MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 25 MAY 2021

6.00PM

PORTARLINGTON PARKS HALL
87 NEWCOMBE STREET
PORTARLINGTON

LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE:
www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings

COUNCIL:
Cr S Asher (Bellarine Ward)
Mayor
Cr T Sullivan (Bellarine Ward)
Deputy Mayor

Cr J Mason (Bellarine Ward)
Cr E Kontelj (Brownbill Ward)
Cr S Mansfield (Brownbill Ward)
Cr P Murrihy (Brownbill Ward)
Cr B Harwood (Kardinia Ward)
Cr B Moloney (Kardinia Ward)
Cr R Nelson (Kardinia Ward)
Cr A Aitken (Windermere Ward)
Cr K Grzybek (Windermere Ward)

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

SECTION A - PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Acknowledgements 1

Presentation 1

Apologies 1

Leaves of Absence 2

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest 2

Confirmation of Minutes 2

Public Question and Submission Time 2-9

Petitions 9

SECTION B – REPORTS

Notice of Motion – Tivoli Drive 10-11

1. Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study 12-15
2. Declaration of Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing 16-22
3. Municipal Road Management Plan Review 23-27
4. Dog Orders on Highton Waterpipe Pathway 28-30
5. Tender T2100013 – Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor – Stage 1 31-37
6. Quarterly Financial Management Report – March 2021 38-49
7. 2021-22 Grant Guidelines 50-56
8. G21 and AFL Barwon 'Towards 2030 Strategy' - Draft 57-59
9. Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47 Draft Report 60-63
10. Proposed Lease of Retail and Office Spaces at 137-149 Mercer Street, Geelong – Civic Precinct 64-67
11. Proposed Road Deviation – 185-235 Geelong Road and Pigdon Street, Portarlington 68-72
12. Proposed Road Naming – Unnamed Laneway to Inspiration Lane, Belmont 73-76
13. Proposed Road Discontinuance and Sale – Mina Place, North Geelong 77-80
14. Procurement Policy Update 81-84
15. Clever and Creative – Our Progress 2020 85-86
16. Greater Geelong City Council General Election Report 2020 87-89
17. Regional Renewable Organics Network Heads of Agreement *(Confidential)* 90
18. Civic Precinct Status Report *(Confidential)* 91

SECTION C – URGENT BUSINESS

SECTION D - INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

SECTION E - PLANNING DELEGATIONS

SECTION F - CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL HELD AT PORTARLINGTON PARKS HALL 87 NEWCOMBE STREET, PORTARLINGTON ON TUESDAY, 25 MAY 2021 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM

PRESENT: Cr S Asher (Mayor), Crs A Aitken, K Grzybek, B Harwood, E Kontelj, S Mansfield, J Mason, P Murrihy, B Moloney, R Nelson, T Sullivan

Also present: M Cutter (Chief Executive Officer), G Smith (Director Planning, Design and Development), G Wilson-Browne (Director City Services), R Stevens (Director Community Life), K Phyland (Director Strategy, People & Performance), S McKew (Manager Governance)

OPENING: The Mayor declared the meeting open at 6.00pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Council acknowledges Wadawurrung Traditional Owners of this land and pays its respects to all Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

PRESENTATION:

Crs Asher, Mason and Sullivan provided the gallery with a snapshot of some of the activities and projects happening in the Bellarine Ward.

APOLOGIES: Nil

LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Mason seconded -

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr Stephanie Asher from 7 June to 14 June 2021, inclusive.

Carried.

Cr Asher moved, Cr Sullivan seconded –

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr Bruce Harwood from 1 July to 30 July 2021, inclusive.

Carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Cr Kontelj declared a Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item 2, Declaration of Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing, in that he owns a property in the Central Business District.

Cr Grzybek declared a Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item 5, Tender T2100013 Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor – Stage 1, in that Cr Grzybek is an employee of the TAC who are funders of the bike paths.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 April 2021 be confirmed.

Carried.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME:

The following community members submitted questions prior to the Council Meeting:

- *Graham Floyd Smith, Ocean Grove Principal Pedestrian Network*
- *Ian Rabone, Dogs, Ocean Grove Beach*
- *Sarah Roberts, Footpaths - Special Rates & Charges*
- *Dean Vella, Pakington Street Footpaths*
- *Gail Layh, Building Better Bike Connections Stage 1*
- *Jeremy Klitzing, Building Better Bike Connections Stage 1*
- *Robert Kanngieser, Bluff Road, Town Planning, Building Inspectors,*
- *Bruce Drummond, Drysdale Clifton Springs Development*
- *Mercedes Drummond, Newcombe Street, Portarlington Development*
- *Sue Davies, Fyansford Motocross*
- *Ben McLennan, Fyansford Motocross*
- *Rowan Kent, Special Rate Central Geelong Marketing*
- *Vicki Perrett, Vison Report – Climate Targets*
- *Leanne Owen, Fyansford Motocross*
- *Lauren Ainsworth, Fyansford Motocross*
- *Sally Fisher, Climate Change Response Plan Budget*
- *Monica Winston, Climate Change Response Plan Budget*
- *Jennifer Jarrard, Waste-to-Energy Facility.*

Jeremy Klitzing asked the following questions regarding Building Better Bike Connections:

Why was the decision taken to defer awarding the contract for the construction of the Southern Bike Link? A related question is whether the same reasons still stand and that the contract might not be awarded at the meeting tonight?

Thank you for your question, Jeremy.

This matter will be considered by Council at tonight's meeting.

Robert Kanngieser asked the following questions regarding Bluff Road:

1. How will Bluff Road progress - storm water etc?
2. Future town planning e.g. - car parking?
3. Need medical clinic, light commercial property. Local building inspectors needed?

Thank you for your questions, Robert.

Council is investigating the queries in terms of stormwater management in Bluff Road and any potential future car parking and other land uses in and around the town centre.

A meeting has been arranged with you to look into these matters.

Bruce Drummond asked about the Drysdale Clifton Springs Development:

It is quite clear that in the last two years there has been an increase in the number of applications for infills in the long-standing Drysdale Clifton Springs precincts. All of which the community is overwhelming opposing, since each one being approved is destroying our unique village, semi-rural characteristics of our township. Never to be regained. If we are to believe that these applications for subdivisions are driven by a shortage of housing lots why is the second stage of the Curlewis precinct not been expedited? This would address a number of issues:

1. The stance that there is a shortfall of housing allotments?
2. The construction of Tivoli Drive Boulevard would then be fast tracked since it would be the responsibility of the developers?
3. Equally significant it would remove the pressure of our limited and much valued semi-rural pockets?

Thank you for your questions, Bruce.

1. *The Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan supports infill development in Drysdale/Clifton Springs and also larger greenfield residential subdivision in the Jetty Road Urban Growth Area (now part of Curlewis).*

   The landowners and developers of Jetty Road Growth Area Stage 2 are in the process of applying for a planning scheme amendment to rezone Stage 2. This is the equivalent sized area to Stage 1.

   Council officers have been working through rezoning and subdivision issues with the proponents for several months. This includes early delivery of the duplication of Tivoli Drive amongst other issues such as drainage and open space.

   The City is aware of the need to rezone this area to enable further lot supply. We are expecting the key issues to be resolved in coming months and a report on the amendment will then be put to Council to enable public exhibition.

2. In relation to the modification of Tivoli Drive we believe that the best long-term result is the inset parking on nature strips.

With respect to your suggestion for inset parking, due to the narrowness of the road reserve and the location of services it is generally not practical.

Mercedes Drummond asked about the Drysdale Clifton Springs Development:

1. As Council knows, all communities on the Bellarine are concerned at over and inappropriate development.
2. For that reason, we are anxiously awaiting the full implementation of the Victorian Government's Bellarine Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Declaration.
3. In that regard, we understand that Council on this Thursday will be determining its attitude towards the issue of a permit for the construction of a five-level residential and commercial complex on the north or bay side of Newcombe Street, Portarlington.
4. We share the concerns of the Portarlington Community Association about this proposal and we are interested in the views of Council about inviting the State Government to issue interim height controls pending the finalisation of the DAL."

Thank you for your questions, Mercedes.

The City is expecting the State Government to soon release a draft Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) as part of the Bellarine Peninsula Distinctive Area and Landscape (DAL) process.

We expect the draft SPP will deal with settlement boundaries around Bellarine townships and also address planning controls within the townships.

When the draft SPP is released City officers will review it and draft a submission.

A report seeking Council endorsement of the submission will then follow.

It would be premature for Council to form a position on issues such as interim height controls pending release of the SPP. However, we would encourage interested community groups and individuals to make a submission to the DAL process and express your views on such matters.

Sue Davies asked the following in relation to the proposed Motocross Track in Fyansford:

Last meeting, I asked a question about the proposed Motocross track in Fyansford. Council's response to my question included the statement.

'In late 2016 a G21 Motocross Land Suitability Assessment was completed following the closure of McAdam Park. The assessment considered the functional needs of motocross riders and the land-use requirements for a regional facility. The report looked at other options to provide a home for motocross given it is often a hard to locate sport due to noise and other amenity issues it generates close to other incompatible uses.'

Thank you for your questions, Sue.

1. Can you please advise as to whether G21 identified any sites in Fyansford as suitable sites for a Motocross Track?

No sites in Fyansford were identified as suitable for this purpose.

2. G21 clearly established a criteria for the assessment of sites for potential Motocross activities. One criteria was the proximity of the facility to residential properties.

   Can you please confirm what distance to residential properties was used in the evaluation of suitable Motocross sites in the G21 Land Suitability Assessment?

No distance was prescribed as being a limit of what was acceptable.

The assessment considered a range of distances from 0-0.5 km through to >2 km.

The assessment was weighted in a manner where sites closer to residential properties were less suitable for a regional motocross facility. (Page 52 of report – 63 of 133.)

3. When G21 was assessing the sites for a Motocross track, consideration was given to 'noise and other amenity issues it generates close to other incompatible uses'.

   Can you please outline; What noise levels are generated from such a facility? What are the 'amenity issues' referred to? What are the 'incompatible uses' G21 referred to?

The report referenced work undertaken that suggests that as an approximate guide, of 45dBA Leq (equivalent continuous noise level) at a noise receptor 2 kilometres from the noise source without additional noise controls in place.

The main issues related to motocross are most commonly (but not limited to) dust and noise.

Incompatible land uses would be generally defined as those where dust and noise generated from a motocross facility would have a detrimental impact on enjoyment or use of adjacent land for its defined purpose.

Ben McLennan asked the following in relation to the proposed Motocross Track in Fyansford:

Clause 32, sub-clause (2)(b) of the Neighbourhood Amenity Local Law 2014 states that a Person must not, without a Permit: drive, ride on or otherwise use any Motor Bike or other Motorised Recreational Vehicle outside a Built Up Area on any land other than Council Land or a Road, within 500 metres of a Dwelling; Sub-clause (2)(c) further states that a Person is exempt from the above provided that Person has obtained a written consent: (a) from all adjoining property occupiers; and (b) from all other occupiers of Dwellings within 500 metres of the subject land. I live within 450 metres of the proposed motocross track at 295 Hamilton Highway, Fyansford.

On the morning of 17 April 2021, I was lying in bed, only to be woken by the noise of two dirt bikes on the proposed track.

On 8 May 2021, whilst I sat at my kitchen table, my conversation was interrupted by the sound of a single dirt bike.

I can assure council I have not been asked by the applicant for my consent in writing to their use of the track, nor have I provided such consent.

I am also aware that such breaches were raised at the last council meeting and several complaints of this ongoing breach have been lodged with COGG since.

Thank you for your questions, Ben.

1. My question is, noting the 15 penalty units per breach of Local Law, what has COGG done to address these breaches and assure the nearby residents that such non-compliance won't continue?

In the last twelve months our Local Laws Officers have received 7 complaints in relation to this location.

These complaints have been investigated and a Notice to Comply issued in May 2021.

The Local Laws team has not received any further complaints since the Notice to Comply was issued. If an infringement was to be issued this would be for 3 Penalty Units which is the maximum infringement penalty for this offence.

If a matter such as this was to proceed to court the maximum penalty that the court may impose is up to 15 penalty units. A 'Penalty Unit' means a Penalty Unit under the Sentencing Act 1991.

For Local Laws, a Penalty Unit is currently fixed by the State Government at the value of $100 per Penalty Unit.

Our Local Laws Officers are continuing to undertake patrols of the area and monitor for any further complaints.

2. In relation to the application PP-12-2020 for the proposed motocross track at 295 Hamilton Highway, Fyansford, which would be situated within 300 metres of the closest residents, several questions were raised regarding the integrity of the submitted Acoustics Reports at the last meeting.

COGG responded to such questions by deferring to a peer review it had commissioned without offering any details regarding the process undertaken or content of the peer review.

3. My question is, when will the details of the peer review be made available for the public so that residents have an opportunity to consider the contents and address any perceived or actual shortcomings?

Council's Planning Officer will prepare a report for the Planning Committee to consider whether the proposal is appropriate in the context of all the information that has been provided with the application. All of the planning details, including the assessment and peer review of the acoustic report, will be considered at the Planning Committee and referenced in the officer report which will be available online the week prior to meeting.

Vicki Perrett asked the following in relation to the 2020 Vision Progress Report:

1. Geelong Sustainability is proud to be a Vision Partner, supporting Council to realise the community's 30-year vision to become a clever and creative city.

   We congratulate Council on publishing the 2020 Vision Progress Report after such a difficult year.

   My questions relate to this report. Firstly, in relation to the aspiration for the City to have a fast, reliable and connected transport network. A key performance indicator is for 50% of journeys to work to be made by public transport, walking or cycling. The Progress Report only has baseline data showing 8.75% of journeys to work being made by public transport, walking or cycling in 2016.

   Why has this indicator not been updated since 2016?

   When will more up-to-date data be published?

   What plans does Council have to boost active travel?

Thank you for your questions, Vicki.

The 5-yearly Australian Census of Population and Housing is the main source of data on the journey to work in Australia. The 2021 Census data is due to be released in a staged approach from June 2022 through to mid-2023.

The City recently completed the Western Link of the Building Better Bike Connections project in 2020. The Western Link provides a connection for bike riders from Manifold Heights and Geelong West to Central Geelong. The Southern Link of the Building Better Bike Connections project is underway, with the tender for construction of Stage 1 being considered by Council on 25 May 2021. Detailed design of Stage 2 of the Southern Link will commence soon after.

The City also adopted the Shared Trails Masterplan in 2020 which was an action stemming from the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2018-21. The Masterplan identifies key gaps in our network, and between existing trails, to support active travel as a means of commuting, recreation and leisure. The draft 2021-22 budget proposes funding for the continued delivery of priority trails across the municipality.

The City's draft 2021-22 budget also proposes funding for an Integrated Transport Plan, that will consider how all modes of transport are supported into Geelong's future, particularly for active travel as we continue to strive for the City's aim of 50% of all travel to work to be made by sustainable transport.

2. Secondly, the Vision calls for Geelong to become a carbon neutral city-region by 2047. Council recognised the Climate Emergency back in September 2019. However, according to the 2020 Progress Report the City's carbon emissions are not reducing.
   There has only been a 0.47% decrease compared to 2017 baseline data. Geelong Sustainability knows that Council is aiming to be carbon neutral by 2025 for its own operations, which is brilliant. However, as they make up only 1% of the region's emissions, we believe the City should set interim targets to guide faster progress. The state government recently announced its interim targets, which aim to reduce emissions by 28-33% by 2025 and 45-50% by 2030.

   Will Council seriously consider adopting Victoria's interim emission reduction targets in order to encourage and lead the municipality's transition to a low-carbon economy?

Emissions targets will be an integral component of the City's draft Climate Change Response Plan, due to be released for public consultation in July this year.

Leanne Owen asked the following in relation to the proposed Motocross Track in Fyansford:

1. Location of Noise Assessments? The noise report in the proposal references noise assessments being conducted at Province Boulevard. Given homes as now much closer to the proposed facility than Province Boulevard, has/will any independent noise assessment be conducted at locations closer to the facility (such as Majestic Drive) and also other areas (such as along the park land) that will be impacted the most from the development?

2. Effect on Parks and Nature Reserves? The submission considers noise from the proposed motocross facility against the Noise from Industry in Regional Victoria Recommended Maximum Noise Levels (NIRV RMNLS), the State Environmental Protection Policy (SEPP N-1) and the motor sport case study in the NSW Noise Guide for Local Government. The conclusion drawn in the proposal is that community amenity would not be affected at the determined noise levels however stated in the Noise from Industry in Regional Victoria (NIRV) document in section 2.1 is that about parks and nature reserves not being protected at those recommended noise levels. For any independent noise assessment conducted, will/has the impact on parks and nature reserves in the area be factored in accordingly?

3. Noise Assessment Methodology? The referenced State Environmental Protection Policy (SEPP N-1) together with the NSW EPA Noise Guide for Local Governments (in Part 2), both state that that noise character such as tone and impulsiveness need to be taken into consideration when assessing noise and outline correction factors that must be applied to accommodate characteristic of noise. The submission however, does not consider noise character or the apply correction factors. For any independent noise assessments conducted, will/has the consideration of noise character been accounted for? Also, in the NSW EPA Noise Guide for Local Government in section 2.3 Measuring Noise, it states "So that noise results can be accurately compared, it is important that noise tests being compared are conducted under the same conditions." Atmospheric factors that impact noise readings include wind speed, wind direction, rain etc. making it important to compare results under the same conditions. The noise report from Clarity Acoustics (conducted in June 2020) relied on the previous background noise level measurements taken by Marshall

Day back in April 2018, meaning they were not taken at the same time under the same conditions.

The Clarity Acoustics Report also didn't make any reference in their report to atmospheric factors such as wind speed and direction being taken into consideration during their noise assessment. Will/has any independent noise assessment factored in atmospheric conditions?

Thank you for your questions, Leanne.

The acoustic report submitted as part of the planning application process has been peer reviewed and no further report is expected.

Council's Planning Officer will prepare a report for the Planning Committee to consider whether the proposal is appropriate in the context of all the information that has been provided with the application.

All of the planning details, including the assessment and review of the acoustic report, will be considered at the Planning Committee.

It is noted that the Planning Committee meeting will be open to all submitters to attend and that they will also be invited to speak if they choose to do so. This process will allow parties the opportunity to voice their comments to Council on the evening.

Lauren Ainsworth asked the following in relation to the proposed Motocross Track in Fyansford:

The Mt Brandon Landscape design boasts the staged development of passive recreational facilities with public open space for picnics, viewing/seating areas, playgrounds and informal recreational facilities. Council has committed $1.8 mil for the staged development of these works in its 3-year capital works program.

As a resident of Highton with a young family we currently use the park extensively for family downtime – and look forward to further development and enhanced facilities that will make this family time even more enjoyable. We bought in Highton on this estate due to the plans for Mt Brandon and the proximity to the river for passive enjoyment of a natural environment close to home.

How can Council possibly consider that a Motorcross Track adjacent to this development is appropriate and in keeping with the design intent of the Barwon River Trail?

The Mt Brandon Landscaping is designed to provide sufficient area to protect and improve environmental values along the river. Given the extent of wildlife and native vegetation already identified in this area, how does Council intend to protect and encourage natural growth and development of this space if it is compromised by usage that is not in keeping with the environmental values stated on the masterplan.

With the extensive earthworks recently undertaken, has COGG followed all of the Cultural Heritage Overlay assessments & requirement for this site, for a distance of 500m from the banks of the Barwon River?

Thank you for your questions, Lauren.

The planning application PP-12-2020 - for the use of the land as a motocross facility is not a Council application, it is a private development. As such, the applicant is required to provide all documentation in relation to compliance with the Planning Scheme.

Council will consider the application on the planning merits and the application will be determined at a Planning Committee Meeting consisting of all Councillors.

A Planning Officer will prepare a report for consideration of the Committee which will include the details of the application.

The decision of the Committee will be the decision of Council as the Responsible Authority under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 taking into account the relevant planning controls under the Grater Geelong Planning Scheme.

Jennifer Jarrard asked the following regarding the proposed Waste to Energy Facility at Lara:

Geelong Sustainability has written to all Councillors to raise our concerns about the Waste-to-Energy Facility being proposed at Lara. We're pleased that the EPA is holding a Section 20B Community Conference to listen to the community's concerns. Incineration is the most expensive and dirtiest form of energy production, releasing more carbon dioxide to the atmosphere per megawatt-hour than coal, undermining jobs and destroying finite resources while leaving significant amounts of toxic ash requiring secure landfill. The EPA says WtE has a transitional role but the proposal talks about 25 years of operations. This facility seems to be contrary to the City's waste and resource recovery policy. In their Environmental the Works Approval Application Part 1 Prospect Hill International Pty Ltd state in section 3.1 Page 38 that "The Project does not trigger referral criteria for an EES". We believe that the nature and scope of a 400,000 tonne Waste to Energy incinerator so close to residents would require an EES.

Thank you for your questions, Jennifer.

1. Given that the Waste to Energy facility will be located at Lara within the Greater City of Geelong, what, if any, contractual arrangements has the council entered into with Prospect Hill International Pty Ltd?

The Minister for Planning makes the decision on whether an EES is required for any project in Victoria.

2. What steps including ensuring an Environmental Effects Statement under the Act can the council undertake to ensure the health and safety of residents and workers in Lara?

The City has no waste supply contractual arrangements with Prospect Hill International Pty Ltd.

PETITIONS: Nil.

PROCEDURAL MOTION:

Cr Kontelj moved, Cr Asher seconded –

That the Notice of Motion regarding Tivoli Drive be considered prior to the remainder of the reports.

Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr Mason

TIVOLI DRIVE, FUTURE GROWTH AND STAGED DEVELOPMENT IN CURLEWIS

Background

The Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan sets the strategic direction and provides the framework for the development of land in the Jetty Road growth area in Drysdale/Clifton Springs. The Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan includes a Stage 1 and Stage 2 development area. Stage 1 was rezoned in 2009 at the time the Urban Growth Plan was adopted. A significant portion of Stage 1 has now been subdivided and developed.

Tivoli Drive/Greenvale Drive is a north-south connector road between Portarlington Road and the Bayview Central shopping area. The road was opened in August 2020 with an interim design which will be upgraded during Stage 2 of the Jetty Road Urban Growth Plan. The planning scheme amendment process for Stage 2 will inform the future design of Tivoli Drive and Greenvale Drive as a Primary Road.

Since opening Tivoli Drive, the City has received feedback from the community in relation to:

- traffic volume;
- speeding;
- noise, and
- road width.

To address feedback received, the City has implemented a number of traffic calming measures including:

- reduced the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr from Portarlington Road to Stanley Avenue;
- introduced line marking and increased warning signage at the crossroads of Appleby Street with Tivoli and Greenvale Drive;
- introduced parking restrictions on the west side of Tivoli Drive and near the intersection of Stanley Avenue to improve sightlines;
- introduced speed humps to help manage speed and volume concerns (one speed hump has subsequently been removed due to resident noise concerns);
- upgraded the intersection of Coriyule Road/Appleby Street and Tivoli/Greenvale Drive with splitter islands to slow down turning traffic;
- requested support from Victoria Police to monitor and manage poor driver behaviour; and
- requested heavy vehicles accessing the local shopping centre and nearby developments seek an alternate route to reduce truck movements on Tivoli/Greenvale Drive.

Despite considerable community engagement at a local level, residents and the broader Drysdale/Clifton Springs/Curlewis community feel uncertain about connectivity, timelines of implementation, safety and quality of the built environment in the meantime during the ongoing development process.

There is a need for the community to have a refreshed understanding of the whole development vision of Curlewis/Clifton Springs/Drysdale and the timelines, the interconnectivity, safety and interdependence of the infrastructure.

Cr Mason moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

That Council:

1. **Request the Chief Executive Officer prepare a report for the August 2021 Council meeting which considers various alternatives, costs and benefits in the operation and modification of Tivoli Drive to cover the interim period until the next phase of development on the west side of Tivoli Drive commences, and major development of a "boulevard style" access road begins. The report will contain and include consideration of:**
   - **1.1 an overview of the proposed, development, developer responsibilities and contributions, and larger feeder areas such as Jetty Road development, and related timelines;**
   - **1.2 potentially the continuation of the status quo;**
   - **1.3 opportunity for formalisation of inset parking on nature strips;**
   - **1.4 Possibility of a partial closure of the road to prevent access to Tivoli Drive from the Portarlington Road C123;**
   - **1.5 Completion of Hermsley/Geelong Road lights, connection with Coriyule Road, projected sealing options and timeline;**
   - **1.6 Other traffic calming measures to reduce through traffic; and**
   - **1.7 The need for on-going community engagement to consider an overview of future planning and timelines.**

Carried.

1. BARWON HEADS TRANSPORT AND PARKING STUDY

Source: **City Services – Engineering Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. To present the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study community engagement and research outcomes, with resulting implementation plan for Council endorsement.

Background

2. In December 2019 the City commenced a Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study.

3. The purpose of the study was to identify the key transport issues and opportunities facing Barwon Heads and develop preferred options to address these issues, promoting safe and sustainable movement of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles.

Key Matters

4. A detailed review of traffic and parking in Barwon Heads has been completed, with traffic speed and volume surveys conducted at approximately 50 locations over the 19/20 summer period. The data generally shows compliance with the posted speed limits, and confirmed assumptions of significant fluctuations in traffic volumes during peak holiday periods.

5. On-street and off-street parking occupancy surveys were undertaken on >700 parking spaces. Data confirmed that parking is busier during holiday times, however there remains parking availability with the occupancy rate peaking at 83% over the Australia Day weekend.

6. Stage one community engagement commenced in May 2020 with almost 400 submissions received via the City's website and a detailed submission from the Barwon Heads Association. Feedback informed the proposed treatment options.

7. Stage two community engagement was completed in December 2020 and sought community feedback on proposed treatments. All proposals received strong community support and feedback has been incorporated where possible. Issues raised by the community relating to arterial roads managed by Department of Transport (DoT) were responded to by DoT during this engagement.

8. The feedback from stage two community engagement has been used to inform the implementation plan (**Attachment 2**) and final study report (**Attachment 3**).

9. Stage three community engagement was completed in March 2021 and sought feedback on the draft study report and implementation plan. Over 770 people viewed the report. 33 contributions were received including a submission from the Barwon Heads Association.

10. The feedback from the community and the Barwon Heads Association has been included where possible, and the final report is presented in **Attachment 3**.

11. The final implementation plan detailing 24 actions for the City categorised into short, medium and long term, is included in the summary report in **Attachment 2**.

Cr Mason moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

12. That Council:

12.1 Endorse the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study Summary Report April 2021 and associated implementation plan; and

12.2 Note the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. A business case to fund $320,000 for the delivery of some short-term solutions, identified in the implementation plan, was submitted for consideration in the 2021/22 budget. Funding has not been allocated in the draft 2021/22 budget. The delivery of the implementation plan actions will be subject to future budget allocation.

2. Some lower cost line marking and signage changes will be implemented using the City's operational budget for new traffic management works in 2021/22.

3. The remainder of the projects will be referred to the City's capital works programs for funding consideration, or future Council budget business cases.

Community Engagement

4. Community engagement has been completed at three key stages of the project. Almost 100 days of engagement were undertaken with over 3,500 visitors to the engagement website during the project.

5. Stage one community engagement received over 400 submissions from the community raising traffic and parking concerns. These submissions were placed on an interactive map on the project website. We also received a detailed submission from the Barwon Heads Association. The summary for stage one engagement is detailed in **Attachment 4**.

6. Stage two community engagement presented approximately 20 proposed treatments to the community, responding to issues raised during the first round of engagement. The community was asked if they support or don't support the treatments. The City received 169 responses, and all treatments received strong support from the community. The engagement summary for stage two engagement is shown in **Attachment 5,** and the summary of the responses can be found in table 2 in **Attachment 3**.

7. Stage three community engagement presented the draft study report to the community for feedback. Over 770 people view the report on the City's website, 33 contributions and a submission from the Barwon Heads Association were received. The engagement summary for stage three engagement is shown in **Attachment 6**.

8. Officers have also met with key stakeholders, including DoT, at key stages of the project, to ensure their involvement and feedback on the project.

Social Equity Considerations

9. There are proposed changes to improve access to disability parking spaces in Barwon Heads and to improve safety and access for people with impaired mobility.

10. The proposed footpath upgrades improve connectivity and ensure more equitable access for the whole community.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

11. The proposed speed limit changes require formal approval from DoT.

12. All other proposed parking and traffic management changes are delegated to the City as the local road authority for approval prior to implementation.

Alignment to Council Plan

13. The proposals in this report primarily align with the *Council Plan 2018-2022* objective of Integrated Transport Connections by improving our public and active transport and better connecting our networks. A key priority is to deliver better-connected walking, cycling and trail paths across our region.

14. Other connections to this Council Plan include:

    14.1 Improved Health and Safety of our community by addressing public safety. Key priorities relate to providing safer public spaces, support active living and working towards having the safest roads in Victoria;

    14.2 A more inclusive and diverse community by recognising all members of the Geelong community and not leave anyone behind. Key priorities relate to supporting activities that improve social connections in our community and improving access to facilities and programs for people of all abilities; and

    14.3 Effective environmental management by showing leadership to address waste, climate change and environmental challenges. A key priority is to use sustainable materials to construct and renew roads, footpaths and street furniture.

Conflict of Interest

15. No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a general or material conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

16. Some proposals require further design to determine proposal constructability due to site constraints, such as native vegetation, impacts to emergency service access, lighting and draining concerns.

17. Following this further detailed investigation, it is possible some treatments may need to be revised.

Environmental Implications

18. The proposals seek to encourage walking and cycling in Barwon Heads, by improving walking and cycling infrastructure.

Attachment 2

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

BARWON HEADS TRANSPORT AND PARKING STUDY

SUMMARY REPORT

April 2021

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

Executive summary **3**

What the data told us **4**

Traffic Volumes 4

Crash Statistics 4

Car Parking Data 4

What the community told us (Stage 1) **5**

What the community told us (Stage 2) **6**

What the community told us (Stage 3) **8**

Implementation Plan **9**

Short term solutions 9

Parking changes 12

Medium term solutions 13

Long term solutions 14

List of tables

Table 1: Summary of Parking Demands 4

Table 2: Stage 2 Community Engagement Results 6

Table 3: Short term solutions 9

Table 4: Short term solutions – Business Case submissions 10

Table 5: Short term solutions – Parking changes 12

Table 6: Medium Term Solutions 13

Table 7: Long Term Solutions 14

Executive summary

This report provides a summary of the detailed report for the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study.

The study has been developed to investigate transport movements and parking in Barwon Heads, identifying issues, opportunities and preferred options to improve pedestrian and cycling accessibility and safety to promote sustainable movement.

The study examined background information, recent traffic speed / volume, parking data and community engagement responses. The following steps were undertaken as part of the investigation into transport and parking challenges:

- Policy and documentation review;
- Existing conditions assessment;
- Traffic speed and volume data assessment;
- Crash statistic assessment;
- Parking inventory data assessment; and
- Community engagement (Stage 1).

These steps informed the development of transport and parking solutions to address specific concerns on City managed roads in Barwon Heads.

The seasonal nature of tourism within Barwon Heads leads to increased stress placed on the road network and parking. This peak nature is evident in the traffic speed / volume and parking data. The treatment proposals were developed to address typical conditions outside of the seasonal peak periods. These proposed treatments were subject to Stage 2 community engagement feedback, with all concepts receiving support and the community suggesting a range of further improvements to consider.

An Implementation Plan has been developed that identifies short, medium and longer term actions.

Larger and broader issues identified in this study are explored as ‘Strategic Items’ and include:

- Principal Bicycle Network (PBN)
- Safe Route to School (SRTS) Network
- Pedestrian Path Network
- Parking Management
- Planning Assessments/Parking Waivers
- Major Projects
- Public Transport Provision
- Speed Zoning

In reviewing the ‘Strategic Items’ actions have also been identified, where appropriate, for the City to implement or investigate further where required.

What the data told us

TRAFFIC VOLUMES

The City undertook and commissioned a series of speed count traffic surveys over the 2019/2020 summer period. These surveys were taken before, during and after the peak Christmas/New Year period to get a good understanding of the fluctuations in traffic volumes, speeds and number of commercial/heavy vehicles.

The survey results supported the assumption that some key routes through the Barwon Heads study area experience significant fluctuations in traffic volumes during peak holiday periods.

Off-peak traffic speed and volume surveys were planned for mid 2020 but were not undertaken due to the significant disruption to traffic patterns caused by COVID-19 restrictions, preventing an accurate measure of off-peak travel.

CRASH STATISTICS

A crash analysis conducted for the Barwon Heads study area for the latest 5-year period of data (1 January 2015 - 31 December 2019) included the following findings:

- There were 15 recorded crashes within the study area;
- The Fatality and Serious Injury (FSI) crash ratio for the project area was 0.27 (4 crashes), these included:
  - A serious injury crash on Barwon Heads Road 58m west of Geelong Road involving a motorcyclist; and
  - A serious injury crash at the intersection of Barwon Heads Road/Golf Links Road/Geelong Road involving a cyclist.
- Vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and motor scooters, were involved in 66% of the crashes (10 crashes), including:
  - 3 crashes involving pedestrians;
  - 5 crashes involving cyclists; and
  - 1 crash involving a motor scooter and 1 crash involving a motorcyclist

CAR PARKING DATA

The City engaged a data collection company to undertake a parking inventory of key on-street and off-street parking areas within the commercial, river front and ocean front areas of Barwon Heads. The on-street parking spaces surveyed included all streets located near the foreshore and commercial precinct.

Car parking demand surveys were undertaken at hourly intervals from 7am to 6pm on the following days:

- Wednesday 22 January 2020 (school holiday period);
- Saturday 25 January 2020 (school holiday period and Australia Day weekend);
- Wednesday 19 February 2020 (non-holiday period); and
- Saturday 22 February 2020 (non-holiday period).

Table 1: Summary of Parking Demands

Survey Period	Peak Demand	Average Demand
Wednesday 22 January 2020	68% (472 spaces)	47% (330 spaces)
Saturday 25 January 2020	83% (577 spaces)	67% (465 spaces)
Wednesday 19 February 2020	49% (365 spaces)	38% (280 spaces)
Saturday 22 February 2020	66% (489 spaces)	47% (345 spaces)

What the community told us (Stage 1)

Stage 1 community engagement invited members of the community to provide feedback to inform the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study. Local residents, business owners and visitors were asked to contribute by identifying the key transport, parking, pedestrian and cyclist issues and opportunities within the area.

Nearly 400 submissions were received, including a submission by the Barwon Heads Association. All feedback was assessed, and the following key themes were identified:

1. Traffic congestion, delays and safety;
2. Parking provision;
3. Pedestrian and cyclist access and safety;
4. Public transport; and
5. High heavy vehicle traffic.

Figure 1 represents the percentage of responses made in each of the five categories identified above.

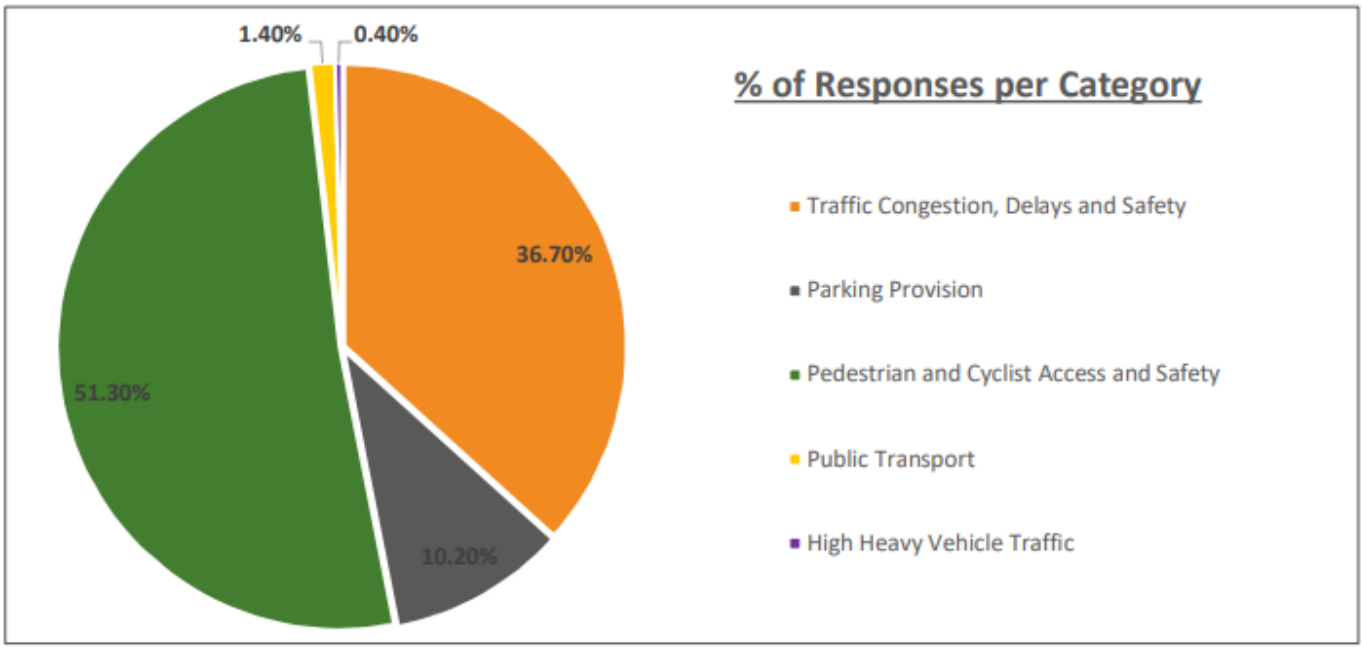


Figure 1: Response Results per Category (% of Total)

What the community told us (Stage 2)

Stage 2 community engagement invited feedback on eighteen proposals via the “Have Your Say” portal on the City’s website. Images of the proposals were shown in the full report on the City’s website. 169 members of the community fully or partially completed the online survey. Participants selected the specific treatments which they would provide feedback on. Between 10 and 56 responses were received for each treatment. For each proposed treatment, participants were asked:

- Do you support the proposal?
- Tell us what you think about the proposal.

The feedback is summarised in the table below.

Table 2: Stage 2 community engagement results

Location	Proposal	Support	Do Not Support	Number of Responses	Comments (summary)
Sheepwash Road	Pedestrian refuge island (at Saratoga Avenue)	71%	29%	31	Concerns due to proximity to CFA access
Sheepwash Road	Pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court)	78%	22%	23	The concept is generally supported and recommended for implementation
Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue	Intersection improvements	83%	17%	24	Further consideration to the abovementioned responses regarding active travel, Village Park access and intersection clarity.
Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road	Intersection improvements	76%	24%	29	The design should be considered further with respect to parking conditions and vulnerable road users
Ozone Road	Raised platform intersections at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street	93%	7%	28	Generally supported, with some suggestions for reviewing impacts on surrounding roads.
Bridge Road / Golf Links Road	Provision of new footpath	97%	3%	29	Very well supporting, with a suggestion for pedestrian fencing at the bend and a wider path.
Seaview Avenue	Chicane treatment/s for traffic calming	67%	33%	15	The community did not see this project as a high priority.
Thirteenth Beach Road	Cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction	86%	14%	43	Proposals received high support, with some further improvements suggested
Barwon Heads area	Active transport path improvements	100%	0%	33	Highly desired by the community, with some requests for environmental aspects to be further considered.
Taits Road	Cycle improvements	71%	29%	14	Comments noted this was a good step, however further should be done to improve safety.
Golf Links Road	Footpath and cycle improvements	90%	10%	14	Feedback was generally supportive with emphasis on school safety

Location	Proposal	Support	Do Not Support	Number of Responses	Comments (summary)
Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade	Footpath and cycle improvements	91%	9%	23	Well supported proposal
Clifford Parade	Footpath provision	83%	17%	12	Responses supported the proposal and raised other traffic concerns for consideration in concept development
Carr Street	Drainage upgrades	79%	21%	14	Expanded feedback was limited and indicated support, however also included disapproval with widespread footpath/kerb and channel construction diminishing the 'coastal' values and character of the township
Carr Street	Footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width	75%	25%	12	Expanded feedback was limited and indicated support, however also included disapproval with widespread footpath/kerb and channel construction diminishing the 'coastal' values and character of the township
Thirteenth Beach Road	Provision of gravel path	-	-	32	Most comments very supportive of this project.
Safe Travel to School Routes	Road stencilling	95%	5%	22	Responses generally supported the project, there were also some suggestions for footpaths.
Von Nida Avenue	Provision of new footpath	90%	10%	10	Project generally well supported.
Barwon Heads Road Service Road	Conversion to one way	90%	10%	10	Comments were generally in support of the proposal, while several provided supporting design ideas for consideration in design development.
Hitchcock Avenue	Bicycle parking	87%	13%	24	The majority of additional comments provided by the community showed support and discussed the potential benefits of such treatments, and potentially additional bicycle parking options.

