kardinia $250 –TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,950**
BUCKLEY	SCOUT ASSOC. AUST VIC BRANCH	SCOUT CANOEING EVENT	$ 200.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $200 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,200.00**
TOTAL			$ 2,430.00	
CHEETHAM	ARC SUPPORT & BARWON ABI NETWORK AUSPICED BY KARINGAL INC.	BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK 2012	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $150, Buckley $100, Cheetham $100, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**
CHEETHAM	BELLARINE ANGLICAN PARISH	NEW CHAIRS	$ 600.00	**Cheetham $600, Coryule $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
CHEETHAM	BELLARINE WOODWORKERS INC	ELECTRICAL TAGGING COURSE	$ 800.00	**Beangala $250, Cheetham $800, Coryule $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1300.00**
CHEETHAM	CLIFTON SPRINGS TENNIS CLUB	CLUBROOM EXTENSION	$ 1,850.00	
CHEETHAM	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 100.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
CHEETHAM	LEOPOLD LAKERS BASKETBALL CLUB AUSPICED BY CORIO BAY BASKETBALL ASSOC.	CLUB ESTABLISHMENT COSTS	$ 1,500.00	
CHEETHAM	LEOPOLD MEN'S SHED	EQUIPMENT	$ 500.00	
CHEETHAM	PORTARLINGTON DRYSDALE LIONS CLUB	AUSTRALIA DAY BRUNCH-DRYSDALE	$ 750.00	**Cheetham $750, Coryule $750 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,500.00**
CHEETHAM	RAINBOW RIDERS INC.	HORSE HARNESSES	$ 100.00	**Beangala $500, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $400, Kardinia $250 –TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,950**
CHEETHAM	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 200.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
TOTAL			$ 6,500.00	
CORIO	ARC SUPPORT & BARWON ABI NETWORK AUSPICED BY KARINGAL INC.	BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK 2012	$ 200.00	**Brownbill $150, Buckley $100, Cheetham $100, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**
CORIO	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 100.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
CORIO	BLIND CITIZENS AUSTRALIA	VIC STATE CONVENTION	$ 500.00	**Corio $500, Windermere $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
CORIO	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 300.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
CORIO	CORIO COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY	ROCK & WATER PROGRAM	$ 800.00	**Corio - $800, Windermere - $330 - TOTAL ALLOCATION - $1,100**
CORIO	DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECT	$ 200.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $250, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
CORIO	EAST GEELONG LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB AUSPICED BY WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIPPING CONTAINER FOR STORAGE	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
CORIO	GEELONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL	$ 500.00	**Beangala $50, Brownbill $200, Corio $500, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,350.00**
CORIO	LIONS CLUB - LARA	CLUB ACTIVITIES EQUIPMENT	$ 1,000.00	**Corio $1,000, Windermere $1,000 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $2,000.00**
CORIO	NEWTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE INC	EQUIPMENT	$ 500.00	**Brownbill $500, Corio $500, Deakin $250, Kildare $1,000 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $2,250.00**
CORIO	NORLANE COMMUNITY KITCHEN AUSPICED BY BARWON HEALTH	KITCHEN EQUIPMENT	$ 650.00	
CORIO	RAINBOW RIDERS INC.	HORSE HARNESSES	$ 400.00	**Beangala $500, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $400, Kardinia $250 –TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,950**
CORIO	REGAL PRECISION DRILL & DANCE CLUB	NEW CLUB UNIFORMS	$ 550.00	
CORIO	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 200.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
TOTAL			$ 6,000.00	
CORYULE	BELLARINE ANGLICAN PARISH	NEW CHAIRS	$ 250.00	**Cheetham $600, Coryule $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
CORYULE	BELLARINE WOODWORKERS INC	ELECTRICAL TAGGING COURSE	$ 250.00	**Beangala $250, Cheetham $800, Coryule $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1300.00**
CORYULE	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 100.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
CORYULE	CHRISTIAN COLLEGE GEELONG	MALI ELEPHANT CONSERVATION PROJECT	$ 950.00	
CORYULE	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 100.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
CORYULE	GEELONG WEST CRICKET CLUB	CLUB ROOM REFURBISHMENT	$ 850.00	**Brownbill - $1,050, Coryule - $850 - TOTAL ALLOCTION - $1,900**
CORYULE	PORTARLINGTON DRYSDALE LIONS CLUB	AUSTRALIA DAY BRUNCH-DRYSDALE	$ 750.00	**Cheetham $750, Coryule $750 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,500.00**
CORYULE	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 100.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
CORYULE	ST LEONARDS PROGRESS ASSOC	ST LEONARDS COMMUNITY FESTIVAL	$ 3,000.00	
CORYULE	ST MARY'S SPORTING CLUB	STH AFRICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE	$ 150.00	**Beangala $100, Brownbill $100, Coryule $150, Cowie $500, Deakin $100, Kildare**

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
				$500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,450.00
TOTAL			$ 6,500.00	
COWIE	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 50.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
COWIE	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 700.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
COWIE	GEELONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL	$ 50.00	**Beangala $50, Brownbill $200, Corio $500, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,350.00**
COWIE	GEELONG GEM & MINERAL CLUB	UPGRADE & EQUIP PURCHASE	$ 910.00	
COWIE	HKUDO LADO GEELONG CROATIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE	LADO - 40 YEAR CONCERT	$ 1,250.00	
COWIE	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 50.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
COWIE	ST MARY'S SPORTING CLUB	STH AFRICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE	$ 500.00	**Beangala $100, Brownbill $100, Coryule $150, Cowie $500, Deakin $100, Kildare $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,450.00**
COWIE	ST NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH	UPGRADE ELECTRICAL SWITCHBOARD	$ 2,000.00	
TOTAL			$ 5,510.00	
DEAKIN	ARC SUPPORT & BARWON ABI NETWORK AUSPICED BY KARINGAL INC.	BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK 2012	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $150, Buckley $100, Cheetham $100, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**
DEAKIN	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 50.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
DEAKIN	COMMUNITY ELDERS GROUP AUSPICED BY MURRENDA-ABORIGINAL COMM CARE	FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAM	$ 50.00	**Austin $300, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $300, Coryule $100, Cowie $700, Deakin $50 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,850.00**
DEAKIN	DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECT	$ 100.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $250, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
DEAKIN	EAST GEELONG LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB AUSPICED BY WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIPPING CONTAINER FOR STORAGE	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
DEAKIN	GEELONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL	$ 50.00	**Beangala $50, Brownbill $200, Corio $500, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,350.00**
DEAKIN	GEELONG PLAYGROUP NETWORK AUSPICED BY ROSLYN PLAYGROUP	ESTABLISHMENT OF ON-LINE SYSTEM	$ 50.00	**Beangala $50, Buckley $200, Deakin $50, Kardinia $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $500.00**
DEAKIN	NEWTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE INC	EQUIPMENT	$ 250.00	**Brownbill $500, Corio $500, Deakin $250, Kildare $1,000 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $2,250.00**
DEAKIN	PROBUS CLUB-GEELONG CENTRAL	20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $250, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $300 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
DEAKIN	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 100.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 -**

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
				TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00
DEAKIN	SCOUT ASSOC. AUST VIC BRANCH	SCOUT CANOEING EVENT	$ 100.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $200 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,200.00**
DEAKIN	ST LUKES UNITING CHURCH	ELECTRICITY REDUCTION PROJECT	$ 2,800.00	
DEAKIN	ST MARY'S SPORTING CLUB	STH AFRICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE	$ 100.00	**Beangala $100, Brownbill $100, Coryule $150, Cowie $500, Deakin $100, Kildare $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,450.00**
TOTAL			$ 3,950.00	
KARDINIA	GEELONG PLAYGROUP NETWORK AUSPICED BY ROSLYN PLAYGROUP	ESTABLISHMENT OF ON-LINE SYSTEM	$ 100.00	**Beangala $50, Buckley $200, Deakin $50, Kardinia $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $500.00**
KARDINIA	OBERON PRIMARY SCHOOL	ESTABLISHMENT OF VEGE GARDEN	$ 500.00	
KARDINIA	PROBUS CLUB OF BELMONT SOUTH	PURCHASE OF DEFIBRILLATOR	$ 1,150.00	
KARDINIA	PROBUS CLUB-GEELONG CENTRAL	20TH ANNIVERARY CELEBRATION	$ 300.00	**Brownbill $250, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $300 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
KARDINIA	RAINBOW RIDERS INC.	HORSE HARNESSES	$ 250.00	**Beangala $500, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Cheetham $100, Corio $400, Kardinia $250 –TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,950**
KARDINIA	ROTARACT CLUB OF BELMONT	DRAMA PROJECT	$ 350.00	
KARDINIA	SCOUT ASSOC.AUST VIC BRANCH	SCOUT CANOEING EVENT	$ 200.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $500, Buckley $200, Deakin $100, Kardinia $200 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,200.00**
TOTAL			$ 2,850.00	
KILDARE	ARC SUPPORT & BARWON ABI NETWORK AUSPICED BY KARINGAL INC.	BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK 2012	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $150, Buckley $100, Cheetham $100, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $750.00**
KILDARE	DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECT	$ 100.00	**Beangala $200, Brownbill $250, Corio $200, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $850.00**
KILDARE	EAST GEELONG LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB AUSPICED BY WHITTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIPPING CONTAINER FOR STORAGE	$ 100.00	**Brownbill $300, Buckley $100, Corio $100, Deakin $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $700.00**
KILDARE	GEELONG PLAYGROUP NETWORK AUSPICED BY ROSLYN PLAYGROUP	ESTABLISHMENT OF ON-LINE SYSTEM	$ 100.00	**Beangala $50, Buckley $200, Deakin $50, Kardinia $100, Kildare $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $500.00**
KILDARE	GEELONG WEST FIRE BRIGADE	AUTO DEFIBRILLATOR UNIT	$ 1,400.00	**Brownbill - $1,400, Kildare - $1,400 - TOTAL ALLOCATION - $2,800**
KILDARE	GUILD SAINTS CRICKET CLUB	BOWLING MACHINE	$ 1,000.00	
KILDARE	HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL	STAIR LIFT	$ 1,000.00	
KILDARE	NEWTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE INC	EQUIPMENT	$ 1,000.00	**Brownbill $500, Corio $500, Deakin $250, Kildare $1,000 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $2,250.00**
KILDARE	ST JOSEPH'S FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB	VINYL FLOOR REPLACEMENT	$ 1,000.00	
KILDARE	ST MARY'S SPORTING CLUB	STH AFRICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE	$ 500.00	**Beangala $100, Brownbill $100, Coryule $150, Cowie $500, Deakin $100, Kildare $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,450.00**
TOTAL			$ 6,300.00	
WINDERMERE	BETTER HEARING AUST. GEELONG	PURCHASE OF COMPUTER	$ 100.00	**Austin $100, Beangala $100, Brownbill $200, Corio $100, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $800.00**
WINDERMERE	BLIND CITIZENS AUSTRALIA	VIC STATE CONVENTION	$ 250.00	**Corio $500, Windermere $250 - TOTAL ALLOCATION**

WARD	ORGANISTION	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Breakdown and Totals Where the Applicant was awarded funds for their project from multiple Ward allocations
				$750.00
WINDERMERE	CORIO COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY	ROCK & WATER PROGRAM	$ 330.00	**Corio - $800, Windermere - $330 - TOTAL ALLOCATION - $1,100**
WINDERMERE	GEELONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL	$ 500.00	**Beangala $50, Brownbill $200, Corio $500, Cowie $50, Deakin $50, Windermere $500 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,350.00**
WINDERMERE	HOPE BEREAVEMENT SERVICES INC	WALK TO REMEMBER	$ 250.00	
WINDERMERE	LARA PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHADE SAIL STRUCTURE	$ 3,000.00	
WINDERMERE	LIONS CLUB - LARA	CLUB ACTIVITIES EQUIPMENT	$ 1,000.00	**Corio $1,000, Windermere $1,000 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $2,000.00**
WINDERMERE	RECLAIM THE NIGHT COLLECTIVE AUSPICED BY ZENA WOMEN'S SERVICES INC	LET WOMEN'S RIGHTS BLOOM	$ 100.00	
WINDERMERE	SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG	GARDENING EQUIPMENT	$ 100.00	**Austin $650, Beangala $200, Brownbill $200, Cheetham $200, Corio $200, Coryule $100, Cowie $50, Deakin $100, Windermere $100 - TOTAL ALLOCATION $1,800.00**
Total			$ 5,630.00	
Grand Total			**$ 64,720.00**	

Summary of Ward Allocations and Balances
1 July 2012 – 25 September 2012

Ward Name	Total Allocated 1/07/12-30/9/12	Available 2012/13 Ward Balance as at 01/10/12
Austin	$ 6,500.00	$ 13,500.00
Beangala	$ 6,050.00	$ 13,950.00
Brownbill	$ 6,500.00	$ 13,500.00
Buckley	$ 2,430.00	$ 17,570.00
Cheetham	$ 6,500.00	$ 13,500.00
Corio	$ 6,000.00	$ 14,000.00
Coryule	$ 6,500.00	$ 13,500.00
Cowie	$ 5,510.00	$ 14,490.00
Deakin	$ 3,950.00	$ 16,050.00
Kardinia	$ 2,850.00	$ 17,150.00
Kildare	$ 6,300.00	$ 13,700.00
Windermere	$ 5,630.00	$ 14,370.00
Total	**$ 64,720.00**	**$ 175,280.00**

8. COMMUNITY ARTS & FESTIVALS GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013

Portfolio: **Arts & Culture – Cr Heagney**
Source: **Community Services – Arts & Culture**
General Manager: **Jenny McMahon**
Index Reference: **Subject: Grants and Funding/Grants Outgoing - Community Arts Grants/2012-2013 Applications**

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the allocations made under the 2012/2013 round of the Community Arts and Festivals Grants Program.
- The grant program is part of the implementation of Council's Cultural Strategy ***Creativity+***, which aims to build cultural strengths and raise the profile of the Geelong municipality as a creative region.
- A total of $220,000 was allocated to the Community Arts and Festivals Grants Program in the 2012/2013 budget.
- The 2012/2013 grant round opened on 2nd July 2012 and closed on 31st July 2012.
- A committee of Councillors was established to assess the submission.
- 33 applications were received under the Community Arts Grants Program requesting a total of $200,870.
- 19 arts groups were successful with a total of $93,700 (attachments 1 and 2). This also included final instalments for three biennial grants awarded during the 2011/2012 round, and first instalment for a new biennial grant.
- 30 applications were received under the Community Festivals Grants Program requesting a total of $180,351.
- 22 festival groups were successful, with a total allocation of $116,100 (attachments 3 and 4). This also included second instalments for four triennial grants awarded during the 2011/2012 round.
- $10,200 has been held in reserve for applications to the Quick Response and Professional Development streams throughout 2012/2013 (Attachment 5).
- A Grant Ceremony for recipients will be held on Monday 10th December 2012. This event will showcase projects from the previous round and offer a networking opportunity for community arts and festival groups.
- The General Manager Community Services has delegated authority to determine final grant recipients.