What the community told us (Stage 3)

In March 2021, as part of Stage 3 community engagement the City presented the draft Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study report, as well as a summary report, to the community for feedback. In response to stage 3 consultation 33 formal submissions were received via the website, as well as a detailed submission from the Barwon Heads Association.

We have used this feedback to inform the final report for the study, as well as the implementation plan included in this report.

Implementation Plan

Community feedback throughout the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study, including submissions received on the draft implementation plan, contributed to the development of treatment responses. In developing the preferred treatments, several options were considered. These options were considered with relation to their practical ability to be constructed/implemented, their impact in improving safety and the ability in responding to the issues and opportunities identified from community engagement. The preferred option was presented to the community for feedback and this feedback has informed the revision of this implementation plan.

This implementation plan categorises actions into short, medium and long term solutions to address the concerns heard from the community.

Indicative timings are a guide and have been assigned with consideration to the degree of benefit, balanced with likely cost. In general, high-benefit, low-cost recommendations are given a shorter timeframe and higher priority. Indicative timings are categorised as follows:

- Short term – 0 to 3 years
- Medium term – 3 to 7 years
- Long term – 7+ years

SHORT TERM SOLUTIONS

The following table shows short term items to be delivered in the next two years from existing funding.

Table 3: Short term solutions

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
1	Thirteenth Beach Road – provision of gravel path	Protected vegetation and sand dunes may limit or prevent treatment viability.	Suggested treatments include: • Gravel shared path to link Stephens Parade to the Surf Life Saving Club Funded for delivery in 20/21.
2	Barwon Heads Road Service Road – conversion to one way	Community feedback indicates supporting design ideas could be implementing with the treatment that include parking controls at entry/exit locations and improved interface with Barwon Heads Road and nearby roundabout	Targeted community consultation required. Suggested treatments include: • Conversation from a two way service road, to a one way service road. Signage costs to be implemented by the City, within the existing operational budget, and line marking changes to be funded by Regional Roads Victoria (RRV).
3	Hitchcock Avenue – speed zoning change (Colite Street to Ozone Road)	Dependent on approval from RRV/DoT to enable zoning	The City to seek RRV/DoT approval.

		change. This item to aligns with Item 19.	Suggested treatments include: • Speed reduction from 50 km/hr to 40 km/hr in Hitchcock Ave from Colite Street to Ozone Road. If approved, to be implemented in 2021/22 operational budget.
4	Taits Road – cycle improvements	Community feedback indicates 'step towards' treatment needs to be consistently applied through Barwon Heads to ensure effectiveness.	Suggested treatments include: • Bicycle sharrows (line marking) Line marking to be implemented using the City's operational budget in 21/22.
5	Thirteenth Beach Road – speed zoning change (Black Rock Road to Surf Life Saving Club)	Dependent on approval from RRV/DoT to enable zoning change.	The City to seek RRV/DoT approval. Suggested treatments at this location include: • Speed reduction from 80 km/hr to 60 km/hr on Thirteenth Beach Road, from Black Rock Road to the Surf Life Saving Club If approved, to be implemented in 2021/22 operational budget.

The following table shows the short term solutions that have been included in a business case submission for Council funding consideration for 2021/22.

Table 4: Short term solutions – business case submissions

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
1	Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road – intersection improvements	Community feedback indicates further refinement of design taking into consideration parking conditions and vulnerable road users. The City to assess impacts on cyclist and pedestrian movements along Hitchcock Avenue. Kerb outstand treatments may provide greater benefit.	Targeted consultation with directly impacted community. Suggested treatments include: • Yellow pavement bar traffic islands or; • Kerb outstands Design and construction included in business case submission for 2021/22.
2	Ozone Road – raised platform intersections	Community feedback indicates potential associated works could be incorporated into treatment.	Targeted consultation with Ozone Road residents, to inform design. Suggested treatments include:

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
	at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street	The City to assess interface with Seaview Avenue (south) which is currently unsealed. The City to review access to Seaview Avenue off-street parking area.	• Raised intersections at Seaview Ave and Margate Street or; • Speed humps Design and construction included in business case submission for 2021/22.
3	Safe Travel to School Routes – road stencilling	Community feedback indicates supporting treatment could be implemented with road stencilling.	Suggested treatments include: • Road stencilling at key locations along the Safe Travel to School Routes. Design and delivery included in business case submission for 2021/22.
4	Hitchcock Avenue – bicycle parking	Community feedback requested additional sites be considered including Coffetti/Sunbaker (#49 Hitchcock Av), River Park and Bridge Road	Targeted consultation required with impacted community members. Suggested treatments include: • Bicycle parking racks to be installed in an on-street parking space on Hitchcock Avenue. Design and delivery included in business case submission for 2021/22.
5	Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court)	Community feedback indicates that Saratoga Avenue and Geelong Road roundabout locations are critical in servicing pedestrian desire lines. The City to assess accessibility to Village Park and adjacent properties to validate constructability.	Suggested treatments include: • Pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road, at Coogee Court Design and construction included in business case submission for 2021/22.
6	Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue – intersection improvements	Community feedback indicates further refinement of design to ensure active travel modes are provided. The City to assess accessibility to Village Park to validate constructability.	Suggested treatments include: • Realigning the intersection into a modified T-intersection • Central traffic islands on Geelong Road and Hitchcock Ave • Traffic islands on Geelong Road (east) Design and construction included in the business case submission for 2021/22.

Parking changes

On-street parking is limited and parking restrictions need to be managed in a way that provides fair access for a variety of community uses. In order to provide a balance in parking for all road users, we typically aim for the parking within an area to be 85% occupied. Once the parking occupancy exceeds 85%, we can consider implementing parking restrictions to achieve a balance in access to parking.

Following the review of all the occupancy data, this table shows the proposed parking changes in Barwon Heads, noting these proposed changes are subject to community support. The implementation of the short term parking changes would be funded from existing budget provision.

Table 5: Short term solutions – Parking changes

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
1	Hitchcock Avenue – time based parking restrictions (Colite Street to Ozone Road)	The City consult with Hitchcock Avenue property owners and tenants to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions.	Targeted consultation required with impacted community members. Suggested treatments include: • A mix of short term (2P) and unrestricted parking in Hitchcock Ave from Colite Street to Ozone Road If supported, to be implemented in 2021/22 operational budget.
2	Bridge Road – time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue to Grandview Parade)	The City consult with Bridge Road property owners and tenants to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions.	Targeted consultation required with impacted community members. Suggested treatments include: • Implement short term (2P) parking restrictions to the spaces in Bridge Road, Hitchcock Ave to Grandview Parade. If supported, to be implemented in 2021/22 operational budget.
3	Clifford Parade – time based parking (Hitchcock Ave to Grove Rd)	The City consult with Clifford Parade property owners and tenants to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions.	Targeted consultation required with impacted community members. Suggested treatments include: • A mix of short term (2P) and unrestricted parking in Clifford Parade, from Hitchcock Ave to Grove Rd If supported, to be implemented in 2021/22 operational budget.

We will continue to monitor parking in Barwon Heads, and in the future if other surrounding streets meet the occupancy levels to implement parking restrictions, these will be considered.

MEDIUM TERM SOLUTIONS

The following table shows the medium term solutions, noting some of the proposals are subject to further community engagement prior to implementation.

Table 6: Medium term solutions

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
1	Bridge Road / Golf Links Road – provision of new footpath	-	A footpath from 26 Golf Links Road to Grove Road has been referred to the footpath capital works register, for future funding consideration.
2	Von Nida Avenue – provision of new footpath	-	A footpath from Hopgood Place to Seabank Drive has been referred to the footpath capital works register, for future funding consideration.
3	Golf Links Road – footpath and cycle improvements	The City to assess vegetation, drainage and potential usage to validate constructability.	A footpath on the eastern side from Bridge Road to the Golf Club has been referred to the footpath capital works register, for future funding consideration. Further investigation is required to assess the vegetation and drainage to clarify what can be constructed in this location. Bicycle sharrows have been referred to operational budgets for implementation.
4	Seaview Avenue – chicane treatment/s for traffic calming	Community feedback provided a mixed view on treatment priority. Five comments indicated support for the chicanes treatment at the northern end.. Four comments indicated they may be unnecessary. The City to assess viability of treatment due to low community priority and existing low recorded vehicle speeds.	Further community consultation to determine community preferred option in 2021/22, following feedback received during stage 3 engagement. Suggested treatments include: • Chicane treatments just north of the intersection at Ozone Road, and north of the Talbot Street intersection.
5	Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction	Community feedback indicates potential associated works could be incorporated into treatment. Protected vegetation and sand dunes may prevent or limit treatment viability.	Further investigation and design is required, due to native vegetation. Suggested treatments include: • Way finding signage • Car park delineation • Road widening to provide cycle lanes/ safe passing width
6	Hitchcock Avenue – accessibility parking bay upgrade	The City to review parking bay dimensions to ensure compliance with Australian Standards.	Design funding allocated for 2021/22. Funding for construction referred to programs for future funding consideration. Suggested treatments include: • Ensuring bay is long and wide enough • Reviewing any timed restrictions on the bays, to meet the community's needs.

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
7	Seaview Avenue – formalising the off-street parking area	The City to assess vegetation, drainage and available footprint to validate constructability.	Funding for design and construction referred to operational budget for future funding consideration. Suggested treatments include: • Delineating the car park, with spike down dot markers • Creating a one-way movement within the carpark, to increase car park capacity.

LONG TERM SOLUTIONS

The following table shows the long term solutions, noting some of the proposals are subject to further community engagement prior to implementation.

Table 7: Long term solutions

Number	Recommendation	Comments	Action
1	Barwon Heads area – active transport path improvements	Community feedback indicates support for treatment however environmentally sensitive design is required. The City to consult with Parks Victoria and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) to progress feasibility.	Referred to future programs for design funding consideration. Suggested treatments include: • Feasibility study required to determine constructability of shared paths to connect Lake Connewarre and 13th Beach.
2	Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements	The City to assess drainage and drainage capacity to validate constructability.	Referred to future programs for design funding consideration. Suggested treatments include: • Footpaths • Road widening to incorporate cycle lanes
3	Carr Street – drainage upgrades, footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width	Although treatment received high support from respondents, feedback included disapproval for widespread footpath/kerb and channel construction. This treatment is viewed to diminish the 'coastal' values and character of the township. Furthermore, significant native vegetation abuts the roadside and would be lost in any effort to widen road or install footpaths.	Referred to future programs for design funding consideration. Targeted consultation also required, to determine community desire to retain 'coastal' values, rather than construction of formal footpaths at this location. Suggested treatments include: • Footpaths • Road widening to incorporate cycle lanes

—

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

PO Box 104
Geelong VIC 3220
P: 03 5272 5272
E: contactus@geelongcity.vic.gov.au
www.geelongaustralia.com.au

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE

Geelong
100 Brougham Street
Geelong VIC 3220
8:00am – 5:00pm

LATEST NEWS:

geelongaustralia

@GreaterGeelong

@CityofGreaterGeelong

@CityofGreaterGeelong

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

SMEC
Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

local people
global experience



Final Report

Barwon Heads Transport & Parking Study

Reference No. D20-18563
Prepared for City of Greater Geelong
12 April 2021

SMEC INTERNAL REF. 30042835T

Document Control

Document:	Final Report
File Location:	X:\Projects\300428\30042835T Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study\100 Concept-Feasibility\109 - Final Transport & Parking Study Report
Project Name:	Barwon Heads Transport & Parking Study
Project Number:	30042835T
Revision Number:	6

Revision History

Rev No.	Date	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved for Issue by
0	7 September 2020	Laura Procter Danielle Rebbechi Sia Niakolas	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot
1	6 October 2020	Sia Niakolas	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot
2	19 October 2020	Adrian Weber	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot
3	18 January 2021	Adrian Weber	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot
4	12 February 2021	Andrew Backman	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot
5	22 February 2021	Andrew Backman	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot
6	12 April 2021	Andrew Backman	Lindsay Smith	Jack Moorfoot

Issue Register

Distribution List	Date Issued	Number of Copies
City of Greater Geelong	12 April 2021	1 x pdf

SMEC Company Details

Approved by:	Jack Moorfoot		
Address:	East 5, Federal Mills – 33 Mackey Street, North Geelong, VIC 3215		
Signature:			
Tel:	+61 3 5228 3109		
Email:	Jack.Moorfoot@smec.com	Website:	www.smec.com

The information within this document is and shall remain the property of: City of Greater Geelong

Important Notice

This report is confidential and is provided solely for the purposes of City of Greater Geelong. This report is provided pursuant to a Consultancy Agreement between SMEC Australia Pty Limited ("SMEC") and City of Greater Geelong, under which SMEC undertook to perform a specific and limited task for City of Greater Geelong. This report is strictly limited to the matters stated in it and subject to the various assumptions, qualifications and limitations in it and does not apply by implication to other matters. SMEC makes no representation that the scope, assumptions, qualifications and exclusions set out in this report will be suitable or sufficient for other purposes nor that the content of the report covers all matters which you may regard as material for your purposes.

This report must be read as a whole. The executive summary is not a substitute for this. Any subsequent report must be read in conjunction with this report.

The report supersedes all previous draft or interim reports, whether written or presented orally, before the date of this report. This report has not and will not be updated for events or transactions occurring after the date of the report or any other matters which might have a material effect on its contents or which come to light after the date of the report. SMEC is not obliged to inform you of any such event, transaction or matter nor to update the report for anything that occurs, or of which SMEC becomes aware, after the date of this report.

Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, SMEC does not accept a duty of care or any other legal responsibility whatsoever in relation to this report, or any related enquiries, advice or other work, nor does SMEC make any representation in connection with this report, to any person other than City of Greater Geelong. Any other person who receives a draft or a copy of this report (or any part of it) or discusses it (or any part of it) or any related matter with SMEC, does so on the basis that he or she acknowledges and accepts that he or she may not rely on this report nor on any related information or advice given by SMEC for any purpose whatsoever.

Table of Contents

1 INTRODUCTION 1
1.1 Background 1
1.2 Project Details, Objectives and Vision 1
1.3 Study Area 1
2 POLICY CONTEXT 3
2.1 Local Policy 3
2.2 State and Regional Policy 4
3 LOCAL CONTEXT 5
3.1 Land Use 5
3.2 Demographics 6
3.3 Travel Behaviour 7
4 EXISTING CONDITIONS 8
4.1 Road Network 8
4.2 Public Transport 9
4.3 Pedestrian and Cycling Facilities 10
4.3.1 Cyclists 12
4.3.2 Pedestrians 12
4.4 Car Parking 12
4.5 Future development 12
4.5.1 Land Development 12
4.5.2 Tourism 13
5 WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US 14
5.1 Key Challenge Categories 15
5.1.1 Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety 15
5.1.2 Parking Provision 18
5.1.3 Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety 19
5.1.4 Public Transport 22
5.1.5 High Heavy Vehicle Traffic 22
5.2 Opportunities 22
6 WHAT THE DATA TOLD US 23
6.1 Traffic Volumes 23
6.2 Crash Statistics 27
6.3 Car Parking Data 27
6.3.1 Supply 27
6.3.2 Demand 28
7 PROPOSED ACTIONS 31
7.1 Proposed Treatments 31
7.2 Community Feedback 32
7.3 Strategic Items 44
7.3.1 Principal Bicycle Network 45
7.3.2 Safe Routes to School Network 46
7.3.3 Pedestrian Path Network 47
7.3.4 Parking Management 48
7.3.5 Planning Assessments/Parking Waivers 52
7.3.6 Major Projects 53
7.3.7 Future Growth and Movement Projects 53
7.3.8 Public Transport Provision 54
7.3.9 Speed Zoning 54
7.4 Issues on State-Owned Roads 55
8 IMPLEMENTATION 57
8.1 Implementation Plan 57

8.2 Strategic Items....59
8.3 Proposals Not Adopted to The Implementation Plan....59
9 CONCLUSIONS....61
10 REFERENCES....63

Appendices

APPENDIX A STAGE 1 – COMMUNITY ISSUES / OPPORTUNITIES
APPENDIX B TRAFFIC VOLUME DATA
APPENDIX C CRASH STATISTICS
APPENDIX D PROPOSED TREATMENT CONCEPT PLANS
APPENDIX E FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
APPENDIX F BARWON HEADS PRIMARY SCHOOL – SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

List of Tables

Table 4-1: The City Road Hierarchy - Urban Roads and Street.... 9
Table 4-2: Cyclist Types – Experience Levels and Characteristics (Austroads AP-G88-17) 12
Table 5-1: Locations Identified by the community as being congested with Traffic Flow Concerns....16
Table 5-2: Safety Issues and Congestion at Intersections and Roundabouts as Identified by the Community 16
Table 5-3: Roads with Speed Issues as identified by the Community 17
Table 5-4: Locations Identified by the community as having quality issues 17
Table 5-5: Routes identified by the community as being popular for rat running....17
Table 5-6: Areas identified by the community as having parking provision issues 18
Table 5-7: Identified Locations with Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Concerns....20
Table 5-8: Locations Identified with Active Transport Link Challenges 20
Table 5-9: Locations Identified with Infrastructure Quality....21
Table 6-1: 5-year crash summary for project zone 27
Table 6-2: Summary of Parking Demands on Surveyed Days....28
Table 6-3: Summary of Parking Demands and Opportunities at 12noon, Saturday 25 January 2020....30
Table 7-1: Expanded feedback regarding pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Saratoga Avenue 33
Table 7-2: Expanded feedback regarding pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Coogee Court....33
Table 7-3: Expanded feedback regarding intersection improvements at Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue....34
Table 7-4: Expanded feedback regarding intersection improvements at Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road....35
Table 7-5: Expanded feedback regarding a new footpath along Bridge Road and Golf Links Road....36
Table 7-6: Expanded feedback regarding chicane treatments along Seaview Avenue 37
Table 7-7: Expanded feedback regarding cycle and pedestrian improvements along Thirteenth Beach Road....37
Table 7-8: Expanded feedback regarding active transport improvements around the Barwon Heads area....38
Table 7-9: Expanded feedback regarding Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements....40
Table 7-10: Expanded feedback regarding cycle and pedestrian improvements along Thirteenth Beach Road....42

Table 7-11: Expanded feedback regarding Safe Route to School stencilling 42
Table 7-12: Expanded feedback regarding Safe Route to School stencilling 44
Table 7-13: Actions/responses for traffic issues and requests regarding State-owned roads....55
Table 8-1: Implementation Plan....57

List of Figures

Figure 1-1: Study Area (source: www.melway.com.au) 2
Figure 2-1: Council Transport and Public Realm Strategies 3
Figure 2-2: G21 Region Road Transport Plan 4
Figure 3-1: Existing Planning Zones (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan) 5
Figure 3-2: Town Centre Existing Floorspace Land Uses (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan) 6
Figure 3-3: Barwon Heads Age Structure (Data Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016) 7
Figure 3-4: Barwon Heads Method of Travel to Work (Data Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016) 7
Figure 4-1: Key Roads in Barwon Heads (Base Map Source: www.melway.com.au) 8
Figure 4-2: Municipal Road Network Asset Hierarchy (Source: City of Greater Geelong Municipal Road Management Plan) 8
Figure 4-3: Bus Route 55 (Source: PTV) 10
Figure 4-4: Barwon Heads Path Network (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan) 11
Figure 4-5: Barwon Heads PBN (Source: The City) 11
Figure 4-6: Barwon Heads Structure Plan – Future Planning (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan) 13
Figure 5-1: Community Engagement Survey Responses 14
Figure 5-2: Response Results Per Category (% of Total) 15
Figure 5-3: Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety Sub-Category Responses (% of total) 15
Figure 5-4: Parking Provision Sub-Category Responses (% of total) 18
Figure 5-5: Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety Sub-Category Responses (% of total) 19
Figure 6-1: Peak Day Traffic Volumes Summary 24
Figure 6-2: Typical (85th Percentile) Vehicle Speeds 25
Figure 6-3: Average percentage of Commercial Vehicles per day 26
Figure 6-4: Car Parking Occupancy 29
Figure 6-5: Barwon Heads Parking Surveys – Parking Occupancy Profile 30
Figure 7-1: Support for pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Saratoga Avenue (total 31 responses) 32
Figure 7-2: Support for pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Coogee Court (total 23 responses) 33
Figure 7-3: Support for intersection improvements and Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue (total 24 responses) 34
Figure 7-4: Support for intersection improvements and Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road (total 29 responses) 35
Figure 7-5: Support for raised platform intersections along Ozone Road (total 28 responses) 35
Figure 7-6: Support for new footpath along Bridge Road and Golf Links Road (total 29 responses) 36
Figure 7-7: Support for chicane treatments along Seaview Avenue (total 15 responses) 36
Figure 7-8: Support for Thirteenth Beach Road proposal (total 43 responses) 37

Figure 7-9: Support for active transport improvements around the Barwon Heads area (total 33 responses) 38
Figure 7-10: Support for proposed bicycle stencils on Taits Road (total 14 responses).....39
Figure 7-11: Support for Golf Links Road footpath and cycle improvements (total 33 responses).....39
Figure 7-12: Support for footpath and cycle improvements on Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade (total 23 responses) 40
Figure 7-13: Support for footpath provision along Clifford Parade (total 12 responses) 41
Figure 7-14: Support for drainage upgrades (kerb and channel) on Carr Street (total 14 responses) 41
Figure 7-15: Support for new footpath and road widening on Carr Street (total 12 responses) 41
Figure 7-16: Support for Safe Route to School stencilling (total 22 responses).....42
Figure 7-17: Support for new footpath along Von Nida Avenue (total 10 responses) 43
Figure 7-18: Support for one way operation of Barwon Heads Road Service Road (total 10 responses).....44
Figure 7-19: Support for bicycle parking in Hitchcock Avenue (total 24 responses).....44
Figure 7-20: Barwon Heads PBN (Source: The City) 46
Figure 7-21: Desirable cross-section for proposed PBN 46
Figure 7-22: Stencilling Treatment Recommended Action 15 for southern part of Eastern SRTS 47
Figure 7-23: Parallel Accessibility Parking Space Layout (AS/NZS 2890.5).....49
Figure 7-24: Aerial Imagery 25 November 2020 and 30 December 2015 (source: NearMap).....51
Figure 7-25: Seaview Avenue Potential Parking Area Layout (image source: NearMap) 52
Figure 10-1: Average Weekday Traffic Volumes 66
Figure 10-2: Peak Survey Traffic Data.....67
Figure 10-3: 85th Percentile Speed Data.....68
Figure 10-4: Average % Commercial Vehicles Data.....69
Figure 10-5: Summary of Crashes (5 years: 2015-2019).....71

Abbreviations

The City	City of Greater Geelong
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
BCCoM	Barwon Coast Committee of Management
PTV	Public Transport Victoria
PBN	Principle Bicycle Network
BH	Barwon Heads
CDZ	Comprehensive Development Zone

Executive Summary

This study arose from the City's desire to investigate transport movements and parking in Barwon Heads with the aim to promote sustainable movement, improve pedestrian and cycling accessibility and safety and review parking restrictions. The purpose of this study was to identify the key transport issues and opportunities facing Barwon Heads, develop preferred options to address these issues and opportunities, and prepare recommendations. The study examined background information, recent traffic speed / volume and parking data and community engagement responses. The following analyses were undertaken as part of this investigation to assist in the identification of the transport and parking challenges present within the town:

- Policy and Council documentation review;
- Existing conditions assessment;
- Traffic speed and volume data assessment;
- Crash statistic assessment;
- Parking inventory data assessment; and
- Community engagement (Stage 1).

Analysis of the above data and information revealed five main transport and parking challenges currently facing the Barwon Heads community. These challenges are outlined below:

- Traffic congestion, delays and safety;
- Parking provision;
- Pedestrian and cyclist access and safety;
- Public transport; and
- High heavy vehicle traffic.

The above analysis and identified challenges were used to inform the development of numerous transport and parking upgrades/treatments to address specific concerns on the City owned roads in Barwon Heads. The seasonal nature of tourism within Barwon Heads which leads to the increased stress placed on the road networks and parking in the town is evident in the traffic speed / volume and parking data. The proposals were developed to address typical conditions.

These proposed treatments were subject to Stage 2 community engagement feedback, with all concepts receiving overwhelming support and a range of further improvements to consider. The following key improvements are recommended to address community identified transport and parking challenges within Barwon Heads:

- Road Safety:
  - Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue – intersection improvements
  - Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road – intersection improvements
  - Ozone Road – raised platform intersections at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street
  - Seaview Avenue – chicane treatment/s for traffic calming
  - Carr Street – drainage upgrades
  - Barwon Heads Road Service Road – conversion to one way
  - Thirteenth Beach Road – speed zoning change (Black Rock Road to Surf Life Saving Club)
  - Hitchcock Avenue – speed zoning change (Colite Street to Ozone Road)
- Parking Changes:
  - Hitchcock Avenue – time based parking restrictions (Colite Street to Ozone Road)
  - Hitchcock Avenue – Accessibility Parking Bay Upgrade
  - Bridge Road – time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue to Grandview Parade)
  - Seaview Avenue – formalising the off-street parking area
  - Clifford Parade - time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue and Grove Road)
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Access:
  - Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court)
  - Bridge Road / Golf Links Road – provision of new footpath

  - Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction
  - Barwon Heads area – active transport path improvements
  - Taits Road – cycle improvements
  - Golf Links Road – footpath and cycle improvements
  - Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements
  - Carr Street – footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width
  - Thirteenth Beach Road – provision of gravel path
  - Safe Travel to School Routes – road stencilling
  - Von Nida Avenue – provision of new footpath
- Strategy Items
  - Adopt Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade to the PBN

An Implementation Plan has been developed that identifies short, medium and long term timeframes to action these recommendations along with considerations for each action.

Larger and broader issues identified in this study are explored as 'Strategic Items' and include:

- Principal Bicycle Network (PBN)
- Safe Route to School (SRTS) Network
- Pedestrian Path Network
- Parking Management
- Planning Assessments/Parking Waivers
- Major Projects
- Public Transport Provision
- Speed Zoning

In reviewing the 'Strategic Items' actions have been identified, where appropriate, for Council to investigate further.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Barwon Heads is a coastal township located along Greater Geelong's south-east coastlines. It has a residential population of 3,875 people (as per ABS 2016 data), however during the summer periods Barwon Heads experiences a significant influx of tourists and holiday makers.

The existing transport network within Barwon Heads has a vehicle movement-based focus. Public transport in and around Barwon Heads is limited, however the active transport network is well utilised by the Barwon Heads community for walking and cycling trips to nearby locations. As a result of the vehicle movement-based focus, traffic and parking are causing friction with the community's expectation of amenity for the township, especially during the busier summer periods.

It is expected that the Barwon Heads population, both local and visitors, will continue to increase. The town is located between the two growth area locations of Armstrong Creek to the north west, and Ocean Grove to the east. Both areas are predicted to grow in size, with the Armstrong Creek development to create a population of around 65,000 people over the next 20 years and Ocean Grove set to grow to around 20,000 people by 2031. This growth will contribute to Barwon Heads' growing visitor population.

1.2 Project Details, Objectives and Vision

SMEC has been engaged by the City of Greater Geelong (The City) to conduct a Transport and Parking Study (Study) of the Barwon Heads township. The Study aims to promote sustainable movement by improving pedestrian and cycling accessibility and safety, as well as to review parking controls and provision. It is anticipated that this study will identify some of the key challenges and constraints surrounding the transport network in Barwon Heads. These will inform development of a framework to guide future investment in transport infrastructure, develop community programs and carry out advocacy.

To achieve the vision for safe, sustainable and efficient transport systems that better connect people to their destinations, the following objectives have been identified:

Objective 1 – Identify current and likely future shortcomings in transport and parking within Barwon Heads

Objective 2 – Develop a program for key infrastructure improvement works

Objective 3 – Maintain the coastal village character and informality of local streets

Objective 4 – Identify advocacy priorities

Objective 5 – Achieve a safer road environment

Objective 6 – Identify improvements to public parking

1.3 Study Area

The broad study area encompasses the whole of the Barwon Heads township, as illustrated in Figure 1-1, and is generally bound by the following features:

- Northern and eastern boundary – Barwon River;
- Southern boundary – Shoreline of Bass Strait / Thirteenth Beach Road;
- Western boundary – Barwon Heads Settlement Boundary, as per Council's Planning Scheme; and
- Barwon Coast Committee of Management parking area on the Urban Foreshore/Spit Zones.

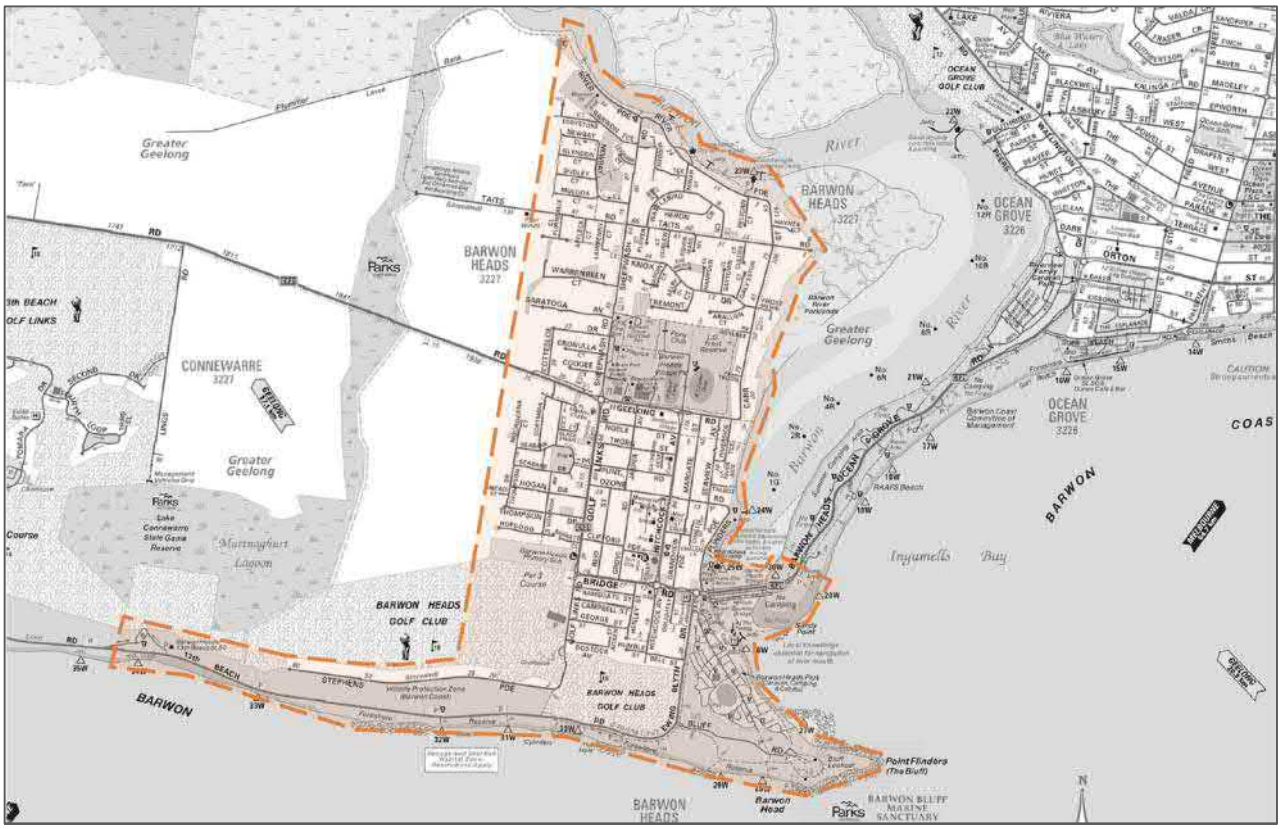


Figure 1-1: Study Area (source: www.melway.com.au)

There is no policy support for an expansion of the western end of the township, as there are significant constraints including impacts of environmental and coastal areas, flooding/climate change and issues around stormwater discharge.

2 Policy Context

There are local, state and regional influences on the transport planning within the Barwon Heads locality. The transport and parking analysis work undertaken for this project has been informed by the local, state and regional policies listed in the subsequent sections.

2.1 Local Policy

The following Council policies, strategies and plans were considered in the development of this report:



Figure 2-1: Council Transport and Public Realm Strategies

- Greater Geelong – A Clever and Creative Future; https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative/documents/item/8d4d2ad3b2b24c1.aspx
- The City of Greater Geelong Council Plan 2018-22; https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/councilplan/default.aspx
  Integrated Comprehensive Transport Plan; https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/ictp/documents/item/8d2e39e49715770.aspx ;
- The City of Greater Geelong Settlement Strategy; https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/planning/documents/item/8d848164a97b196.aspx ;
- Barwon Heads Structure Plan; and https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/strategicplanning/documents/item/8cbc13e6e1024a9.aspx
- Geelong Road Safety Strategy https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/roadsafety/documents/item/8d08ccf2829f9de.aspx

2.2 State and Regional Policy

The responsibility for the provision and planning for transport within Greater Geelong is shared between Council and the Victorian Government. The following state and regional policies were considered in the development of this report:

- The Transport Integration Act 2010; and https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/in-force/acts/transport-integration-act-2010/073
- G21 Region Road Transport Plan 2017-2027 https://www.g21.com.au/g21-region-road-transport-plan-2017-27.

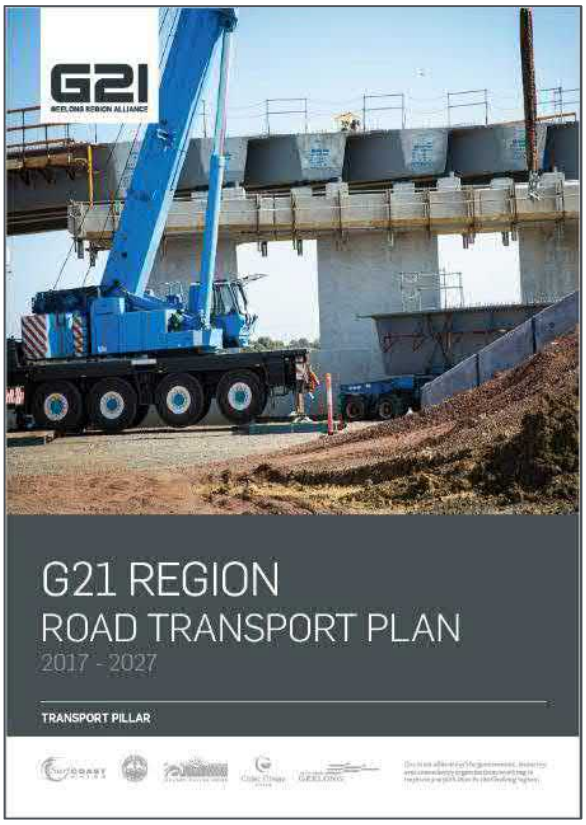


Figure 2-2: G21 Region Road Transport Plan

3 Local Context

3.1 Land Use

Land use within Barwon Heads consists of a combination of residential and agricultural zoned land, with many nature reserves and parks. Over the last three decades, the role of Barwon Heads has shifted from a primarily residential area where people commute to Geelong, to a key tourist destination. It is now home to many key tourist hotspots.

The commercial centre of Barwon Heads includes the town's major hotel and a strip of shops including cafes and restaurants located along Hitchcock Avenue. North of Barwon Heads is the expansive waterway of Lake Connewarre and surrounding wetlands, which attracts a number of tourists. Other key land uses within the study area include the Barwon Heads Football and Netball Club, Barwon Heads and District Pony Club, Holy Family Catholic Church, Bop Bop Karrong Kindergarten and Barwon Heads Primary School.

The existing planning zones and land uses within Barwon Heads are depicted in Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-2.

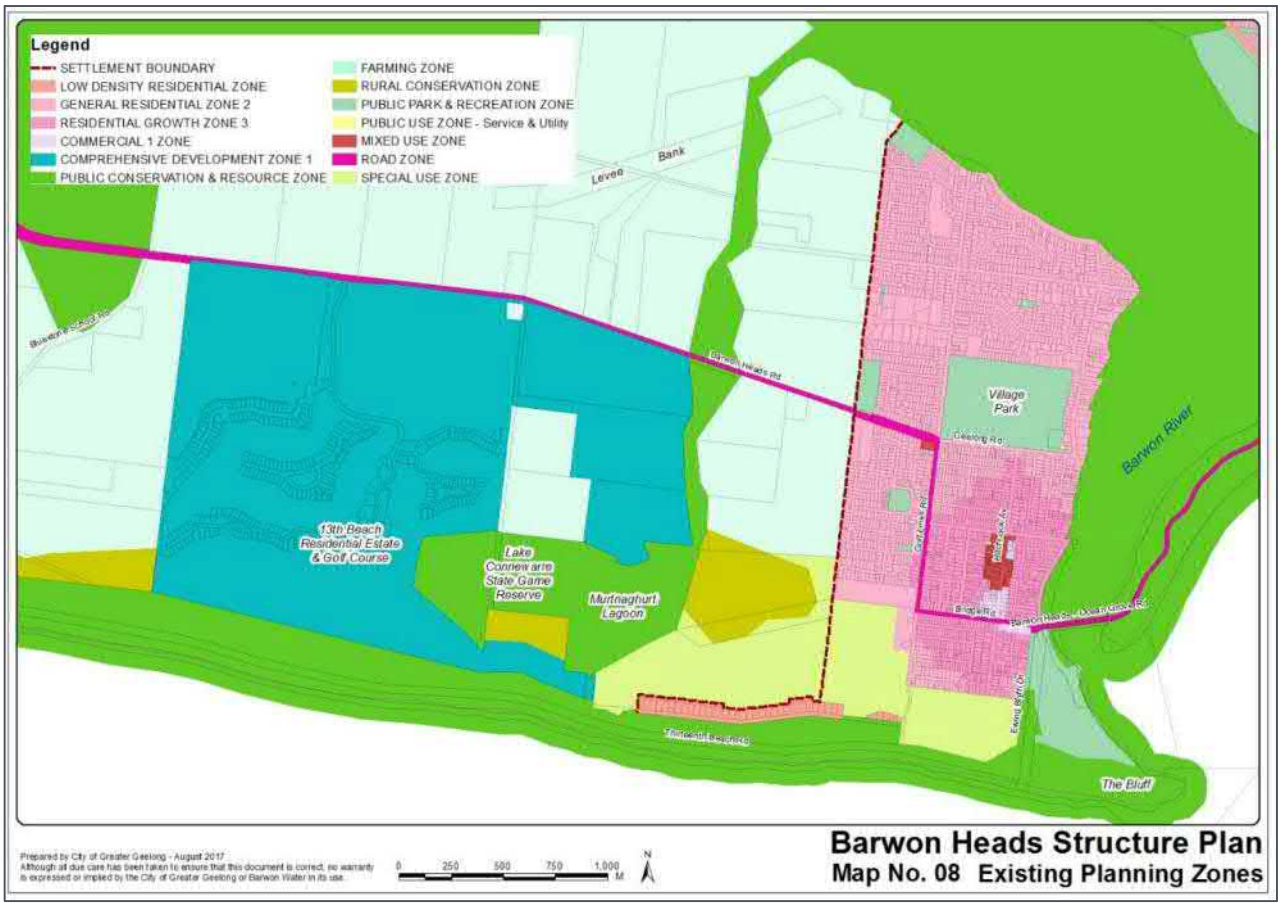


Figure 3-1: Existing Planning Zones (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan)

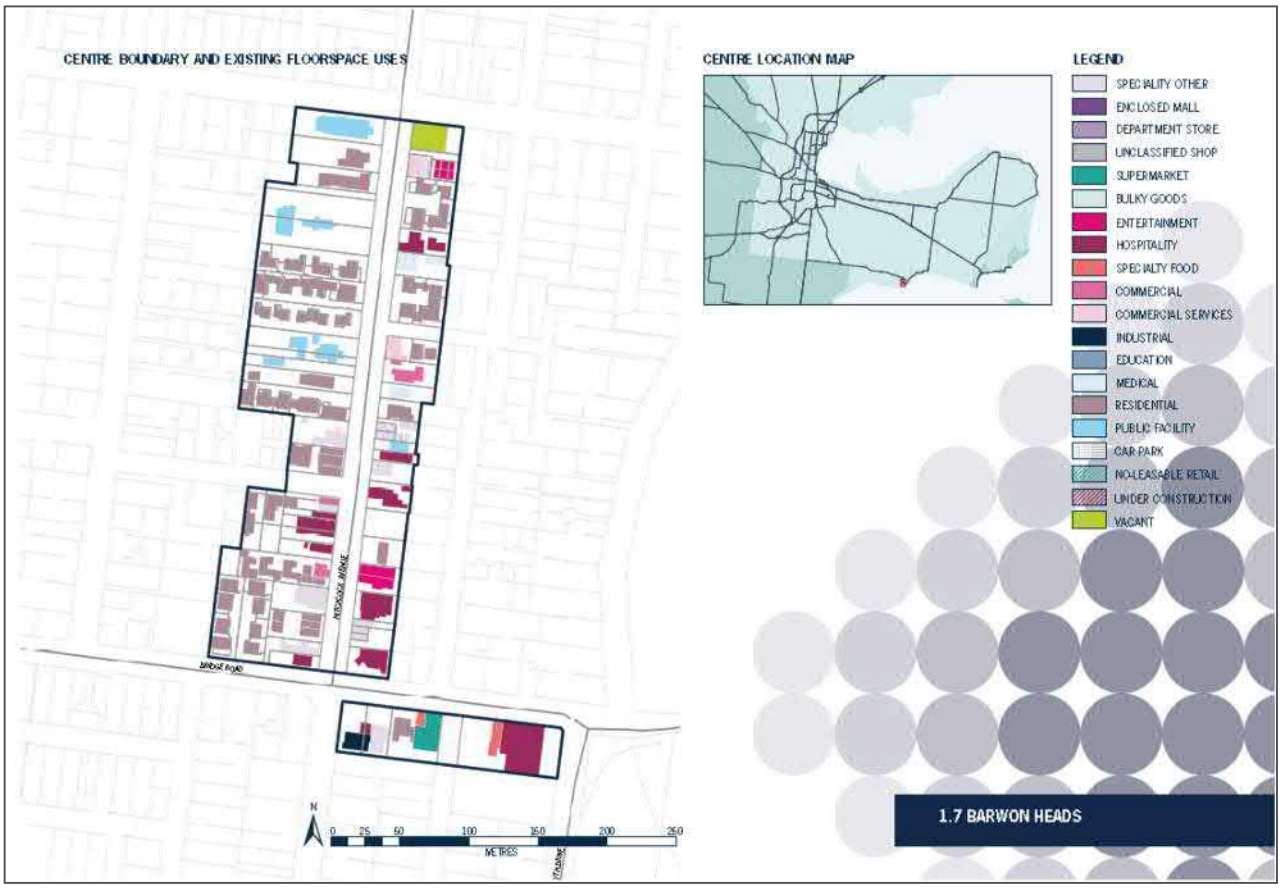


Figure 3-2: Town Centre Existing Floorspace Land Uses (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan)

3.2 Demographics

Barwon Heads is home to approximately 3,875 people (as per ABS 2016 data). Households are predominately couples with families, making up just under 50% of all households. Couples with no children are the next largest demographic group, consisting of just over one-third of all households.