Cr Heagney moved, Cr Farrell seconded -

That Council note the allocations to community groups under the Community Arts and Festivals Grants Program for the 2012/2013 Round.

Carried.

8. COMMUNITY ARTS & FESTIVALS GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013 (CONT'D)

REPORT

Background

The Community Arts and Festivals Grants Program is part of the implementation of ***Creativity+***, Council's Culture Strategy which aims to build the cultural strengths and raise the profile of the Geelong municipality as a creative region.

The former Mayor Cr John Mitchell, former Crs Barbara Abley (Chair) and Cameron Granger and Crs Jan Farrell and Eddy Kontelj were the Council representatives to the Community Arts and Festivals Assessment Committee during the 2012/2013 round.

Key features of the program include seven grant streams within two categories. The Community Arts category includes four streams. Two primary streams – Arts (Arts Project) and Arts (Biennial) – are open during the main round only, while Arts (Quick Response) (QR) and Arts (Professional Development) (PD) streams are available throughout the year subject to the availability of funds. The Community Festivals category consists of three streams – Festivals (One-Off), Festivals (Development) and Festivals (Triennial).

A single grant round was held in 2012/2013, opening on 2nd July and closing on 31st July 2012. A total budget of $220,000 was allocated for distribution across the program's two categories, with $120,000 for Arts and $100,000 for Festivals. As in previous years, the Arts and Culture Unit (A&CU) assessed applications in consultation with staff from the Events Department and Community Development Department.

A summary of applications was distributed to all Councillors prior to a Councillor drop-in session on Tuesday 28th August.

Recommendations for grant allocations were presented to the Community Arts and Festivals Committee for consideration on Monday 3rd September, and final decisions were subsequently approved by the General Manager, Community Services who has delegated authority to determine final grant recipients.

Discussion

In 2012/2013, an extended period of promotion was carried out prior to conducting numerous grant information sessions at venues across the municipality.

The grant application process was provided this year via the new "*myGeelong"* subscription database. Grant submissions were facilitated by individual invitation following direct contact with the A&CU. This resulted in improvements to customer experience and to back end assessment and scoring process. The online application process performed well, with refinements made in response to community need.

The community responded strongly and the second highest number of applications in the history of the program was received. The round was highly competitive and not all deserving projects were able to be either funded or fully funded. Attachments 1 and 2 provide a summary of final allocations in each category. The Committee decided that QR and PD streams should be closed at the end of May, and re-opened in mid September in each year, to improve the efficiency in processing of the annual July grant round.

8. COMMUNITY ARTS & FESTIVALS GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013 (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

The grant application process was delivered completely on-line this year, with process refinements designed to substantially reduce paper wastage.

As with previous rounds, applicants were scored on their approach to minimising their project's impact on the environment. The inclusion of this element as part of scoring criteria has proven to be an effective method of raising awareness of sustainable arts practice throughout the municipality.

The grant theme this year was "Reading the Land". This theme was based on the idea of literacy and reading, building on an Australian Libraries initiative: the 2012 National Year of Reading. It encouraged applicants to consider how, what and where we "read" our local places and environment, including the sharing of community knowledge, story and experience. Bonus score points were awarded to grant applicants who creatively integrated this theme into their projects, and many applicants responded.

Financial Implications

The grants program has been delivered within budget allocations for 2012/2013.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The provision of Arts and Festival grants to the community supports Council's Culture Strategy ***Creativity+***. This aims to build cultural strengths and raise the profile of the Geelong municipality as a creative region through encouragement and support of community participation in the cultural sector, and recognising and enhancing its contribution to the municipality's prosperity.

As an Advisory Committee appointed by Council, the authority of the Community Arts and Festivals Assessment Committee, noted in the Terms of Reference, is to:

- consider applications made in accordance with program guidelines and make recommendations to the General Manager, Community Services for allocation of funds under Delegation;
- consider and make recommendations as to the annual budget allocation to the Programs; and
- oversee the annual review of the Grants Program, its processes and guidelines and make recommendations for improvements.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

A&CU Co-ordinator Duncan Esler noted his role as Board Member of Courthouse ARTS. However as he represents Council on this Committee, this is not considered to be a conflict of interest.

8. COMMUNITY ARTS & FESTIVALS GRANTS PROGRAM 2012/2013 (CONT'D)

Risk Assessment

The guidelines and application process, as well as the supporting procedures minimise the potential risks associated with managing the grant programs.

Officers from the Community Development Department and the Event Services Unit assisted the A&CU in assessing applications to ensure the process was thorough and also to ensure awareness of related projects and/or issues arising, such as the need for submission of events plans by groups, or groups with acquittals pending for other prior projects funded by these departments.

Successful applicants are required to sign a funding and service agreement with Council which details their roles and responsibilities including the parameters for expenditure of funds and the monitoring and evaluation processes required.

Social Considerations

The Community Arts and Festivals Grants Program provides vital support to community groups and organisations, increases community engagement in social and cultural activity and enriches community life. The grants enhance community wellbeing by supporting projects that provide an avenue for community involvement in the planning, creation, participation and attendance at arts events and activities.

Communication

The Arts & Culture Unit in conjunction with Council's Media unit is responsible for communication on the grants and the grant's ceremony.

Attachment 8-1

COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS (ARTS PROJECT)
Summary: 2012-2013

PROJECT	ORGANISATION / AUSPICE	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Neighbourhood Press for Little Free Libraries	Cloverdale Community Centre Inc	$6,000
Karenni Puppetry project	Geelong Ethnic Communities Council (Diversitat)	$6,000
Music at the Basilica "Seasons" Series	Music at the Basilica Inc	$6,000
Ganesh Versus the Third Reich at GPAC	GPAC	$6,000
Australian Youth Classical Music Competition (formerly Geelong Advertiser Music Competition)	Geelong Advertiser Music Scholarship Trust	$6,000
Blues Boot Camp	Wayne Jury T/A Ella Music/The Sleepy Hollow Blues Club	$6,000
Concert Series 2013	Geelong Chamber Music Society, Inc.	$6,000
The Red Tree	BLINK Dance Company/Auspicious Arts Inc	$5,500
Playing Up	Bluebird Foundation Inc	$5,500
Beautiful	Courthouse Arts	$5,000
The Afghan Dombura Project	Geelong Afghan Community/Geelong Ethnic communities Council - Diversitat	$4,000
Geelong Patchworkers and Quilters Guild Inc Biennial Exhibition	Geelong Patchwork and Quilters Guild Inc.	$3,000
Geelong VCE Students Art Project	Geelong Art Society Inc	$1,900
Narana Exhibition and Cultural Arts Project	Narana Creations Inc	$1,800
Ladarsko Selo	HKUD LADO Geelong/Croatian Community Centre	$1,000
Total allocation		**$69,700**

Attachment 8-2

COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS (BIENNIAL)
Summary: 2012-2013

PROJECT	ORGANISATION / AUSPICE	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Three Magpies Perched in a Tree (final year instalment)	Geelong Regional Local Learning Employment Networks	$ 6,000
Samsara - a song cycle for Corio and Norlane (final year instalment)	Bluebird Foundation Inc.	$ 6,000
New Spaces, New Ideas (final year instalment)	Back to Back Theatre	$ 6,000
Perpetual Echoes	Community Music Victoria Inc	$ 6,000 (x 2 yrs)
Total allocation		**$24,000**

Attachment 8-3

COMMUNITY FESTIVALS GRANTS (ONE-OFF AND DEVELOPMENT)
Summary: 2012-2013

FESTIVAL (Development)	ORGANISATION / AUSPICE	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Centenary of the Foundation of the Royal Australian Naval Training College at Osborne House	The Osborne Park Association Inc	$6,000
Aboriginal Traditional dance Festival	Wathaurong Aboriginal co-op	$6,000
A Centenary of Activities at SpringDale Hall	SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc	$6,000
Heritage Festival 2013 Geelong Region	Geelong and Region Branch National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Inc	$6,000
Cloverdale Autumn Festival 2013	Cloverdale Community Centre Inc	$6,000
Geelong National Reconciliation Week Festival	Geelong One Fire Reconciliation Group (GOFRG) Inc.	$6,000
FIGMENT Geelong	Anartchy/Artists Anonymous / DIVERSITAT	$5,200
WoWFest - Women's Stories of Strength	Reclaim the Night Collective / Zena Women's Services	$5,000
Guerrilla Gigs (New years Revolution)	Courthouse ARTS Inc	$5,000
Drysdale Festival of Glass	Drysdale Clifton Springs Community Association Inc.	$4,000
Flamefest	Flamefest Steering Committee / Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Inc	$4,000
Autumn Community Celebration	Geelong West Neighbourhood House Inc.	$4,000
Food of The World Festival	Diversitat Inc	$3,400
Bellarine Show	Bellarine Agricultural society Inc	$3,000
CELEBRATIONS	Music at the Basilica Inc.	$3,000
Carnival of Music	Barwon Heads Fine Music Society Inc	$3,000
Karingal Food & Wine Karnivale	Karingal Inc.	$3,000
2013 Blokes Day Out	Barwon Health Inc.	$3,000
Total allocation		**$81,600**

Attachment 8-4

COMMUNITY FESTIVALS GRANTS (TRIENNIAL)
Summary: 2012-13

FESTIVAL (Triennial)	ORGANISATION / AUSPICE	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
Barwon Heads Festival of the Sea (Second year instalment)	Barwon Heads Festival of the Sea Ltd.	$10,500
Portarlington Mussel Festival (Second year instalment)	Portarlington Mussel Festival Inc.	$8,000
Splash!Dance Festival (Second year instalment)	Geelong Dance Network Inc.	$8,000
Poppykettle Festival (Second year instalment)	The Geelong Performing Arts Centre	$8,000
Total allocation		**$34,500**

Attachment 8-5

COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS (QUICK RESPONSE & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT)
Summary: 2012-13

GRANT STREAM	**AMOUNT HELD IN RESERVE**
Quick Response Reserve	As required
Professional Development Reserve	As required
Total allocation	**$10,200**

9. SALE OF LAND TO VICROADS PIONEER ROAD WIDENING

Portfolio: **Finance – Cr S Kontelj**
Source: **Property Management - Corporate Services**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**
Index Reference: **Land Sales**

Summary

- VicRoads has approached Council to purchase 2,969m2 of land for the Pioneer Road duplication project (refer to Appendix 9-1). The land forms part of the Leisurelink pool complex.
- The project which commenced in July 2012 is expected to be completed in January 2013 and will duplicate Pioneer Road from Colac Road to the second set of traffic lights on Pioneer Road.
- The land is not being compulsorily acquired by VicRoads and the land purchase is by agreement with the Council.
- The land price of $200,000 plus GST has been agreed following a conference of valuers.
- It is recommended that the Council sell the property to VicRoads for $200,000 plus GST subject to VicRoads paying all Council's costs.
- Notice of intention is required to sell the land under s189 of the Local Government Act. If submissions are received they will be heard by the Submissions Hearing Panel and a further report will be put to Council. If no submissions are received the property will be sold to VicRoads on the recommended terms.

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr Richards seconded -

That Council:

1) **Sells 2,969m2 of land to VicRoads located at Leisurelink 140-164 Pioneer Road, Belmont on the following terms:**
   - **Price $200,000 plus GST;**
   - **VicRoads paying all Council's costs;**
   - **Such other terms and conditions considered appropriate to be included in the Contract of Sale; and**
2) **Commence the statutory procedures under section 189 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") to sell the land and that public notice of and the right of a person under section 223 of the Act to make a submission in relation to the proposed sale be given in the Geelong Independent and Advertiser; and**
3) **Appoint the Submissions Hearing Panel to hear and report to the Council on any submissions in relation to the proposed sale; and**

9. SALE OF LAND TO VICROADS PIONEER ROAD WIDENING (CONTD)

4) In the event that no submissions are received the land will be sold and;

- **Authorises the General Manager – Corporate Services to execute the Contract of Sale; and**
- **Sign and seal the Transfer of Land.**

Carried.