In 2016, 1,639 people were employed with 50% working full time. Of the working population, a significant proportion work in professional and managerial roles.

The following observations have been made about the Barwon Heads demographics:

- Age structure has shifted over recent decades, with increases to primary school aged children and those within the 35-49 age bracket (Figure 3-3);
- There has been a reduction in the number of retirees (Figure 3-3), although this is expected to grow again significantly by 2031;
- The town experiences significant influx of people in the peak summer holiday season, with moderate vacancy rates experienced in the off season;
- Barwon Heads hosts a relatively wealthy and advantaged population, with low unemployment; and
- Stagnant population growth experienced as available housing supply decreases.

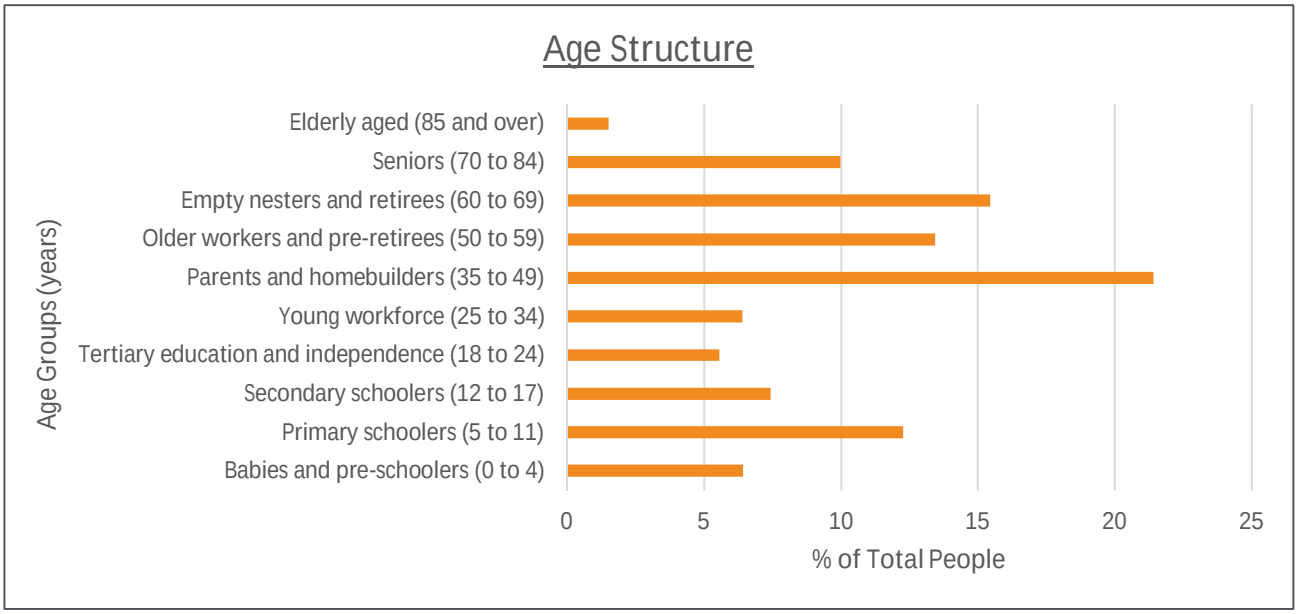


Figure 3-3: Barwon Heads Age Structure (Data Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016)

3.3 Travel Behaviour

Barwon Heads Road/Golf Link Road/Bridge Road (C121) is the main transport corridor linking Barwon Heads to the wider Bellarine Peninsula. C121 provides a river crossing of Barwon River with the next nearest crossing provided in Breakwater approximately 20km to the north west. This results in pressure on the corridor as a key east-west link for the Bellarine Peninsula region.

Car ownership is on average 1.9 vehicles per dwelling, with less than 3% of households owning no vehicles. As shown in Figure 3-4, the most popular mode of travel to work is by private motor vehicle, with approximately 70% travelling to work by car (as a driver or passenger). Approximately 10% of workers work from home[1]. Active travel modes (such walking and cycling) are low, with walking consisting of 3% of all users and cycling less than 2.5%.

The during holiday periods (such as school holidays, Easter and Christmas) Barwon Heads experiences an influx of tourists. This influx results in concerns relating to the management of traffic flow and parking provision.

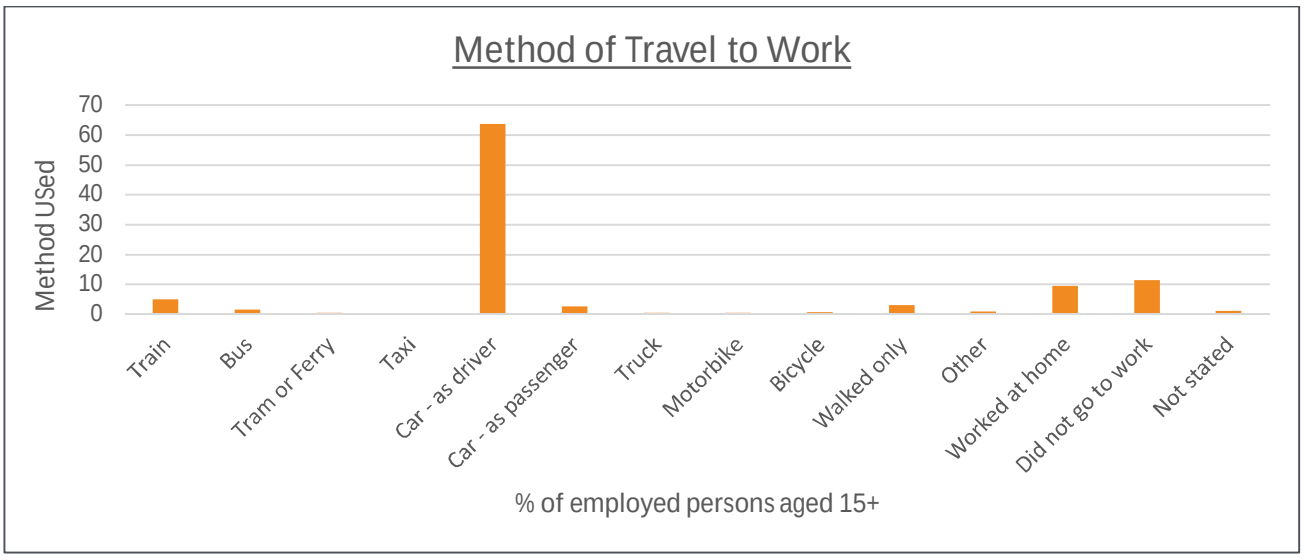


Figure 3-4: Barwon Heads Method of Travel to Work (Data Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016)

[1] based on 2016 data. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in significant changes in work related travel behaviour. The Victorian Premier implemented State of Emergency powers requiring working from home for all non-essential workers.

4 Existing Conditions

4.1 Road Network

Barwon Heads provides two distinct road network layouts. The older portion of the township, located south of Geelong Road, is typically connected via a grid-based network. The newer area, located north of Geelong Road, is connected predominantly through a curvilinear/cul-de-sac road network. These two styles of road network can be seen in the map shown below.

There is a key arterial route which provides access to and through Barwon Heads, being Route C121. The roads along this route are owned and managed by Department of Transport (DoT). The City Road Hierarchy is set out below in Figure 4-2. The road categories, example roads and typical road characterists are provided in Table 4-1.



Figure 4-1: Key Roads in Barwon Heads (Base Map Source: www.melway.com.au)



Figure 4-2: Municipal Road Network Asset Hierarchy (Source: City of Greater Geelong Municipal Road Management Plan)

Table 4-1: The City Road Hierarchy - Urban Roads and Street

Road Hierarchy Category	Example Roads	Typical Road Characteristics
State Arterial	Barwon Heads Road Bridge Road	+10,000 vehicles per day Caters for service and heavy vehicles 60 km/h speed limit (or above)
Main distributor (Category 4)	Hitchcock Avenue Geelong Road	5,000-10,000 vehicles per day Cater for, but may restrain, service and heavy vehicles 60 km/h speed limit (or less)
Secondary distributor and collector (Category 3)	Carr Street Sheepwash Road	2,000-5,000 vehicles per day Cater for, but may restrain, service and heavy vehicles 50 or 60 km/h speed limit
Residential Street (Category 2)	Jasper Avenue Tait Road	Up to 2,000 vehicles per day Target speed less than 50 km/h
Access Place (Category 2)	n/a	Less than 500 vehicles per day Target speed less than 30 km/h
Access Lane (Category 1)	n/a	Target speed less than 20 km/h

4.2 Public Transport

Barwon Heads has a very limited public transport network. Public transport in and around Barwon Heads includes the following:

- Bus Route 55 – Geelong to Ocean Grove via Barwon Heads is the only bus route operating within the township. The service runs (on average) every hour during weekdays (with an increase in frequency during peak times) and every two hours during weekends. On Saturday and Sunday, the service runs approximately every 2 hours with less early morning and later evening buses[2]. The bus route is shown below in Figure 4-3.
- A free shuttle bus, serviced by the Barwon Coast Committee of Management (BCCoM), operates between Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove during the holiday period. The bus operates daily, on the hour, eight times per day.

There is no train line/network within the area. The closest train station is Marshall Railway Station, approximately 14.5km north-west of the Barwon Heads town centre. Marshall Railway Station is a V/Line train station, serviced by the Melbourne-Geelong and Melbourne-Warrnambool services.

There are currently no plans to make changes to the public transport network in the area[2].

[2] Barwon Heads Structure Plan

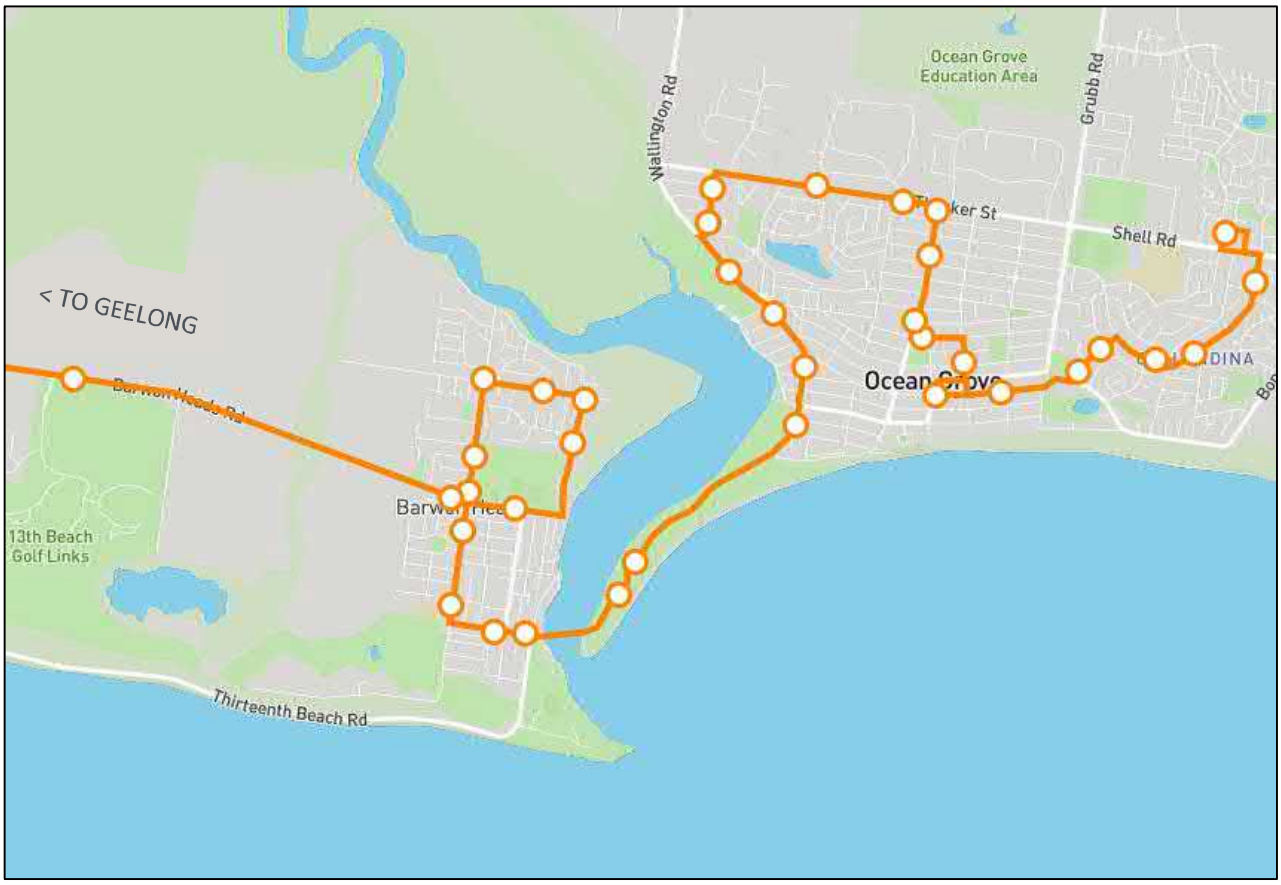


Figure 4-3: Bus Route 55 (Source: PTV)

4.3 Pedestrian and Cycling Facilities

The transport network within Barwon Heads accommodates predominantly road-based movements. There is a lack of formal footpaths and cycle lanes, with missing linkages between open space/park areas and the town centre. Intra-township bicycle and pedestrian movements are generally relegated to grassy verges and unsealed roadways.

There are several proposals for improvement projects identified in the City's Cycle Strategy and the G21 Principal Bicycle Network (PBN), although much remains proposed infrastructure. Some of these include:

- Barwon River Parkland – continuous cycle path from the Ring Road Reserve to Barwon Heads;
- Sheepwash Road from the Round the Heads Trail to Barwon Heads Village Park – on-road bicycle lanes;
- Queenscliff to Barwon Heads Link;
- Thirteenth Beach Trail – construction of a shared pathway from the caravan park; and
- Improvements/development of links for Ewing Blyth Road, Thirteenth Beach Road and Bridge Road.

The existing and proposed paths identified in the Cycle Strategy and PBN are shown in Figure 4-4 and Figure 4-5.

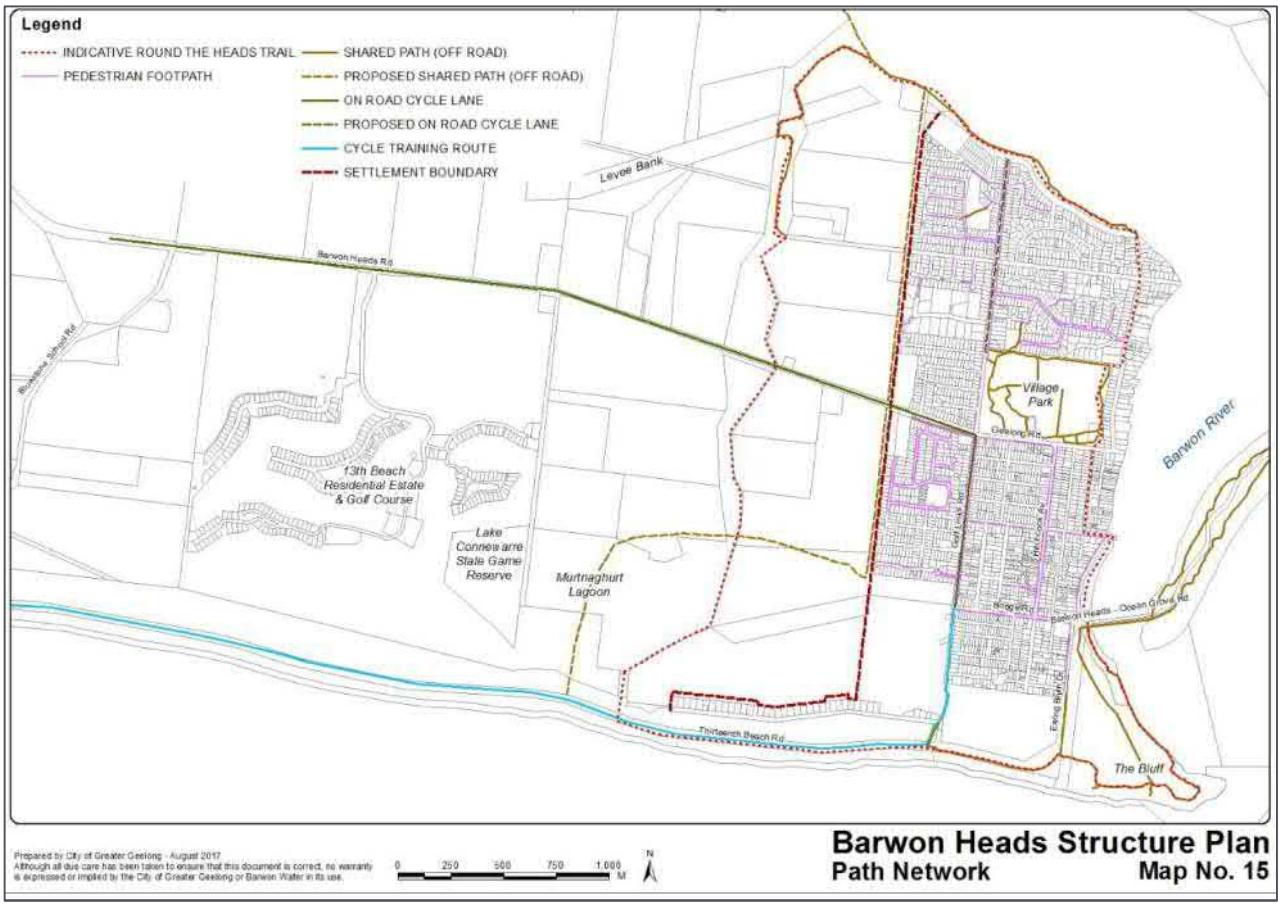


Figure 4-4: Barwon Heads Path Network (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan)

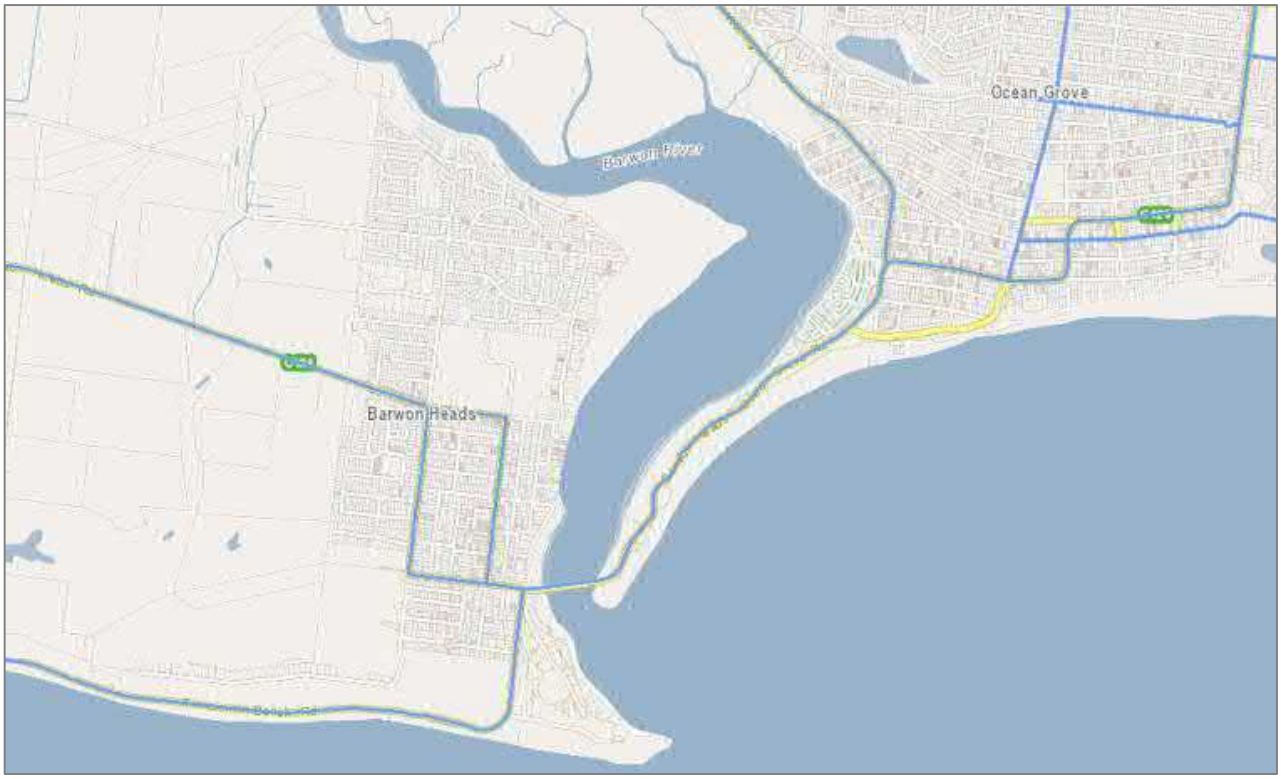


Figure 4-5: Barwon Heads PBN (Source: The City)

4.3.1 Cyclists

Barwon Heads is becoming increasingly popular for cyclists, however formal routes predominantly consist of the on-road cycle lanes provided on Route C121.

There are generally two main cyclist types within Barwon Heads. Table 4-2 describes their experience levels and characteristics.

Table 4-2: Cyclist Types – Experience Levels and Characteristics (Austroads AP-G88-17)

Rider Level	Example	Characteristics	Suitable infrastructure
Young / novice	• Primary School Children	Cognitive skills and understanding of road rules developing. Skills are basic. Will seek separation from motor vehicles. Desire off-road paths, but can manage occasional crossing of roads and varying traffic conditions.	Separation from motor vehicles is more important than speed. • Shared paths and separated paths • Footpaths (where permitted)
Advanced	• Experienced commuters • Experienced sports rider • Experienced touring rider	Less affected by motor vehicle traffic. Likely to avoid off-road paths where speed may be reduced. Riders able to share lanes, with preference for dedicated space.	Speed is more important than separation from motor vehicles • Shared traffic • Bicycle lanes • Sealed shoulders

4.3.2 Pedestrians

Formal pedestrian facilities are found in higher concentrations near the primary school and village commercial centre. The commercial centre provides a concrete path network with a number of zebra crossings (both raised and at road grade). The residential areas of Barwon Heads tend to retain the traditional coastal amenity through the provision of sealed road, grass table drains and grassed verges (no kerb and channel or footpaths).

4.4 Car Parking

Parking restrictions within Barwon Heads are limited mostly to the southern end of Hitchcock Avenue, with majority of on-street parking available being unrestricted. There are five off-street parking areas within the study area, these include:

- Frank Ellis Reserve (Flinders Parade indented off-street parking spaces);
- Bridge Car Park (access off Ewing Blyth Drive);
- Jetty Road off-street car park;
- Barwon Heads Hotel off-street car park; and
- The Spit off-street car park.

During the busy summer periods parking can become congested around the town centre, especially along Hitchcock Avenue, Flinders Parade and at the beach parking areas. Parking is considered a main challenge by the community as expected with the influx of visitors during holiday periods. Parking is raised as a key challenge by the community.

4.5 Future development

4.5.1 Land Development

As per the Barwon Heads Structure Plan (2017), Barwon Heads is to remain focused on development geared towards tourism as the essential part of its vitality and economic future. The Geelong and Bellarine Tourism Development Strategy notes that tourism visitation is anticipated to increase both from overnight and day-trippers, with these numbers influenced by growth areas in Armstrong Creek. Furthermore, as per the policies of the G21 Regional Growth Plan and the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme, Barwon Heads is discouraged from provision of land for industry or warehouse use, with the township continuing to rely on the supply of industrial and warehouse zoned land within Geelong, Drysdale and Ocean Grove.

To accommodate increased numbers of tourists to the area, key opportunities have been identified in the tourism strategy including a gap of nature-based cabins and hotel accommodation. There is also a need for reinvestment of existing commercial accommodation and caravan parks. BCCoM is likely to develop future master plans prepared for the specific management of issues or areas of coastal land, including for the caravan park and the need for the future upgrades or redevelopment and management of car parking. This is illustrated in Figure 4-6.

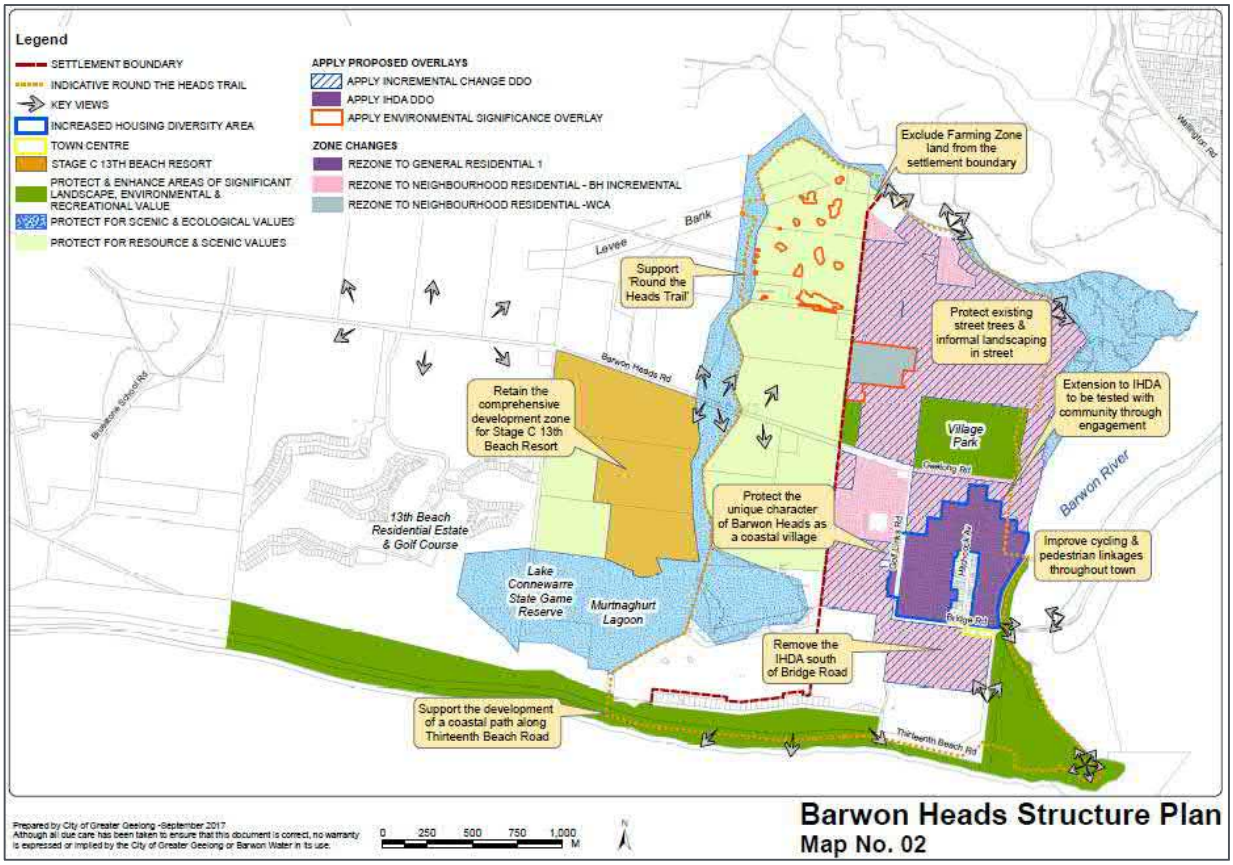


Figure 4-6: Barwon Heads Structure Plan – Future Planning (Source: Barwon Heads Structure Plan)

While there are limited opportunities for future development in Barwon Heads, it is anticipated that some development will occur. This is summarised below.

4.5.2 Tourism

The Bellarine South area is comprised of both Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove and in 2018, it was found that the Bellarine South subregion visitation was 924,424, capturing 16% of total visitation to Greater Geelong and The Bellarine region[3]. Of these 924,424 people, 62% of total visitors were overnight visitors and only 38% were on a day trip. Tourism is essential to the overall vitality and economic future of Barwon Heads, and the popularity of the town is due to its many natural features, beaches, parklands and recreational activities.

Due to the existing settlement boundaries, Barwon Heads is not identified as a town that will play a growth role under the G21 Regional Growth Plan but will play an important tourism role to the surrounding areas. As stated in the Barwon Heads Structure Plan, tourism visitation is anticipated to increase both from overnight trips and day-trippers. The seasonal nature of tourism within Barwon Heads leads to the increased stress placed on the road networks and parking in the town. It is important that the continued sustainable growth of tourism is supported, provided that it respects the overall character and operation of the town.

[3] Geelong and the Bellarine Tourism Development Plan

5 What the Community Told Us

Community Engagement Stage 1 invited members of the community to provide feedback to inform the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study. Local residents, business owners and visitors were asked to contribute by identifying the key transport, parking, pedestrian and cyclist issues and opportunities within the area. The City used the "Have Your Say" portal on the City's website to gather feedback, suggestions and opportunities from the community in this 'Stage 1 Engagement' process. Figure 5-1 provides a snapshot to the community's response. The community has clearly highlighted key locations for this study to consider. A detailed list of issues and opportunities is provided at Appendix A.



Figure 5-1: Community Engagement Survey Responses

Nearly 400 submissions were received, including a submission by the Barwon Heads Association. All feedback was assessed, and the following key themes were identified:

1. Traffic congestion, delays and safety;
2. Parking provision;
3. Pedestrian and cyclist access and safety;
4. Public transport; and
5. High heavy vehicle traffic.

Figure 5-2 represents the percentage of responses made in each of the five categories identified above. These themes are discussed further in the subsequent sections.

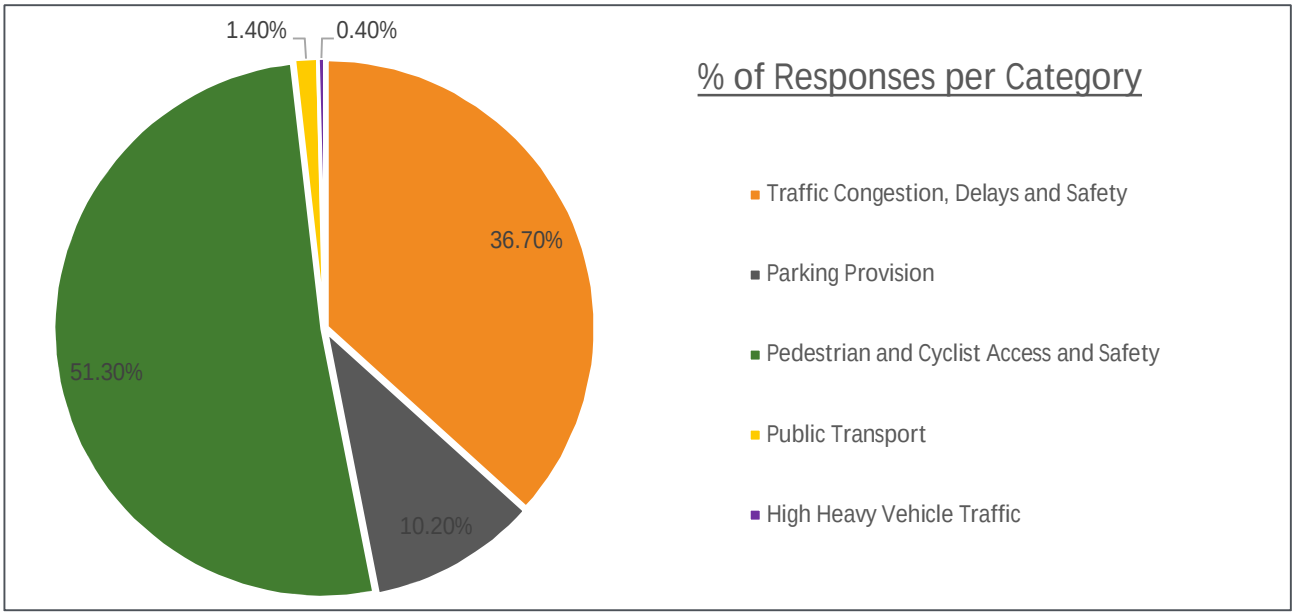


Figure 5-2: Response Results Per Category (% of Total)

5.1 Key Challenge Categories

5.1.1 Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety

Traffic congestion, delays and safety challenges were the second most commonly referenced category raised by the community. The City received 182 responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 37.1% of all responses.

Within the Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety category, six main feedback areas emerged as being the centre of the community's concern. These included:

1. Safety Issues and Congestion at Intersections and Roundabouts;
2. Speed Limit Issues;
3. Congested Roads and Traffic Flow Concerns;
4. Road Quality Concerns;
5. Rat Runs; and
6. Other.

Figure 5-3 summarises the percentage split of the six Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety sub-categories mentioned by the community. Each concern is discussed in more detail in the subsequent sections.

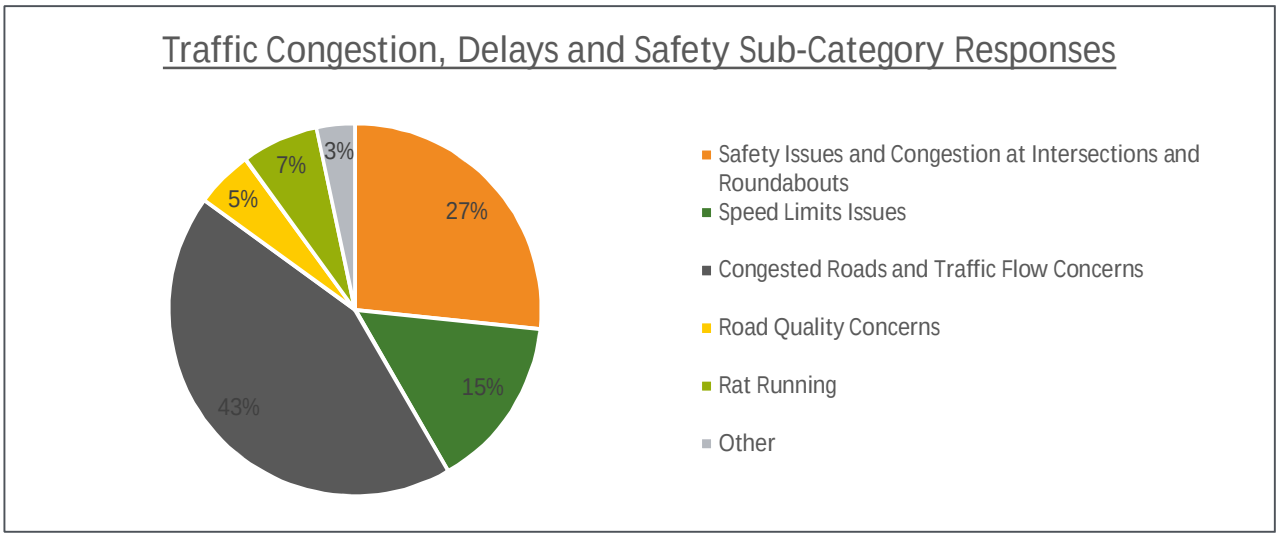


Figure 5-3: Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety Sub-Category Responses (% of total)

5.1.1.1 Congested Roads and Traffic Flow Concerns

Congested Roads and Poor Traffic Flow concerns were the most commonly referenced Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety sub-category raised by the community. The City received 78 responses relating to this challenge, contributing to 43% of all Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety responses.

Of these responses, Bridge Road and Geelong Road were mentioned most frequently. The community has identified Bridge Road as being congested, with overall poor traffic flow, both along the main road and across the Bridge. Subsequently, Geelong Road was identified as a possible location for a second River crossing. The table below summarises the community responses.

Table 5-1: Locations Identified by the community as being congested with Traffic Flow Concerns

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Geelong Rd*	• Comments in favour and against a new bridge along Geelong Road	29
Bridge Rd*	• At the Bridge – roads are congested with traffic flow concerns	14
Ozone Rd	• Road very narrow • No separation between modes / reduced visibility • Congestion	8
Golf Links Rd*	• Congested area near the school	7
Barwon Heads Rd*	• Unnecessary through traffic congest roads within the town	7
Clifford Pde	• Road is too narrow to cater for traffic	4
Grove Rd	• Road too narrow and congested	3
Reid St	• Congested road • No separation between modes	2
Thirteenth Beach Rd	• Link into town requires improvement	1
Fourteenth Rd	• Connectivity concerns	1
Grandview Pde	• Potential to make the road one way to manage traffic flow	1
Entire Barwon Heads Area	• Traffic congestion and bottlenecks are present throughout the town	1

* RRV Arterial Roads and not managed by the City.

5.1.1.2 Safety Issues and Congestion at Intersections and Roundabouts

Intersection and roundabout concerns were the second most commonly referenced Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety sub-category raised by the community. The City received 48 responses relating to this challenge, contributing to 27% of all Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety responses. Table 5-2 summarises the intersections and roundabouts identified by the community.

Table 5-2: Safety Issues and Congestion at Intersections and Roundabouts as Identified by the Community

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Bridge Rd / Hitchcock Ave*	• Congested roundabout • Traffic flow concerns • Pedestrian crossings causing traffic delay	24
Barwon Heads Rd / Sheepwash Rd / Golf Links Rd / Geelong Rd*	• Safety and congestion concerns at roundabout (especially during school times)	7
Geelong Rd / Hitchcock Ave*	• Safety concerns at intersection • Signage is confusing and unclear – often confuses drivers	5

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Hitchcock Ave / Ozone Rd	• Safety and congestion concerns at intersection • Concerns about vehicle speeds	5
Barwon Heads Rd / Lings Rd**	• Safety concerns at intersection	4
Barwon Heads Rd / Tomara Dve**	• Safety concerns at intersection	2
Bridge Rd / Golf Links Rd*	• Congested intersection	1

* RRV Arterial Roads and not managed by the City.
** Lings Road and Tomara Drive are outside study area.

5.1.1.3 Speed Limit Issues

The City received 27 responses relating to speed limit concerns, contributing to 15% of all Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety responses. Barwon Heads Road and Thirteenth Beach Road were mentioned most frequently, both raising concerns of whether the speed limit was too high for the road. Table 5-3 summarises the community responses received in relation to speed.

Table 5-3: Roads with Speed Issues as identified by the Community

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Barwon Heads Rd	• Speed limit too high • Lack of speed limit signage	13
Thirteenth Beach Rd	• Speed limit too high	7
Riverside Tce	• Concerns related to cars speeding	2
Geelong Rd*	• Speed limit being too high	2
Bridge Rd*	• Speed limit being too high	1
Hitchcock Ave	• Concerns related to cars speeding	1
Sheepwash Rd	• Concerns related to cars speeding	1

* RRV Arterial Roads and not managed by the City.

5.1.1.4 Road Quality Concerns

Nine responses relating to road quality concerns were received equating to 5% of total responses. The community identified the following roads as having quality issues:

Table 5-4: Locations Identified by the community as having quality issues

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Carr St	• Identified as requiring kerbs and channelling	4
Seaview Ave	• Currently an unsealed road that floods frequently	1
Thirteenth Beach Rd	• Overall road quality was identified as being a concern	4

5.1.1.5 Rat Runs

The City received 12 responses relating to concerns about rat runs, therefore contributing to 7% of all Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety responses. The community identified the following streets as being popular for rat running:

Table 5-5: Routes identified by the community as being popular for rat running

Location	No. of Comments
Ozone Rd	5

Location	No. of Comments
Flinders Pde	3
Margate St	2
Seaview Ave	2

5.1.2 Parking Provision

Parking Provision challenges were the third most commonly referenced category raised by the community. The City received 50 responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 10.2% of all responses.

Within the Parking Provision category, five main feedback areas emerged as being the centre of the community's concern. These included:

1. Lack of parking;
2. Desire for parking variety (e.g. loading zones, accessibility parking);
3. Signage;
4. Desire for tighter parking restrictions; and
5. Parking requirements in new developments.

Figure 5-4 summarises the percentage split of the five Parking Provision sub-categories mentioned by the community. Each concern is discussed in more detail in the subsequent sections.

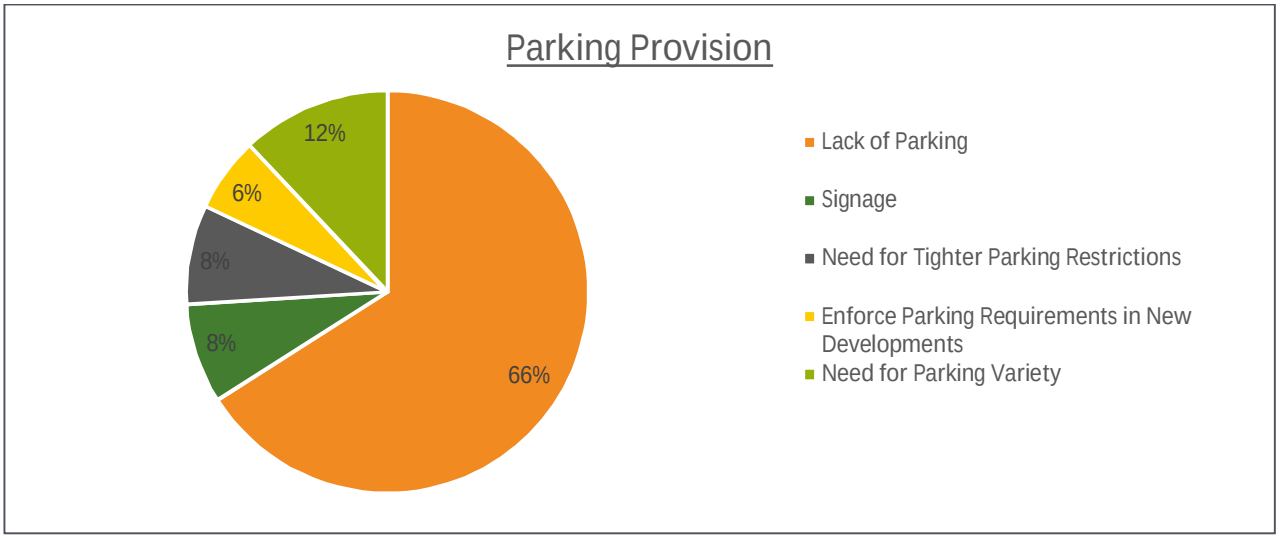


Figure 5-4: Parking Provision Sub-Category Responses (% of total)

5.1.2.1 Lack of Parking

The City received 33 responses relating to the lack of parking within Barwon Heads, contributing to 66% of all Parking Provision responses and being the most mentioned Parking Provision concern. The following areas were identified by the community as currently having parking provision issues:

Table 5-6: Areas identified by the community as having parking provision issues

Location	No. of Comments
Hitchcock Ave	17
Clifford Pde	9
Thirteenth Beach Rd	4
Bridge Rd*	2
The Entire Barwon Heads Area	1

* Parking is managed by the City on RRV roads, in consultation with RRV.

5.1.2.2 Desire for Parking Variety

Concerns regarding the Desire for Parking Variety were the second most commonly referenced Parking Provision sub-category by the community. The City received six responses relating to this challenge, contributing to 12% of all Parking Provision responses. Geelong Road was mentioned four times, with the community identifying the road as having the opportunity to provide additional varied parking. Ewing Blyth Road and Golf Links Road were also mentioned as being appropriate locations for more disabled parking.

5.1.2.3 Signage

The City received four responses relating to parking signage, equating to 8% of all Parking Provision responses. Golf Links Road was mentioned once as requiring more parking signage, with the other three responses referring to Barwon Heads as a whole.

5.1.2.4 Desire for Tighter Parking Restrictions

Equalling that to Signage, four community responses related to the Desire for Tighter Parking Restrictions, also equating to 8% of all Parking Provision responses. The community identified Bluff Road as requiring tighter parking restrictions, with three responses being concerned with the length of time people park along the road. Additionally, the broader Barwon Heads area was also mentioned three times as generally requiring more time-limited parking.

5.1.2.5 Parking Requirements in New Developments

The community raised concerns regarding the planning approval process for new developments and associated parking requirements.

5.1.3 Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety

Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety challenges were the most commonly referenced category raised by the community. The City received 252 responses relating to this category, contributing to 51.3% of all responses.

Within the Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety category, three main feedback areas emerged as being the centre of the community's concern. These included:

1. Safety;
2. Active transport links; and
3. Infrastructure quality.

Figure 5-5 summarises the percentage split of the three Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety sub-categories mentioned by the community. Each concern is discussed in more detail in the subsequent sections.

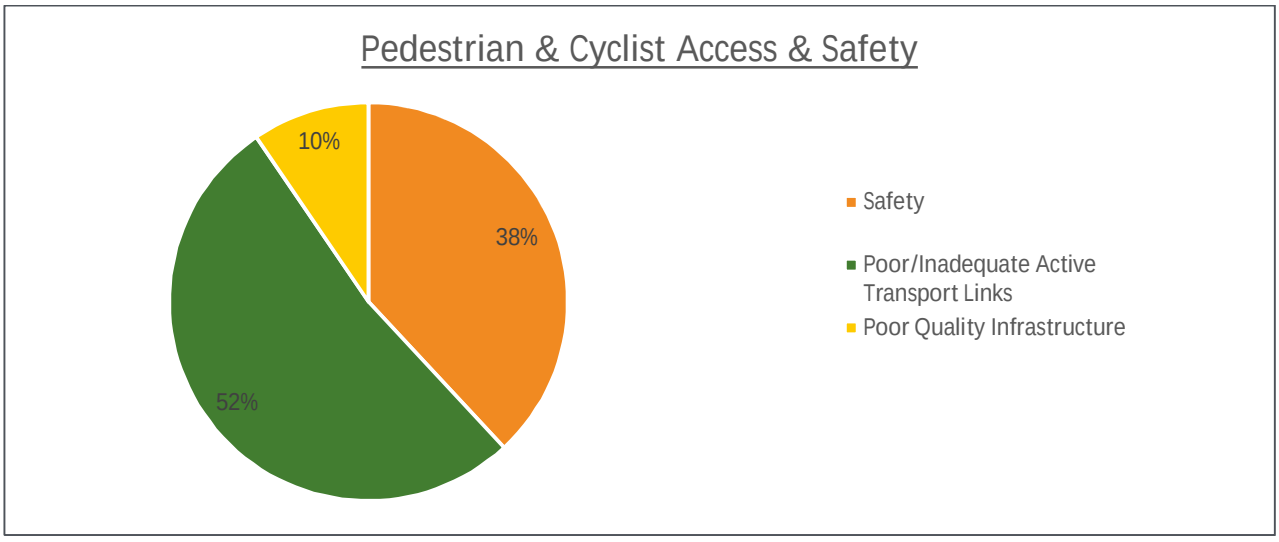


Figure 5-5: Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety Sub-Category Responses (% of total)

5.1.3.1 Safety

Safety was the second most commonly referenced concern among all Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety responses. The City received 96 comments relating to this challenge category, contributing to 38% of all Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety responses. Table 5-7 summarises the locations which were identified by the community as being unsafe for pedestrians and/or cyclists:

Table 5-7: Identified Locations with Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Concerns

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Bridge Rd*	• Hitchcock Ave roundabout – pedestrian crossings are too close to the roundabout – pedestrian safety concerns • Ewing Blyth Dve roundabout – traffic volumes, proximity to bridge and active transport users safety concerns	23
Thirteenth Beach Rd	• Safety concerns for cyclists	23
Sheepwash Rd	• Safety concerns for crossing at Saratoga Ave and the path leading into the Barwon Heads Community Park • Safety concerns for on road cyclists between Taits Rd and Cottesloe Dve	12
Barwon Heads Rd*	• Roundabout with Sheepwash Rd/Golf Links Rd/Geelong Rd - safety concerns for crossing pedestrians and cyclists • Safety concerns with crossing to Tomara Dve and near the Airport	11
Carr St	• Pedestrians travel along the road - desire for formal footpaths	10
Ewing Blyth Dve	• Safety concerns for pedestrians • Intersection with Bridge Rd - safety concerns for all road users	6
Flinders Pde	• Pedestrians safety concerns near the beach access road due to vehicles speeds and high pedestrian activity	5
Ozone Rd	• Safety concerns for active transport route to the school	3
River Pde	• No road separation between cars and cyclists • Low visibility between the transport modes	2
Barwon Heads – Ocean Grove Rd*	• Safety concerns for pedestrian crossing on the Ocean Grove side	1

* RRV Arterial Roads and not managed by the City.

5.1.3.2 Active Transport Links

Comments relating to active transport links made up 52% of all Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety responses, therefore being the most mentioned challenge by the community. The City received 132 comments relating to the desire to improve active transport links. Comments related to congestion, and whether existing active transport infrastructure was coping with demand, areas where new infrastructure is required or upgrades to existing is desired, connectivity, etc. Table 5-8 summarises the specific locations which were identified by the community:

Table 5-8: Locations Identified with Active Transport Link Challenges

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Bridge Rd*	• Hitchcock Ave roundabout congestion concerns	54

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Thirteenth Beach Rd	• Desire for improved active transport links within and around the Thirteenth Beach Estate • Desire for improved active transport connectivity to and around the Thirteenth Beach Life Saving Club • Desire for improved connectivity from this area to the Barwon Heads town centre	22
Barwon Heads Area	• Desire for more, and better connected, active transport links throughout the town	11
Golf Links Rd*	• Desire for improved paths • No formal pedestrian crossing at Bridge Rd intersection • Missing links in footpath network • Desire for a pedestrian crossing at Ozone Rd	11
Stephens Pde	• Desire for improved active transport connectivity at the west end of the road (where the path ends)	8
Carr St	• Desire for a separated active transport path	6
Hitchcock Ave	• Congested paths • Desire for improved connectivity to other streets	5
Taits Rd	• Desire for improved active transport connectivity	5
Flinders Pde	• Crossings desired near beach access road • Crossing at Bridge Road intersection is too close to the roundabout	4
Barwon Heads – Ocean Grove Rd*	• Desire to extend Boardwalk (on Ocean Grove side) • Location of walking track along the river considered too close to the water	2
Sheepwash Rd	• Bike paths quality concerns • Opportunity to have a mountain bike course	2
Barwon Heads Rd*	• Desire for a connection for Thirteenth Beach Estate residents to the town centre	1
Lings Rd**	• Desire for a connection for Thirteenth Beach Estate residents to the town centre	1

* RRV Arterial Roads and not managed by the City.
** Lings Road is outside study area.

5.1.3.3 Infrastructure Quality

The City received 24 comments relating to Infrastructure Quality within Barwon Heads, therefore making up 10% of all Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety responses. General concerns related to the quality of active transport infrastructure (i.e. unsealed pedestrian/cyclist paths, lack of mode separation, uneven paths, etc.). The community identified the following locations having quality concerns:

Table 5-9: Locations Identified with Infrastructure Quality

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Jasper Ave	• Desire for proper footpaths	5
Sheepwash Rd (between Taits Rd and Cottesloe Dr)	• Desire for a well-drained bike-friendly edge • Overgrown vegetation/maintenance concerns	4
Ozone Rd (near Reid St)	• Footpath uneven	3

Location	General Concerns	No. of Comments
Bridge Rd*	• Some portions of the footpaths are unsealed	3
Thirteenth Beach Rd	• Limited shoulder for cyclists	2
Clifford Pde	• Footpath unsealed	2
Hitchcock Ave (south of Bridge Rd)	• Unsealed footpaths	1
Ewing Blyth Dr	• Vegetation desired to provide a barrier between the road	1
Barwon Heads – Ocean Grove Rd	• Area susceptible to cyclic erosion	1

* RRV Arterial Roads and not managed by the City.

5.1.4 Public Transport

Public Transport challenges were the fourth most mentioned category raised by the community. The City received seven responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to only 1.4% of all responses.

Although there were only seven responses, each referenced and referred to one, or many, of the following key main themes:

1. Bus frequency;
2. Integration between existing services;
3. Car dependant transport system;
4. Opportunities to expand use of community bus; and
5. Links desired between BH and surrounding towns/cities.

5.1.5 High Heavy Vehicle Traffic

High Heavy Vehicle Traffic challenges were the least mentioned category raised by the community. The City received only two responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 0.4% of all responses.

The two responses raised the following concerns:

1. Roads/streets have high truck volumes, resulting in traffic flow concerns;
2. Heavy vehicle traffic and safety concerns for other road users; and
3. Heavy vehicle traffic impact on environment, infrastructure, etc.

5.2 Opportunities

The community identified a number of potential solutions, opportunities and suggestions for improvement during the community consultation stage. These are discussed and considered in the development of the Proposed Actions (Section 7 and Implementation Plan (Section 8).

6 What the Data Told Us

6.1 Traffic Volumes

The City undertook and commissioned a series of speed count traffic surveys over the 2019/2020 summer period. These surveys were taken before, during and after the peak Christmas/New Year period to get a good understanding of the fluctuations in traffic volumes, speeds and number of commercial/heavy vehicles.

The survey dates were as follows:

- Before: 5th – 23rd December 2019;
- Mid: 23rd December 2019 – 5th January 2020; and
- After: 3rd – 16th February 2020.

Detailed survey results are provided at Appendix B.

Figures summarising some of the key results are provided as follows:

- Peak Day Traffic Volumes are provided in Figure 6-1;
- Typical (85th percentile) Vehicle Speeds are provided in Figure 6-2; and
- Average percentage of Commercial Vehicles are provided in Figure 6-3.

The survey results supported assumptions that some key routes through the Barwon Heads study area experience significant fluctuations in traffic volumes during peak holiday periods.

Off-peak traffic speed and volume surveys were planned to be collected as part of this project. Due to COVID19 travel restrictions implemented during the majority of 2020 and resulting disruption to typical traffic patterns, the off-peak data collection did not proceed as it was considered traffic patterns would not representative of typical off-peak travel.

Peak Daily Traffic Volumes

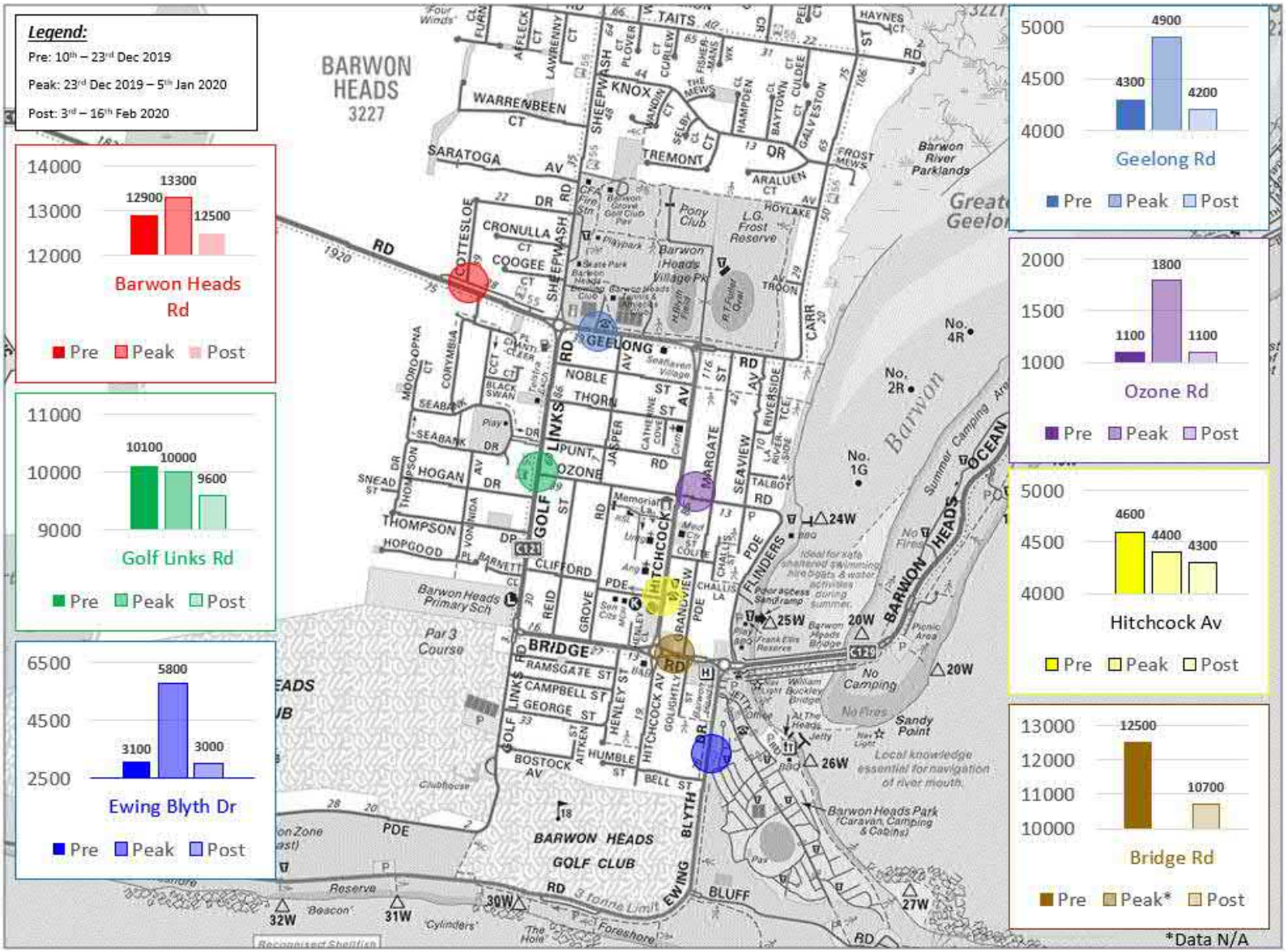


Figure 6-1: Peak Day Traffic Volumes Summary

Speed of Traffic – 85th Percentile

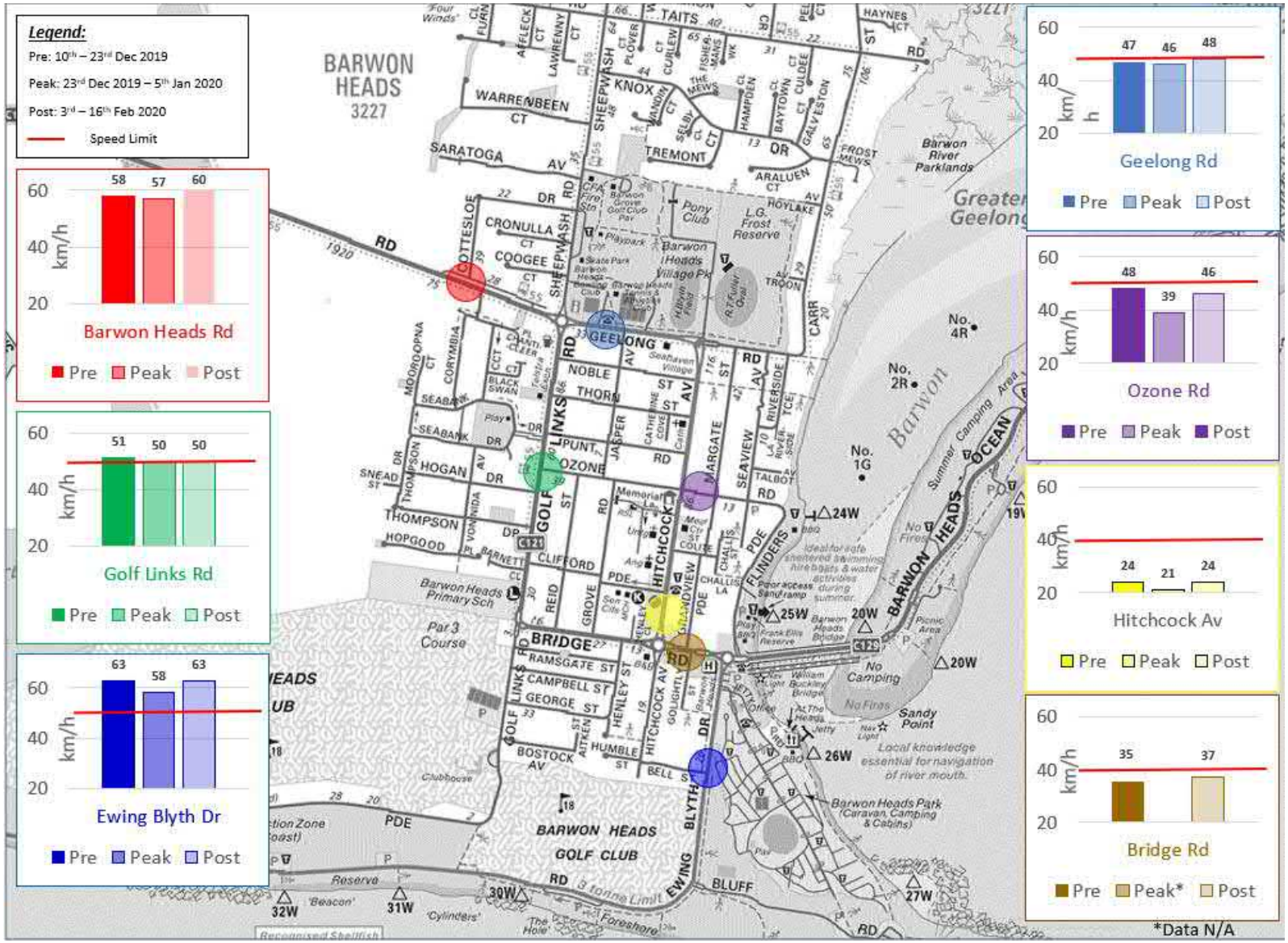


Figure 6-2: Typical (85th Percentile) Vehicle Speeds

Percentage of Commercial Vehicles

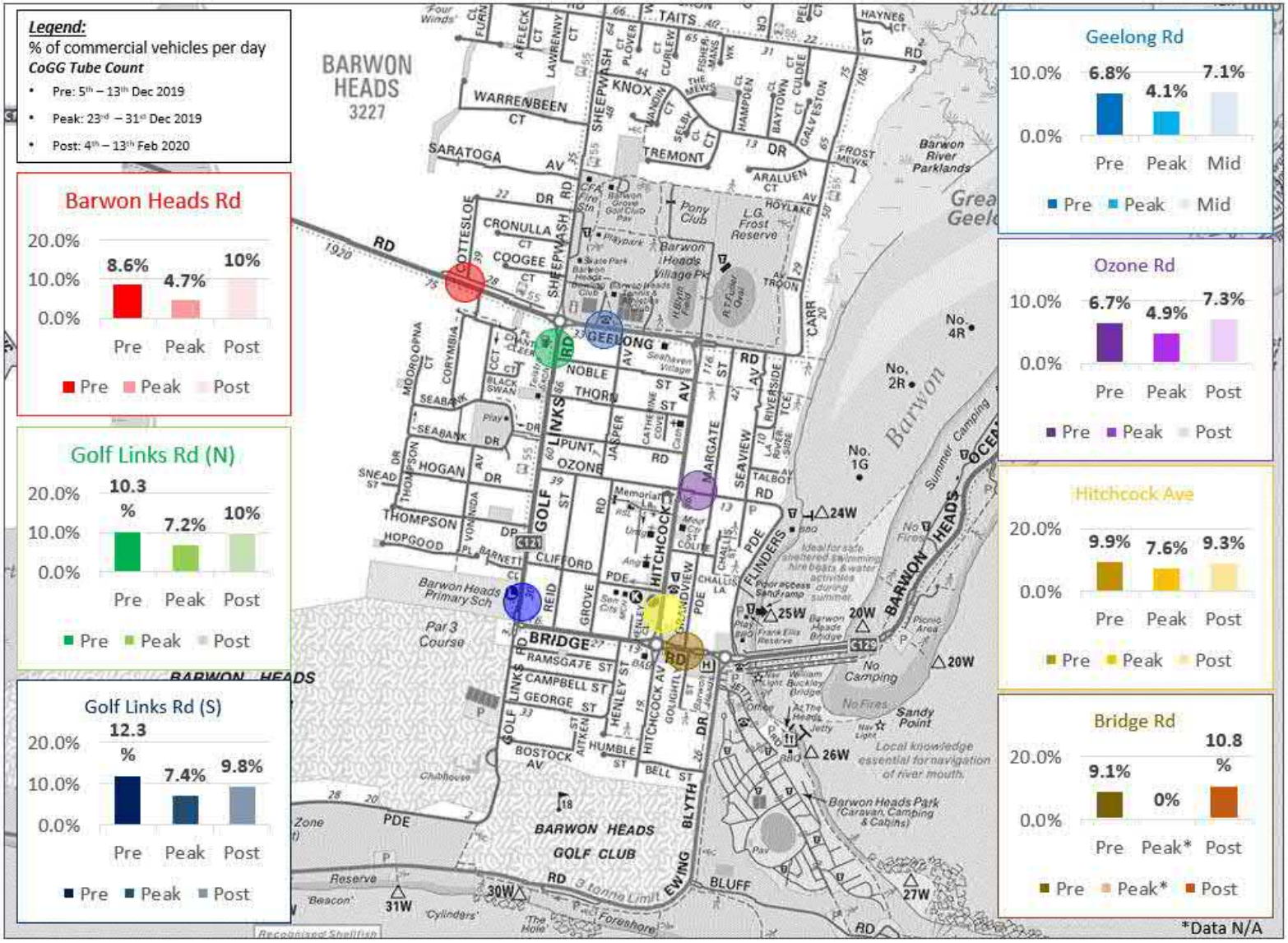


Figure 6-3: Average percentage of Commercial Vehicles per day

6.2 Crash Statistics

A crash analysis has been conducted for the Barwon Heads study area. A review of recorded crash data provided by Regional Roads Victoria for the latest 5-year period of data (1st January 2015 to 31st December 2019) included the following findings:

- There were 15 recorded crashes within the study area;
- There were 2 recorded crashes at the intersection of Geelong Road East and Hitchcock Avenue, both of which were Other Injury "right through" type crashes during dry daytime conditions, where a vehicle turning right into Hitchcock Road west to south collided with a westbound Geelong Road vehicle;
- The Fatality and Serious Injury (FSI) crash ratio for the project area was 0.27 (4 crashes), these included:
  - A Serious Injury crash on Barwon Heads Road 58m west of Geelong Road involving a motorcyclist; and
  - At Serious Injury crash at the intersection of Barwon Heads Road/Golf Links Road/Geelong Road involving a cyclist.
- Vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and motor scooters, were involved in 66% of the crashes (10 crashes), including:
  - 3 crashes involving pedestrians;
  - 5 crashes involving cyclists; and
  - 1 crash involving a motor scooter and 1 crash involving a motorcyclist.

The crash data has been summarised in Table 6-1. A detailed map showing the crash statistics in the area are located in Appendix C.

Table 6-1: 5-year crash summary for project zone

Year	Fatal	Serious Injury	Other Injury	Total Crashes
2015			4	4
2016		1	2	3
2017	1	1	2	4
2018		1	2	3
2019			1	1
Total (5 Years)	1	3	11	15

6.3 Car Parking Data

6.3.1 Supply

The City engaged a data collection company, AusTraffic, to undertake a parking inventory of key on-street and off-street parking areas within the commercial, river front and ocean front areas of Barwon Heads The on-street parking spaces surveyed included all streets located within close proximity to the foreshore and commercial precinct, including:

- Ewing Blyth Drive;
- Bridge Road;
- Golf Links Road;
- Hitchcock Avenue;
- Clifford Parade;
- Grove Road;
- Ozone Road;
- Flinders Parade; and
- Jetty Road.

The off-street car parks included:

- Frank Ellis Reserve (Flinders Parade indented off-street parking spaces);

- Bridge Car Park (access off Ewing Blyth Drive);
- Jetty Road off-street car park;
- Barwon Heads Hotel off-street car park; and
- The Spit off-street car park.

Overall, these areas include a total of 739 car parking spaces. Parking spaces within Barwon Heads are largely unrestricted, with no time limits applying. Exceptions to this are some short-term parking restrictions along the main activity strip of Hitchcock Avenue, as well as some localised short-term restrictions adjacent to businesses in locations such as Bridge Road and Flinders Parade.

6.3.2 Demand

Car parking demand surveys were undertaken at hourly intervals from 7am to 6pm on the following days:

- Wednesday 22nd January 2020 (school holiday period);
- Saturday 25th January 2020 (school holiday period and Australia Day weekend);
- Wednesday 19th February 2020 (non-holiday period); and
- Saturday 22nd February 2020 (non-holiday period).

The surveys found peak and average parking demands for the overall surveyed area as per Table 6-2 . Figure 6-4 provides an overview of the absolute peak demand for each survey section. It is important to note that observed peaks for each section may not coincide. The purpose of Figure 6-4 is to illustrate where the demand for parking is concentrated. The overall area demand is provided in Table 6-2.

Table 6-2: Summary of Parking Demands on Surveyed Days

Survey Period	Peak Demand	Average Demand
Wednesday 22nd January 2020*	68% (472 spaces)	47% (330 spaces)
Saturday 25th January 2020*	83% (577 spaces)	67% (465 spaces)
Wednesday 19th February 2020	49% (365 spaces)	38% (280 spaces)
Saturday 22nd February 2020	66% (489 spaces)	47% (345 spaces)

*NB: parking demand for The Spit parking area was not collected for the two January dates.

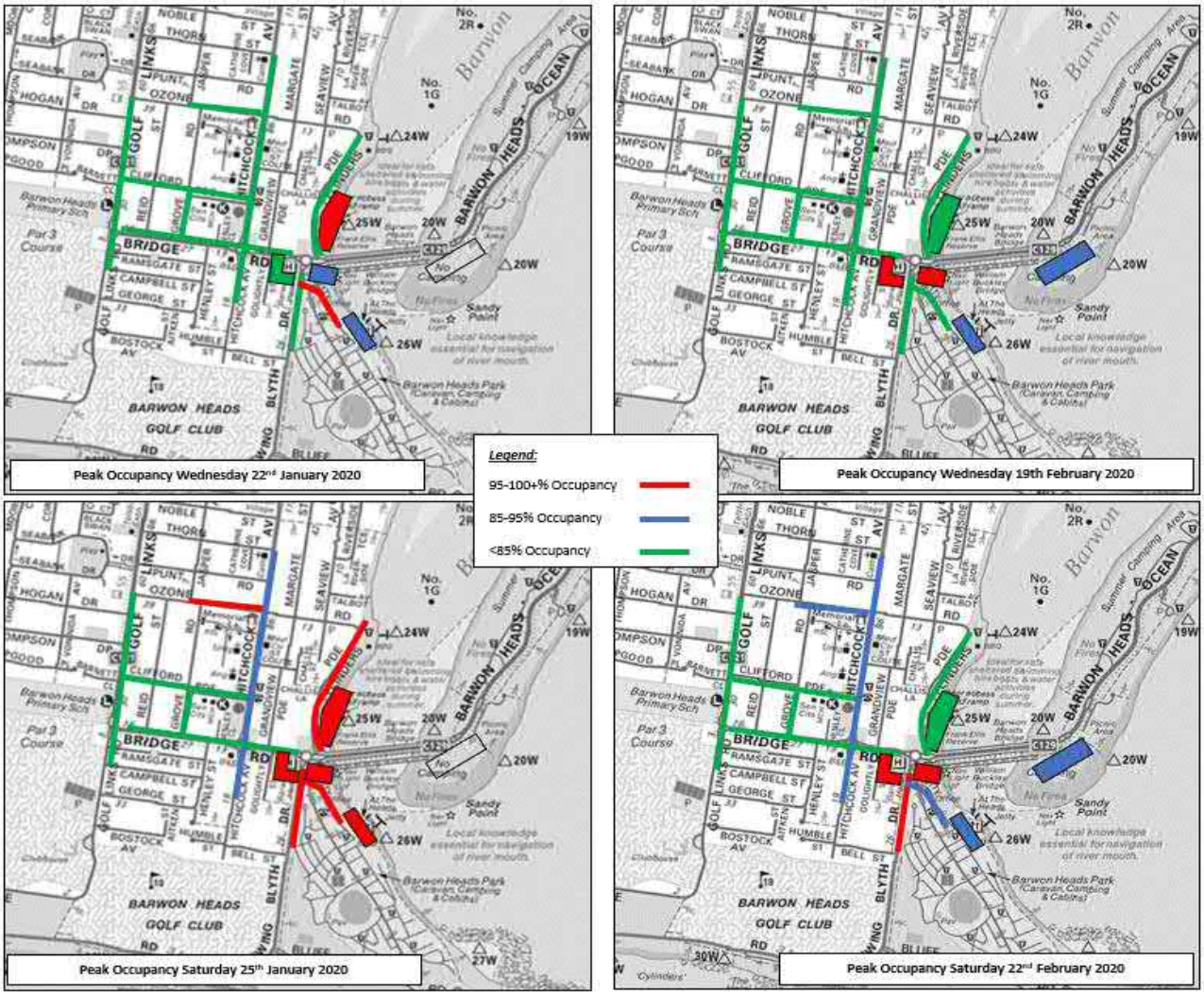


Figure 6-4: Car Parking Occupancy

Figure 6-5 shows the profile of surveyed parking demands for each of the survey days. As can be seen, parking demands across the day on Saturday 25th January were significantly higher than on the other surveyed days, with occupancy reaching above 80% from 11am through to after 2pm. This Saturday was on the last weekend of the Victorian school holiday period and was at the end of the peak summer holiday period. The peak occupancy experienced on any other surveyed day was 68% at 1pm on Wednesday, 22nd January 2020.

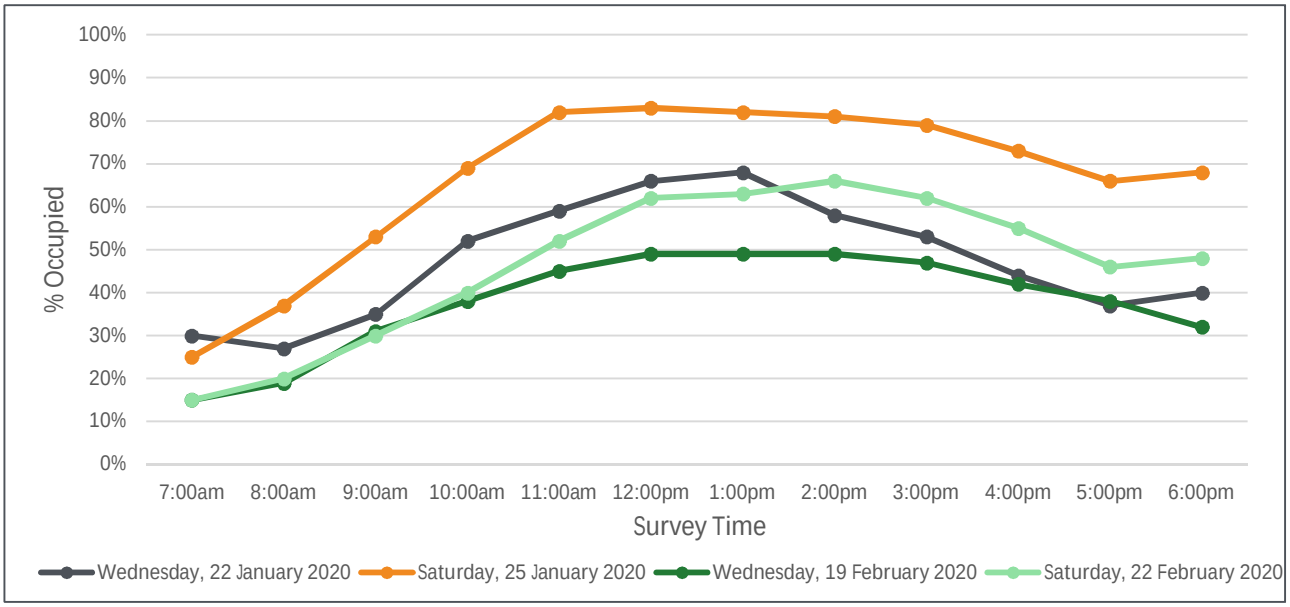


Figure 6-5: Barwon Heads Parking Surveys – Parking Occupancy Profile

At the peak surveyed time of 12noon on Saturday, 25th January 2020 (Australia Day weekend), parking demands and opportunities across the surveyed area were as summarised in Table 6-3.

Table 6-3: Summary of Parking Demands and Opportunities at 12noon, Saturday 25 January 2020

ID	Location	Parking Supply	Parking Demand	Occupancy %	No. of Spaces Available
A	Ewing Blyth Drive	2	2	100%	0
B	Bridge Road	72	44	61%	28
C	Golf Links Road	75	19	25%	56
D	Hitchcock Avenue	127	120	94%	7
E	Clifford Parade	52	32	62%	20
F	Grove Road	21	15	71%	6
G	Ozone Road	29	26	90%	3
H	Flinders Parade	64	66	103%	-2
I	Jetty Road	44	47	107%	-3
J	Frank Ellis Reserve (Flinders Parade indented Off-street Car Parking Spaces	65	65	100%	0
K	Bridge Car Park (off Ewing Blyth Drive)	38	36	95%	2
L	Jetty Road Off-street Car Park	25	23	92%	2
M	Barwon Heads Hotel Off-street Car Park	85	82	96%	3
	Total Study Area	699	577	83%	122

As can be seen from the parking survey results, the highest parking demands were experienced as expected in the foreshore areas and along and near the commercial strip of Hitchcock Avenue. Some locations, such as along Jetty Road and Flinders Parade, experienced parking demands in excess of the parking supply, indicating a level of cars being parking in non-designated areas or possibly illegally.