Report

Background

VicRoads has approached Council to purchase 2,969m2 of land for the Pioneer Road duplication project (refer to Appendix 9-1). The land is owned freehold by the Council and is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ).

The project commenced construction in July 2012 under an access licence agreement with Council and is due for completion in December 2012 or January 2013. The project will duplicate Pioneer Road from the Colac Road to the eastern entrance of the Town and Country Shopping Centre being the second set of traffic lights on Pioneer Road when approached from the Colac Road.

Discussion

The land of variable width is located within the nature strip between the Leisurelink car park and Pioneer Road. The widening does not affect the Council's car park, and any works to other Council infrastructure or entrance roads will be managed by the construction project. The proposed purchase makes provision for additional land over a drain which runs north from Pioneer road towards the Waurn Ponds Creek to facilitate drainage works associated with the road widening.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental considerations associated with the sale of this land.

Financial Implications

Following a conference of valuers held in order to reconcile the differences in the parties respective valuations, the value of the land has been established at $200,000 plus GST. VicRoads will also pay all Council's reasonable costs.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

VicRoads is prevented from acquiring the land by compulsory acquisition by the operation of section 3 of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963 therefore the purchase of land by VicRoads is by agreement with the Council.

9. SALE OF LAND TO VICROADS PIONEER ROAD WIDENING (CONTD)

As the land is not being acquired under the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act, the Council is required to give public notice of its intention to sell land under s189 of the Local Government Act and consider any submissions received. If any submissions are received they will be heard by the Submissions Hearing Panel followed by a further report to Council. If no submissions are received the land will be sold to VicRoads.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No officers, consultants or contractors involved in the sale of the land have a direct or indirect interest in the land or its sale.

Risk Assessment

The risks associated with the sale of the land can be managed by obtaining appropriate advice and following normal management procedures.

Social Considerations

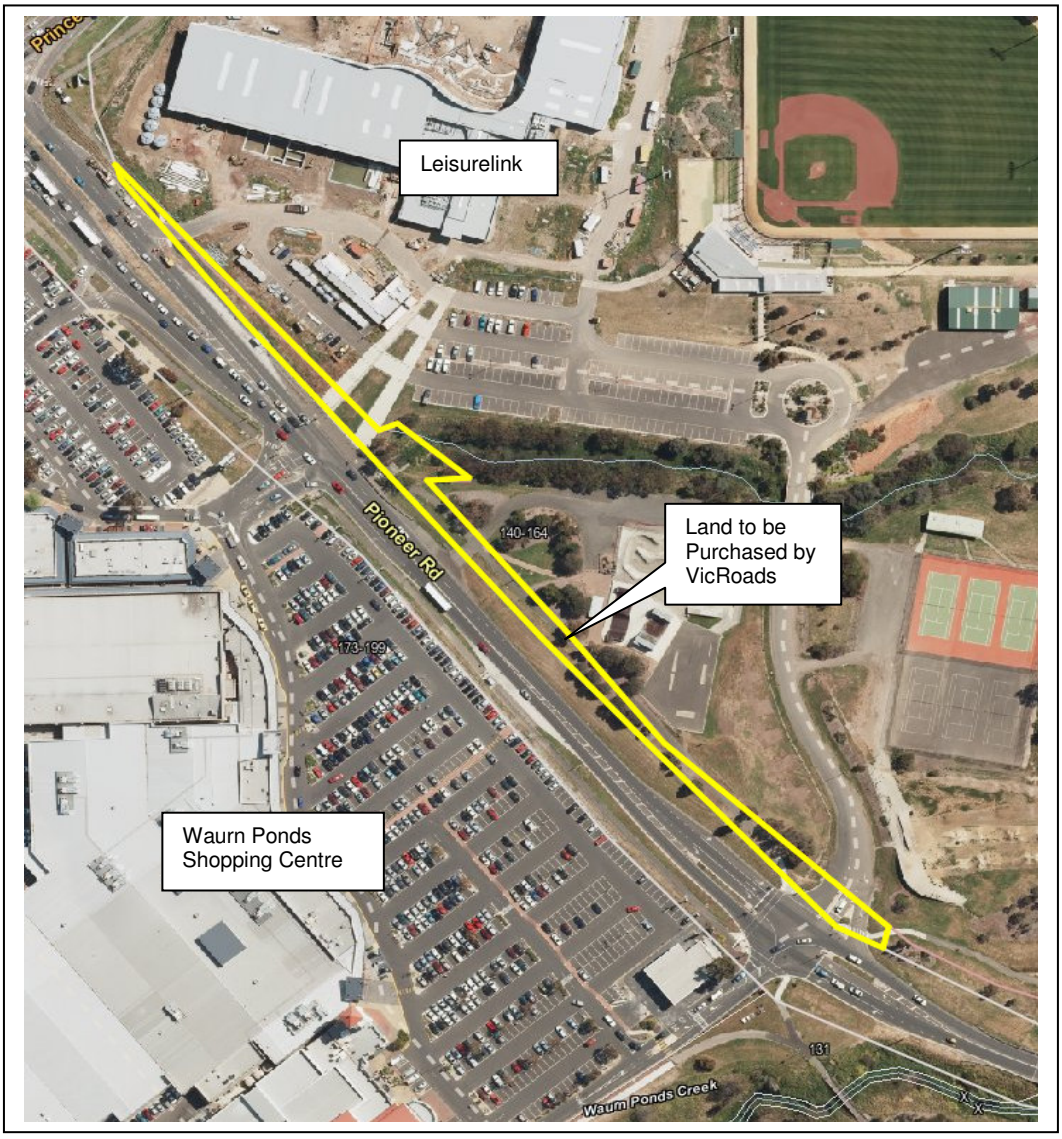
The sale of the land does not involve any social considerations.

Communication

The sale of land is supported by the Council's Engineering and Sport and Recreation Departments.

9. SALE OF LAND TO VICROADS PIONEER ROAD WIDENING (CONTD)

Appendix 9-1 - Land to be Purchased by VicRoads



10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012

Portfolio: **Finance – Cr S Kontelj**
Source: **Corporate Services - Financial Services**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**
Index Reference: **Financial Management \ Reporting**

Summary

- The Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending 30 September 2012 is prepared as a requirement of Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1989.
- Council approved amendments to the adopted Budget on 28 August 2012 and variances are reported based on comparing actuals to amended budget.
- The recurrent operating surplus for the three-month period is $2.4M, being $5.9M favourable to amended budget and reflects favourable performance and timing issues.
- The non-recurrent surplus for the three month period is $7.9M, being ($3.6M) unfavourable to budget with unfavourable Recognition of Infrastructure.
- Capital expenditure for the year to date is $11.1M against a year to date projection of $10.4M, which is ($0.7M) overspent to projection.
- The cash and investment balance of $41.6M is ($10.1M) unfavourable to budget, mainly due to payment of $9.4M made in September towards outstanding balance of Unfunded Superannuation Liability.

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

That Council endorses the Quarterly Financial Management Report to 30 September 2012.

Carried.

Report

Background

The report is prepared as a requirement of Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1989 which requires that at least every three months a statement be presented to Council comparing the budget with the actual revenue and expense for the financial year-to-date.

Discussion

Operating

The September Management reports are provided in the following table to report year-to-date performance and full-year projection performance versus budget.

10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

Financial Results Summary

Summary						
	YTD Actual $M	YTD Am. Bgt $M	YTD Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M	FY Proj $M	FY Am. Bgt $M	FY Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	2.40	(3.49)	5.89	(16.74)	(15.82)	(0.92)
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	7.93	11.49	(3.56)	51.91	46.28	5.63
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	10.33	8.00	2.33	35.17	30.46	4.71
Capital Expenditure	11.14	10.39	(0.75)	109.34	108.97	(0.37)
Closing Net Cash Positive/(Neg)	41.57	51.73	(10.16)		50.59	

The Adopted Budget was amended by Council on 28 August 2012 to include Carryover Capital and discretionary projects, plus other Capital and recurrent amendments.

The impact on the Recurrent Expenditure Budget is ($15.99M), consisting of carryover discretionary projects funded in 2011-2012, plus other budget amendments including adjustment for early receipt of first two quarters Grants Commission funding in June 2012.

The impact on Non Recurrent income was $3.10M for carryover of capital income from 2011-2012 projects.

The amended capital expenditure budget included an additional $58.76M to complete 2011-2012 Projects, including Civic Accommodation, Corio Landfill Rehabilitation and Ocean Grove Integrated Children's Centre.

1. Recurrent Variance Commentary						
	YTD Actual $M	YTD Am. Bgt $M	YTD Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M	FY Proj $M	FY Am. Bgt $M	FY Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M
Recurrent Income	66.47	64.54	1.93	251.75	252.56	(0.81)
Recurrent Expenditure	64.07	68.03	3.96	268.49	268.38	(0.11)
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	2.40	(3.49)	5.89	(16.74)	(15.82)	(0.92)

YTD Variance - $5.89M Favourable

10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

The following major variances to budget contributed to this result:

Recurrent Income

	$M
• **General Rates and Charges** – Favourable rates generation and supplementary rates YTD, expected to be partly offset by objections in full year.	0.85
• **Government Grants**	0.38
Main favourable variances consist of:	
▪ State Specific Purpose $399K favourable (Unbudgeted grants in Aged & Disability Services and Economic Development).	
▪ Federal Child Care Assistance $161K favourable (Centre Based Long Day Care & Family Day Care Benefit).	
Offset by:	
▪ Federal – Other ($287K) unfavourable (Grant Commission payment will be ($1,150K) unfavourable full year).	
• **User Charges**	0.12
Main favourable variances consist of:	
▪ Waste Disposal – Commercial $236K favourable (Drysdale Landfill $106K, North Geelong Transfer Station $89K), partly offset by higher EPA Levies.	
▪ Private Works Income $134K favourable (Reinstatements).	
▪ Rental Commercial $94K favourable (Phasing only).	
Offset by:	
▪ Activities & Program Fees ($143K) unfavourable (Centre Based Long Day Care).	
▪ Car Parking Fees ($210K) unfavourable (Phasing only. Receipts YTD $55K ahead of same time last year).	
• **Other Fees & Charges**	0.08
Favourable mainly due to :	
▪ Misc. Approvals & Permits $60K favourable (Planning & Building Permits).	
• **Sundry Income**	0.24
Favourable due mainly to Reimbursements & Recoveries $182K – mainly unbudgeted receipts for Lara Town Centre Expansion $135K (offset by expenditure) and Sundry Income $81K.	
Interest on Investments	0.26
Higher than budgeted cash balances.	
Recurrent Income Sub-total	**$1.93M**

10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

Recurrent Expenditure

	$M
• **Employee Related Expenditure** – Favourable salary costs $1,434K mainly relating to unfilled vacancies and Workcover $87K. Partially offset by unfavourable supplementary labour costs ($565K) (see external services).	1.52
• **General Works:** *Materials* $118K favourable with the main variance being Ground Maintenance Materials $159K (ground renovations yet to commence). *Plant / Equip / Vehicle Costs* $30K favourable with the main variances being Repairs & Maintenance $77K and External Plant & Equipment Hire ($53K) (all phasing only). *External Services* is $1,347K favourable mainly due to: • Contractors $1,972K favourable - Phasing variances in Parks $805, Waste $497K, Environment $199K, Health & Local Laws $112K and Corporate Property $160K. • Contributions $315K favourable – Phasing variances in Events Services $310K. Levies & Contributions $144K favourable – Drysdale Landfill $142K (EPA levy payable favourable mainly due to municipal waste diverted to Wyndham due to delay in construction of Landfill Cell). • Waste Disposal & Recycling ($280K) unfavourable (Garbage Services ($411K) due to municipal waste diverted to Wyndham, partly offset by Green Waste Service $112K favourable due to lower tonnages and processing costs than budgeted). • Insurance Premium ($274K) unfavourable – premium higher than budget. • Rental Expense ($198K) unfavourable - Phasing only, rental paid in advance. • Supplementary Labour ($565K) unfavourable – mainly, Fleet ($91K), Operations ($202K), Health & Local Laws ($122K), Parks ($113K) and Planning Strategy ($44K).	1.50
• **Administration** costs $205K favourable mainly due to : • Corporate Costs $79K favourable – Phasing only • External Printing $58K favourable – Phasing only	0.20

10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

• **Professional Services** costs ($244K) unfavourable mainly due to:	(0.24)
– Consultants ($172K) unfavourable – Unbudgeted cost in Economic Development (Armstrong Creek Town Centre $192K) to be reimbursed from trust fund managed by Harwood Andrews).	
– Legal Expenses ($91K) unfavourable – Unbudgeted costs in Waste Services ($26K) and Environment ($28K), plus unfavourable variance in City Development ($36K) – mainly VCAT appeals.	
• **Utility** costs are $437K favourable mainly due to Water usage costs $213K (seasonal factors) and Electricity $157K (phasing only).	0.44
• **Depreciation** costs $624K favourable (phasing only).	0.62
• **Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Plant and Equipment** ($80K) unfavourable.	(0.08)
• **Recurrent Expenditure Sub-total**	**$3.96M**

Full Year Recurrent Projection – ($0.92M) unfavourable to Amended Budget

The main projection changes are favourable / (unfavourable):	**$M**
Grants Commission decrease	(1.15)
Insurance Premium Increase	(0.27)
Library Cleaning Contract (new 4 yr contract)	(0.13)
Transfers from Capital to Recurrent	(0.12)
Workcover Premium saving	0.52
Myers St – Surrender of lease savings	0.19
Other	0.04
	($0.92M)

2. Non Recurrent Variance Commentary

	YTD Actual $M	YTD Am. Bgt* $M	YTD Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M	FY Proj $M	FY Am. Bgt* $M	FY Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	7.93	11.49	(3.56)	51.91	46.28	5.63

YTD Variance – ($3.56M) unfavourable

10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

	$M
• **Capital Grants & Income** ($191K) unfavourable – mainly Clean Energy Grant ($0.55M) not received yet, offset by early receipt of State grants for Grovedale ICC and Barwon Heads Kindergarten $0.45M.	(0.19)

Other Phasing Variances

• **Recognition of Infrastructure** ($4,321K) unfavourable.	(4.32)
• **Developer Contributions** $1,761K favourable.	1.76
• **Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Property** - ($708K) unfavourable.	(0.71)

3. Capital Expenditure Variance Commentary

	YTD Actual $M	YTD Projection $M	YTD Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M	FY Proj $M	FY Am. Bgt* $M	FY Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M
Capital Expenditure	11.14	10.39	(0.75)	109.34	108.97	(0.37)

YTD Variance – ($0.75M) unfavourable

The capital program is ($0.75M) underspent compared to Projection year to date, with the major project variances as follows:

	$M
• **Geelong Library & Heritage Centre –** project ahead of schedule.	(0.20)
• **Pioneer Road Footbridge Replacement –** project ahead of schedule.	(0.13)
• **Playground Development –** project ahead of schedule.	(0.13)
• **Leopold Community Hub –** project ahead of schedule.	(0.10)
• **Civic Accommodation –** Brougham Street fitout.	(0.75)
• **Corio – Norlane Regeneration Project -** behind budget schedule.	0.15
• **Building Renewal Works –** project yet to commence.	0.24
• **Clean Energy – Building, Plant and Equip –** project yet to commence.	0.35
• **Other**	(0.18)
	($0.75M)

4. Cash and Investments

	YTD Actual $M	YTD Am. Bgt* $M	YTD Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M	FY Proj $M	FY Am. Bgt* $M	FY Var Fav/ (UnFav) $M
Closing Net Cash Positive/(Neg)	41.57	51.73	(10.16)		50.59	

YTD Variance – ($10.16) unfavourable

10. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 (CONT'D)

- The month end cash and investments balance was $41.57M. This was ($10.16M) unfavourable to budget, mainly due to progress payment of $9.4M made in September towards outstanding balance of Unfunded Superannuation Liability.

Council has future commitments for $20.9M, which are fully cashed back:

Long Service Leave	$ 16.0M
Statutory Reserves	$ 0.7M
Refundable Deposits	$ 2.5M
Income in Advance	$ 1.4M
Asset Development	$ 0.3M
Total	**$20.9M**

The Landfill Provision balance is currently $17.4M.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

As detailed in the attached report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

The report is provided in accordance with requirements under the Local Government Act 1989.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

Council staff preparing this report have no direct or indirect interest.

Risk Assessment

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

Social Considerations

There are no social implications arising from this report.

Communication

The attached report is provided for information and public record and is available from the Council Governance or Financial Reporting units.

11. CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Portfolio: **Governance - Mayor**
Source: **Corporate Services - Administration & Governance**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**
Index Reference: **Customer - ALGA**

Summary

- Local government is established under state and territory government laws. The structure, powers and functions of local government are determined by state and territory governments. However, local government's place and role as a third sphere of government needs to be included in the Constitution, which sets out how Federation works.
- At the time colonies were discussing the formation of the Federation in the 1890s, the focus of attention was on national matters and how the new Federal Government would work with the new State Governments. Consequently, there is no reference to local government in the Australian Constitution. The growing role of local government that we see today was never envisaged in 1901.
- Constitutional recognition of local government has been the subject of public debate over decades and two previous attempts in 1974 and 1988 failed.
- The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has been instrumental in over recent years for developing the case for reform. Two recent High Court decisions known as the *Pape Case* and the *Williams Case* has cast legal doubt over the Commonwealths ability to directly fund local government. These High Court decisions have provided weight and urgency to the need for a change to the Constitution to allow direct federal funding of local government – what is known as financial recognition.
- ALGA over the years has sought local government support for their campaign to achieve constitutional recognition of local government and has requested further support from Councils by sending a submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee on the issue.
- The Prime Minister has also committed to holding a national referendum on constitutional recognition of local government in 2013.
- Council has previously supported the case for reform by formal resolution on 22 March 2011, through submission to the Expert Panel and by lobbying for a bi-partisan support for Constitutional recognition of local government.

The Mayor vacated the Chair at 8.20pm in order to discuss the report.
The Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair at 8.20pm

Cr Fagg (Mayor) moved, Cr Ansett seconded -

That a submission is lodged with the Federal Joint Parliamentary Committee confirming Council's support for constitutional recognition of local government.

Carried.

The Mayor resumed the Chair at 8.28pm

11. CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CONT'D)

Report

Background

In March 2011 Council considered a report on constitutional recognition and adopted the following motion:

> *That Council*
>
> *1) declares its support for recognition of Local Government in the Australian Constitution, particularly having regard to power for the Federal Government to directly fund Local Government,*
>
> *2) declares its support for the inclusion of Local Government in any new preamble to the Constitution if one is proposed,*
>
> *3) authorises the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and Federal Members for Corio and Corangamite requesting their support for a referendum by 2013 to change the Constitution to allow financial recognition of Local Government.*

Letters were sent in accordance with this decision.

In October 2011 Council provided a submission to an Expert Panel again supporting the constitutional recognition particularly in relation to inclusion of the power for the Commonwealth to directly fund local government.

Discussion

Local government is established under state and territory government laws. The structure, powers and functions of local government are determined by state and territory governments. However, local government's place and role as a third sphere of government needs to be included in the Constitution, which sets out how Federation works.

At the time colonies were discussing the formation of the Federation in the 1890s, the focus of attention was on national matters and how the new Federal Government would work with the new State Governments. Consequently, there is no reference to local government in the Australian Constitution. The growing role of local government that we see today was never envisaged in 1901.

Constitutional recognition of local government has been the subject of public debate over decades and two previous attempts in 1974 and 1988 failed.

ALGA has devoted considerable resources over the past three years to developing a case for constitutional reform and the need for reform. That need was highlighted in stark terms in 2009 by the decision of the High Court in *Pape v Federal Commissioner of Taxation.* In that case the High Court set out the limitations of the Australian Government's powers and, in doing so, clearly indicated that the Australian Government does not have the power to fund local government directly.

It is in the best interests of local communities that Federal Governments, whatever political persuasion, has the capacity to fund councils directly to achieve national objectives.

The Prime Minister has also committed to holding a national referendum on constitutional recognition of local government. This referendum will most likely be held in conjunction with the 2013 Federal Election.

11. CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CONT'D)

ALGA over the years has sought local government support for their campaign to achieve constitutional recognition of local government and has requested further support from Councils by sending a submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee on the issue.

On 31 October 2012 a Notice of Motion was accepted by the House of Representatives to form a Joint Select Committee on the issue. ALGA is again seeking Council's support to provide a submission to this committee. The timelines for the submission are very tight, with the Committee to report its findings by the end of the year.

A submission will be lodged that that covers off on the key points that ALGA has raised in the attached letter which will confirm this Council's commitment to this reform.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

Recognition of local government in the Constitution will ensure the Commonwealth Government can provide funding directly to local councils, without having to pass the funding through the State Government, hence enabling timely receipt of funds and delivery of programs and projects.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

Recognition of local government in the Constitution is an issue of national importance, given the vital role local government now plays in the Australian communities as the third tier of government and given the expanded role and crossover activities that local government is involved in, in the delivery of services be they state, federal or a combination of both.

Officer Direct and Indirect Interest

There are no Council Officers involved in preparing this report who have a direct or indirect interest.

Risk Assessment

If Constitutional recognition is not achieved the Australian Government will not have the power to fund local government directly.

Social Considerations

Local government is an integral part of the governance of Australia and recognition within the Constitution is a vehicle for local autonomy.

Communication

Council's position will be available on its website and communicated through local media.

12. ROLE OF MAYORS, COUNCILLORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Portfolio: **Infrastructure/Parks & Gardens – Cr Ellis**
Source: **City Services - Emergency Management & Fire Prevention Unit**
General Manager: **Gary Van Driel**
Index Reference: **Subject: Emergency - Fire; MEMPlan**

Summary

- This report informs Council of two guides recently released by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) that outline the roles and responsibilities of Chief Executive Officers (CEO), Mayors and Councillors prior to, during and following an emergency event;
- The guides were developed by the MAV as part of the MAV's Improving Emergency Management in Local Government program – Capability Building project which aims to develop tools, resources, programs and activities that improves the local government sector capability, capacity and performance in emergency management;
- The guides have been developed as a resource that:
    - Explains the municipal role in emergency management
    - Defines the role of the elected officials, the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), senior officers and other staff;
    - Provides a role statement to guide and support their actions
- These guides have been included within the 2012 update of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMPlan);
- The MEMPlan is a document that is developed and maintained by the multi agency Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee. Both the Committee and the development of the MEMPlan are statutory requirement along with the appointment of a Municipal Emergency Resource Officer (MERO) under the Emergency Management Act 1986;

Cr Ellis moved, Cr Irvine seconded -

That Council notes the report regarding the role of Mayors, Councillors and Chief Executive Officers in Emergency Management.

Carried.

12. ROLE OF MAYORS, COUNCILLORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

REPORT

Background

During the first half of 2012, the MAV circulated draft guides that focused on the role of Chief Executive Officers, Mayors and Councillors in emergency management as part of their Improving Emergency Management in Local Government program – Capability Building project. The project aims to develop tools, resources, programs and activities that improve sector capability, capacity and performance in emergency management

Council's Coordinator Emergency Management provided feedback during June 2012. These guides have now been completed and during October 2012, the MAV distributed the guidelines to council emergency management staff as well as CEOs, Mayors/councillor support officers.

Discussion

About the Guides

Both guides follow a standard format, i.e;

For Mayors & Councillors:

- Do's & Don'ts – Handy Hints During an Emergency Event
- Councillors' Role in an Emergency Event
- Media and Communications
- Following an Emergency Event
- Background Information

For Chief Executive Officers:

- The Role of the CEO in emergency management
- The priorities for the CEO in any emergency
- Emergency Management Planning and Governance Responsibilities
- Legislative Requirements
- During an Emergency Event – Tips for the CEO to keep in mind
- Communications and Media management
- Following an Emergency Event
- Background Information

Copies of the abovementioned guides are included as Attachment A and B to this report.

12. ROLE OF MAYORS, COUNCILLORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

Environmental Implications

An emergency event, depending upon its size and nature will have an impact on the community as well as have an impact on the natural, built, economic and social environments.

Financial Implications

The State Government via the Natural Disaster Funding Arrangements (NDFA) offers councils the ability to seek reimbursement for a 'natural disaster' as defined by the Commonwealth Governments Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

A natural disaster is defined by the abovementioned arrangements as '…a serious disruption to a community or region caused by the impact of a naturally occurring rapid onset event that:

- Threatens or causes death, injury or damage to property or the environment; and
- Which requires significant and coordinated multi-agency and community response.'

The current NDFA policy which is administered by the State Government's Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) is summarised in the following table.

Category	Municipal Council Expenditure	Funding Assistance Formula

Emergency Protection Works	• Works ordered or authorised by the relevant Control Agency for the emergency
	• Restoration of essential public services authorised by the Municipal Engineer or CEO in line with the Council's responsibility to:
	  • Reinstate council buildings and equipment
	  • Clear roadways or public spaces (includes removing timber which has fallen or is in danger of falling)
	  • Remove hazards to public health or safety (including work on private land where necessary)
		Expenditure fully reimbursed

Restoration of Municipal Assets	• Roads and bridges, replacement of road seals and road furniture and bridges • Reserves, replacement of boundary and internal fencing, sporting facilities, pavilions, toilets, picnic facilities • Plant and buildings, replacement or repair of municipal earthmoving plant, vehicles or other equipment. (Public buildings destroyed are dealt with on a case-by-case basis)	75 % of approved restoration costs between $10,000 and $110,000. Expenditure over $110,000 fully reimbursed (max council contribution $35,000)

12. ROLE OF MAYORS, COUNCILLORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

It should be noted that the funding arrangement primarily focus on the 'response phase' of an event and do not include reimbursement for costs associated with providing support to community members, i.e. 'recovery phase' during or after an emergency or the operation and staffing of the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre or Emergency Relief Centres.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

There are a number of statutes and regulations that relate to the municipal emergency management continuum - prevention, preparation, response and recovery ie:

- Emergency Management Act 1986
- Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (for councils located outside the Melbourne metropolitan area)
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- Electrical Safety Act 1998
- Water Act 1989
- Local Government Act 1989
- Electrical Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010
- Emergency Management Manual Victoria

All Victorian Councils located outside the Melbourne metropolitan area have statutory responsibilities particularly under the Emergency Management Act 1986, and the Country Fire Authority Act 1958. These responsibilities are essentially to resource, plan and respond to emergency situations. Councils are also required to have a Municipal Emergency Management Plan and appoint officers to particular positions under the Emergency Management Act 1986 and the Country Fire Authority Act 1958. The City of Greater Geelong is meeting these responsibilities.