The main opportunities for parking were located further away from these key parking generators, in locations such as the west end of Bridge Road, along Clifford Parade and Golf Links Road.

7 Proposed Actions

Proposed actions for the Barwon Heads area were established based on the above-discussed community engagement (i.e. Stage 1 Engagement) and traffic and parking study findings.

For the City-managed roads, a series of treatments were developed and presented on the City website for 'Stage 2 Engagement', allowing further community feedback on specific proposed treatments. The 'preferred' treatments aim to address high-priority issues as indicated by the community and traffic/crash data. Proposed treatments and their respective community feedback received are summarised in this section. The proposed treatments are provided at Appendix D with the list of detailed Stage 2 feedback outcomes provided at Appendix E

Many community requests were either broad and/or more appropriately addressed via further strategic review/planning as opposed to an immediate targeted action, these are further outlined below in Section 7.3. A range of strategic items are discussed below where such requests will receive further consideration.

For issues related to RRV-managed arterial roads, the City consulted with RRV. RRV responses are provided accordingly below with some actions to be undertaken as part of the City Strategic Items.

7.1 Proposed Treatments

Appendix D provides full details of the City proposals presented on the City's website for Stage 2 Engagement. The treatments are summarised as follows:

1. Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Saratoga Avenue). This pedestrian refuge provides a safer crossing location at a popular existing crossing point, would have calming effects on traffic along Sheepwash Road, and would form part of the Safe Travel to School Routes.
2. Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court). This pedestrian refuge provides a safer crossing location near the skate park, would have calming effects on traffic along Sheepwash Road, and would form part of the Safe Travel to School Routes.
3. Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue – intersection improvements. Improved delineation will calm traffic at this location, discourage use of local roads as shortcuts, and indicate the functional operation of this modified T-intersection more clearly.
4. Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road – intersection improvements. Improved delineation and conspicuity of the intersection via raised treatments and support traffic control device upgrades will improve visibility/awareness and reduce vehicle speed on approach and through the intersection reducing crash risks for all road users.
5. Ozone Road – raised platform intersections at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street. The vertical deflection devices reduce vehicle speeds, deter rat running/through movements and improve safety for all road users accordingly.
6. Bridge Road / Golf Links Road – provision of new footpath. Improves pedestrian safety by completing the missing network link along the north side of Bridge Road.
7. Seaview Avenue – chicane treatment/s for traffic calming. The calming device/s deter rat running behaviour and calm traffic to reduce crash risks along the local street.
8. Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction. The proposal improves safety for cyclists, improves conditions for active transport along and across the Thirteenth Beach corridor, and lowers operating speeds improving safety outcomes for all road users.
9. Barwon Heads area – active transport path improvements. The proposal would expand the active transport network providing safe walking and cycling connections between the Barwon Heads township, Thirteenth Beach and Lake Connewarre.
10. Taits Road – cycle improvements. Stencil pavement markings in the traffic lanes would raise awareness for cyclists and encourage safe sharing of the roadway between motorists and cyclists.
11. Golf Links Road – footpath and cycle improvements. Stencil pavement markings in the traffic lanes would raise awareness for cyclists and encourage safe sharing of the roadway between motorists and cyclists.
12. Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements. Provision of improved cycling and pedestrian facilities by upgrades/expansion of the Principal Bicycle Network (PBN) will improve active travel outcomes for the northern parts of the Barwon Heads township.
13. Clifford Parade – footpath provision. Provides missing footpath connection between Golf Links Road and Grove Road improving safety for pedestrians.

14. Carr Street – drainage upgrades, footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width. Addresses noted drainage issues and improves conditions for vulnerable road users.
15. Thirteenth Beach Road – provision of gravel path. A formal path along the north side of Thirteenth Beach Road between the major beach access carpark and the Surf Life Saving Club, would improve safety for vulnerable road users in this high pedestrian activity zone. It would improve active transport connectivity to the township provided via Stephens Parade.
16. Safe Travel to School Routes – road stencilling. Stencil pavement markings raise awareness for school children/vulnerable road users and improves safe route wayfinding.
17. Von Nida Avenue – provision of new footpath. Improves pedestrian safety by completing the missing network link along the eastern side of Von Nida Avenue between Seabank Drive and Hopgood Place.
18. Barwon Heads Road Service Road – conversion to one way. Improved linemarking and conversion to one-way travel to reduce crash risks, particularly for right turns out of the service road.
19. Hitchcock Avenue – bicycle parking. One existing car parking space (exact location to be confirmed) would be converted to provide parking for bicycles.

High level concept plans representing the above treatments are attached as Appendix D. These sketches were used to convey the proposals to the community to allow feedback to be provided via the City website. Outcomes are summarised in the following section.

7.2 Community Feedback

The community was invited to provide feedback on the above proposals via the "Have Your Say" portal on the City's website. 169 members of the community fully or partially completed the online survey. Participants selected the specific treatments which they would provide feedback on. Between 10 and 56 responses were received for each treatment. For each proposed treatment, participants were asked:

- Do you support the proposal? and
- Tell us what you think about the proposal.

The feedback is summarised below.

1. Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Saratoga Avenue)

A strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. On further analysis of detailed feedback, provision of a safe pedestrian crossing point is strongly supported, however there is concern over the location and design of the proposed refuge location with respect to the Barwon Heads CFA Fire Station.

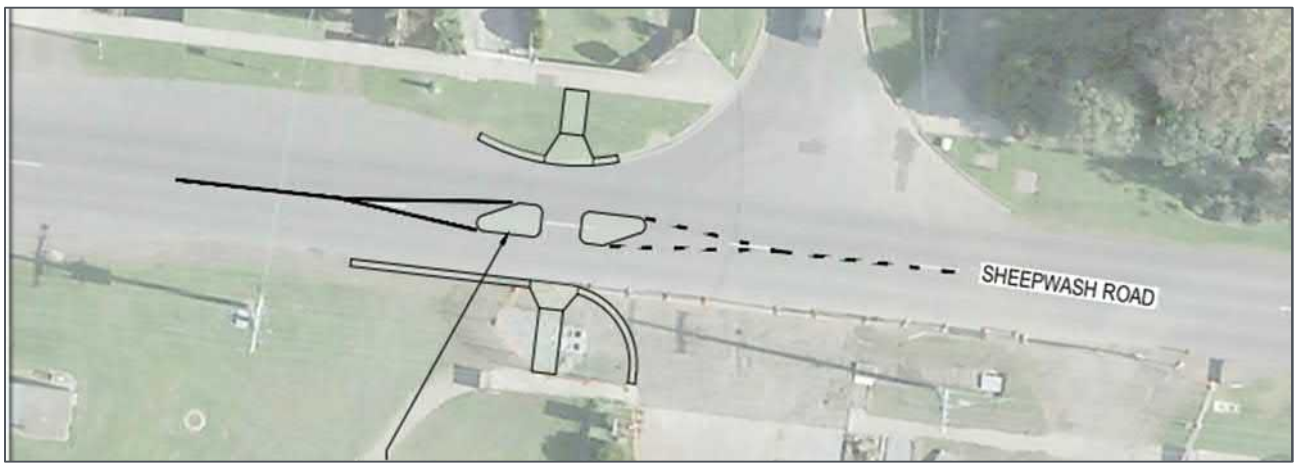


Figure 7-1: Support for pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Saratoga Avenue (total 31 responses)

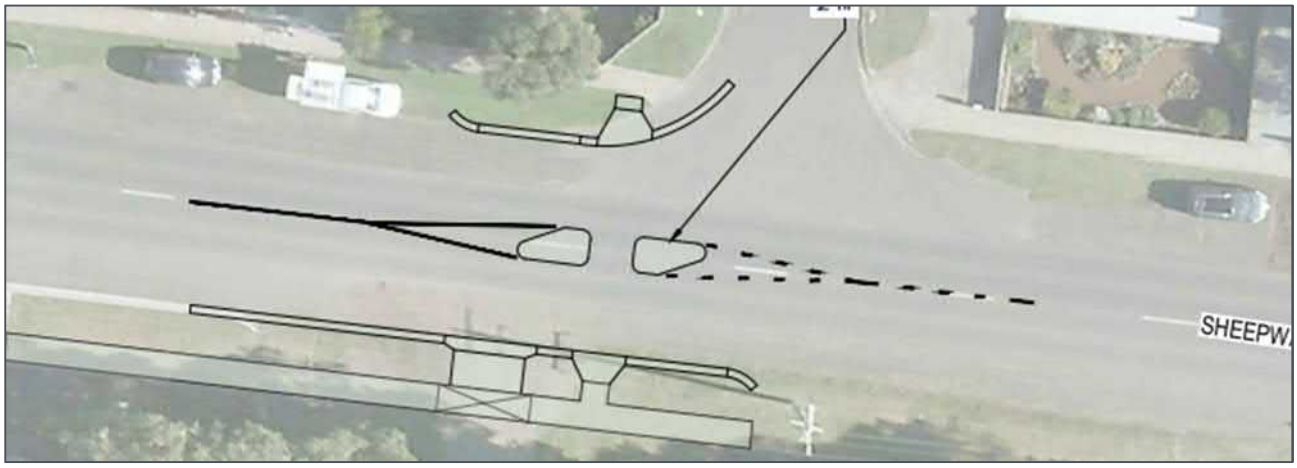
Table 7-1: Expanded feedback regarding pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Saratoga Avenue

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	11
• Concern around location of crossing (proximity to CFA Fire Station)	8
• Suggestions for increased control/pedestrian priority (e.g. Pedestrian Operated Signals)	5

Considering the level of support for this treatment, it is clear the concept is desired by the community, however the location and design details should be reviewed to provide appropriate outcomes for both pedestrians and CFA access and operations. The alternative location proposed at Coogee Court (see next treatment) would avoid the issues regarding location.

2. Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court)

A strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. On further analysis of detailed feedback, the proposal is generally supported. Some comments suggest crossing locations at Saratoga Avenue and the roundabout are more critical in servicing pedestrian desire lines.



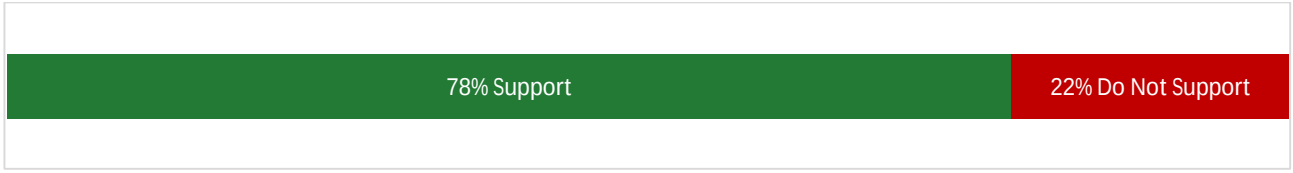


Figure 7-2: Support for pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Coogee Court (total 23 responses)

Table 7-2: Expanded feedback regarding pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road at Coogee Court

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	6
• Suggestions for increased control/pedestrian priority (e.g. Pedestrian Operated Signals)	3
• Suggestions that not needed/recommended due to proximity to roundabout/crossing	2

The concept is generally supported and recommended for implementation however the location and design details should be reviewed in association with the above proposal (i.e. the pedestrian refuge at Saratoga Avenue).

3. Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue – intersection improvements

A strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. On further analysis of detailed feedback, the concept is generally supported, however several comments note the need to further consider active travel, access to Village Park and an emphasis on clearly defined priority in the final design.



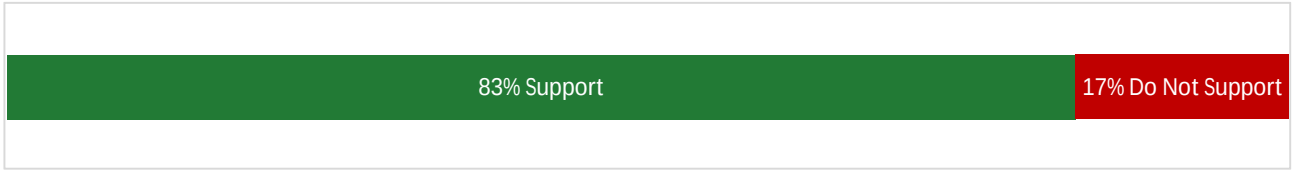


Figure 7-3: Support for intersection improvements and Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue (total 24 responses)

Table 7-3: Expanded feedback regarding intersection improvements at Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	9
• Community members left feedback about current confusion/danger at existing intersection	9
• Noted to further consider access to Village Park	4
• Noted to ensure pedestrians and cyclists considered	3
• Preference for a roundabout	2
• Recommendation for second river crossing	2

The concept is generally supported and recommended for implementation, with further consideration to the abovementioned responses regarding active travel, Village Park access and intersection clarity/conspicuity.

4. Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road – intersection improvements.

A strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. The community has indicated that the design should be considered further with respect to parking conditions and vulnerable road users.

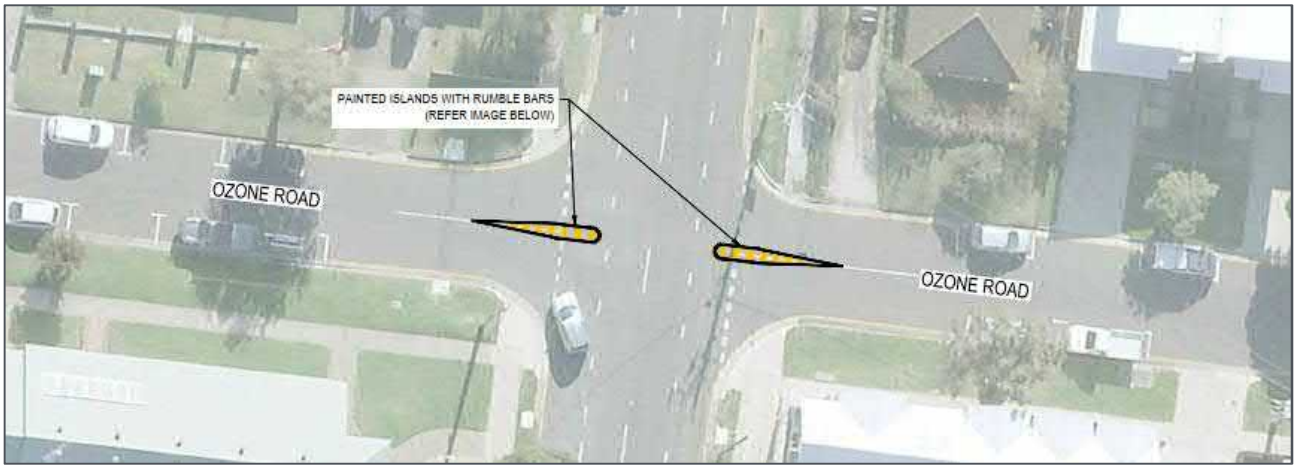




Figure 7-4: Support for intersection improvements and Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road (total 29 responses)

Table 7-4: Expanded feedback regarding intersection improvements at Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Concerns regarding parking conditions in the vicinity of the intersections	7
• Concerns expressed for pedestrians and cyclists	4
• Preference for roundabout noted	3
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	3
• Noted U-turn behaviour for motorists searching for parking	2

5. Ozone Road – raised platform intersections at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street

A very strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. Limited consistency was observed in expanded feedback from the community, however comments generally support the proposal and/or reiterate the need for calming along Ozone Road. Several suggestions regarding potential associated works /considerations and the impacts of these treatments on adjacent routes should factor into subsequent design and planning considerations.



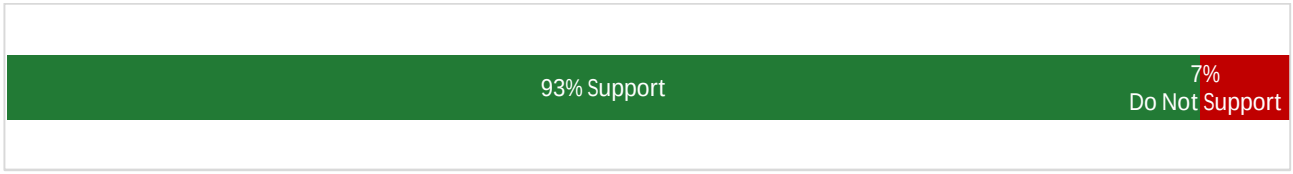


Figure 7-5: Support for raised platform intersections along Ozone Road (total 28 responses)

6. Bridge Road / Golf Links Road – provision of new footpath

A very strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. While some expanded feedback discussed broader issues around the township, all comments focussed on this particular treatment endorsed the proposal.





Figure 7-6: Support for new footpath along Bridge Road and Golf Links Road (total 29 responses)

Table 7-5: Expanded feedback regarding a new footpath along Bridge Road and Golf Links Road

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	14
• Request for this footpath plus additional footpath improvements – Pedestrian fencing at the bend – Wider path	2

7. Seaview Avenue – chicane treatment/s for traffic calming

This proposal had less feedback and a lower percentage of support compared to other treatments. The expanded feedback suggests the proposal is generally supported or not opposed (but perhaps not prioritised). Additional broader ideas have been provided for consideration in planning.





Figure 7-7: Support for chicane treatments along Seaview Avenue (total 15 responses)

Table 7-6: Expanded feedback regarding chicane treatments along Seaview Avenue

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	5
• Feedback suggesting not necessary/high priority	4

8. Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction

A strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. A significant number of comments were provided, mostly in support of the concept, noting the need for improvements and a reduced speed limit, and highlighting the cycling popularity and associated opportunities by improving conditions. A limited number of additional and/or alternative requests were provided which are to be considered in concept development.



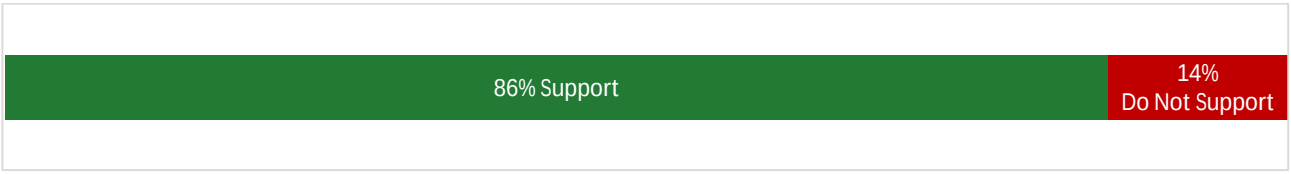


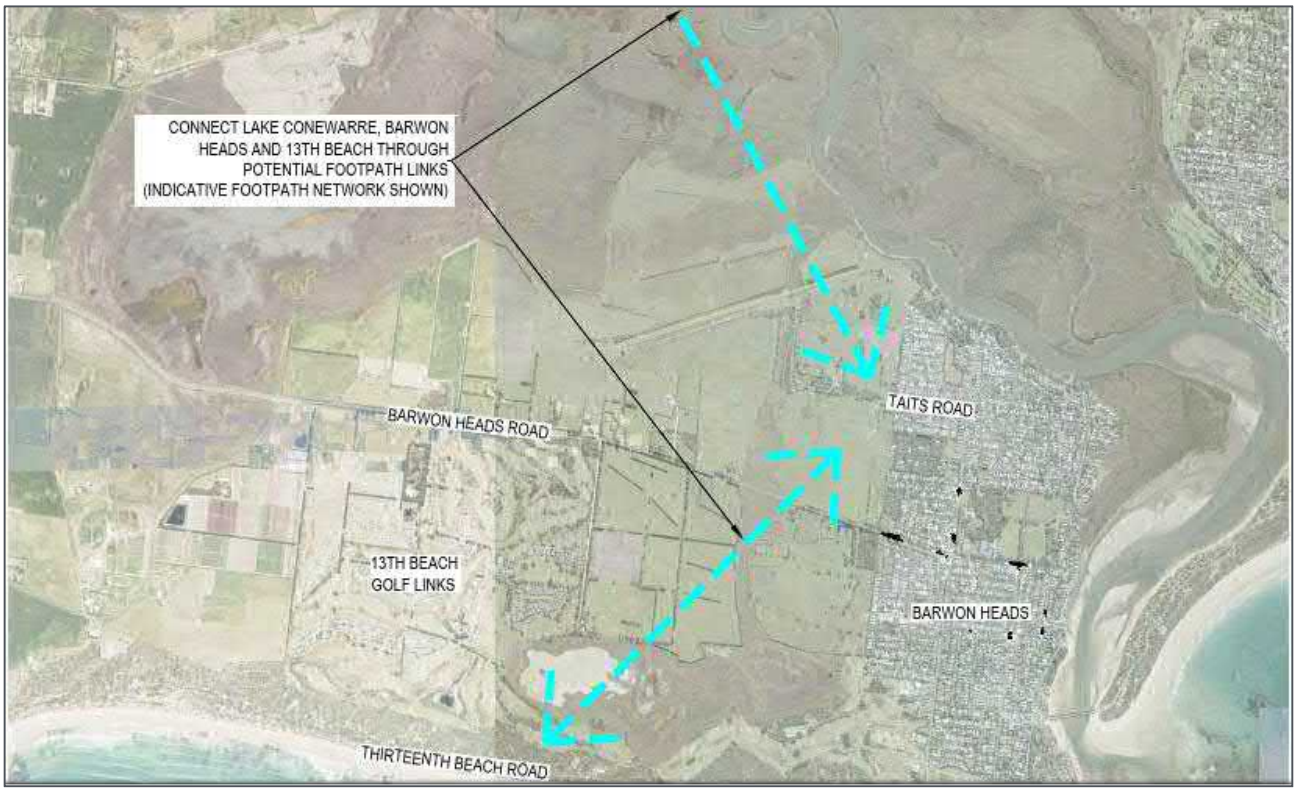
Figure 7-8: Support for Thirteenth Beach Road proposal (total 43 responses)

Table 7-7: Expanded feedback regarding cycle and pedestrian improvements along Thirteenth Beach Road

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	22
• Community members left indicating a desire for a reduced speed limit	6
• Further pedestrian improvements requested – Additional paths – Additional crossings	6
• Further cyclist separation requested	2

9. Barwon Heads area – active transport path improvements

This proposal attracted full support from respondents. The strong support was echoed in the expanded feedback where enthusiasm for the concept was expressed. A number of respondents were in support on condition of environmentally sensitive design. Further suggestions were also provided for consideration in subsequent planning for these shared path connections.



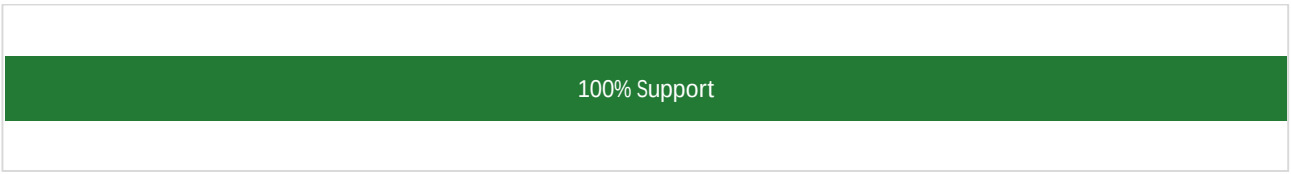


Figure 7-9: Support for active transport improvements around the Barwon Heads area (total 33 responses)

Table 7-8: Expanded feedback regarding active transport improvements around the Barwon Heads area

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	24
• Comments requesting appropriate environmental consideration	3

10. Taits Road – cycle improvements

This proposal received limited feedback compared to other treatments, however the majority of respondents were in support of the treatment. Expanded feedback was in support however there were some comments suggesting this treatment does not go far enough to treat the identified safety concerns, but is reasonable 'step towards' treatment that may be effective, particularly if this treatment is adopted more consistently throughout the Barwon Heads area.





Figure 7-10: Support for proposed bicycle stencils on Taits Road (total 14 responses)

11. Golf Links Road – footpath and cycle improvements

A very strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. Further feedback was generally supportive with emphasis on school safety.



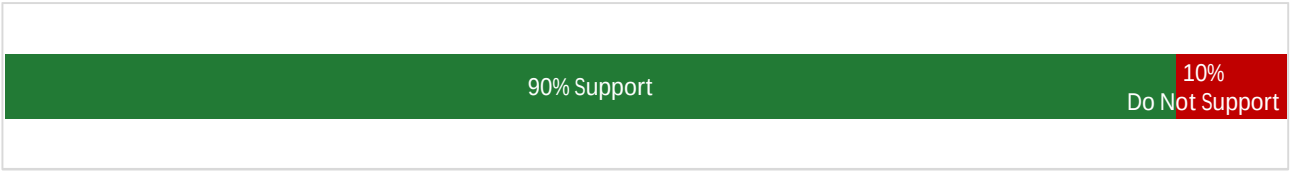


Figure 7-11: Support for Golf Links Road footpath and cycle improvements (total 33 responses)

12. Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements

A strong level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. Thoughts provided in expanded responses were generally supportive with additional ideas/opportunities raised for consideration in further development of the concept.

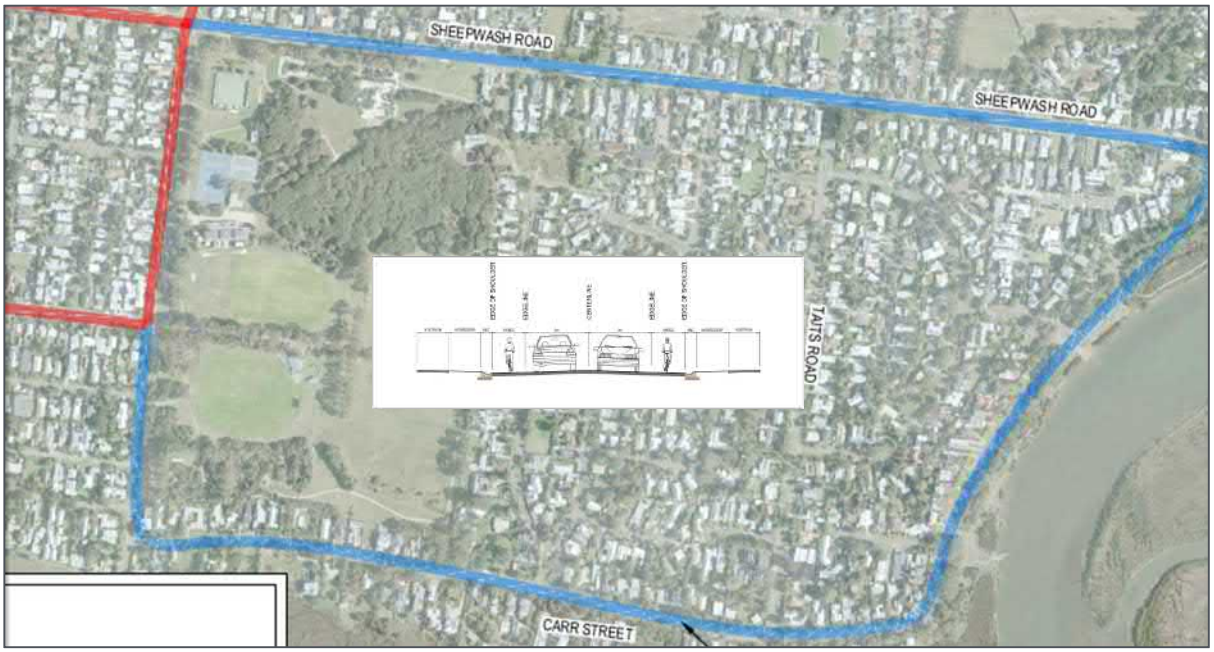




Figure 7-12: Support for footpath and cycle improvements on Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade (total 23 responses)

Table 7-9: Expanded feedback regarding Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Include footpaths for nominated roads	4
• Create a space for cyclists (on road or off-road path)	3

13. Clifford Parade – footpath provision

A majority level of support was received for the proposal as shown in the figure below. Expanded feedback was limited. Responses supported the proposal and raised other traffic concerns for consideration in concept development.



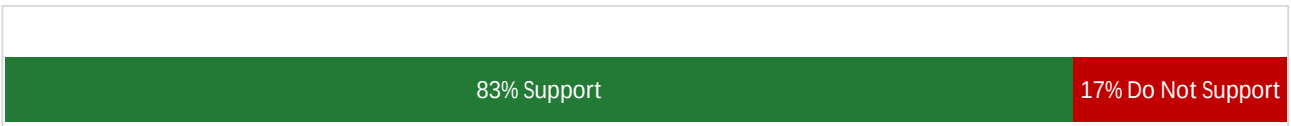


Figure 7-13: Support for footpath provision along Clifford Parade (total 12 responses)

14. Carr Street – drainage upgrades, footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width

The figures below indicate a majority support for the proposal. Expanded feedback was limited and indicated support, however also included disapproval with widespread footpath/kerb and channel construction diminishing the 'coastal' values and character of the township.



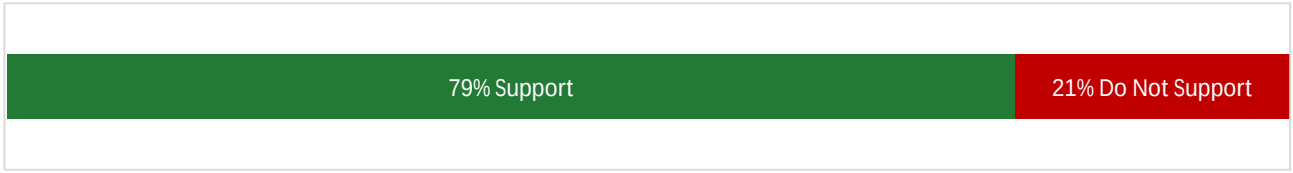


Figure 7-14: Support for drainage upgrades (kerb and channel) on Carr Street (total 14 responses)



Figure 7-15: Support for new footpath and road widening on Carr Street (total 12 responses)

15. Thirteenth Beach Road – provision of gravel path

The following question was posed to the community for this treatment:

> We're currently seeking feedback for a shared trail on Thirteenth Beach Road, to link Stephens Parade to the Surf Life Saving Club. The path will be a 2.5m wide gravel path behind the existing fence, at the location shown below. This is a partnership project with Barwon Coast Committee of Management and the City of Greater Geelong. It's currently funded by DELWP (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning) and the City of Greater Geelong. Tell us what you think about this shared trail on Thirteenth Beach Road.



32 responses were received. Key findings are summarised in Table 7-10.

Table 7-10: Expanded feedback regarding cycle and pedestrian improvements along Thirteenth Beach Road

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback strongly supporting the described for concept	30
• Request for further separated path provision along Thirteenth Beach Road	6

The was consistent support for this treatment observed in the community responses. A number of responses indicated a desire for separated path connections beyond the current extents proposed.

16. Safe Travel to School Routes – road stencilling

The figure below indicates very strong support for the proposal. While the expanded responses were generally in support of the concept, several provided requests for supporting treatments and treatments for issues outside of the designated walk to school route.



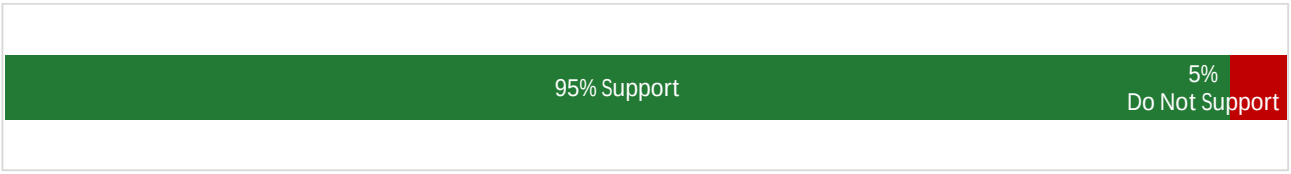


Figure 7-16: Support for Safe Route to School stencilling (total 22 responses)

Table 7-11: Expanded feedback regarding Safe Route to School stencilling

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	16
• Broader issues/supporting treatments raised for consideration – Footpaths/cycle path – Road furniture maintenance – Reduced speed limits/shared zone	10

17. Von Nida Avenue – provision of new footpath

This proposal attracted limited feedback. The figure below demonstrates support based on the 10 responses received. There was limited consistency in expanded responses, with a range of thoughts provided to be considered in subsequent planning.



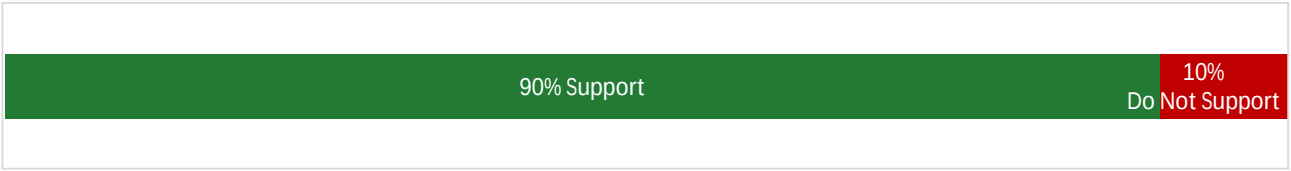
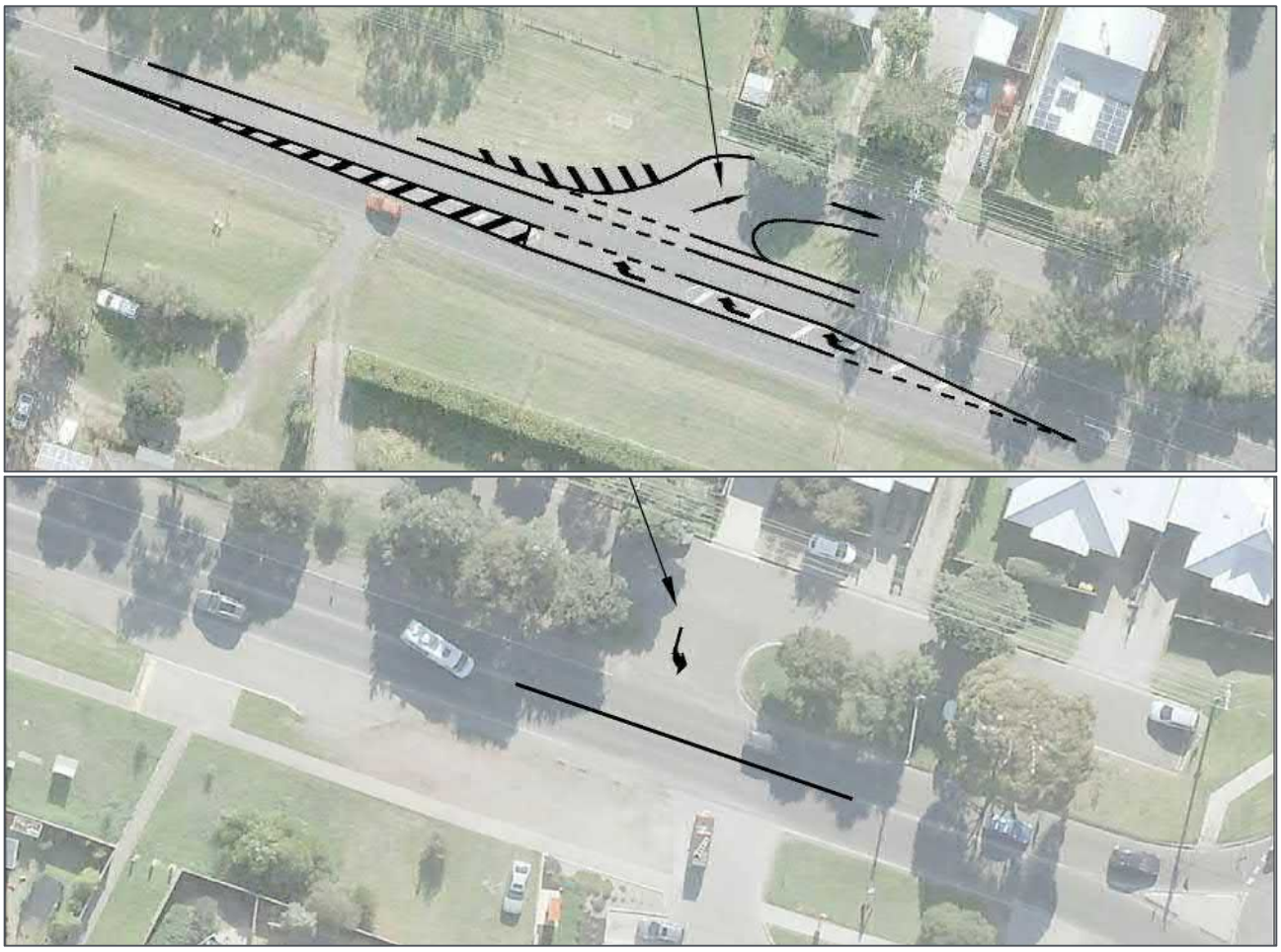


Figure 7-17: Support for new footpath along Von Nida Avenue (total 10 responses)

18. Barwon Heads Road Service Road – conversion to one way

This proposal attracted limited feedback. The figure below demonstrates support based on the 10 responses received. Comments were generally in support of the proposal, while several provided supporting design ideas for consideration in design development.



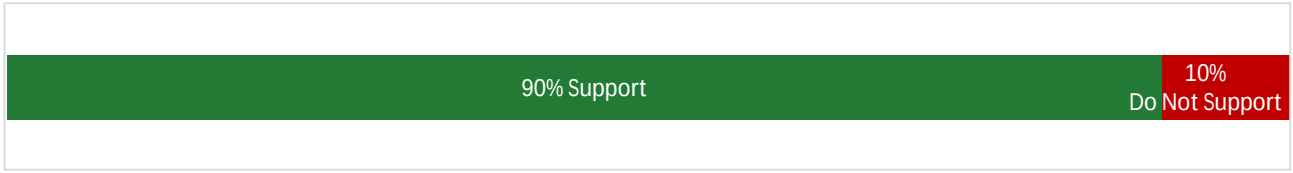


Figure 7-18: Support for one way operation of Barwon Heads Road Service Road (total 10 responses)

19. Hitchcock Avenue – bicycle parking

The figure below indicates very strong support for the proposal. The majority of additional comments provided by the community echoed the above results and discussed the potential benefits of such treatments, and potentially additional bicycle parking options.



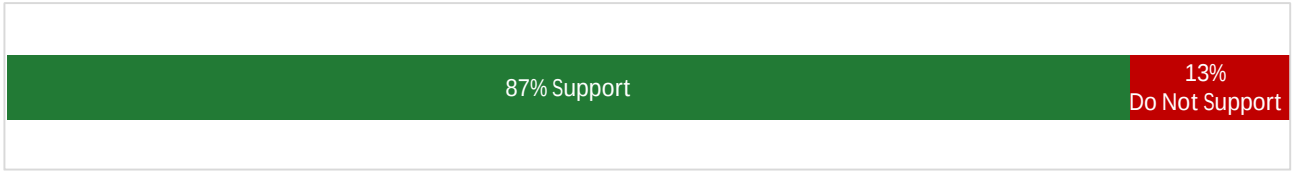


Figure 7-19: Support for bicycle parking in Hitchcock Avenue (total 24 responses)

Table 7-12: Expanded feedback regarding Safe Route to School stencilling

Key Feedback Items based on Expanded Responses	No. of Comments
• Community members left feedback supporting the proposal	10
• Requests for more bicycle parking at additional locations – Coffetti/Sunbaker (#49 Hitchcock Av) – River Park – Bridge Road	3
• Concern expressed regarding loss or car parking space/s	2

7.3 Strategic Items

Larger and broader issues identified in this study are explored as 'Strategic Items' to determine further actions for inclusion in the transport plan. The following Strategic Items are discussed in this section:

- Principal Bicycle Network (PBN)
- Safe Route to School (SRTS) Network
- Pedestrian Path Network

- Parking Management
- Planning Assessments/Parking Waivers
- Major Projects
- Public Transport Provision
- Speed Zoning

7.3.1 Principal Bicycle Network

The Principal Bicycle Network (PBN) is a network of existing and proposed cycle routes identified to enable key destinations and attractions such as services, education, retail and employment precincts, to be accessed safely by bicycle. It is intended that roads and paths forming part of the identified PBN provide appropriate conditions for cycling. Cycling facilities on nominated PBN routes should be designed for cyclists of varying ability, confidence and age, to encourage increased participation and achieve the associated health and environmental benefits.