Officer Direct or Indirect Interest

No Council officers associated with writing this report have any direct or indirect interest, in accordance with Section 80 (C) of the Local Government Act.

Risk Assessment

Dealing with an emergency event is high risk for all concerned – depending upon the type, size and location of the event. To this end, all preparedness actions need to be identified, recorded and acted upon. The City has an active Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee as well as an active Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee. These committees are managed to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the risks to the community from a fire or other event are mitigated and that the City is prepared and well place to respond to and recover from an emergency event.

12. ROLE OF MAYORS, COUNCILLORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

Social Considerations

An emergency event has the potential to have a significant impact on the community. To this end, council needs to ensure that, via the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee that all preparedness tasks are, as far as is practicable, are actioned and that officers charged with emergency management responsibilities are continuingly reassessing these tasks.

Communication

It is important to note, that Council's role in an emergency is that of a Support Agency, ie the Council supports both the Police and the nominated Control Agency.

With the above in mind, Council should only comment on the activities/tasks that it is performing in its Support Agency role and not make comments relating directly to the response, i.e. operational matters, as this is the role/responsibility of the Control Agency or VicPol. However, Council can make comments on representing the community's needs and views as well as comment on recovery operations that follow an event.

ATTACHMENT A

Guide to the Role of Mayors and Councillors in Emergency Management

ATTACHMENT A

Guide to the Role of Mayors and Councillors in Emergency Management

A Guide to the Role of Mayors and Councillors in Emergency Management

Under Victorian law, councils are required to assist with local planning and preparation for emergency events. The result of the emergency planning process should be a coherent and easily understood Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP). The multi-agency Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) is responsible for preparing the MEMP.

The MEMP is a multi-agency plan for the municipal district. It is not only a council plan. However, under current arrangements, the plan will come to council for final endorsement and council is responsible for making sure the plan is compliant when audited. All agencies, MEMPC members, the Mayor and councillors, senior council officers and all staff who have emergency management responsibilities should be familiar with the contents of the MEMP.

As a council, key areas of governance that relate to emergency management include:

- consideration of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) produced by the multi-agency Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC)
- ensuring council emergency management planning and business continuity planning are complementary and support good governance and operations
- ensuring health, safety and wellbeing policies within council provides support and pastoral care for senior officers and council staff, including the CEO and councillors, during and after an emergency
- other policies that relate to community support during emergencies.

Councillors can expect to see reports to council on:

- designations of bushfire Neighbourhood Safer Places
- mitigation works that relate to emergency management, including capital works and maintenance
- planning and building issues, some of which may have emergency management and community safety implications
- provision of emergency management facilities and decisions about critical infrastructure
- detailed planning for recovery following an emergency event
- media protocols relating to emergency response and recovery (including social media).

The pressure of an emergency event can strain relationships, so building solid and strategic local connections can prove to be invaluable before, during and after an emergency event.

It is also important to remember that every person reacts differently to the stress of an emergency situation.

During an Emergency Event

The Mayor and councillors do not have an operational or response role during an emergency. The council's municipal emergency management officers have operational responsibilities and legislative obligations they need to carry out. Councillors should assist them by steering clear of operational areas, while staying informed of the situation.

The role of the Mayor and councillors in emergency management is quite different. Councillors do not usually play a prominent role in an emergency event.

Do's and Don'ts – Handy Hints

Here are a few quick suggestions for mayors to remember during an emergency:

- Do: work in close partnership with the CEO and their key emergency management officers. Mayors and councillors can be a conduit between the community and council.
- Do: seek information from internal council briefings, seek daily briefings if possible
- Do: provide approved comments to the media if requested. Always check in with the CEO first for the latest information.
- Do: ensure that your media comments relate to representing the views of the community, not operational matters
- Do: help boost community morale where it may be flagging
- Do: be consistent and follow-up
- Do: be patient. Information on what is happening and the impact of an emergency takes time to assess and verify.
- Do: explain to residents that the council isn't "running" the emergency; it plays a support and facilitation role.
- Don't: enter operational areas. The best place for the Mayor during an emergency is among the community, not in council operational spaces.
- Don't: try to take command of the situation. Emergency management officers have statutory responsibilities they must carry out in an emergency event.
- Don't: bypass existing communication and incident command structures
- Don't: give answers other than current facts, especially when speaking to the media or residents.

Councillors' Role in an Emergency Event

Councillors should:

1. assist the Mayor as requested
2. "fly the flag", boost morale and provide comfort to residents affected by an emergency event
3. advocate to council, and more broadly as required, on behalf of their constituents
4. facilitate communication between council and the community.

Media and Communications

If the Mayor is the council's nominated spokesperson, they can play a helpful and prominent role before, during and after an emergency event by providing approved comments and information to the community and media. This should be done in close consultation with the CEO or their delegated communications/emergency management officer.

It is vital that the Mayor always ensures s/he is fully briefed before making media comments. Comments to the media should focus on representing the community's needs and views, not operational matters relating to the emergency.

If the Mayor is the council's nominated spokesperson, other types of information they might deliver could include:

- preparation of advice ahead of a period of high risk
- notification of community meetings and relief and recovery services
- details of any disruptions to council services
- advice regarding the availability of support, counselling or insurance services, including locations of relief and recovery centres
- general public announcements
- details of any public appeal for financial assistance for affected residents.

Any media comments should be drafted in consultation with the council's communications/emergency management staff with the necessary approvals.

Importantly, in a multi-agency event, specific crisis management information should only be issued by the spokesperson nominated by the control agency as it is likely to relate to technicalities of the emergency and may have legal ramifications.

Communication is a two way street. The Mayor may also receive vital information from local residents that should be passed on to the emergency management team via the CEO. This ensures that information coming from the community is collated to enable the best possible decision-making.

Accurate information about the emergency and the impact on the community will also be necessary if the Mayor is advocating to other levels of government or other agencies for assistance for the community. Advocacy should be done in consultation with the CEO, who will be gathering information and receiving advice from a range of internal and external sources.

Establishing good working relationships with local media during non-emergency times can prove very helpful during an emergency event.

Relationships with State and Federal Ministers
The Mayor can also play a linking role to other levels of executive government, working with the CEO on this action. However it is important not to take pre-emptive action (and thereby disturb existing procedures).

Following an Emergency Event

At the local level, councils have a long-established role in coordinating the provision of relief and recovery services to their communities, and the expectation of this important function is increasing. The recovery period that follows an event can last from months to years.

In the aftermath of an emergency event, the Mayor should monitor recovery activities and maintain their strong engagement with and advocacy for the community.

Moral Support and Pastoral Care
There may be an opportunity for the Mayor and councillors to boost morale or provide comfort to residents affected by an emergency event. This should be done in consultation with the CEO, who will liaise with the emergency management team to determine what would be most helpful.

Public Appeal for Financial Assistance
In consultation with the CEO or their delegate, the Mayor can be the public face of an appeal for financial assistance from the wider public.

The Mayor can act as the focal point for queries from service clubs and community groups that may wish to support an appeal or start their own. This focal point for queries is important because during past emergency events, these organisations have sometimes expended significant amounts of well-intentioned energy gathering goods that are not actually required by the community in crisis.

It is usually far more useful that willing residents/organisations donate financial assistance or time rather than goods.

Background Information

What is an Emergency? What is Emergency Management?
An emergency is an event or situation that poses an immediate risk to health, life, property and/or the environment. According to the Emergency Management Act 1986, “emergency management means the organisation and management of resources for dealing with all aspects of emergencies”.

All emergencies are different but the same management principles apply, whether the emergency event is relatively minor or very complex.

What is Local Government’s Role in Emergency Management?
Local government plays an important role in emergency management, both in partnership with other levels of government and emergency services, and through its own responsibilities. The Emergency Management Manual Victoria (EMMV) gives guidance to councils, emergency services and other emergency management agencies about how to implement their obligations under Victorian legislation.

Key emergency management responsibilities of councils stem primarily from Part 4 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 (the EM Act), which broadly requires councils to:

- prepare a Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP)
- establish a Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) involving various local stakeholder organisations
- facilitate the development and maintenance of the MEMP through the MEMPC
- allow the audit of the MEMP
- appoint at least one Municipal Emergency Resource Officer (MERO) who coordinates the use of council resources needed for responding to and recovering from emergencies.

The broad role of local government in emergency management is not always clearly defined, and councils vary in their approach to emergency management planning.

Councils play an important support role in the response to an emergency, but they are not emergency response agencies.

Councils play an important support role in the response to an emergency, but they are not emergency response agencies. Councils have the authority and governance structures, networks and strategic partnerships necessary to support community recovery. Council will have a Municipal Recovery Manager (MRM) and a range of support staff to activate recovery measures as quickly as possible. Planning is crucial to effective recovery in a community affected by an emergency or disaster.

Abbreviations

CFA	Country Fire Authority
DTF	Department of Treasury and Finance (Victoria)
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EM	Emergency Management
EMMV	Emergency Management Manual Victoria
ERC	Emergency Relief Centre
MECC	Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre
MEMP	Municipal Emergency Management Plan
MEMPC	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer
MFB	Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board
MFPO	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
MRM	Municipal Recovery Manager
NDFA	Natural Disaster Finance Assistance

ATTACHMENT B

Guide to the Role of the Council CEO in Emergency Management

ATTACHMENT B

Guide to the Role of the Council CEO in Emergency Management

A Guide to the Role of the Council CEO in Emergency Management

The role of the CEO in emergency management is to ensure the council:

- fulfils its municipal emergency management planning, mitigation and preparedness responsibilities under the relevant legislation and ministerial guidelines
- responds to an emergency event appropriately
- leads the coordination of local relief and recovery efforts and activities with support from the region and state as appropriate
- maintains critical business operations and priorities during and after an emergency event in accordance with its business continuity plan.

The priorities for the CEO in any emergency are to:

- keep the organisation running – as much as possible council should meet the needs of the emergency as well as delivering core services to the community
- anticipate possible risks to the organisation; plan and respond accordingly
- maintain a strong focus and oversight of the physical, human, and financial resources of the council to ensure current and future demands are able to be met, prioritising as necessary
- ensure that the physical and psychological welfare and safety of council staff is maintained, and that staff achieve appropriate relief and rotation
- provide leadership to council officers and staff, and act as the main contact point for the Mayor and councillors
- ensure appropriate media protocols are followed
- work closely with the Mayor to keep the community informed
- in partnership with the Mayor, advocate to the State and Federal Government for support/assistance for community recovery
- work with other levels of government, agencies and stakeholders to achieve the best possible outcomes for the community and council
- utilise agreed resource sharing protocols to obtain support and resources from other councils and organisations for response and recovery activities.

The following sections provide an outline of the important aspects of the ‘before, during and after’ phases of an emergency event, and the role of the CEO in each of these stages.

Before an Emergency Event

Emergency Management Planning and Governance Responsibilities

Key Considerations

- know the legislative responsibilities of councils in emergency management. In particular understand those key responsibilities detailed in the Emergency Management Act 1986.
- ensure that under delegation the appropriate statutory roles of MERO and MFPO are appointed. Other non-statutory roles should also be appointed and provided with instruments of delegation.
- ensure your council has a Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) and that it is up to date and endorsed by council. Make sure it appropriately interfaces with your council's business continuity plan.
- ensure adequate resources (physical, financial and human resources) are allocated to emergency management so as to ensure the organisation is meeting its legislative responsibilities. Ensure staff are trained and ready.
- monitor the implementation of mitigation and preparation activities that are the responsibility of council under plans or legislation
- ensure your emergency plans are able to be implemented and are tested
- consider resource sharing protocols or memoranda of understanding with neighbouring or partner councils. These are a proven method to improving capacity and reducing the risk of failure.
- engage with and be proactive in stakeholder forums relating to emergency management
- when planning a new community facility give consideration to the role it could perform during or following an emergency.

Legislative Requirements
A detailed description of key statutory and recommended municipal emergency management roles and an overview of the various municipal emergency management responsibilities can be found in the Local Government Emergency Management Handbook, available from the MAV.

The Emergency Management (EM) Act 1986 prescribes many municipal obligations. The key emergency management planning responsibilities for councils stem primarily from Part 4 of the Act, which requires councils to prepare and maintain a Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) that:

- identifies the municipal resources (being resources owned by or under the direct control of the municipal council) and other resources available for use in the municipal district for emergency prevention, response and recovery

- specifies how such resources are to be used for emergency prevention, response and recovery
- in the case of a municipal district that is located wholly or partly in the country area of Victoria within the meaning of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958—
    - identifies all designated neighbourhood safer places in the municipal district or, if no places have been designated under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958, recording that fact; and
    - designates any places in the municipal district that are community fire refuges within the meaning of Part IIIA of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.