Participation in cycling is observed to be relatively high in Barwon Heads where characteristics of the township and its surrounds generate favourable and attractive cycling conditions. The community feedback received in this study indicates an enthusiasm for cycling around the area, with members of the community clearly appreciating the benefits of cycling for local trips, recreation, associated tourism opportunities, etc. Barwon Heads is therefore well placed to continue to promote active travel through improved cycling infrastructure.

The existing PBN in the vicinity of Barwon Heads is shown in Figure 7-20. It consists of the main roads in and out of Barwon Heads (i.e. Barwon Heads Road, Ewing Blyth Road/Thirteenth Beach Road and Barwon Heads-Ocean Grove Road) and a rectangular route around the town centre formed by Bridge Road, Golf Links Road, Geelong Road and Hitchcock Avenue.

The inclusion of Sheepwash Road, River Parade and Carr Street in the PBN does not mean the route currently provides optimal conditions for cyclists, however such outcomes are to be targeted in the long term. Treatment 7 in the implementation plan (Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction) is an example of a significant step recommended for a City-managed road to improve conditions on the existing PBN.

Figure 7-20 also indicates the recommended expansion of the PBN (Treatment 11 of the Implementation Plan) as part of this study. By adding Sheepwash Road, River Parade and Carr Street to the PBN, the northern residential precincts of Barwon Heads would be connected to the PBN. In combination with other cycling improvements to local roads (e.g. Treatment 9 (Taits Road – cycle improvements)) and recommendations for further active travel connections (e.g. Treatment 10), this strategic action has the ability to increase cycling participation and improve safety for vulnerable roads users throughout Barwon Heads.

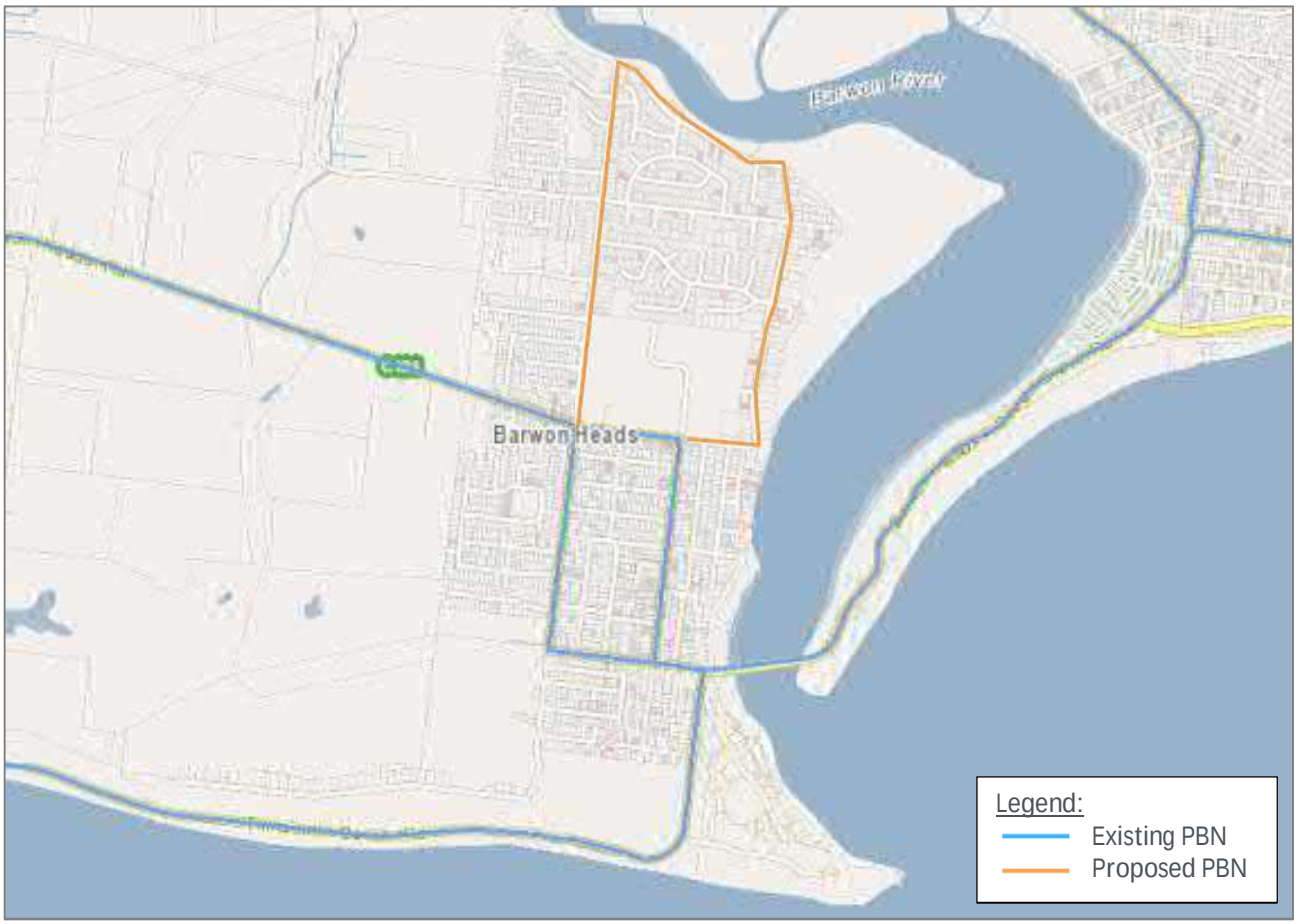


Figure 7-20: Barwon Heads PBN (Source: The City)

An example of desirable cross-section to be targeted for lower speed environments (i.e. 60km/h speed zone or less) is shown in Figure 7-21. While the ultimate cycling facility will vary according to constraints and other factors such as retention of 'coastal streetscapes' etc., the typical cross-section is indicative of the objective to provide a dedicated space for cyclists on PBN routes as opposed to a shared arrangement with vehicular traffic.

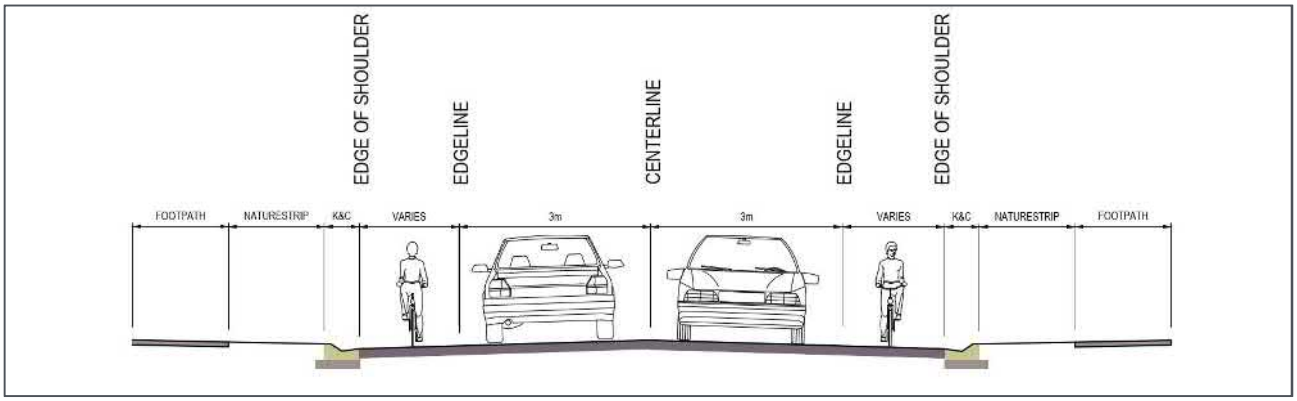


Figure 7-21: Desirable cross-section for proposed PBN

7.3.2 Safe Routes to School Network

Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) is a local community-based road safety approach that responds to school-related road safety issues, which are one of the key barriers to students using active travel to access school. Issues may include busy roads, unsafe driver behaviour and local area traffic congestion around schools. These are often due to a high proportion of families choosing to drive children to school. By addressing these road safety issues in an integrated way, SRTS encourages more children to walk, scoot and ride their bikes to school.

Barwon Heads currently has two approved Safe Routes to School (i.e. to Barwon Heads Primary School), as indicated in Appendix F:

- The Western (red) SRTS runs along the east side of Golf Links Road and Sheepwash Road from Barwon Heads Primary School main entrance. Seabank Drive and Von Nida Avenue also connect this SRTS to the north side of the school.
- The Eastern (blue) SRTS runs from the Golf Links Road school crossing through local streets (Clifford Parade, Reid Street, Ozone Road and Jasper Avenue) to the Barwon Heads Village Park and drop off/pickup points and residential areas surrounding the park.

The above SRTS have been in operation since 2015. In 2018, the routes were audited by the City's transport team who prepared a report which included an overall assessment, items needing attention and actions for the City to implement. Through discussions with the school and the City the action items have generally been implemented.

SMEC has assessed the existing SRTS routes. The Primary School is located to the south west corner of Barwon Heads. The majority of the Barwon Heads residential development is found to the north and north east of the primary school. The SRTS routes both focus on 'the last mile' to reduce reliance on car travel and improve conditions in the proximity to the school gate. Both routes provide suitable links to/from school. The Blue Route appears to be more favourable as it follows low speed / low volume roads and utilised two supervised crossing points. The Road Route is more direct however requires unsupervised crossing of the busy Barwon Heads Road / Golf Links Road roundabout. All legs of this roundabout provide large pedestrian refuge islands to allow students to stage their crossing.

Regular and in-depth consultation with the school principal occurs which currently indicates no desire for changes or better alternatives to the current route safe routes to school. During consultation with the school as part of this study a number of minor safety improvements have been suggested. Community feedback submissions in Stage 1 Engagement included several direct references to safety concerns along the Eastern SRTS, and a range of safety concerns regarding speed and active travel that also relate to the SRTS. To enhance the SRTS and improve safety for school children the following treatments are recommended:

- Stencilling treatments (refer to Figure 7-22) along the blue Eastern SRTS (from Bowling Green at Village Park, across Geelong Road, along Jasper Street, Ozone Road, Clifford Parade and across Golf Links Road) to address safety concerns raised by the community. Stencilling treatments help school children and other active travellers navigate the safe route, whilst generating driver awareness and subsequent calming effects for motorists (Recommended Action 15).



Figure 7-22: Stencilling Treatment Recommended Action 15 for southern part of Eastern SRTS

7.3.3 Pedestrian Path Network

Pedestrian paths are generally provided on both sides of the major roads within the study area (see Figure 4-4). Newer subdivisional areas (e.g. Seabanks Estate) provide footpaths on both side of the road (see Figure 4-4). However, the older residential area and north of Barwon Heads Road and Geelong Road provides limited provides footpaths on one side of the road and mainly no footpaths.

Community feedback submissions in Stage 1 Engagement included several direct references to specific pedestrian path requests. Footpaths are recommended at the following locations:

- Bridge Road between Golf Links Road and Hitchcock Avenue (Recommended Action 5).
- Golf Links Road (south) to connect Thirteenth Beach Road with Bridge Road (Recommended Action 10).
- Clifford Parade to provide a link between Golf Links Road and Hitchcock Avenue (Not recommended).

- Carr Street linking River Parade with Geelong Road (Recommended Action 13).
- Von Nida Avenue to close the network gap between Seabank Drive and Hopgood Place (Recommended Action 16).

The above locations for new footpaths were identified as key focus areas. Outside these locations, a desire for footpaths was low or not identified. Through the community consultation an underlying message was provided by the community that widespread footpath/kerb and channel construction would diminish the 'coastal' values and character of the township.

The community express a desire for a mid-block footpath connection from Hitchcock Avenue to Grandview Parade. A review of the property status between Bridge Road and Colite Street revealed properties were generally privately owned limiting any opportunity to provide a mid-block link. The distance between Bridge Road and Colite Street is approximately 240m. This distance is relatively short in length so the need to provide a mid-block access is not considered a priority.

7.3.4 Parking Management

As outlined in the City's Integrated Comprehensive Transport Plan 2015, Council will take a balanced approach to achieving the transport outcomes needed in the City of Greater Geelong for maintaining its position as a popular place to live, work and visit. This approach aims to bring about real change in people's travel choices, and in the way the street spaces are used.

Parking within Barwon Heads is largely unrestricted, with no time limits applying. Exceptions to this include some short-term parking restrictions along the main activity strip of Hitchcock Avenue, as well as some localised adjacent to businesses in Bridge Road and Flinders Parade.

Community consultation highlighted parking supply concerns and a desire for modifications to existing parking controls in and around the commercial precinct. Suggested modifications included:

- Extending the existing time-based restriction on Hitchcock Avenue north to Ozone Road; and
- Review restrictions to include sufficient disabled, loading and short-term spaces.

Other items raised by the community that fall into the parking management theme include residential parking permits and the concern regarding the City's waiver of off-street parking requirements for new development.

7.3.4.1 Intervention Levels

The City generally considers 85% occupancy as a threshold before consideration is given to reviewing parking restrictions. The 85% threshold means parking is well utilised with a few spaces available within a street or block. Prior to introducing parking restriction changes, residents/businesses and other owners affected by restrictions proposed will be consulted on the restrictions. The parking restriction will be assessed by Council and installed if the following is achieved:

- Parking occupancy of the subject area is 85% or greater for at least a 4 hour period; and
- Receives 50% or greater community support.

7.3.4.2 Parking Demand – Hitchcock Avenue

The existing Hitchcock Avenue time-based parking restrictions apply between Bridge Road and Colite Street which traditionally was the commercial centre. Commercial properties now extend further north to Ozone Road however no time-based parking restrictions apply adjacent to these properties. The community has highlighted a desire for the time-based parking restrictions to be extended north to capture these commercial properties.

The City engaged a data collection company to determine parking demand and occupancy for key areas on four separate days in January and February 2019. The parking surveys revealed that of the fours days the peak day was Saturday, 25th January 2020 with the lowest observed demand occurring on Wednesday 19th February 2020.

The peak survey day revealed parking occupancy for both sides of Hitchcock Avenue between Colite Street and Ozone Road was greater than 80% for eight hours. During the low demand day, the parking occupancy surveys revealed occupancy of greater than 80% for three hours. The parking survey findings generally meet the occupancy requirement for implementation of parking restrictions.

It is recommended that the City consult with Hitchcock Avenue property owners and tenants, between Colite Street and Ozone Road, to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions (Recommended Action 19).

7.3.4.3 Parking Control Type – Hitchcock Avenue

The community has identified a desire for a mixture of parking controls for Hitchcock Avenue which is to include 2P, 1/4P, loading zones and accessibility spaces.

Loading Zones

Loading zones are a shared spaced provided to support business with the pick up or delivery of loads/goods and are generally position where they service a number of adjacent businesses. There are currently two loading zones provided in Hitchcock Avenue. The Planning Scheme requires new commercial properties to provide adequate on-site loading facilities. New developments on Hitchcock Avenue would be required to provide on-site loading.

The current provision of loading zones is considered appropriate for the current commercial properties. It is not recommended that Council introduce any additional loading zone.

Accessibility Parking Spaces

Accessibility parking spaces are provided for people who require extra space to exit or enter their vehicles or require close proximity to certain places due to mobility impairments.

AS/NZS 2890.5:2020 Part 5 relates to on-street parking and includes parking requirements for people with disabilities. Table 4.2 of this Standard outlines the recommended minimum number of accessible spaces by land use. Commercial /Retail areas are recommended to provide 2% accessibility spaces of the total available parking spaces. The commercial/retail area of Barwon Heads is generally considered Hitchcock Avenue between Bridge Road and Ozone Road. This section provides 71 on street parking spaces which two accessibility parking spaces. Current 3% of the total available parking spaces is dedicated to accessibility parking which complies with AS/NZS 2890.5:2020. It is not recommended that additional accessibility parking spaces be provided.

Accessibility Parking Space Layout

AS/NZS 2890.5:2020 Part 5 also specifies the required layout for accessibility parking spaces. Figure 7-23 provides the required dimensions for an accessibility parking space. The accessibility bays in Hitchcock Avenue are 2.1m wide and 6m length. This does not comply with AS/NZS 2890.5:2020.

It is recommended that Council upgrade the existing spaces to align with requirements outlined in AS/NZS 2890.5:2020 (Recommended Action 20). It is noted providing the required accessibility bay dimensions will result in the reduction of parking bay number and footpath width.

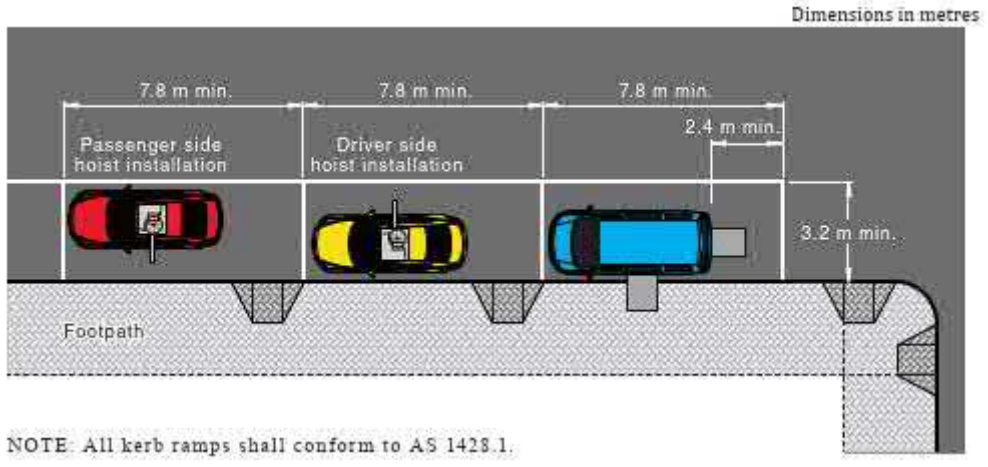


Figure 7-23: Parallel Accessibility Parking Space Layout (AS/NZS 2890.5)

7.3.4.4 Parking Demand – Ozone Road

A desire for 2P parking controls on Ozone Road near the intersection of Hitchcock Avenue has been identified by the community during the Community Stage 1 engagement. No parking restrictions are provided within Ozone Road however 'hockey stick' markings are provided to identify individual parking bays and deter people from parking across

driveways. Parking demand and occupancy for Ozone Road was surveyed on four separate days in January and February 2019 for the section west of Hitchcock Avenue to Grove Road.

The peak survey day of 25th January when the peak temperature was 27.8°C revealed parking occupancy for Ozone Road between Grove Road and Hitchcock Avenue was above 95% (peak) and generally above 80% between 8am and 1pm. During the low demand day, the parking occupancy surveys revealed peak occupancy of 34% when the peak temperature was 19°C. The parking survey findings suggest on-street parking is influenced by seasonal activities and temperature.

It is not recommended that Council implement time-based parking restrictions for this section of Ozone Road as the occupancies do not meet the City's intervention triggers.

7.3.4.5 Parking Demand – Bridge Road

Bridge Road was identified by the community as a road having parking supply concerns. The parking supply and occupancy surveys revealed that Bridge Road proposed 72 spaces with peak occupancy during the peak period of 64% (46 spaces used with 26 spaces available). The community has identified a desire for parking modifications on Bridge Road between Hitchcock Avenue and Grandview Parade (near to the IGA Supermarket).

The parking survey data revealed parking occupancy on the north side of Bridge Road two of the three spaces were generally occupied from 9am to 5pm for both the peak and off-peak situation. The occupancy of the unrestricted spaces on the south side near the IGA was low. Drivers may be reluctant to use these spaces due to a number of factors that include proximity to the zebra crossing, proximity to driveways and lack of linemarking.

Due to existing vehicle crossovers only one legal space is available between the zebra crossing and the short term parking adjacent to the IGA Supermarket using the standard parking bay dimensions as outlined in the Australian Standards for parking. To provide additional parking the crossovers would need to be removed. The owner of the property has indicated that these access points are still required and therefore no additional parking spaces can be provided on the south side of Bridge Road.

Bridge Road between Hitchcock Avenue and Flinders Parade is typically commercial. To provide a consistent approach to parking control for the commercial areas of Barwon Heads short term parking restrictions (e.g. 30min, 1P, 2P) should be considered. It is recommended that the City consult with property owners for this section of Bridge Road to determine support for the implementation of time-based parking restrictions.

7.3.4.6 Parking Demand – Clifford Parade

Clifford Parade was identified by the community as a road having parking supply concerns. Clifford Parade, between Hitchcock Avenue and Grove Road, is likely to attract spill over parking related to the adjacent commercial area. The parking survey data does indicate higher occupancy rates for Clifford Parade east of Grove Road when compared to the west side of Grove Road.

The peak survey day revealed parking occupancy of Clifford Parade, between Hitchcock Avenue and Grove Road, was generally 100% at 12:00pm and about 90% between 9am and 4pm for all surveyed days. The four survey days revealed that Clifford Parade, between Grove Road and Golf Links Road, did have low parking occupancy. The parking occupancy surveys revealed occupancy generally lower than 30% between 7am and 6pm

It is recommended that the City consult with Clifford Parade property owners and tenants, between Hitchcock Avenue and Grove Road, to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions (Recommended Action 25).

7.3.4.7 Residential Only Parking Permit Scheme

During the Community Stage 1 Consultation period, the theme of residential only parking permits was raised. The City currently provides a residential parking permit scheme to residents who have a time-based restriction in their street.

It is noted that the City does not implement residential only street parking or such permit systems. The City has no current plans to implement such a scheme or permit system.

7.3.4.8 Parking Opportunities/Constraints

CBD off-street parking facilities

A general theme provided during the community consultation was a desire for Council to provide additional off-street parking facilities. Barwon Heads residents have expressed a desire to be less reliant on car travel and reduce their impact on the environment. Providing off-street parking does not align with the community's aspirations as providing

additional parking would further encourage car usage. The most appropriate approach would be to efficiently manage the available parking while encouraging alternative ways to the town centre.

The Urban Design Guidelines for Victoria indicate that car parking lots are important in supporting some businesses and remove customer parking away from neighbouring residential streets. Where land is freely available and land values are relatively low, car parking lots are an option to consider. Carparking lots do have associated negative impacts that include:

- Create barriers for pedestrians;
- Radiate heat in summer;
- Generate poor quality stormwater run-off; and
- Potential to attract anti-social behaviour.

A car parking lot would need careful design to ensure it adds to the vibrancy / character of a town centre. The parking survey data does indicate that parking is generally available within 300m (3 minute walk) of Hitchcock Avenue. It is also noted that land values in the Barwon Heads town centre are significant.

Considering the cost and amenity impacts created by off-street carparks it is not recommended that Council purchase land for an off-street car park and the availability of other traffic management options in the vicinity of Hitchcock Avenue.

Former Preschool Site (Clifford Parade)

Following on from the above, the community identified a specific location to address the desire for an off-street parking facility. The Barwon Heads Preschool site on Clifford Parade was suggested by the community as a potential location to provide an off-street parking facility. There is a current planning permit application which if successful would see this site developed into an Arts and Community Hub. As part of this planning permit the site would provide parking for patrons accessing the Arts and Community Hub and Senior Citizens centre. Barwon Heads has a strong and passionate arts community. This hub will encourage further creative expression and enable more social connection between community members. This location would pair an existing community facility to the new arts facility. Further information relating to the arts hub can be found on the City's website.

Seaview Avenue parking area

This parking area is currently unsealed with informal parking occurring as can be demonstrated in Figure 7-24.



Figure 7-24: Aerial Imagery 25 November 2020 and 30 December 2015 (source: NearMap)

Direction parking signage indicates that 25 spaces are provided in this facility. Due to the informal nature of the parking area, accommodating 25 parked vehicles is unlikely to be achieved as vehicles judge what they consider an appropriate space. AS/NZS 2890.1:2004 relates to the requirements for off-street car parking. A sketch based on the dimensions outlined AS2890.1 has been prepared and demonstrates that 28 spaces could be provided in the current footprint. The layout is presented at Figure 7-25 and provides aisle and parking bay dimensions that would suit one-way operation and employee/commuter parking – generally all-day parking operation.

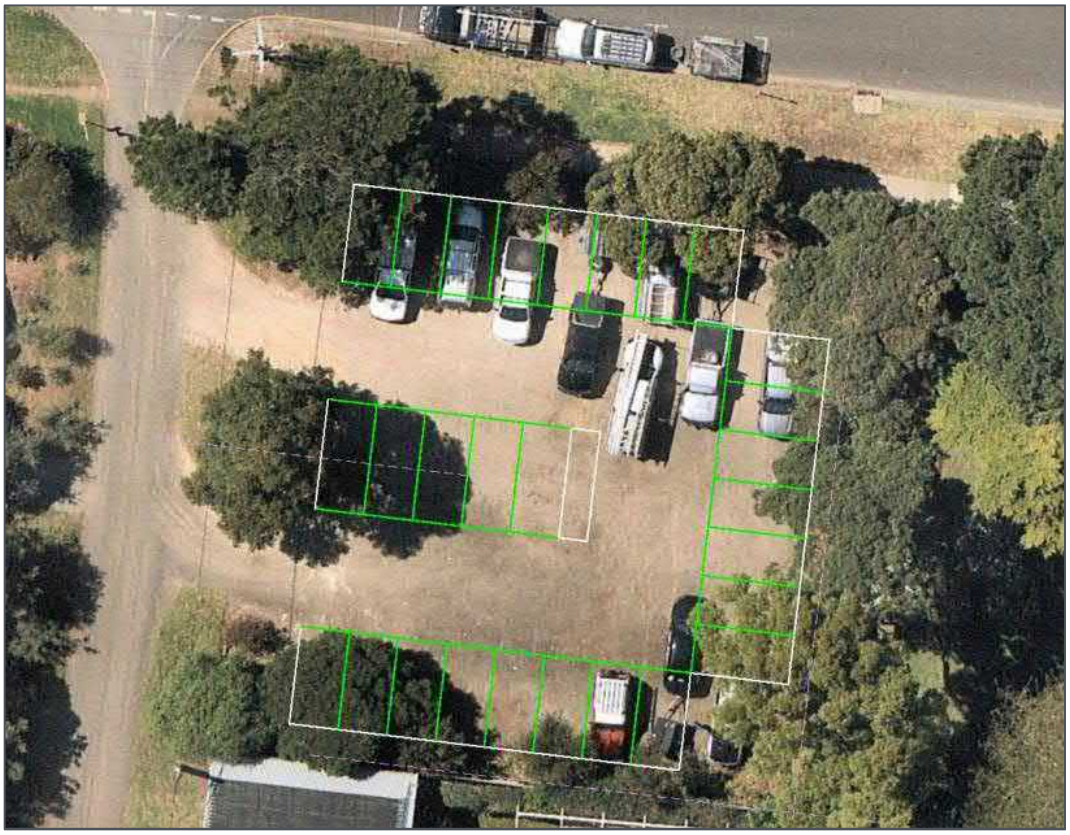


Figure 7-25: Seaview Avenue Potential Parking Area Layout (image source: NearMap)

7.3.5 Planning Assessments/Parking Waivers

A planning permit is a legal document that gives permission for a use, development or subdivision on a piece of land. The City's Statutory Planning Department is responsible for processing planning permit applications and the general administration of the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Some of the most common themes of concern relating a planning permit with parking waivers included:

- Changes in use of land (e.g. residential to mixed/commercial use); and
- Subdivision of land for multiple dwellings.

Parking waivers where applied for have been supported by the City in all developments along Hitchcock Avenue over the past five years. The provision for parking waivers is determined through the planning permit process on a case by case basis. Site sizes in Barwon Heads are relatively small, so a strict requirement to meet the parking requirements would inhibit the ability to develop sites viability. There does need to be careful consideration over the scale of development, particularly where there is a residential component to the development.

The community highlighted concern that parking waivers granted by Council in town planning permit approvals are having detrimental impacts to local amenity. When assessing commercial/mixed use development proposals Council takes into consideration the level of on-site parking to be provided. Where the proposed on-site parking is below the parking scheme requirement, Council implements conditions on the planning permit to limit the parking impact. Example conditions that Council typically include as permit conditions include:

- limiting the number of practitioners; or
- specifying a maximum number of seating/patrons.

Additional mechanisms Council uses to minimise parking impacts is to ensure end of trip facilities are provided and requiring the developer to upgrade pedestrian facilities to encourage alternate travel modes such as walking and cycling.

Council look to balance the benefits in allowing new business and development, which supports the economic growth of the town, against potential impacts. Small businesses provide character and individuality to a community. A thriving shopping district creates an impression of vitality and wealth, producing a positive impression of the community overall.

This approach has been adopted by the City in recent planning assessments. Planning approval has been granted for 66 & 68 Hitchcock Avenue which includes the building of four shops, eight apartments dwellings and partial reduction of off-street carparking spaces from 22 to 14. The assessment on the carparking indicated the provision is adequate to accommodate the projected demand. On-street car parking demand associated with the subject site can be adequately accommodated during non-peak periods which was demonstrated by car parking occupancy surveys. During the peak periods, the demand associated with the subject site is anticipated to be lesser as more tourists attend the precinct rather than a particular venue, and overall, the development would be expected to have a negligible impact. This assessment is appropriate as the parking survey data indicates parking availability during off peak. During peak season, parking survey data indicates parking availability within 300m (3 minute walk) of this site. Tourists are visiting the commercial area (typically not a specific venue) with the impact being negligible.

The theme of short-term holiday accommodation (AirBnB, Stayz, et al) was present during the community engagement. A concern relating to insufficient parking being provided by these uses was having an impact on amenity and resulting in localised high demand for on-street parking. The Planning Scheme does not differentiate between houses which are used as primary residences and those used as holiday houses. Provided that the on-site parking requirements of the Planning Scheme for a standard dwelling are met then additional on-site parking is not required. It is noted that short-term holiday accommodation typically utilise private property. The City cannot control how people utilise their own property.

7.3.6 Major Projects

Recent, current and future major transport projects that are relevant to traffic and parking conditions in Barwon Heads are outlined below.

7.3.6.1 Bellarine Link

Bellarine Link is proposed to provide an additional crossing of Barwon River. Major Road Projects Victoria is carrying out the planning and investigation work for this extension to the Geelong Ring Road which aims to improve safety, reduce congestion, accommodate future urban growth in the area and improve travel times on the Geelong road network. The main benefit will be provided to Geelong's City Centre by acting as a ring road continuation. The proposed road alignment would generally consume the existing Reserve Road corridor.

Based on the information available at the early stages of planning for Bellarine Link, Barwon Heads is unlikely to experience any notable impacts from the project and therefore no associated recommendations are made at this time.

7.3.6.2 Barwon Heads Road Duplication

The Barwon Heads Road Duplication project will upgrade four kilometres of the corridor between Settlement Road and Reserve Road. The project increases the capacity of Barwon Heads Road to accommodate the urban growth of Armstrong Creek Corridor. The duplication includes a bridge over the railway line at Marshall (removing the existing level crossing), intersection upgrades and safety improvements. While growth associated with development in Armstrong Creek is likely to contribute to increased traffic volumes throughout the City over time, the road project itself is not anticipated to significantly impact volumes in Barwon Heads.

7.3.7 Future Growth and Movement Projects

Barwon Heads is a well-established community and within the township there are limited opportunities for future development, although it is anticipated that some development will occur through increased density. Barwon Heads is largely zoned as Neighbourhood Residential Zone. This zoning has been applied in ordered to manage and ensure development respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environment or landscape characteristics.

Commercial Zone and Mixed Use Zone applies to Hitchcock Avenue (Clifford Parade to Ozone Road). It is anticipated that development will continue to transition this section of Hitchcock Avenue towards a higher mix of commercial premises.

Additional development is most likely to be in the form of multi-unit developments on existing residential lots within the township. This would lead to some additional traffic generation.

Any changes to traffic volumes/traffic patterns in the short to medium term as a result of additional development in Barwon Heads are expected to be moderate and incremental in nature.

7.3.8 Public Transport Provision

Public transport in Barwon Heads is limited to the following:

- Bus Route 55 – Geelong to Ocean Grove via Barwon Heads is the only bus route operating within the township. The service runs (on average) every hour during weekdays (with an increase in frequency during peak times) and every two hours during weekends. On Saturday and Sunday, the service runs approximately every 2 hours with less early morning and later evening buses[4]. The bus route is shown in Figure 4-3 (Section 4.2).
- A free shuttle bus, serviced by the Barwon Coast Committee of Management (BCCoM), operates between Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove during the holiday period. The bus operates daily, on the hour, eight times per day.

There is no train line/network within the area. The closest train station is Marshall Railway Station, approximately 14.5km north-west of the Barwon Heads town centre. Marshall Railway Station is a V/Line train station, serviced by the Melbourne-Geelong and Melbourne-Warrnambool services.

According to data supplied by Department of Transport (DoT), providing average daily Myki scan-on figures (for 'normal weekdays'), utilisation of Bus Route 55 is summarised as follows:

- The daily scan-on average is 159 for the outbound journey (i.e. to Ocean Grove) and 153 for the inbound journey (i.e. to Geelong);
- The daily scan-on average at bus stops within the Barwon Heads township is 8 for the outbound journey (i.e. to Ocean Grove) and 38 for the inbound journey (i.e. to Geelong).

The above represents low levels of utilisation for Bus Route 55.

Seasonal delays are noted as an issue for the bus service where congestion associated with the Barwon River crossing impacts travel times for buses as it does for general traffic. DoT has advised splitting the Route 55 service in such times so that Ocean Grove and Barwon Heads are services separately is an option to improve service reliability in the future, however there are no plans to implement this change at the current time.

Limited community concern around public transport was observed in Stage 1 Engagement feedback. The geographic nature of Barwon Head results in a heavy reliance on private vehicle usage for many long and short trips, and active travel as an attractive alternative for short trips given the general 'walkability' within the township. This is reflected in the low ridership volumes for Bus Route 55 noted above. Accordingly, there is no justification to recommend expansion or change to public transport within and to/from Barwon Heads.

7.3.9 Speed Zoning

Speed zoning has been reviewed as part of this study. Stage 1 Community Engagement submissions included concerns regarding speeds travelled on roads within Barwon Heads, and requests for speed limit reductions throughout the township.

Speed limits are set in accordance with State guidelines, to establish appropriate and consistent speed zoning across the network. This achieves simplicity and a system that is easier for drivers to comply with, as opposed speed limits that are selected or changed in an attempt to address issues such as road safety. Furthermore, an approach to speed reduction via physical calming measures to generate a road environment that is more conducive to the desired operating speed, is the preferred and more effective method to improving road safety; particularly for the function and condition of most roads within the Barwon Heads township.

Therefore, on review of speed zones within Barwon Heads, current speed limits are generally considered appropriate for respective road function and changes are not proposed. This is with exception to the following two recommendations:

- Action/Recommendation Treatment 7 – as part of the proposed safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists along Thirteenth Beach Road, it is recommended to extend the existing 60km/h speed limit to include the beach carpark at 36w. This supports improvements for cycling and reduces the likelihood and severity outcomes of crashes along this stretch of road which is subject to heavy cycling, pedestrian, parking and tourist activity.

[4] Barwon Heads Structure Plan

- Action/Recommendation Treatment 24 - The 40km/h speed limit on Hitchcock Avenue should be considered for extension north to Ozone Road, to align with the proposed parking restriction area/commercial area. This minor change to speed zoning would result in a more consistent and appropriate speed limit for adjacent land uses as the commercial precinct has evolved and expanded north.

Based on consideration to surveyed vehicle speeds and the appropriateness of speed limits for respective road function around Barwon Heads, no other roads are recommended for speed limit changes.

7.4 Issues on State-Owned Roads

Within the study area, roads along the State Arterial Route consisting of Barwon Heads Road, Golf Links Road, Bridge Road and Barwon Heads-Ocean Grove Road are owned by Regional Roads Victoria (RRV)/Department of Transport (DoT). Several issues/requests were raised by the community in Stage 1 Engagement which relate to these State-owned roads. The City consulted with RRV/DoT to identify their proposed course of action for such items. Responses from the State are provided in Table 7-13.

Table 7-13: Actions/responses for traffic issues and requests regarding State-owned roads

Location	Issue	Responses from the State regarding Issues on State-owned Roads
Barwon Heads Rd / Lings Rd intersection	Intersection safety	This intersection is currently subject to a planning permit for a development. This development is likely to trigger an upgrade to include turning lanes.
Barwon Heads Rd	Speed related concerns / speed limit reduction requests	The speed limits are reviewed and monitored as traffic volumes, roadside development or crash risk change on the network. The Department of Transport has a number of safety improvements proposed on Barwon Heads Road to reduce some of the crash risk between Armstrong Creek and Barwon Heads. The speed limit on Barwon Heads Road in Armstrong Creek, between Marshalltown Road and Lower Duneed Road, which is currently a mix of 60km/h and 80km/h, will be changed to 70km/h due to increased development, new signalised intersections and a roundabout, and crash risk.
Golf Links Rd	Safety for pedestrians crossing Golf Links Rd	An assessment of the number of pedestrians crossing at Ozone Road, if not completed as a part of this study, will need to be undertaken. Before proceeding, we would be keen to understand if this will become a key pedestrian corridor in the future. It is likely a refuge island would be a suitable upgrade, should the review identify a need to upgrade a crossing point.
Bridge Rd / Hitchcock Ave intersection	Congestion and safety issues related to the Bridge Rd precinct	In 2015/2016, the Department of Transport, working closely with the City of Greater Geelong and local community representatives, set about identifying improvements to Bridge Road, with a key focus on improving pedestrian access and safety, in particular near the Hitchcock Avenue roundabout. Following the development of a number of options, the current treatment was selected as it met a number of community led objectives; a treatment that provided the highest possible priority for pedestrians, catered for the preferred desire lines and improved amenity in both streets by calming traffic speeds. Traffic modelling was also undertaken on all of the options, with the current location of the pedestrian crossing showing better performance than a set of pedestrian traffic lights, or the replacement of the roundabout with a set of traffic signals at the intersection. Minor improvements in 2018, along with the use of traffic controllers in peak times, have improved travel times to a point

Location	Issue	Responses from the State regarding Issues on State-owned Roads
		similar to measurements taken prior to the pedestrian crossing being installed. In summer, this is a key pedestrian area. The prioritisation of the movement of pedestrians and cyclists in this location is critical to the function of Barwon Heads in peak summer times. Given the high number of community responses that raise this concern, and the recent crash history, a review of other improvements and recommendations from this study will be considered by the Department of Transport. From a congestion point of view, the Department of Transport has been undertaking planning for a new corridor from Armstrong Creek to the Bellarine Peninsula. This corridor is likely to provide an alternative route for traffic that is currently travelling through Barwon Heads. Although there is no timeframe for the construction of this link road, it signals an approach to traffic management in Barwon Heads which supports slower speeds, whilst being conscious of providing smooth traffic flow along the arterial road corridor.
Geelong Rd / Barwon River	Congestion / requests for a second bridge across the Barwon River	The Department of Transport maintains its support for the findings of the 2007 independent Planning Panel to reject a second crossing (Corridor 2) as it offers no advantages, a number of significant disadvantages and overall a lower level of benefit to the community.

8 Implementation

Implementation planning is critical to ensure the themes identified in the development of this study are resolved through the proposed treatments. Each recommendation will be implemented through a mix of mechanisms including through the Council capital works plan, Council planning processes and advocacy initiatives that will deliver on the vision and directions in this Plan.