Part 4 of the EM Act also sets out municipal co-ordination and planning requirements:

- a municipal council must appoint a person or persons to be the Municipal Emergency Resource Officer (MERO)
- a MERO is responsible to the municipal council for ensuring the co-ordination of municipal resources to be used in emergency response and recovery
- a municipal council must appoint a Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) constituted by members and employees of the municipal council, response and recovery agencies and local community groups involved in emergency management issues
- the function of a MEMPC is to prepare a draft MEMP for consideration by the municipal council
- a MEMPC must give effect to any direction or guidelines issued by the Minister
- subject to the regulations, a MEMPC may determine its own procedures.

Further, under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 and Metropolitan Fire Brigade Act 1958, each council must appoint a Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO), with any number of assistant MFPOs, who are responsible for issuing fire prevention notices and other mitigation activities.

The CEO should be familiar with what is required of the council in relation to municipal emergency management prevention, preparation, response and recovery within each of the following:

- Emergency Management Act 1986
- Country Fire Authority Act (CFA Act) 1958
- Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act (MFB Act) 1958
- Emergency Management Manual Victoria (EMMV)
- Victoria State Emergency Service Act 2005
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- Electrical Safety Act 1998
- Electrical Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010

These Acts relate directly to emergency management. However, emergency management has important relevance to many parts of council business, including planning and building, infrastructure management, environmental management, animal management and public health and wellbeing.

Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP)

The MEMP and its sub-plans are the key documents for prevention, preparedness, response, relief and recovery activities to be used before, during and after an emergency event. The MEMP needs to be audited and updated at least every three years. The MEMP is a multi-agency plan. Council is the custodian of the MEMP but all agencies on the MEMPC are responsible for its development and implementation.

Delegation under the Local Government Act
In relation to emergency management, written delegation under s98 of the Local Government Act 1989 may be issued to the Municipal Emergency Resource Officer (MERO), Municipal Recovery Manager (MRM) Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO), Environmental Health Officer (EHO) and Municipal Building Surveyor. This delegation will give the officer the authority to undertake actions on behalf of the council regarding the use of council resources, and other critical decisions relating to an emergency.

Business Continuity Planning
During an emergency, a key priority for the CEO is to keep the organisation running. As much as possible, council should continue to meet the needs of the emergency as well as delivering core services to the community. This will require continuous monitoring and deliberate prioritisation and allocation of resources.

Councils are not structured or funded to be emergency response organisations, and will be stretched in the event of a large-scale emergency. Events that extend for significant periods of time will exceed the capacity of an individual council to provide an ongoing response, and can have a serious impact on the council's ability to carry out its everyday business. Large scale emergencies can also directly affect council staff living in or near the emergency.

For these reasons, it is prudent to link in municipal emergency management planning with the council's business continuity planning. Emergency management needs to be supported as a critical service during emergencies, along with other identified critical council services. Where possible, effective business continuity planning includes diverting available resources from other non-critical council services to support critical services as a temporary measure.

Resource Sharing
Councils are strongly encouraged to become signatories to the MAV *Inter-council Emergency Management Resource Sharing Protocol*. The protocol provides clarity regarding the provision of resources to assist other councils with response and recovery tasks during and after emergencies. It also clarifies operational, insurance and reimbursement issues that may arise through municipal resource-sharing arrangements. This protocol can be applied to
both equipment and staff secondments and can be very helpful in preventing staff burn-out after an emergency event.

Stakeholder Engagement
The CEO needs to have strong stakeholder relationships prior to an emergency event. These relationships will prove invaluable when an emergency occurs. Good relations with neighbouring council CEOs, sister-council relationships, and critical industries in the local area such as tourism operators, port authorities or power stations, are highly beneficial during times of emergency.

During non-emergency periods, establish productive relationships with regional emergency management representatives from:

- Victoria Police
- CFA or MFB
- State Emergency Service
- Catchment Management Authorities
- VicRoads
- Departments of Health and Human Services
- Department of Primary Industries
- Red Cross

and any other local agencies/organisations identified in the MEMP. Get to know what their role will be during an emergency event. Encourage key municipal emergency management officers to also establish good working relationships with them.

Good relationships with your local Members of Parliament will also be beneficial during an emergency.

During an Emergency Event

An emergency event may affect the council organisation or its locality, its region, the state or the nation. A single agency must be appointed as the control agency at each emergency. Councils are never control agencies. Part 7 of the EMMV specifies which organisation is the control agency for each type of emergency. During an emergency event, council emergency management officers will activate the relevant sections of the MEMP to support control and response agencies and commence relief and recovery services as required.

Tips for CEOs – things to keep in mind:

- keep a group list of council emergency management contacts in your phone as well as hard copy
- keep the organisation running – as much as possible council should meet the needs of the emergency as well as delivering core services to the community
- anticipate possible risks to the organisation; plan and respond accordingly
- maintain a strong focus and oversight of the physical, human, and financial resources of the council to ensure current and future demands are able to be met, prioritising as necessary
- ensure that the physical and psychological welfare and safety of council staff and councillors is maintained
- provide leadership to council officers and staff, and act as the main contact point for the Mayor and councillors
- keep a log or record of important decisions and events
- is a Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC) activation required? Has the EM team done this? (*see background notes*)
- relief starts as soon as the emergency happens. Is an Emergency Relief Centre (ERC) needed? (*see background notes*)
- are you likely to receive dignitaries and high-profile visitors? (*see background notes*)
- recovery activities will probably need to commence while the emergency event is still underway
- know your procurement policy (s186 of LG Act) and ability to undertake emergency works as needed.

Communications and Media Management

Establishing good working relationships with local media during non-emergency times can prove very helpful during an emergency event. As part of its broader communications plan, council should develop a media and communications policy for use during an emergency and through longer term recovery, with an appropriate spokesperson identified. This should also include a process for ensuring consistent communications from all parts of the organisation, including the Mayor and councillors.

Unlike some other interstate and international jurisdictions, the Mayor and councillors do not have operational roles in emergency management. During an emergency the role of the Mayor and councillors is to communicate with and advocate on behalf of their local community.

Types of information council might deliver could include:

- preparation advice ahead of a period of high risk
- notification of community meetings and relief and recovery services
- details of any disruptions to council services
- advice regarding the availability of support, counselling or insurance services, including the locations of relief and recovery centres
- general public announcements
- details of any public appeal for financial assistance for affected residents
- messages to boost community morale where it may be flagging
- ongoing advice in the post-emergency period
- advice to volunteers, where to go and what to do.

Importantly, in a multi-agency event, information relating to the emergency itself should only be issued by the spokesperson nominated by the control agency, as it may have legal ramifications.

Social Media

Twitter and Facebook can be powerful communication tools and have been successfully used in emergencies. The time to establish a council's online presence is *before* an emergency event. Waiting until an emergency occurs is too late – the time and effort it will take council staff to establish an effective, targeted Twitter or Facebook profile would be better spent responding to the emergency. Councils should integrate emergency management into new or established social media communications strategies.

Following an Emergency Event

Key Considerations

- relief and recovery are key leadership roles for councils. Recovery may be a long process and can last years.
- be sure to recognise when you and your council need help, ask for assistance early and do not try and go it alone
- put time and effort into setting up enduring systems of operations across all aspects of recovery – remember all four pillars of recovery; the social (community), built, economic and natural environments – and plan accordingly. Make sure regional and state arrangements are understood and supportive.
- financial assistance through DTF and other sources is available. Initiate this action early in the process.
- closely monitor the health and wellbeing of staff and councillors, ensure support is readily available and routinely offered
- maintain close contact with key stakeholders and realise that for some time you will be running two businesses, the normal business of council and the business of recovery
- emergency events change people and new leaders emerge. Be prepared to vary traditional approaches to ensure effective leadership and direction amongst staff and in the community.
- look after yourself and take appropriate time out and rest.

Relief and Recovery

After (and often during) an emergency event, relief and recovery activities are undertaken to restore social (both individual and community), built, economic and natural environments. Depending on the nature of the emergency, recovery can take months and often years.

One of council's largest emergency management responsibilities is the coordination of emergency relief and recovery services at the local level. Emergency relief services and activities, and the nominated agencies responsible for providing these at the local level must be designated in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP). If an emergency event exceeds the council's capacity to provide these services, it should be escalated to the DHS region for assistance.

CEOs that have experienced natural disasters in their municipalities advise that the best way of delivering recovery services is to ensure that the council promotes recovery *with* the community, rather than imposing recovery *onto* the community.

In the longer term, critical strategic issues that may emerge include ongoing financial viability, staff fatigue and staff turnover.

Existing and Emerging Leaders

When recovery activities are underway, the CEO should take the opportunity to look beyond traditional sources of community leadership, by exploring existing community groups, organisations and

individuals that can adapt to assist with recovery efforts. For example, the local bush nurse, a sporting or service club, or a cultural activity organisation could be a source of informal or non-traditional leadership to help guide community recovery in real and valuable ways.

Natural Disaster Financial Assistance
The Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance provides Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) for local councils to assist in the recovery process and alleviate some of the financial burden that may be experienced following a natural disaster. Financial assistance is available for approved emergency protection works and the approved restoration of municipal and other essential public assets. Up-front payments are available in some cases. Details regarding eligibility criteria and lodging a claim for financial assistance are available via the DTF website, www.dtf.vic.gov.au

Background Information

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All emergencies are different but the same management principles apply, whether the emergency event is relatively minor or very complex.

What is Local Government's Role in Emergency Management?
Local government plays an important role in emergency management, both in partnership with other levels of government and emergency services, and through its own responsibilities. The Emergency Management Manual Victoria (EMMV) gives guidance to councils, emergency services and other emergency management agencies about how to implement their obligations under Victorian legislation.

Councils play an important support role in the response to an emergency, but they are not emergency response agencies.

Councils play an important support role in the response to an emergency, but they are not emergency response agencies. At the local level, councils have a long-established role in providing relief and recovery services to their communities, and the expectation of this important function is increasing. Councils have the authority and governance structures,
networks and strategic partnerships necessary to support community recovery. Planning is crucial to effective recovery in a community affected by an emergency or disaster.

If the scale of the emergency event is such that the delivery of normal council services is not possible, the CEO or delegate should contact the relevant regional office of the state government department to seek additional support. Escalation procedures for recovery are outlined in the EMMV. Council emergency management staff will be familiar with them.

Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)
Councils are responsible for establishing a MECC during an emergency. A MECC is a facility which brings together key agencies to coordinate the provision of council and community resources during an emergency for the response and recovery effort. The MECC facilitates activities of key personnel from local and state government agencies, emergency services and others as required to assist.

Emergency Relief Centre (ERC)
Councils are also responsible for setting up Emergency Relief Centre/s. ERCs are buildings or places established to provide shelter and essential needs to persons affected by an emergency (including evacuees). ERCs are established on a temporary basis to cope with the immediate needs of those affected during the initial response to the emergency. They do not imply any longer-term use of facilities as a location for recovery services.

Dignitaries and High-Profile Visitors
During a prolonged or major emergency event, it is not unusual for the CEO to become the contact point for other levels of executive government, particularly in relation to ministerial visits and direct assistance. Visits from dignitaries, ministers and other high-profile people can be complex and all-consuming and include considerations such as hosting, briefing, safety, logistics and media management. The CEO should factor this in to their anticipated time commitments during an emergency event and delegate some of these tasks whenever possible.

Abbreviations

CFA	Country Fire Authority
DTF	Department of Treasury and Finance (Victoria)
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EM	Emergency Management
EMMV	Emergency Management Manual Victoria
ERC	Emergency Relief Centre
MECC	Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre
MEMP	Municipal Emergency Management Plan
MEMPC	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer
MFB	Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board
MFPO	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
MRM	Municipal Recovery Manager
NDFA	Natural Disaster Finance Assistance

13. SALE OF INDUSTRIAL LAND GEELONG RING ROAD EMPLOYMENT PRECINCT (GREP)

Portfolio: **Finance – Cr S Kontelj**
Source: **Corporate Services – Property Management**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**
Index Reference: **Land Sales**

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr Macdonald seconded -

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1989, this report be considered at the conclusion of all other business, at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.

Carried.

14. AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

Portfolio: **Governance – Mayor**
Source: **Corporate Internal Auditor and Ombudsman**
Chief Executive Officer: **Stephen Griffin**
Index Reference: **Audit CG - Internal**

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr Macdonald seconded -

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (h) of the Local Government Act 1989, this report be considered at the conclusion of all other business, at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.

Carried.

15. CONTRACTUAL MATTER

Cr S Kontelj moved, Cr Macdonald seconded -

That in accordance with Section 89 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1989, this contractual matter be considered at the conclusion of all other business, at which time the meeting be closed to members of the public.

Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr K Fisher

REALLOCATION OF CAPITAL FUNDS – CORIO WARD

Following the completion of North Shore Multi Purpose Rooms Project (C09831), approximately $19,912 in project funds remains unallocated.

These funds can now be reallocated to support other new projects in the area.

It is proposed that unused funds from the North Shore Multi Purpose Rooms (C09831) be used to:

1) Design a netball verandah and storeroom for the North Shore Football Netball Club;

2) Construct walking paths in Windsor Park.