8.1 Implementation Plan

The following table summarises the recommendations / proposed actions. Timings have been assigned with consideration to the level of benefit balanced against likely cost. In general, high benefit, low-cost recommendations are given a higher priority. Indicative timings are categorised as follows:

- Short term – 0 to 2 years
- Medium term – 3 to 6 years
- Long term – 7+ years

Table 8-1: Implementation Plan

No.	Action / Recommendation	Timeframe	Comments
1	Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court)	Medium Term	Community feedback indicates that Saratoga Avenue and Geelong Road roundabout locations are critical in servicing pedestrian desire lines. The City to assess accessibility to Village Park and adjacent properties to validate constructability.
2	Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue – intersection improvements	Medium Term	Community feedback indicates further refinement of design to ensure active travel modes are provided. The City to assess accessibility to Village Park to validate constructability.
3	Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road – intersection improvements	Short Term	Community feedback indicates further refinement of design taking into consider parking conditions and vulnerable road users. The City to assess impacts on cyclist and pedestrian movements along Hitchcock Avenue. Kerb outstand treatments may provide greater benefit.
4	Ozone Road – raised platform intersections at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street	Short Term	Community feedback indicates potential associated works could be incorporated into treatment. The City to assess interface with Seaview Avenue (south) which is currently unsealed. The City to review access to Seaview Avenue off-street parking area.
5	Bridge Road / Golf Links Road – provision of new footpath	Short Term	-

No.	Action / Recommendation	Timeframe	Comments
6	Seaview Avenue – chicane treatment/s for traffic calming	Medium Term	Community feedback provided a mixed view on treatment priority. Five comments indicated the chicanes would support the treatment at northern end and needed. Four comments indicate they be unnecessary. The City to assess viability of treatment due to low community priority and existing low recorded vehicle speeds.
7	Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction	Medium Term	Community feedback indicates potential associated works could be incorporated into treatment. Protected vegetation and sand dunes may prevent limit treatment viability.
8	Barwon Heads area – active transport path improvements	Long Term	Community feedback indicates support for treatment however environmentally sensitive design is required. The City to consult with Parks Victoria and CCMA to validate viability.
9	Taits Road – cycle improvements	Short Term	Community feedback indicates 'step towards' treatment needs to be consistently applied through Barwon Heads to ensure effectiveness.
10	Golf Links Road – footpath and cycle improvements	Short Term	The City to assess vegetation, drainage and potential usage to validate constructability.
11	Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements	Long Term	The City to assess drainage and drainage capacity to validate constructability.
13	Carr Street – drainage upgrades, footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width	Long Term	Although treatment received high support from respondents, feedback included disapproval for widespread footpath/kerb and channel construction. This treatment is viewed to diminish the 'coastal' values and character of the township. Furthermore, significant native vegetation abuts the roadside and would be lost in any effort to widen road or install footpaths.
14	Thirteenth Beach Road – provision of gravel path	Short Term	Protected vegetation and sand dunes may prevent limit treatment viability.
15	Safe Travel to School Routes – road stencilling	Short Term	Community feedback indicates supporting treatment could be implemented with stencilling.
16	Von Nida Avenue – provision of new footpath	Short Term	-

No.	Action / Recommendation	Timeframe	Comments
17	Barwon Heads Road Service Road – conversion to one way	Short Term	Community feedback indicates supporting design ideas could be implementing with the treatment that include: • Parking controls at entry/exit locations • Improved interface with Barwon Heads Road and nearby roundabout
18	Hitchcock Avenue – bicycle parking	Short Term	Community feedback indicates additional sites are to be considered that include: • Coffetti/Sunbaker (#49 Hitchcock Av) • River Park • Bridge Road
19	Hitchcock Avenue – time based parking restrictions (Colite Street to Ozone Road)	Short Term	The City consult with Hitchcock Avenue property owners and tenants to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions.
20	Hitchcock Avenue – Accessibility Parking Bay Upgrade	Medium Term	The City to review parking bay dimensions to ensure compliance with Australian Standards.
21	Bridge Road – time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue to Grandview Parade)	Short Term	The City consult with Bridge Road property owners and tenants to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions.
22	Seaview Avenue – formalising the off-street parking area	Medium Term	The City to assess vegetation, drainage and available footprint to validate constructability.
23	Thirteenth Beach Road – speed zoning change (Black Rock Road to Surf Life Saving Club)	Medium Term	The City seek approval with RRV/DoT to enable zoning change.
24	Hitchcock Avenue – speed zoning change (Colite Street to Ozone Road)	Short Term	The City seek approval from RRV/DoT to enable zoning change. Item to align with Item 19.
25	Clifford Parade – time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue and Grove Road)	Short Term	The City consult with Clifford Parade property owners and tenants to determine support for implementation of time-based parking restrictions.

8.2 Strategic Items

A number of strategic items were discussed in the sections above. Of these identified above the only item that requires further action is to consider the adoption of Sheepwash Road, River Parade and Carr Street to the Geelong PBN.

8.3 Proposals Not Adopted to The Implementation Plan

The following table summarises proposed treatments that were presented to the community for comment but have not been adopted into the Implementation Plan. Commentary for the omission from the Implementation Plan has been provided.

No.	Proposal	Comments
1	Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Saratoga Avenue)	Although treatment received high supported by respondents, the potential impacts on CFA operations. The bus stops south of Saratoga Avenue and a number of driveways on Sheepwash Road mean this proposal is not viable.
2	Clifford Parade – footpath provision	Although treatment received high support from respondents the pump house at Grove Road and Clifford Street limit path alignment options. The level differences between the property line and kerb also limit path alignment options. This proposal is not considered viable. The City to review access to alternate east-west route (eg Bridge Road, Ozone Road).

9 Conclusions

This study arose from the City's desire to investigate transport movements and parking in Barwon Heads with the aim to promote sustainable movement, improve pedestrian and cycling accessibility and safety and review parking restrictions. The purpose of this study was to identify the key transport issues and opportunities facing Barwon Heads, develop preferred options to address these issues and opportunities, and prepare recommendations.

Community Engagement Stage 1 invited members of the community to provide feedback to inform the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study. Local residents, business owners and visitors were asked to contribute by identifying the key transport, parking, pedestrian and cyclist issues and opportunities within the area. Nearly 400 submissions were received, including a submission by the Barwon Heads Association which represents over 200 community members. All feedback was assessed, and the following key themes were identified:

1. Traffic congestion, delays and safety;
2. Parking provision;
3. Pedestrian and cyclist access and safety;
4. Public transport; and
5. High heavy vehicle traffic.

Proposed actions for the Barwon Heads area were established based on the Community Engagement Stage 1 findings and analysis of traffic and parking data.

For the City-managed roads, a series of treatments were developed and presented on the City website for 'Stage 2 Engagement', allowing further community feedback on specific proposed treatments. The 'preferred' treatments aim to address high-priority issues as indicated by the community and traffic/crash data. Larger and broader issues identified in this study were explored as 'Strategic Items'. The 'preferred' treatments were a result of a number of meeting with SMEC and Council Officers/Engineers to discuss appropriate treatment options and the best option for each site.

Community Engagement Stage 2 invited the community to provide feedback on the SMEC proposed treatments. 169 members of the community fully or partially completed the online survey. Participants selected the specific treatments which they would provide feedback on which resulted in between 10 and 56 responses were received for each proposed treatment.

Following consultation with Council officers, this report presents the outcomes of the consultation and SMEC's resulting recommended actions. These are detailed in Section 8 and include the following key improvements:

- Road Safety:
  - Geelong Road / Hitchcock Avenue – intersection improvements
  - Hitchcock Avenue / Ozone Road – intersection improvements
  - Ozone Road – raised platform intersections at Seaview Avenue and Margate Street
  - Seaview Avenue – chicane treatment/s for traffic calming
  - Carr Street – drainage upgrades
  - Barwon Heads Road Service Road – conversion to one way
  - Thirteenth Beach Road – speed zoning change (Black Rock Road to Surf Life Saving Club)
  - Hitchcock Avenue – speed zoning change (Colite Street to Ozone Road)
- Parking Changes:
  - Hitchcock Avenue – time based parking restrictions (Colite Street to Ozone Road)
  - Hitchcock Avenue – Accessibility Parking Bay Upgrade
  - Bridge Road – time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue to Grandview Parade)
  - Seaview Avenue – formalising the off-street parking area
  - Clifford Parade - time based parking restrictions (Hitchcock Avenue and Grove Road)
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Access:
  - Sheepwash Road – pedestrian refuge island (at Coogee Court)
  - Bridge Road / Golf Links Road – provision of new footpath
  - Thirteenth Beach Road – cycle and pedestrian improvements, wayfinding signage and speed reduction

  - Barwon Heads area – active transport path improvements
  - Taits Road – cycle improvements
  - Golf Links Road – footpath and cycle improvements
  - Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade – footpath and cycle improvements
  - Carr Street – footpath provision and width for bike lanes/safe passing width
  - Thirteenth Beach Road – provision of gravel path
  - Safe Travel to School Routes – road stencilling
  - Von Nida Avenue – provision of new footpath
- Strategy Items
  - Adopt Sheepwash Road, Carr Street and River Parade to the PBN

Recommended actions for implementation of the above treatments and actions have been made to establish a high-level plan for the progressive undertaking of tasks set out in the study.

10 References

In preparing this report, reference has been made to the following:

- ABS Census Data 2016
- Barwon Heads Structure Plan, City of Greater Geelong, August 2017;
- Barwon Heads Traffic and Parking Study, GTA consultants, 18 February 2010;
- City of Greater Geelong Settlement Strategy, City of Greater Geelong, October 2018;
- Cleaver and Creative Future, City of Greater Geelong, 2017;
- Department of Transport crash data;
- Department of Transport Route 55 Myki data;
- Department of Transport traffic volume data
- Geelong and Bellarine Tourism Development Plan, 2019;
- Inspections of the study area;
- Traffic and parking surveys undertaken by City of Greater Geelong and others;

Appendix A Stage 1 – Community Issues / Opportunities

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

BARWON HEADS TRANSPORT STUDY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT (STAGE 1)

On 4 May 2020, the City commenced round one of community engagement with locals and residents of Barwon Heads to identify key transport issues and opportunities within the town and to develop preferred options to address these issues and opportunities.

Using this feedback, the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Study will inform a plan that promotes sustainable transport, improves pedestrian and cycling accessibility, enhances safety and reviews parking conditions for the benefit of the community now, and in the future.

Round one of engagement is closed for evaluation and review with future workshops being planned for further community engagement. Round two engagement will commence in July and the City will again invite the local community to participate in assessing potential options and ideas to address opportunities or issues that were heard.

40 DAYS
of engagement (Stage 1)

385
suggestions (comments) from the public left online via social map

130
number of people to leave feedback

5
print adverts in local newspapers

8
hardcopy surveys received

SOCIAL MEDIA

44,008
Reach/Impressions

3,245
Actions (Clicks, reactions, shares, comments etc.)

59 people following the project

1 radio announcement on Krock

4
advertising pamphlets in shopping strip in Barwon Heads

SMEC

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

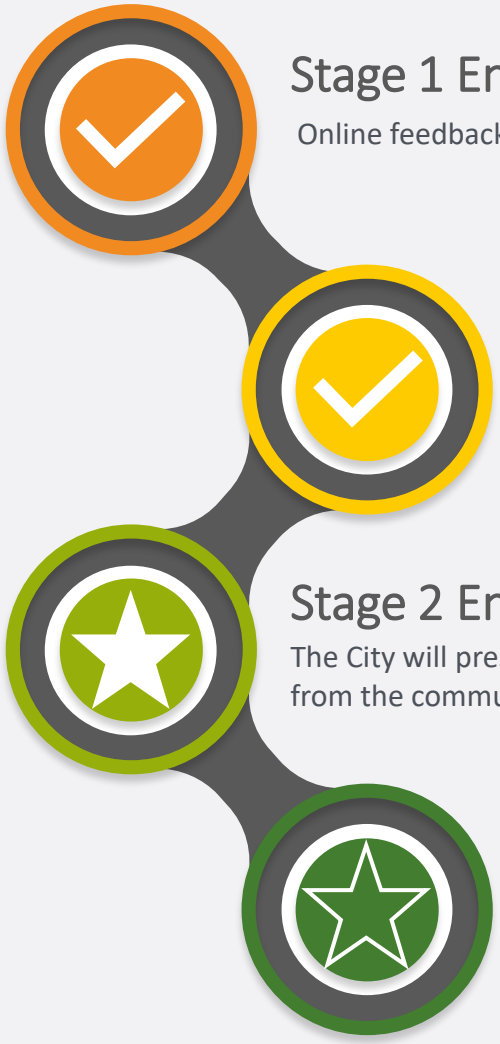
Barwon Heads Transport & Parking Study

Data & Community Engagement Summary

SMEC

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Project Timeline



Stage 1 Engagement

Online feedback of opportunities and issues gathered from the community

Information Collated

All feedback will be assessed and key themes identified

Stage 2 Engagement

The City will present potential solutions to address issues/opportunities and seek comment from the community

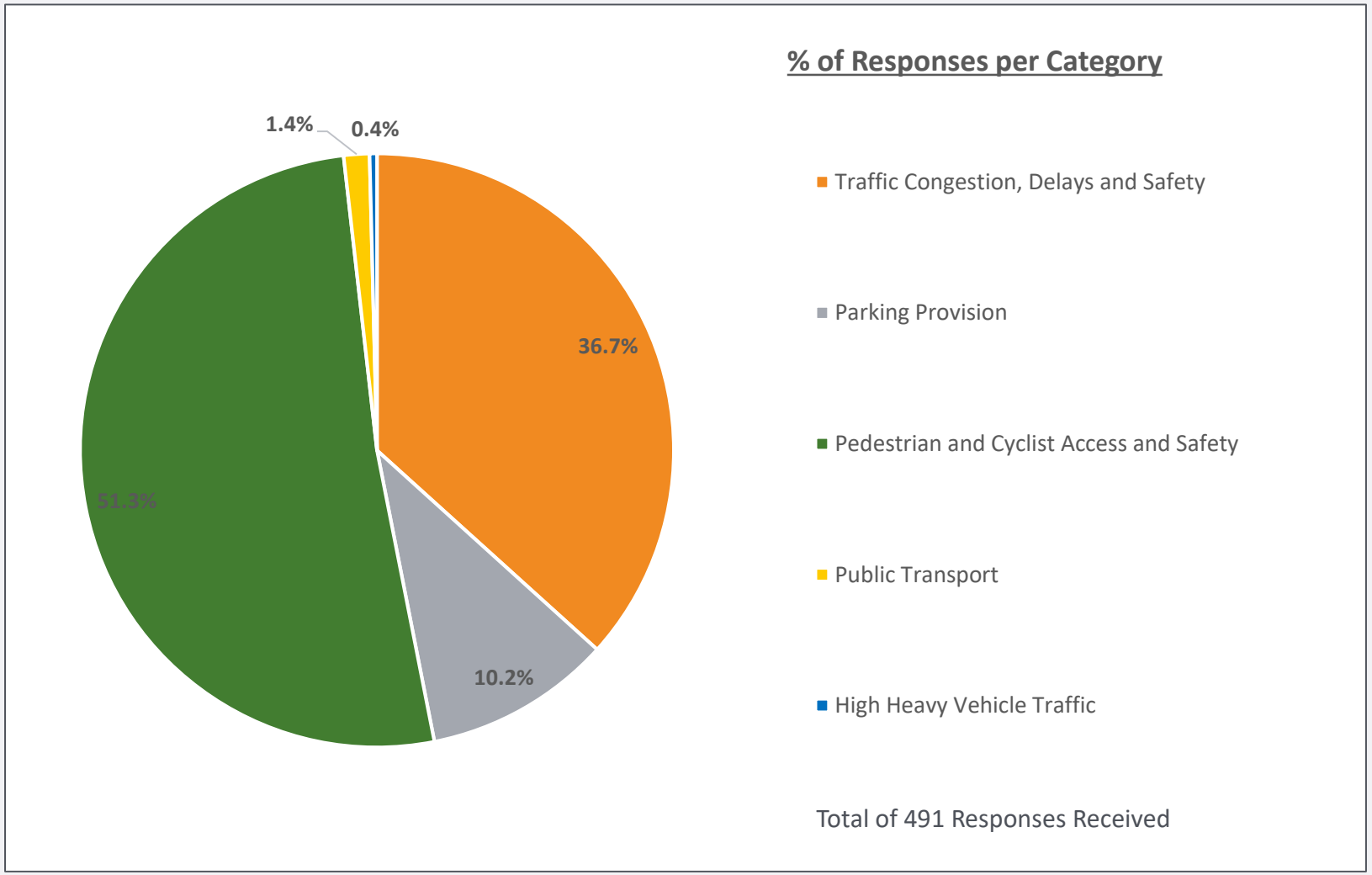
Barwon Heads Transport & Parking Report finalised

The final report will include recommendations on how to address issues/opportunities that have been agreed upon by the City and the community. Additionally an implementation plan on how to achieve these outcomes and when will be included.

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Community Feedback – Key Themes

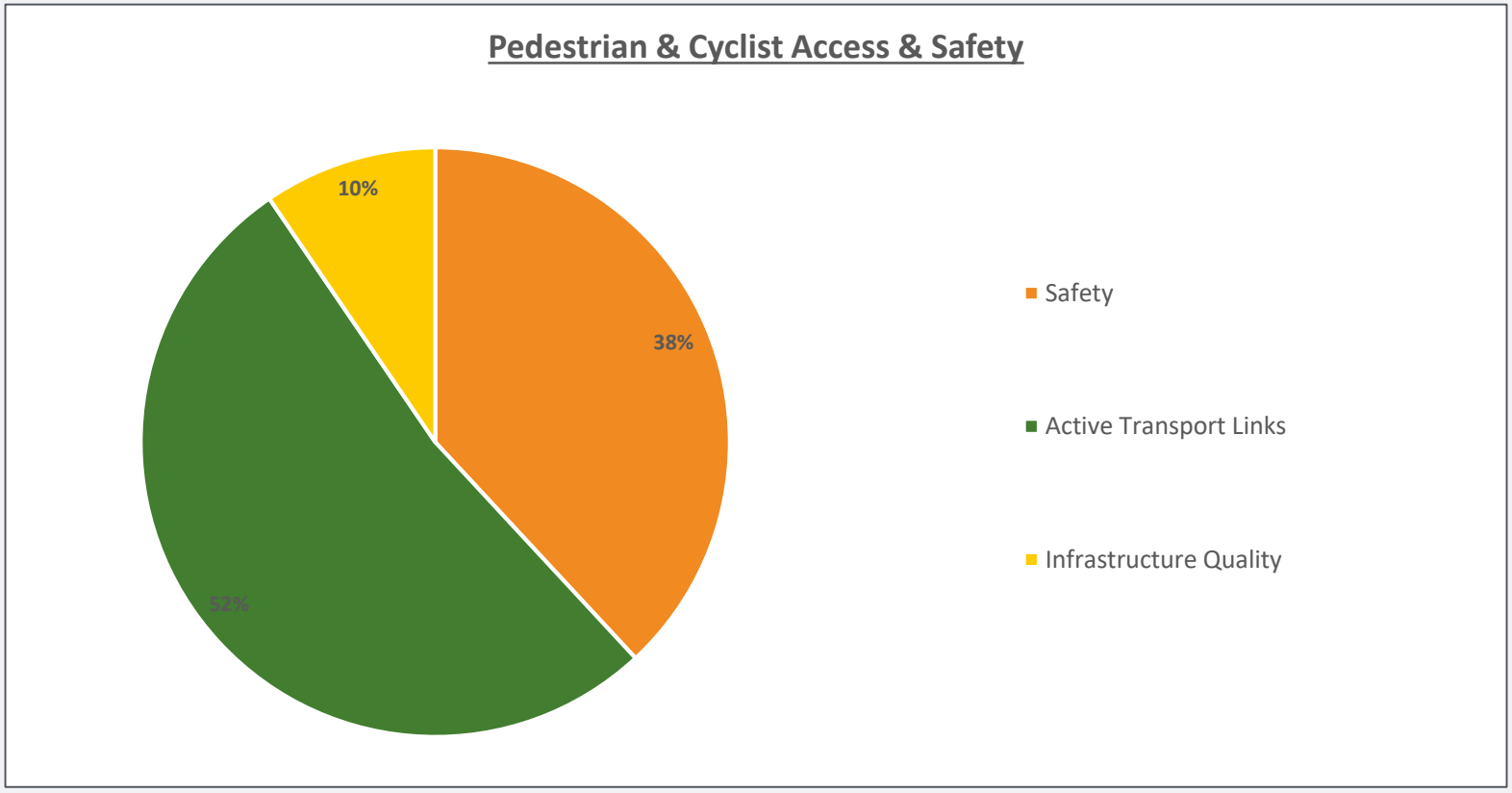
- The chart below represents the percentage of responses made for each of the five key themes identified by the community.



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Community Feedback – Pedestrian & Cyclist Access & Safety

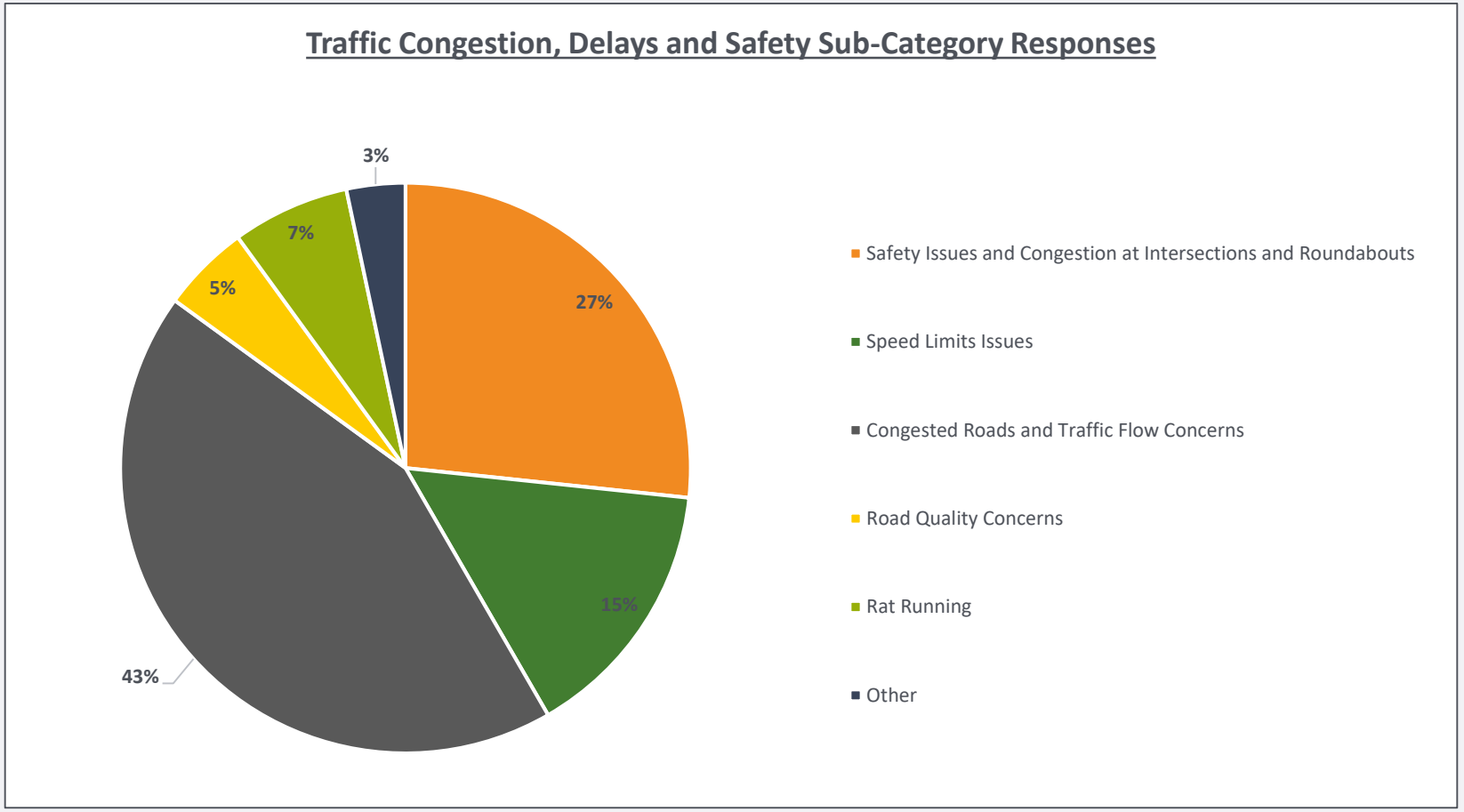
- Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety challenges were the most commonly referenced category raised by the community. Council received 252 responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 51.3% of all responses.
- Within the Pedestrian and Cyclist Access and Safety category, three main feedback areas emerged as being the centre of the community's concern.



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Community Feedback – Traffic Congestion, Delays & Safety

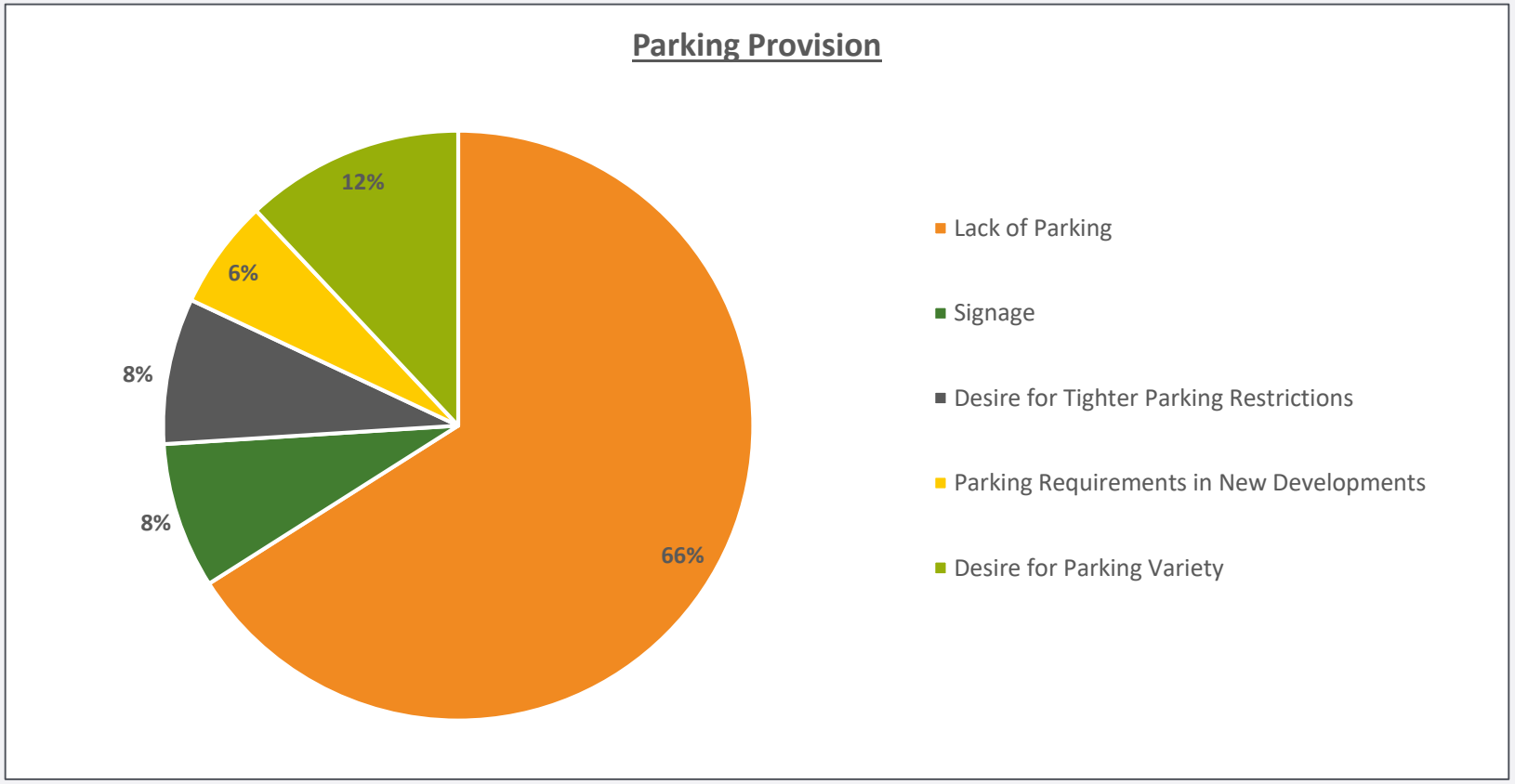
- Traffic congestion, delays and safety challenges were the second most commonly referenced category raised by the community. Council received 182 responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 37.1% of all responses.
- Within the Traffic Congestion, Delays and Safety category, six main feedback areas emerged as being the centre of the community's concern.



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Community Feedback – Parking Provision

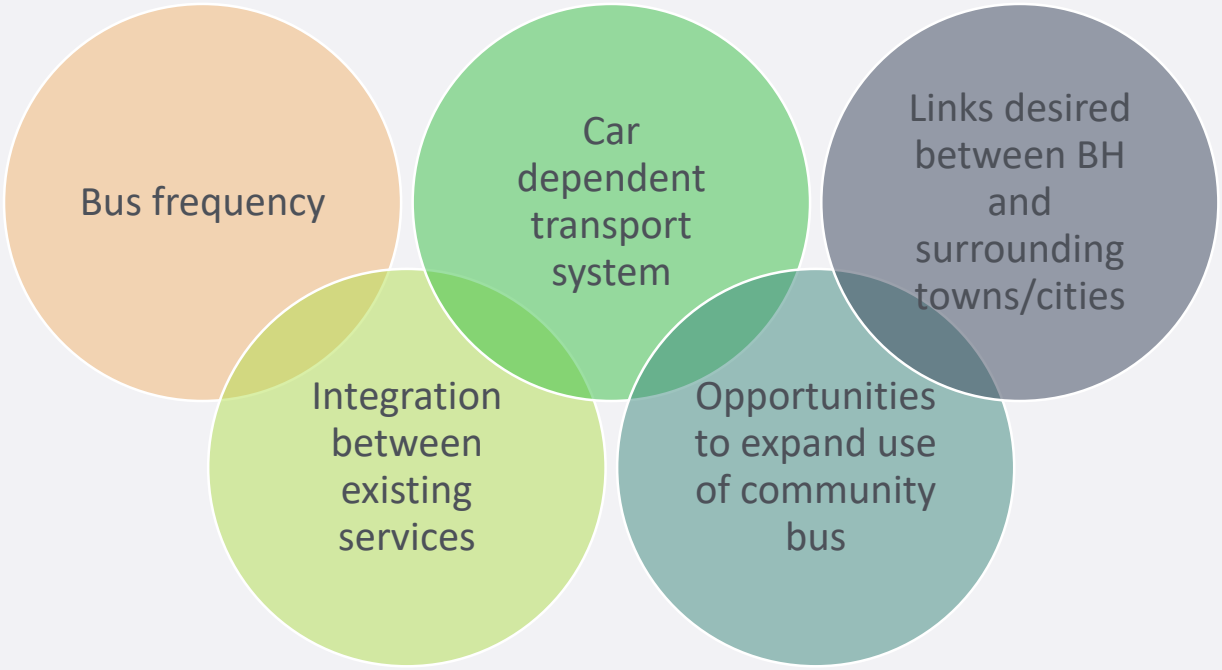
- Parking Provision challenges were the third most commonly referenced category raised by the community. Council received 50 responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 10.2% of all responses. Within the Parking Provision category, five main feedback areas emerged as being the centre of the community's concern.



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Community Feedback – Public Transport

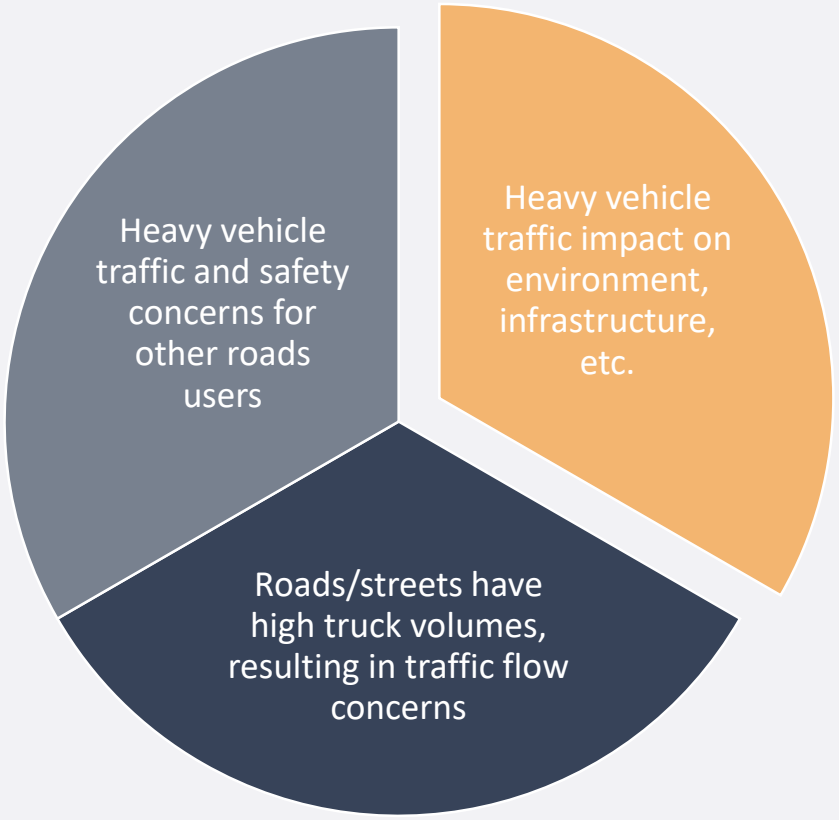
- Council received seven responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to only 1.4% of all responses.
- Although there were only 7 responses, each referenced and referred to one, or many, of the following key main themes:



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Community Feedback – High Heavy Vehicle Traffic

- High Heavy Vehicle Traffic challenges were the least mentioned category raised by the community. Council received only two responses relating to this challenge category, contributing to 0.4% of all responses.
- The two responses raised the following concerns:



SMEC

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

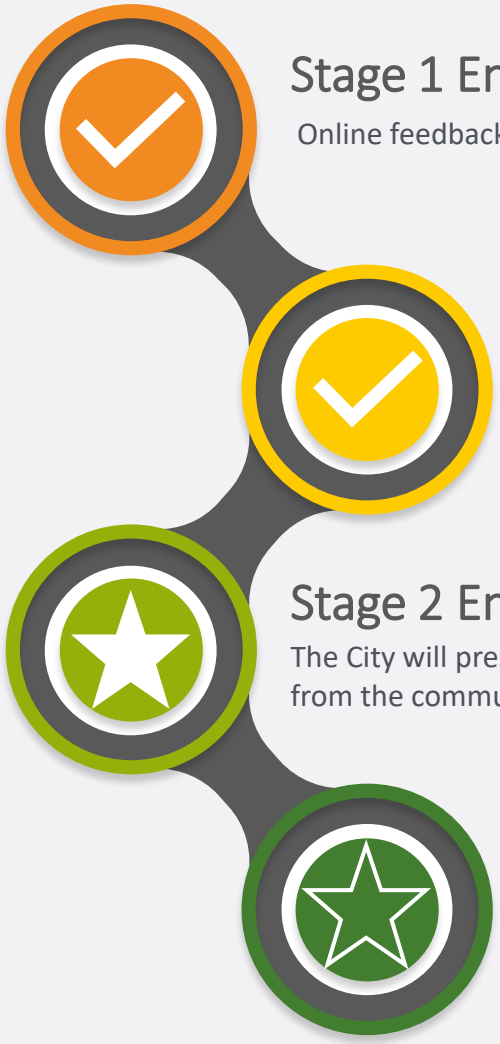
Barwon Heads Transport & Parking Study

Data & Community Engagement Summary

SMEC

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Project Timeline



Stage 1 Engagement

Online feedback of opportunities and issues gathered from the community

Information Collated

All feedback will be assessed and key themes identified

Stage 2 Engagement

The City will present potential solutions to address issues/opportunities and seek comment from the community

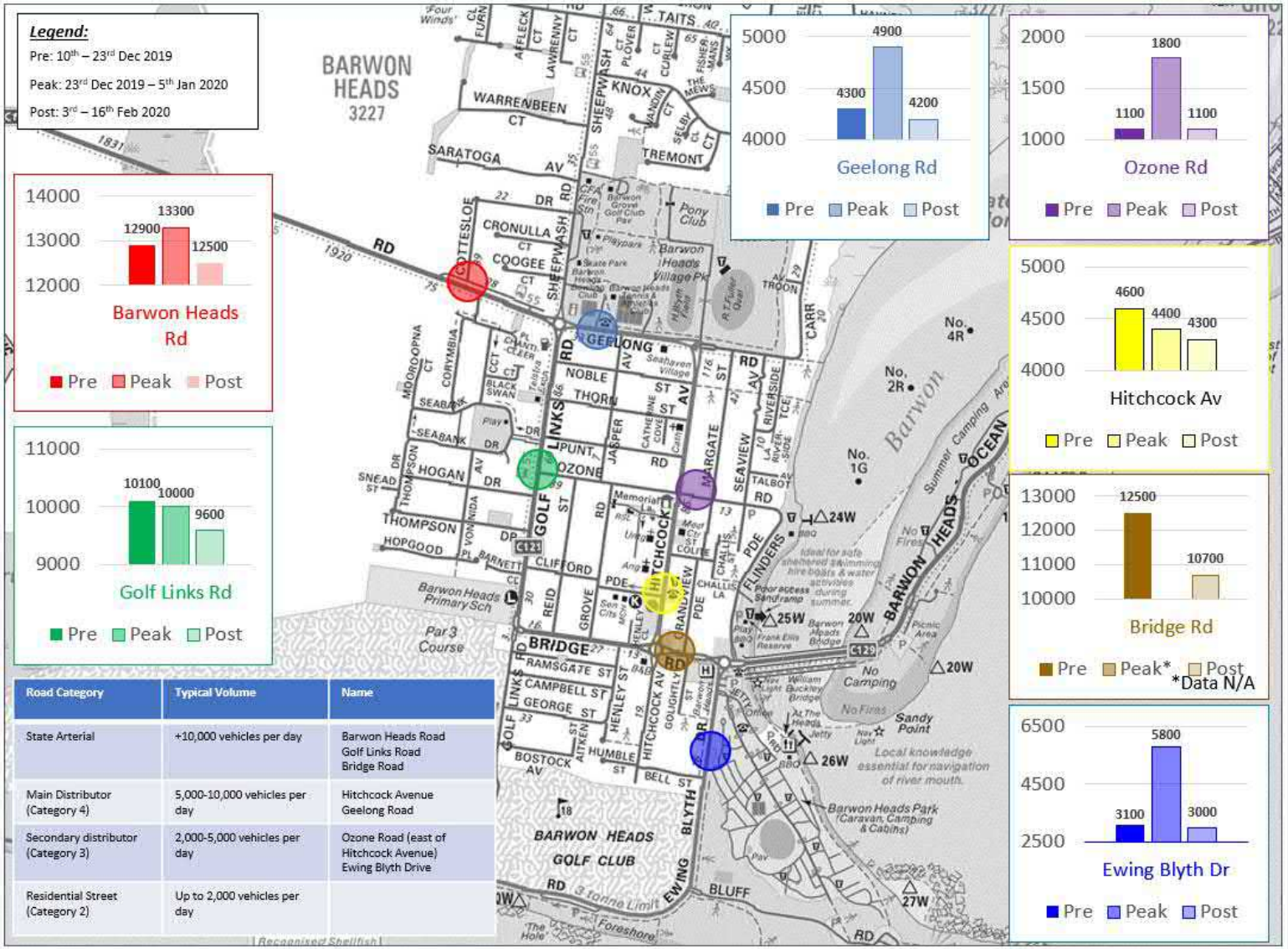
Barwon Heads Transport & Parking Report finalised

The final report will include recommendations on how to address issues/opportunities that have been agreed upon by the City and the community. Additionally an implementation plan on how to achieve these outcomes and when will be included.