Cr Fisher moved, Cr Richards seconded –

That Council support the following funding reallocations:

Ward	Project Description	Budget	Budget ID
Corio	**North Shore Multi Purpose Rooms**	**-$19,912**	**C09831**
Corio	**North Shore Football Netball Club – Netball Verandah and Storeroom Design and Path works**	**$19,912**	**TBC**

Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Jan Farrell

MARCHING UNDER COGG BANNER AT PRIDE MARCH

Background

Geelong Adoscent Sexuality Project (GASP) has been supported by the City of Greater Geelong Youth Development Unit since 1996. In 2011 GASP and the City of Greater Geelong Youth Development Unit received $860,000 over four years through the Department of Health's Suicide Prevention Funds. One of the project objectives is to 'increase community awareness of the impact of homophobia on the health and well being of Same Sex Attracted Gender Questioning (SSAGQ) young people and the whole community'.

There is a direct correlation between homophobic bullying and young people self harming and having suicidal ideation.

- 37% had thought about self harm; 31% had harmed themselves
- 37% had thought about suicide; 16% had attempted suicide

One in ten young people are same sex attracted. The impact of homophobia and transphobia on same SSAGQ young people can be devastating; resulting in higher rates of drug and alcohol abuse, mental health issues, self harm and suicide.

- 61% of same sex attracted young people have experienced verbal abuse
- 18% have experienced physical abuse

In order to address these issues the GASP project runs support groups for young people and for parents. GASP is also working across the community and with service providers and schools to support the implementation of inclusive practice and to celebrate diversity in the Geelong region.

Every year the GASP project takes a small number of young people to the Pride March, the final event and celebration of the Melbourne Midsummer Festival. In 2013 GASP is seeking the endorsement and support of Council to march in the Pride March under the City of Greater Geelong's banner. The GASP project would also like to invite Councillors and CoGG employees to take part in this march. This would send a message to the community of Geelong that the City of Greater Geelong celebrates sexual and gender diversity within its community and in doing so it will help to reduce the stigma and isolation created by homophobic discrimination, and thus create a safer and healthier community for everyone.

Cr Farrell moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded -

That Council shows its support for SSAGQ young people, (and thereby the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community), by supporting the GASP group, Councillors and CoGG employees to march under the CoGG banner at Pride March on 3 February 2013.

Carried Unanimously.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Jan Farrell

SUBMISSION TO THE COMMISSION FOR GAMBLING AND LIQUOUR REGULATION (VCGLR) – APPLICATION BY DUN-RA INVESTMENTS FOR SPHINX HOTEL NORTH GEELONG

Background

Council has received notification from the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) that it has received an application from Dun-ra Investments Pty Ltd to increase the number of electronic gaming machines (EGMs) from 63 to 67 at the Sphinx Entertainment Centre, 2 Thompsons Rd, North Geelong. Council has been notified that it must advise the VCGLR by 31 December 2012 as to whether it will be making a submission to the application.

The Sphinx is currently licensed for 63 EGMs however it currently has only 57 EGMs on site. The difference between existing and licensed EGMs is the result of the Victorian State Government's state-wide auction of all EGM licence entitlements in Victoria in 2010 (which came into effect in August 2012.) During the auction process in 2010 Dun-ra Investments was successful in purchasing only 57 EGM entitlements. However, the venue's existing licence to operate 63 EGM's remains in place.

At the entitlement auction, the Bairnsdale RSL Club purchased 10 EGM entitlements which were part of the allocation within the area of the City of Greater Geelong. Following the auction, venues were permitted to trade their EGM entitlements with other venues.
The Bairnsdale RSL Club has since sold their 10 entitlements to Dun-ra Investments (Sphinx Hotel) on the open market. Because the Sphinx Hotel is only licensed for 63 EMGs, it has to apply to the VCGLR to increase its number to 67 (a further 4 machines).

Prior to 2006, venues were not required to apply for a planning permit to Council if their gambling space (for EGMs) comprised less than 25% of the venue's total floor space. This changed in 2006 when the Victorian State Government passed legislation that required all venues to apply to their respective local government for any increase in their number of machines.

Council's Planning Department has informed the applicant that they are not required to apply for a planning permit for the proposed increase in EGMs. The basis of this advice is the result of a matter heard in the Supreme Court of Victoria [McKinnon Hotels Pty ltd v Glen Eira City Council (2011) VCAT 413 (on 6 December 2011) (McKinnon Hotel decision)].

The Court determined that if a venue had electronic gaming machines as at 18 October 2006 (the date that amendment VC39 amended clause 52.28 to remove the old 25% rule) and provided the gaming area remained the same size as it existed on 18 October 2006, a venue could increase the number of gaming machines in the existing gaming room, without the need for a planning permit to install those machines. Therefore, given there are no proposals to increase the size of the gaming room, a planning permit is not required.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Jan Farrell

SUBMISSION TO THE COMMISSION FOR GAMBLING AND LIQUOUR REGULATION (VCGLR) – APPLICATION BY DUN-RA INVESTMENTS FOR SPHINX HOTEL NORTH GEELONG (CONT'D)

As part of its submission to the VCGLR, the applicant has provided a Social and Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) which argues that the City of Greater Geelong will not suffer a net detriment as a result of the increase in the number of EGMs at the Sphinx venue. However, the applicant has not canvassed community views.

Council's Strategic Gaming Policy does not support any increase in the number of EGMs in the geographic area occupied by the Sphinx Entertainment Centre and therefore it is proposed that Council undertake its own SEIA of the proposal which will include a survey of the community to ascertain attitudes on the proposal's effect on local health and wellbeing.

It should be noted that the VCGLR gives some attention to the views of the local community with respect to the introduction or addition of EGMs into their area. Consultants engaged by Council to carry out the SEIA will take into account the results of the community survey in determining the net effect of the proposal to increase the number of EGMs at the Sphinx.

Council must inform the VCGLR by 31 December 2012 as to whether it will be making a submission to the application. If the SEIA determines that there will be a net detriment to the community as a result of the increase in the number of machines, Council will submit that report (that either supports or opposes the application) by 22 January 2013.

These tight time lines are controlled by the State Gambling Regulation Act (2003) and are based on a 60 day period commencing from when Council receives notification from the VCGLR. The 60 day period is very restrictive for local governments, and in particular doesn't give due regard to the democratic processes of councils. The 60 days is only varied in 'exceptional circumstances' and does not take into account days off due to public holidays (eg Christmas, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

Should the result of the SEIA indicate a net negative detriment to the community it is proposed that Council oppose the application to increase the number of machines at the Sphinx Entertainment Centre.

It is estimated that the costs associated with completing an SEIA will be in the order of $37,000 which includes a community survey and finalisation of a report.

Should the results of the SEIA demonstrate a net detriment to the community, the approximate costs associated with presenting the report to the VCGLR will be in the order of $17,000 including legal representation and attendance by an expert witness.

These costs will be met within existing budgets.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Jan Farrell

SUBMISSION TO THE COMMISSION FOR GAMBLING AND LIQUOUR REGULATION (VCGLR) – APPLICATION BY DUN-RA INVESTMENTS FOR SPHINX HOTEL NORTH GEELONG (CONT'D)

Cr Farrell moved, Cr Richards seconded -

That:

1) **Council informs the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) by 31 December 2012, of its intention to make a submission on the proposal by Dun-ra Investments Pty Ltd to increase the number of electronic gaming machines at the Sphinx entertainment Centre, 2 Thompsons Road, Geelong North.**

2) **Council undertakes a Social and Economic Assessment (SEIA) on the proposal.**

3) **If the Social and Economic Impact Assessment demonstrates a net detriment to the local community, Council will consider opposing the application at the VCGLR hearing.**

Carried.

Division Requested:

For: Crs Farrell, Heagney, Richards, Ellis, Harwood, Fagg, Irvine
Against: Crs Ansett, Nelson, E Kontelj, Fisher, S Kontelj, Macdonald

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Richards

Rail Station Infrastructure

The Regional Rail Link Authority is currently constructing a new VLine exclusive rail track to Southern Cross station servicing the regional centres of Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo. This project involves the upgrading of rail stations that currently exist on the new rail line, together with the construction of several new rail stations in western Melbourne.

The completion of the project will also require more rolling stock, and council notes the recent state government announcement to this effect. The rail line will become operational in 2016. The past five years has seen a significant increase in rail patronage across all regional lines in Victoria. The City of Greater Geelong is concerned that increased capacity is delivered to meet increasing demand.

The scope of the Regional Rail Link project does not cover upgrading of any rail stations in the City of Greater Geelong, nor the construction of any new stations such as the Waurn Ponds/ Armstrong Creek station, which is being funded separately by the state government.

It is widely recognized that rail station infrastructure in the City of Greater Geelong has needed substantial improvement for some time. This includes improvements to parking, disabled access, access via walking and cycling, and bus connections.

Cr Richards moved, Cr Fisher seconded -

That Council officers investigate the works required to be undertaken across all rail stations in the City of Greater Geelong in order to meet future increasing demand in public transport patronage. The report to cover issues such as car parking, disabled access, walking and cycling access, and bus connections, and to include the future rail station planned for Waurn Ponds/ Armstrong Creek as well as upgrades to the existing train station infrastructure. The investigation should be included in the G21 Public Transport Strategy, due for completion by 30 June 2013.

Carried.

COMMON SEAL REGISTER

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr Richards seconded -

That the following documents be signed and sealed by Council.

Carried.

1. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND JAMES ROBERT MCKAY AND CHRISTINE ANN FLEMING FOR 228 THACKER STREET, OCEAN GROVE

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source:	**Economic Development, Planning & Tourism**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Property:	**228 Thacker Street, Ocean Grove**
Application No:	**CCE-2012-766**

Officers' Comments

This Agreement pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 was required by Council for consent to construct a carport over a drainage easement.

The purpose of the Agreement is to protect the interests of the beneficiary (Council) of the easement.

This Agreement has been peer reviewed by one of Council's panel solicitors.

Owner's Obligations

The requirement of the land owner to remove any relevant building / structure from the land (at the land owners cost) should the beneficiary of the easement require access to the easement.

Council Obligations

That no form of compensation is payable by Council (beneficiary) to the land owner should it be required to remove the relevant building / structure (over easement) to allow access, or should any damage to the land / structure occur as a result of accessing the easement.

2. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND JAMES LLOYD WAPLING FOR 3 PITMAN STREET, NEWCOMB

Portfolio:	**Planning**
Source:	**Economic Development, Planning & Tourism**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Property:	**3 Pitman Street, Newcomb**
Application No:	**355/2012**

Officers' Comments

This Agreement pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 was required by Condition 12 of Planning Permit No. 355/2012 issued on Construction of Two (2) Additional Dwellings and Three Lot Subdivision

The purpose of the Agreement provides for all development to be in accordance with the endorsed plans forming part of Planning Permit 355/2012 (or any amendment to that permit) or any subsequent Planning Permit for the abovementioned site. Before Statement of Compliance is issued for the subdivision, application must be made to the Registrar of Titles to register the Section 173 Agreement on Title to the land under Section 181 of the Act.

Owner's Obligations

The owner of the land must enter into an agreement with the Responsible Authority pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority which provides for all development to be in accordance with the endorsed plans forming part of Planning Permit 355/2012 (or any amendment to that permit) or any subsequent Planning Permit. The owner must pay the costs of preparation, execution and registration of the agreement and the agreement must be registered on the newly created title/s. The Section 173 Agreement may be ended by the Responsible Authority at the written request of the owner and at no cost to Council.

Council Obligations

Nil

3. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND PETER FRANCIS FREQUIN FOR 1 PAVO STREET, BELMONT

Portfolio: **Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source: **Economic Development, Planning & Tourism**
General Manager: **Peter Bettess**
Property: **1 Pavo Street, Belmont**
Application No: **675/2011**

Officers' Comments

This Agreement pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 was required by Condition 11of Planning Permit No. 675/2011 issued on 23 August 2011 which allowed Construction of a Second Dwelling and Two Lot Subdivision

The purpose of the Agreement provides for all development to be in accordance with the endorsed plans forming part of Planning Permit 675/2011 (or any amendment to that permit) or any subsequent Planning Permit for the abovementioned site. Before construction commences on site for the dwelling, application must be made to the Registrar of Titles to register the Section 173 Agreement on Title to the land under Section 181 of the Act.

Owner's Obligations

The owner of the land must enter into an agreement with the Responsible Authority pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority which provides for all development to be in accordance with the endorsed plans forming part of Planning Permit 675/2011 (or any amendment to that permit) or any subsequent Planning Permit. The owner must pay the costs of preparation, execution and registration of the agreement and the agreement must be registered on the newly created title/s. The Section 173 Agreement may be ended by the Responsible Authority at the written request of the owner and at no cost to Council.

Council Obligations

Nil

4. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND LILIBUCK PTY LTD FOR STAGE 4 RESERVE (LOT B ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION PS611270N) AND STAGE 8 RESERVE (LOT A ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION PS637173Q) OF THE PROVINCE ESTATE, HIGHTON

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source:	**Economic Development, Planning & Tourism**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Property:	**Province Estate, Highton (proposed reserves in Stages 4 and 8)**
Application No:	**1480/2005/C**

Officers' Comments

This Agreement is made pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

The Planning Permit (1480/2005C) provides a number of obligations on the developer to undertake landscape works and undertake an environmental audit process. The Section 173 Agreement seeks to facilitate the early release of Stage 8 while also implementing a framework to ensure the outstanding permit objections are met.

Condition 10 and condition 11 of the Planning Permit require the preparation and implementation a landscape plan.

Condition 36 of the Planning Permit imposes obligations in respect of the filling of the Proposed Reserve Stage 8 on the Subject Land.

Condition 37 of the Planning Permit imposes obligations concerning the preparation of a rehabilitation plan describing earthworks and landscaping to be undertaken to enable the satisfactory use of the Proposed Reserve Stage 8 on the Subject Land

Condition 38 of the Planning Permit requires that the Proposed Reserve Stage 8 must be rehabilitated and developed in accordance with the plans approved under the Planning Permit.

This Agreement has been prepared in conjunction with Council's solicitors.

Owner's Obligations

The Owners obligations include:

- That prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance for Stage 8 that the Owner provide to Council a preliminary bond for outstanding works (Statutory Environmental Audit (SEA) and landscaping works) associated with the proposed reserves in Stage 4 and 8 of the approved subdivision;
- In the event that the cost of works exceeds the amount provided in the preliminary bond, the then the Owner will provide Council with an additional bond within 7 days of Council requesting it;
- Timelines for the submission of a landscape plan, completing the landscaping works in accordance with an approved plan and the maintenance period prior to the reserve in Stage 4 being transferred to Council;

4. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND LILIBUCK PTY LTD FOR STAGE 4 RESERVE (LOT B ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION PS611270N) AND STAGE 8 RESERVE (LOT A ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION PS637173Q) OF THE PROVINCE ESTATE, HIGHTON (CONT'D)

- Timelines for obtaining a Statement of Environmental Audit, including any required remediation works and monitoring, for the reserve in Stage 8; and
- On completion of the Statement of Environmental Audit, timelines for the submission of a landscape plan, completing the landscaping works in accordance with an approved plan and the maintenance period prior to the reserve in Stage 8 being transferred to Council.

Council Obligations

Council's obligations are:

- In the event that the sum of the Stage 4 Bond and the Stage 8 Landscaping Bond and the Stage 8 SEA Bond, all determined in accordance with the Agreement, is less than the Preliminary Bond then it will, within 7 days of a written request by the Owner, provide to the Owner the excess in Bond monies held in the Preliminary Bond;
- Upon the commencement of this Agreement and the delivery of the Preliminary Bond it will issue a statement of compliance for the subdivision of the Stage 8 Land in accordance with the Proposed Plan of Subdivision;
- In the event that the Owner fails to perform its obligations under the Agreement, Council is able to utilise the Bond to undertake the required works.

5. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND BRYAN JOSEPH MCEVOY AND MEREDITH ANN MCEVOY FOR 58 SANDRINGHAM PARADE, NEWTOWN

Portfolio:	**Planning – Cr Macdonald**
Source:	**Economic Development, Planning & Tourism**
General Manager:	**Peter Bettess**
Property:	**58 Sandringham Parade, Newtown**
Application No:	**1432/2011**

Officers' Comments

This Agreement pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 was required by Condition 9 of Planning Permit No. 1432/2011 issued on 7 May 2012 which allowed the construction of a second dwelling and two lot subdivision.

The purpose of the Agreement is to register the development of the second dwelling to be in accordance with the endorsed plans forming part of the Planning Permit 1432/2011 (or any amendment to that permit) or any subsequent permit.

Prior to the issue of the Statement of Compliance, application must be made to the Registrar of Titles to register the Section 173 Agreement on Title to the land under Section 181 of the Act.

This Agreement has been peer reviewed by one of Council's panel solicitors.

Owner's Obligations

The owner covenants for itself and its successors in title to any part of the Land and agrees that all development on the Land shall be in accordance with the Endorsed Plans forming part of the Planning Permit (or any amendment to the Planning Permit) or any subsequent planning permit issued by the Council.

The Owner further agrees to:

- Bring this Agreement to the attention of all prospective purchasers, mortgagees, transferees and assigns;
- Do all thing necessary to give effect to this Agreement;
- Do all thing necessary including the signing of such further agreements, undertakings, covenants, consents, approvals or other documents reasonably necessary for the purpose of ensuring that it carries out the covenants and agreements and obligations hereunder;
- Immediately pay to Council, the Council's reasonable costs (including legal costs) and expenses of and incidental to the preparation, drafting, finalisation, engrossment, execution and registration of this Agreement and until those consts are paid they will remain a debt of the Owner to the Council. To the extent that such costs and expenses constitute legal professional costs, the Council may at its absolute discretion have these costs assessed by the Law Institute of Victoria and in that event the parties shall be bound by the amount of that assessment, with any fee for obtaining such an assessment being borne equally by Council and the Owner. Such costs payable by the Owner shall include the costs and disbursements associated with the registration of this Agreement on the titles and the removal therefrom; and

5. SECTION 173 AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL AND BRYAN JOSEPH MCEVOY AND MEREDITH ANN MCEVOY FOR 58 SANDRINGHAM PARADE, NEWTOWN (CONT'D)

- Indemnify Council, its employees, contractors and agents from and against all costs, expenses, losses or damages whatsoever which they or any or them may sustain incur suffer, or be or become liable for or in respect of any suit, action, proceeding, judgement or claim brought by any person whatsoever arising from or referable to this Agreement or any non-compliance thereof.

Council Obligations

Nil

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS RECORD

Portfolio: **Democracy and Governance**
Source: **Corporate Services**
General Manager: **Jeff Wall**

Summary

- Section 80A (2) of the Local Government Act 1989 requires the record of an Assembly of Councillors be reported to the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of Council.
- A record of Assembly of Councillors meeting(s) is attached as an Appendix to this report.

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr Heagney seconded -

That the information be received.

Carried.

RECORD OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS
(Council Meeting 11 December 2012)

Assembly Details	Councillor Attendees	Officer Attendees	Matters Discussed	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Bellarine Rail Trail Advisory Committee **12 September 2012**	Cr Macdonald	S Rodwell (OFF)	• Outstanding Action Item Review • Leopold Connections Pathway Update • Track Erosion Management	Nil.
Strategic Planning **22 November 2012**	Crs Fagg, Harwood, Ansett, Farrell, Heagney, S Kontelj, Nelson, Richards, Ellis, Fisher	S Griffin (CEO) J Wall (GM) D Frost (GM) J McMahon (GM) P Bettess (GM) G Van Driel (GM) M Kelly (MGR) A Della Monica (MGR) J Thomas (OFF)	• Election Debrief • Community Issues • Council Overview • City Plan and Long Term Focus	Nil.
Strategic Planning **23 November 2012**	Crs Fagg, Harwood, Ansett, Farrell, Fisher, Heagney, E Kontelj, S Kontelj, Macdonald, Nelson, Richards, Ellis	S Griffin (CEO) J Wall (GM) D Frost (GM) J McMahon (GM) P Bettess (GM) G Van Driel (GM) A Della Monica (MGR) J Thomas (OFF)	• Values and Behaviours • Goals and Priorities – Four Years and Beyond • Future Actions	Nil.

Councillor Briefing **4 December 2012**	Crs Ansett, Ellis, Fagg, Farrell, Fisher, Harwood, Heagney, Irvine, E Kontelj, S Kontelj, Macdonald, Richards	S Griffin (CEO) J Wall (GM) D Frost (GM) J McMahon (GM) P Bettess (GM) G Van Driel (GM) A Grant (PROP ADV) R Bourke (CO ORD)	• Sale of Industrial Land GREP (Confidential) • Sale of Land to VicRoads Pioneer Road Widening • Simonds Stadium Super Screen • Proposed Light Tower Signage at Simonds Stadium – Planning Scheme Amendment C284 • Amendment C242 and Planning Permit Application (1572/2010) – Proposed Barrabool Hills Neighbourhood Shopping Centre, Highton • Consideration of Panel Report and Adoption Amendment C243 – Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GREP) Native Vegetation Precinct Plan and Environment Significance Overlay Schedule 4 • Department of Sustainability and Environment – Waste Policy Review • Kingston Reserve Management and Master Plan • Economy and Efficiency Review • Constitutional Recognition • Role of Mayors, Councillors and CEO in Emergency Management • Belmont Street, Belmont – Proposed Carpark Construction SRC304 – Declaration of Charge • Albert Street Laneways, Geelong West – Proposed Construction SRC333 – Declaration of Charge • Community Arts and Community Festivals • Councillor Community Grants Program 2012/2013 – Summary of Allocations 1 July to 25 September 2012 • Financial Management Report – September 2012	Nil.

Confidential Matter **4 December 2012**	Crs S Kontelj, E Kontelj, Ansett, Fagg, Richards, Harwood, Ellis, Fisher, Macdonald, Heagney, Irvine, Farrell	S Griffin (CEO)	• Confidential Matter	Cr Farrell declared a Conflict of Interest.

PLANNING DELEGATIONS – NOVEMBER 2012

Portfolio: **Planning - Cr Macdonald**
Source: **Economic Development, Planning & Tourism - City Development**
General Manager: **Peter Bettess**
Index Reference: **Delegation**

Summary

- Section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 empower Council to delegate its powers, duties and functions under relevant legislation to members of Council staff.
- Council may also delegate to committees comprising Councillors and staff or a combination of both, pursuant to sections 86 and 87 of the Local Government Act and section 188 of the Planning and Environment Act.
- At its meeting on 13 March 2007 Council established a Planning Committee and a Development Hearings Panel with delegated powers to determine upon any development applications which have been the subject of an objection or in circumstances where officers have recommended refusal of the application.
- At its meeting on 23 September 2008 Council adopted a recommendation to allow Officers (restricted to Manager, Coordinator and Team Leader level) the ability to consider and approve applications with five or less objections.
- The appendix to this report contains a schedule of all applications determined under these delegations.

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr Richards seconded -

That the information be received.

Carried.

Decisions Report - November 2012

App No	Location	Application Type	Decision Date	Description	Authority Description
227/2012	795 Bacchus Marsh Road, ANAKIE VIC 3213	Two Lot Re-Subdivision, Use and Development of a Dwelling on a Lot Less than 40 Hectares and Removal of Native Vegetation	02-November-2012	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
229/2012	148 Shannon Avenue, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Buildings & Works Associated with the Installation of Three (3) Roller Shutters.	02-November-2012	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
667/2012	67-69 Spring Street, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Development of 20 Dwellings (Four Storey Development) and Reduction in Visitor Car Parking Spaces	02-November-2012	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
719/2012	88-106 Broderick Road, CORIO VIC 3214	Four (4) Lot Subdivision	02-November-2012	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
1546/2011	PARENT - 415 Carrs Road, ANAKIE VIC 3213	Use and Development of the Land for a Class B Broiler Farm with a Farm Capacity of 400,000 Birds, Associated Buildings and Works, Development of a Caretaker's House and Removal of Vegetation	06-November-2012	Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
1547/2011	PARENT - 415 Carrs Road, ANAKIE VIC 3213	Use and Development of the Land for a Class B Broiler Farm with a Farm Capacity of 200,000 Birds, Associated Buildings and Works, Development of a Caretaker's House and Removal of Vegetation	06-November-2012	Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
451/2012	45 North Valley Road, HIGHTON VIC 3216	Construction of a caretaker's house at first floor	06-November-2012	Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
174/2012	11 Hawthorn Street, PORTARLINGTON VIC 3223	Construction of One (1) Additional Dwelling and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	16-November-2012	NOD - Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
248/2012	89 Aphrasia Street, NEWTOWN VIC 3220	Change of Use to a Child Care Centre and Kindergarten, associated Buildings and Works, Partial Demolition of Front Fence and Construction of Front Fencing and a Reduction in Car Parking	16-November-2012	Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	Development Hearings Panel
1001/2012	46 Bieske Road, GROVEDALE VIC 3216	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings	05-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 3 Objectors
1566/2011	2/13 Peers Crescent, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Development of an Extension to an Existing Dwelling over 7.5 metres in Height.	30-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 1 Objector
559/2012	251 Roslyn Road, HIGHTON VIC 3216	Construction of Four (4) Dwellings	06-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 2 Objectors
646/2012	1 The Parade, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings, (2) Lot Subdivision and Removal of Vegetation	08-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 1 Objector
772/2012	9 Hayman Street, PORTARLINGTON VIC 3223	Addition to Existing Dwelling over 7.5m in Height and Construction of a Second Double Storey Dwelling	14-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 4 Objectors
816/2012	3 Waurn Park Court, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of one additional dwelling	23-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 1 Objector
873/2012	86 Hitchcock Avenue, BARWON HEADS VIC 3227	Construction of Three Dwellings, Use and Development of Three Shops, Six Lot Subdivision, Reduction of Car Parking, Reduction in Bicycle Parking and Waiver of Loading Bay	22-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 2 Objectors
931/2012	31 Ashbourne Street, HERNE HILL VIC 3218	Construction of a Second Single Storey Dwelling to the Rear of the Existing Dwelling and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	19-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 1 Objector
965/2012	14 Dudley Parade, ST LEONARDS VIC 3223	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings	13-November-2012	Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit	Delegate Authority - 2 Objectors

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr S Kontelj seconded –

That the meeting be closed to the public.

Carried.

The Meeting was closed to the public at 9.20pm

** Cr Heagney left the meeting room at 9.21pm for the evening.*

A record of the proceedings of this section of the meeting is contained in a Confidential Minute Book.

Cr Macdonald moved, Cr Ansett seconded

That the meeting be opened to the public.

Carried.

The Meeting was opened to the public at 10.10pm

CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 10.10pm. Tuesday, 11 December 2012.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date of Confirmation: _____