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Traffic Volumes

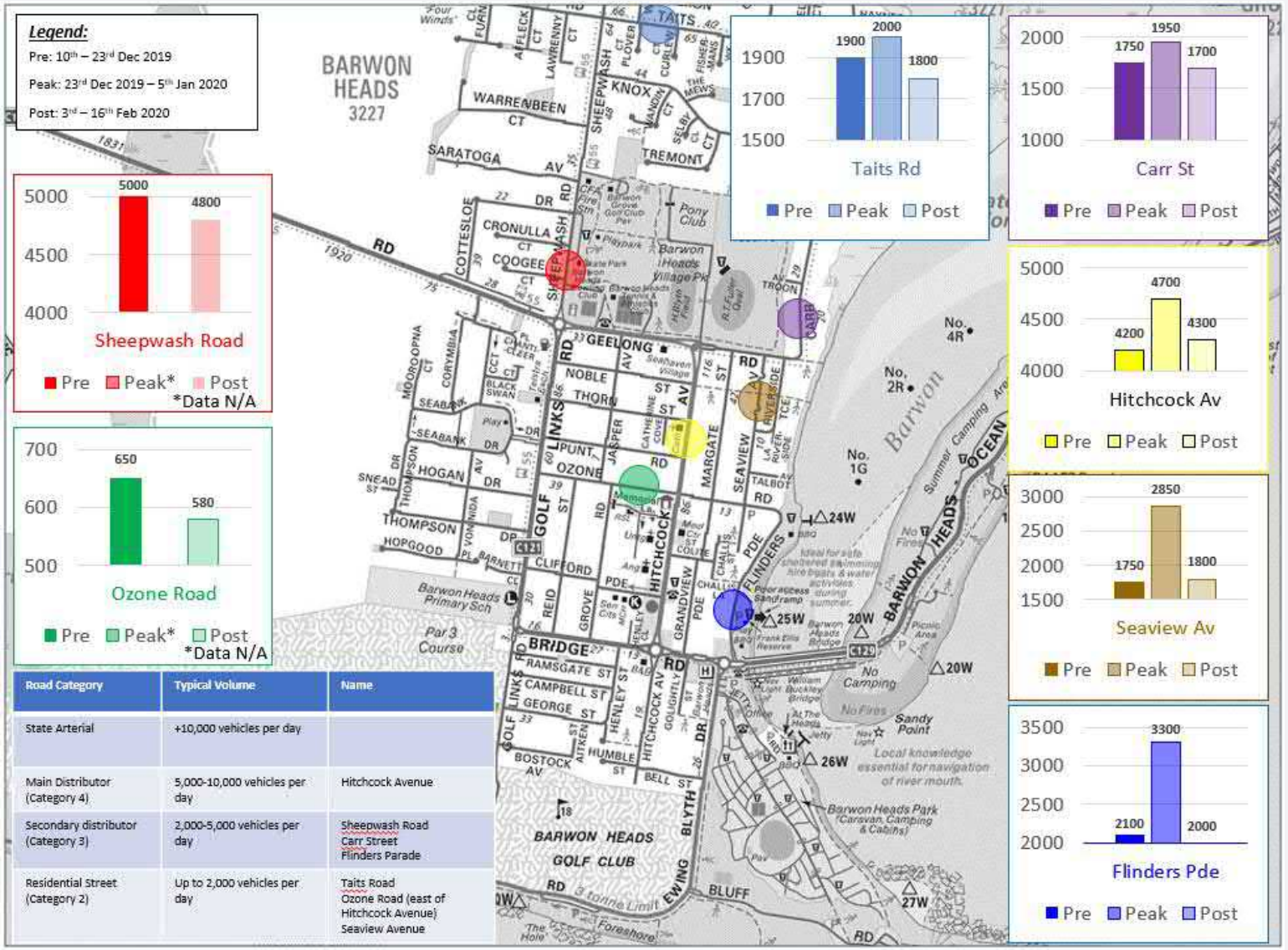
1. Peak Day Traffic Volumes Summary



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Traffic Volumes

1. Peak Day Traffic Volumes Summary

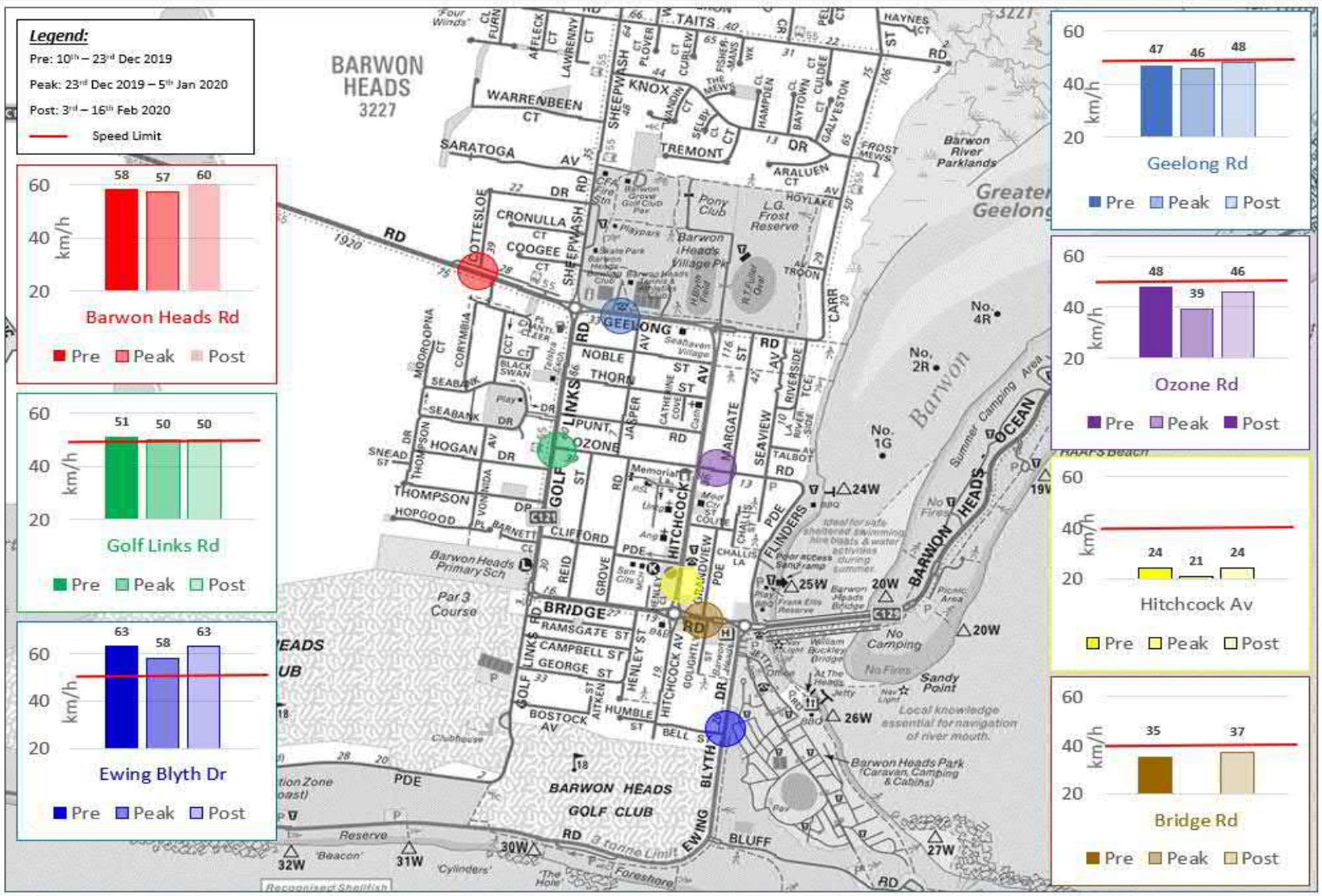


SMEC

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Traffic Volumes

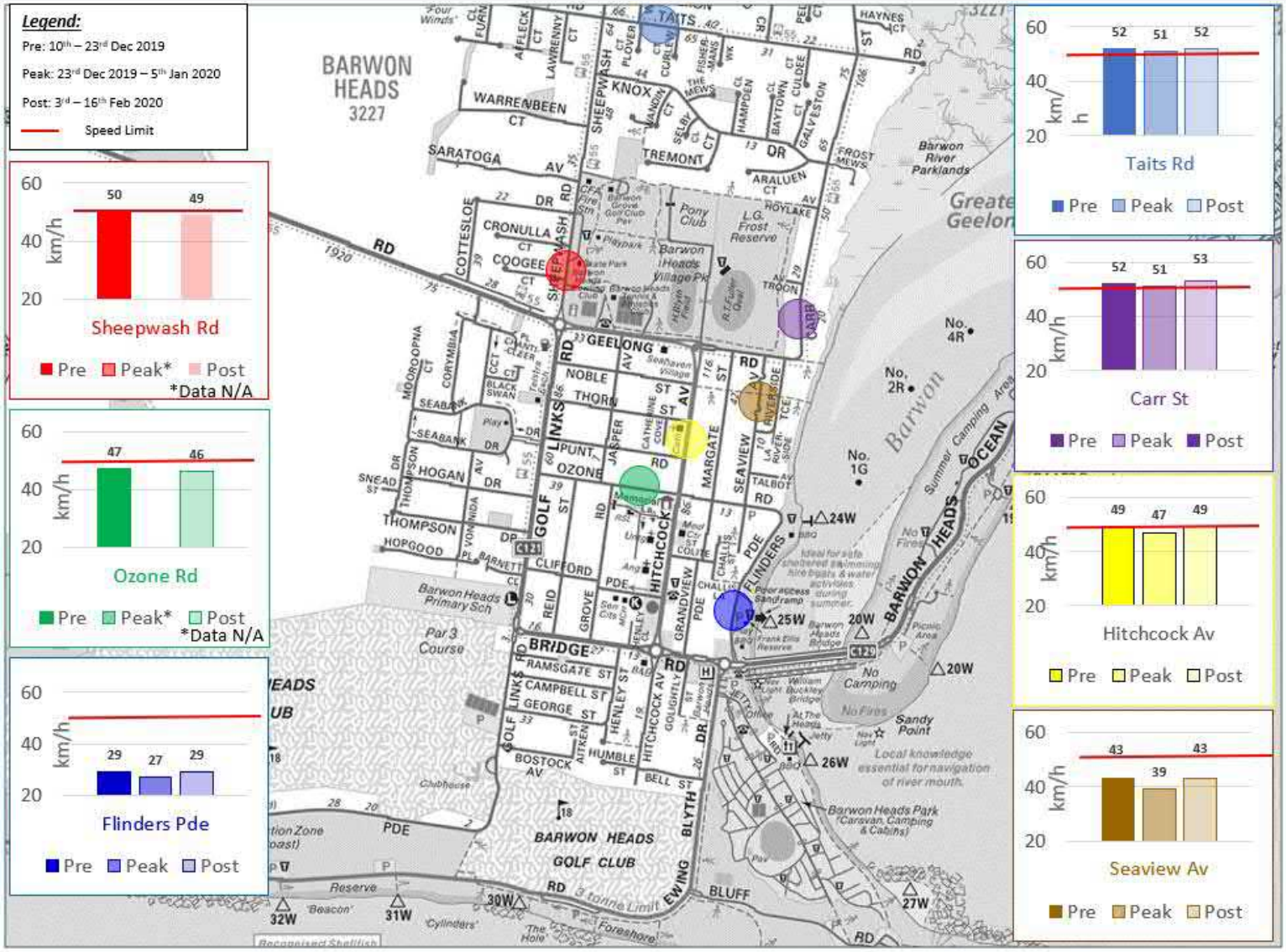
2. Typical Vehicle Speeds (85% of all vehicle at or below)



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Traffic Volumes

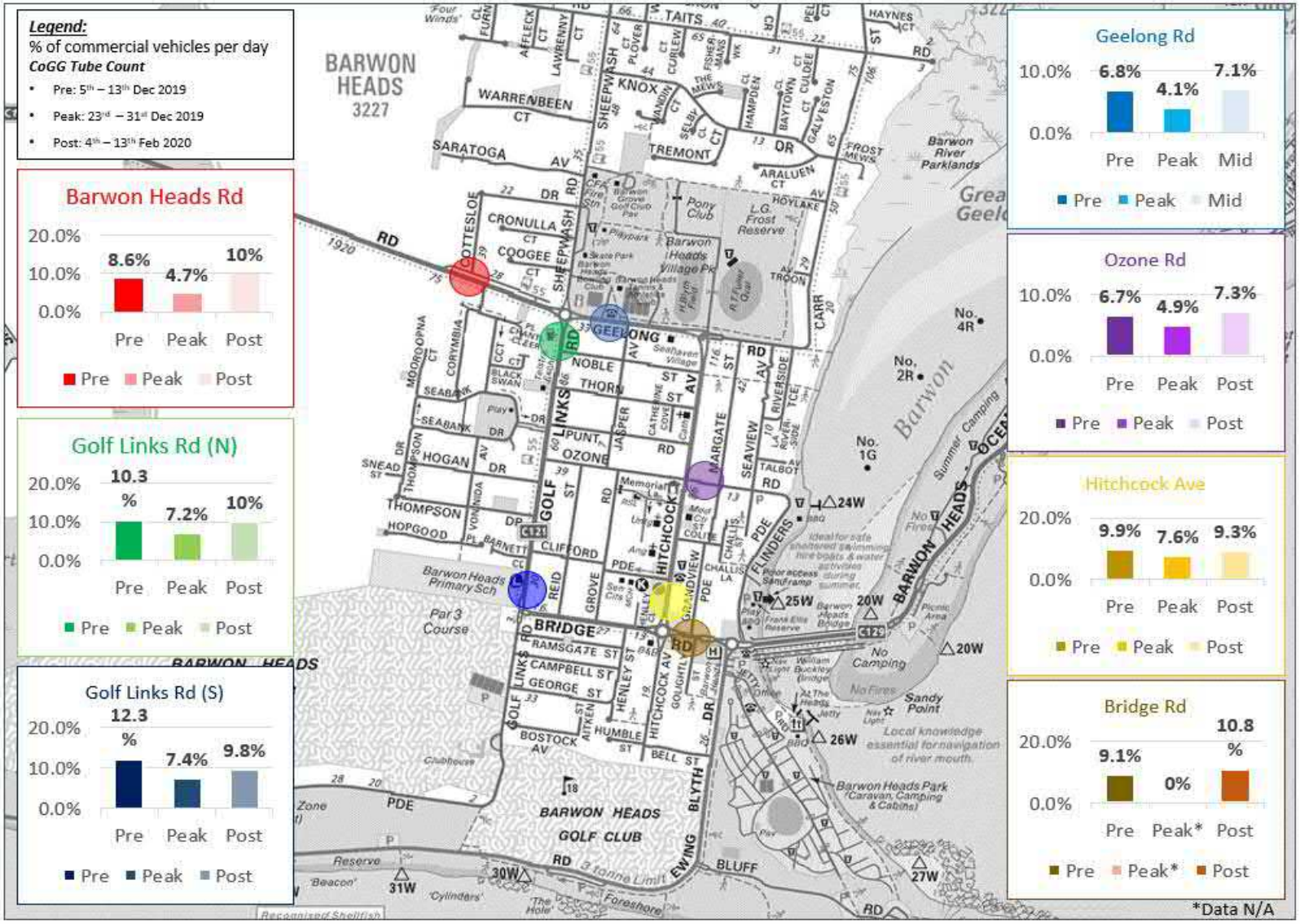
2. Typical Vehicle Speeds (85% of all vehicle at or below)



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Traffic Volumes

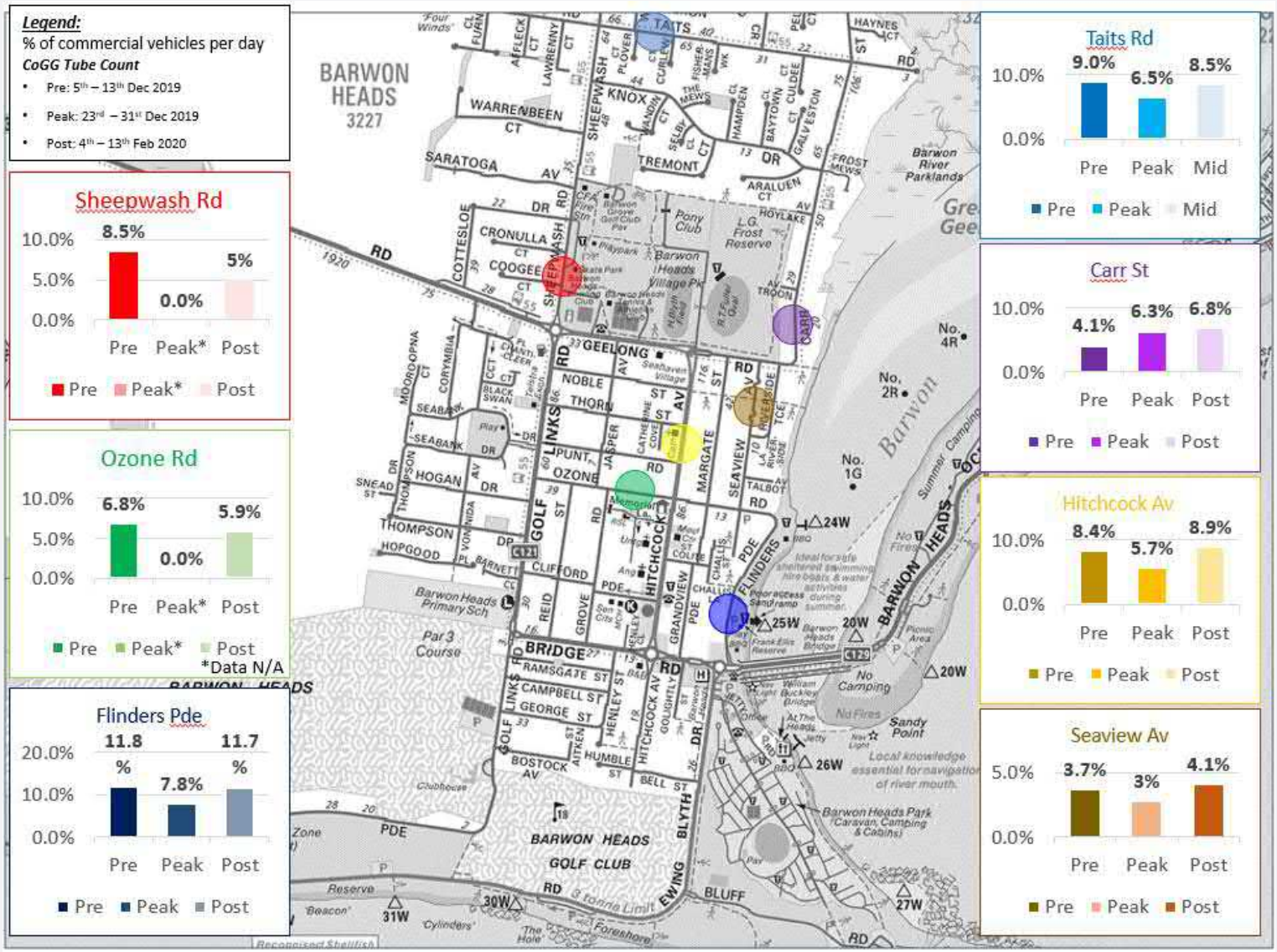
3. Average Percentage of Commercial Vehicles per day



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Traffic Volumes

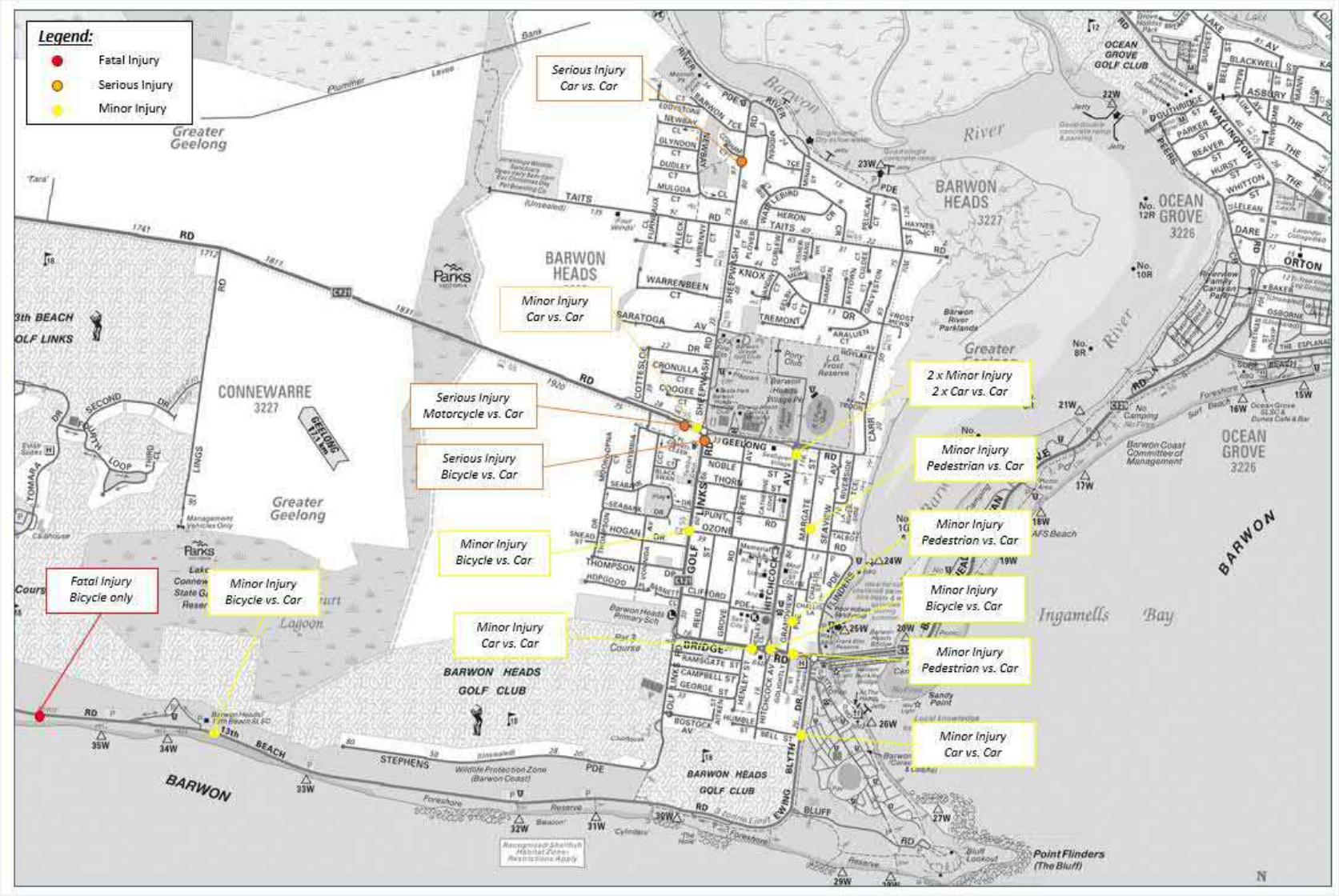
3. Average Percentage of Commercial Vehicles per day



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Crash Statistics

1. 5-year Crash Summary



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Car Parking Data

1. Supply

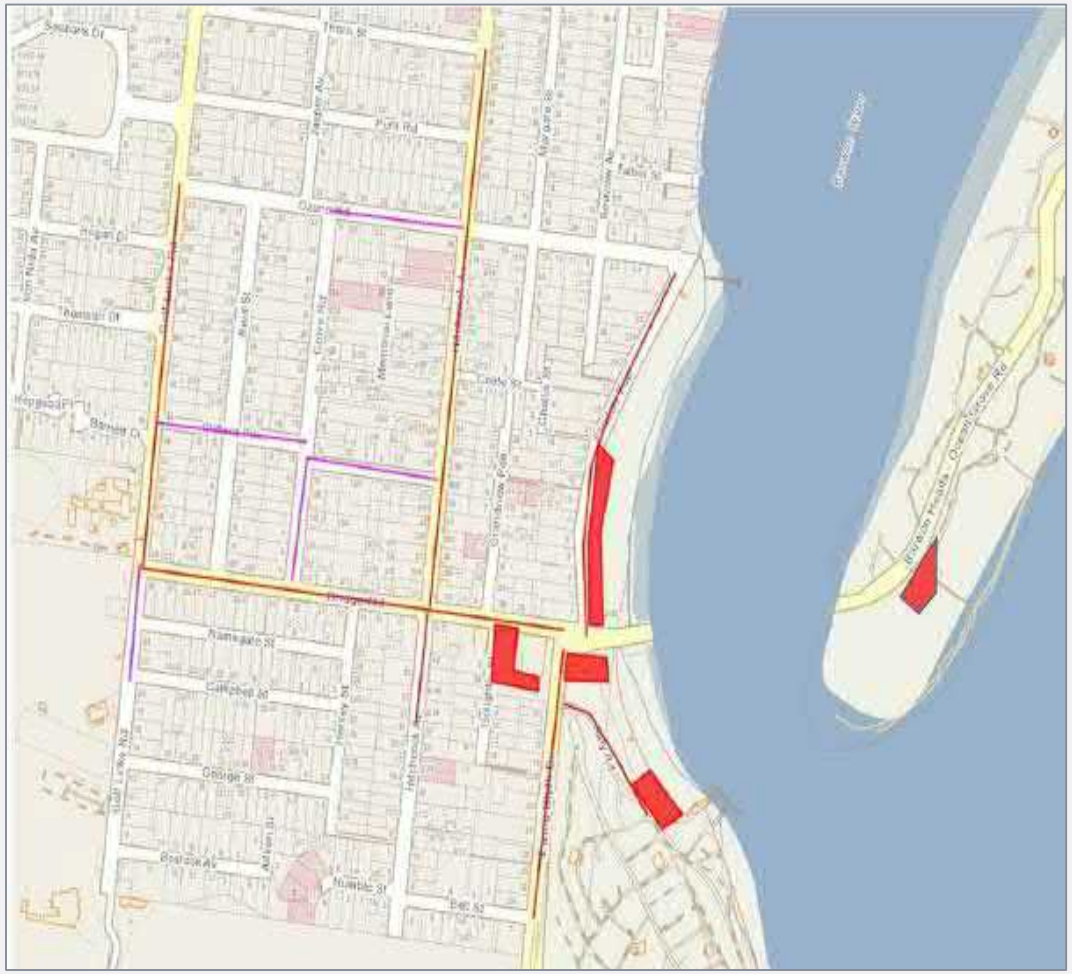
The following on-street and off-street car spaces and parks were included in the car parking survey:

On-street parking

- Ewing Blyth Dr
- Bridge Rd
- Golf Links Rd
- Hitchcock Ave
- Clifford Pde
- Grove Pde
- Ozone Rd
- Flinders Pde
- Jetty Road

Off-street parking

- Frank Ellis Reserve
- Bridge Car Park
- Jetty Rd off-street car park
- Barwon Heads Hotel off-street car park
- The Spit off-street car park



SMEC

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Car Parking Data

2. Results

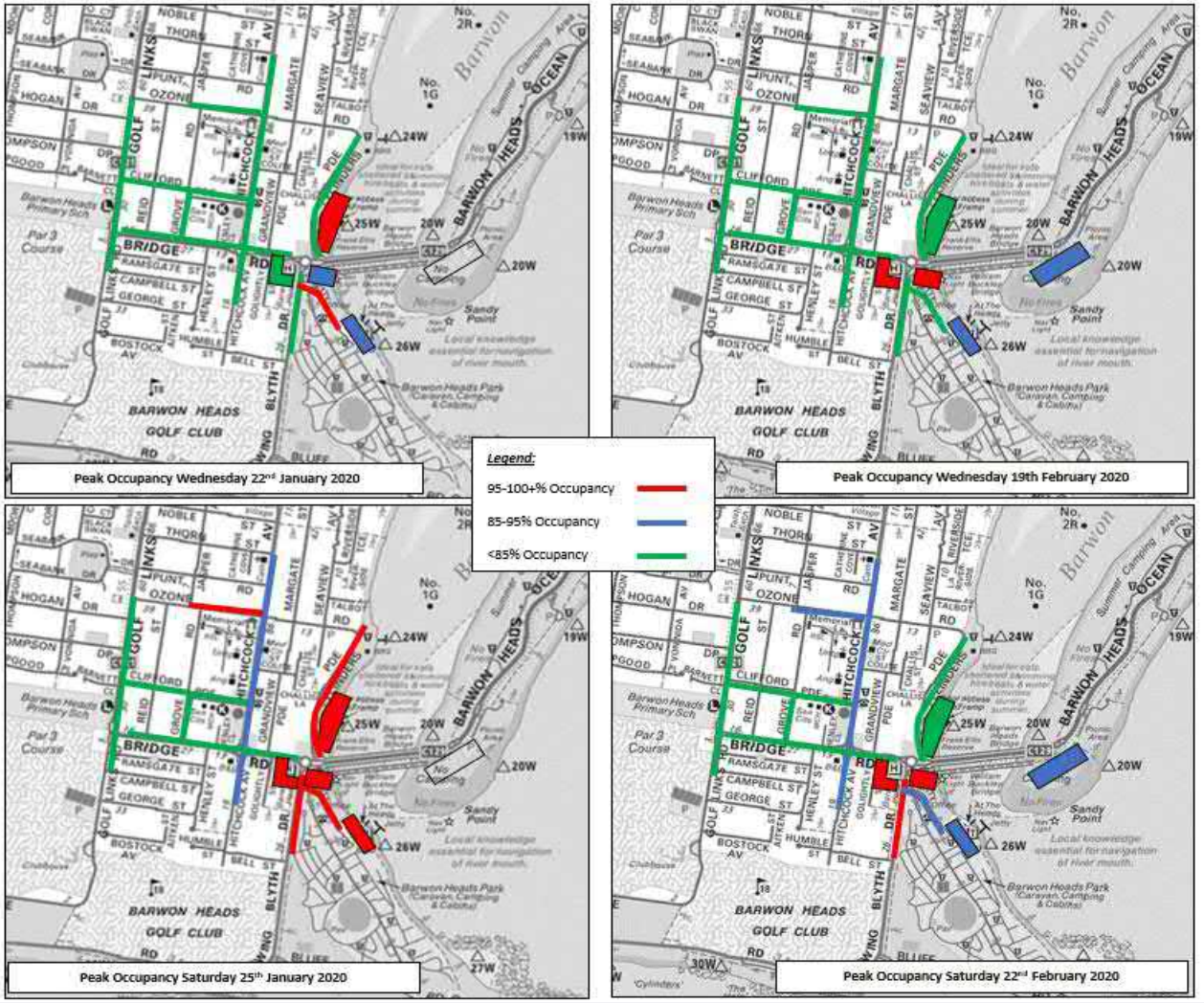
A. Car parking demand surveys were undertaken at hourly intervals from 7am to 6pm on the following days:

- Wednesday 22nd January 2020 (school holiday period);
- Saturday 25th January 2020 (school holiday period);
- Wednesday 19th February 2020 (non-holiday period); and
- Saturday 22nd February 2020 (non-holiday period).

B. The surveys found peak and average parking demands for the overall surveyed area:

Survey Period	Peak Demand	Average Demand
Wednesday 22nd January 2020	68% (472 spaces)	47% (330 spaces)
Saturday 25th January 2020	83% (577 spaces)	67% (465 spaces)
Wednesday 19th February 2020	49% (365 spaces)	38% (280 spaces)
Saturday 22nd February 2020	66% (489 spaces)	47% (345 spaces)

C. The absolute peak demand for each survey section is illustrated below:



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Car Parking Data

2. Results

At the peak surveyed time of 12 noon on Saturday 25th January 2020 (Australia Day Weekend), parking demands and opportunities across the area are summarised below:

Location	Parking Supply	Parking Demand	Occupancy %	No. of Spaces Available
Ewing Blyth Dr	2	2	100%	0
Bridge Rd	72	44	61%	28
Golf Links Rd	75	19	25%	56
Hitchcock Ave	127	120	94%	7
Clifford Pde	52	32	62%	20
Grove Rd	21	15	71%	6
Ozone Rd	29	26	90%	3
Flinders Pde	64	66	103%	-2
Jetty Rd	44	47	107%	-3
Frank Ellis Reserve	65	65	100%	0
Bridge car park	38	36	95%	2
Jetty Rd car park	25	23	92%	2
Barwon Heads Hotel car park	85	82	96%	3
Total Study Area	**699**	**577**	**83%**	**122**

Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Data – Car Parking Data

2. Results

At the off peak surveyed time of 12 noon on Wednesday 19th February 2020 (park parking on typical school day), parking demands and opportunities across the area are summarised below:

Location	Parking Supply	Parking Demand	Occupancy %	No. of Spaces Available
Ewing Blyth Dr	2	0	0%	2
Bridge Rd	72	14	19%	58
Golf Links Rd	75	18	24%	57
Hitchcock Ave	127	89	70%	38
Clifford Pde	52	28	54%	24
Grove Rd	21	11	52%	11
Ozone Rd	29	10	34%	19
Flinders Pde	64	2	3%	62
Jetty Rd	44	9	20%	35
Frank Ellis Reserve	65	42	65%	23
Bridge car park	38	35	92%	3
Jetty Rd car park	25	23	92%	2
Barwon Heads Hotel car park	85	66	78%	19
The Spit car park	40	18	45%	22
Total Study Area	**739**	**365**	**49%**	**374**

Appendix B Traffic Volume Data

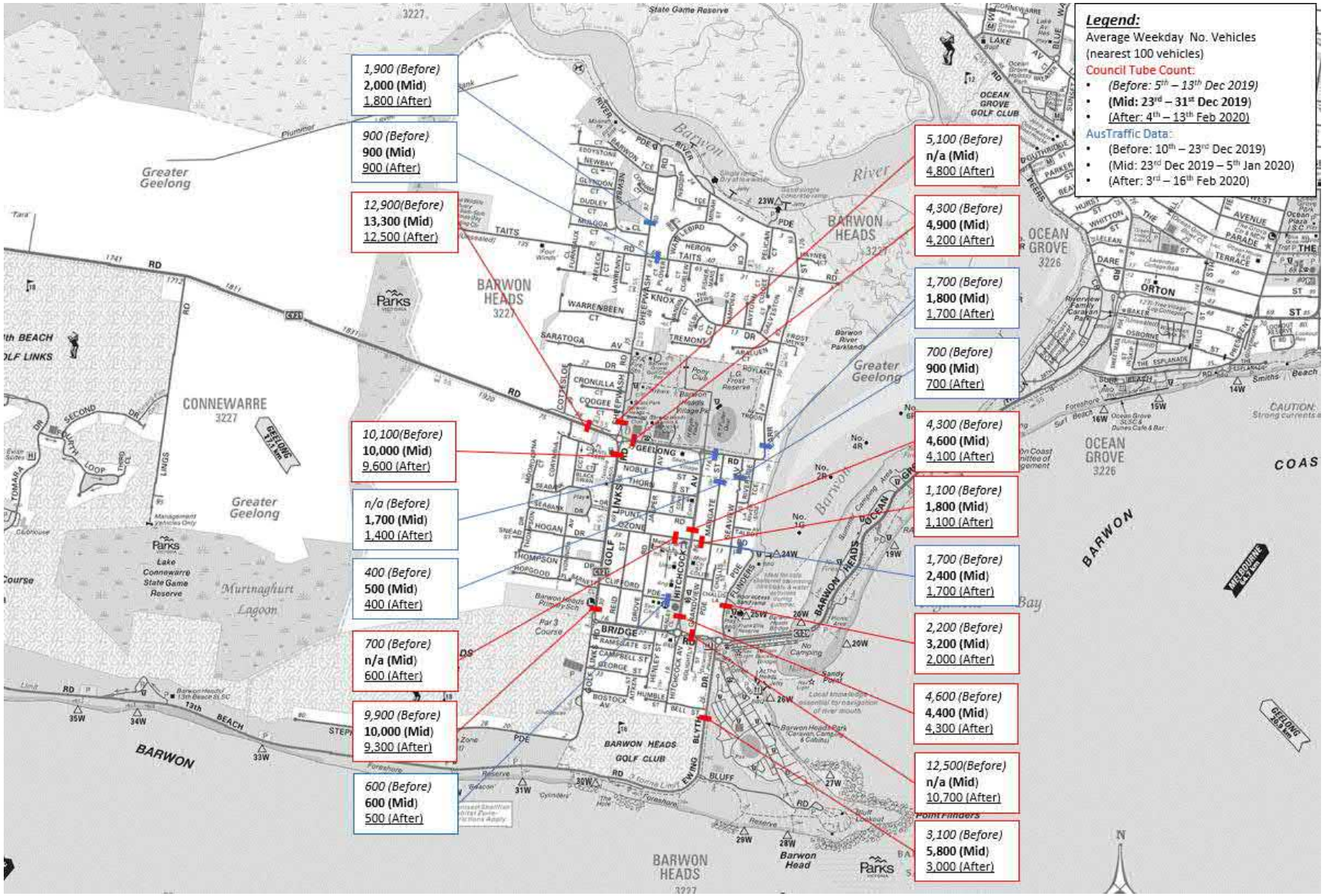


Figure 10-1: Average Weekday Traffic Volumes

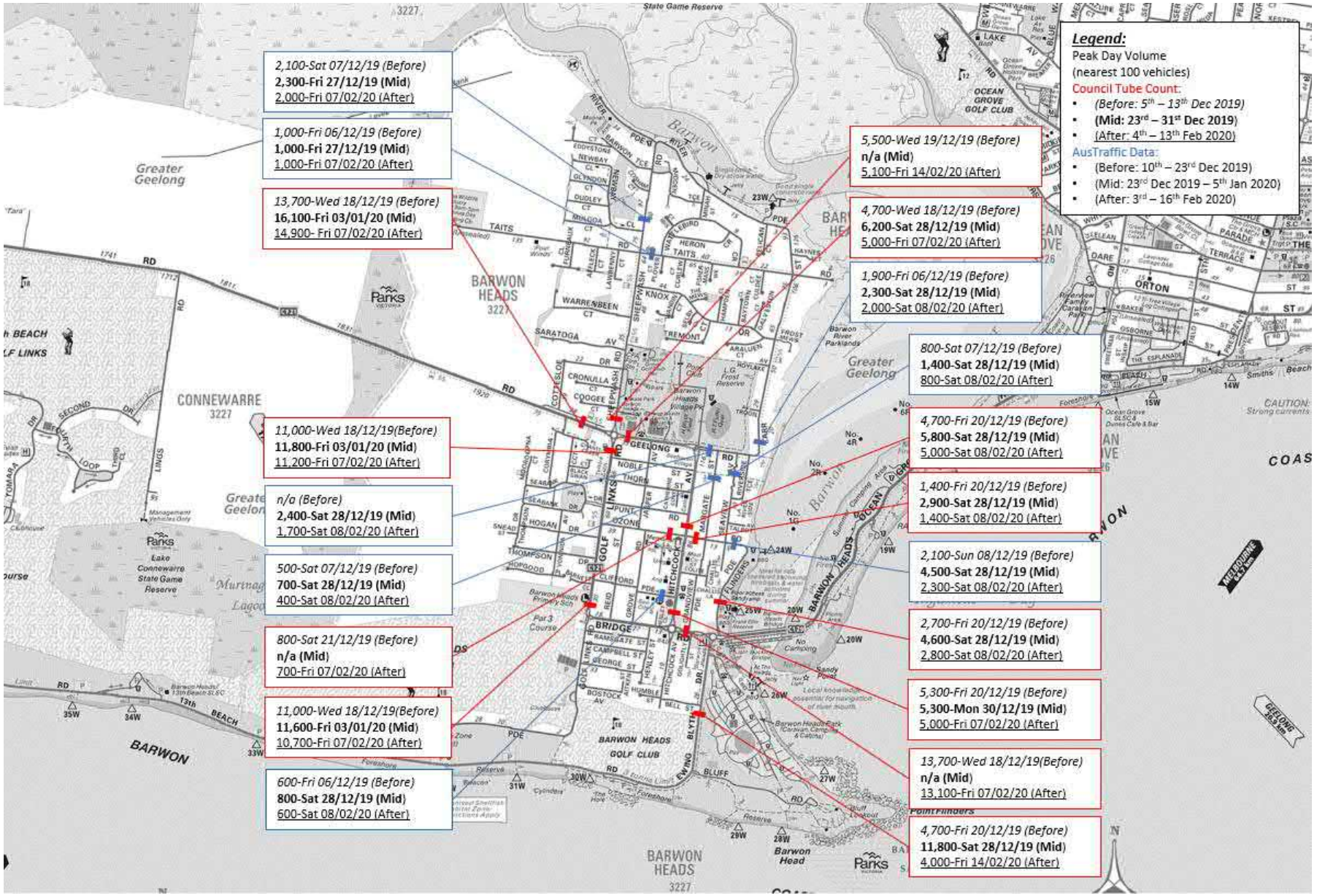


Figure 10-2: Peak Survey Traffic Data

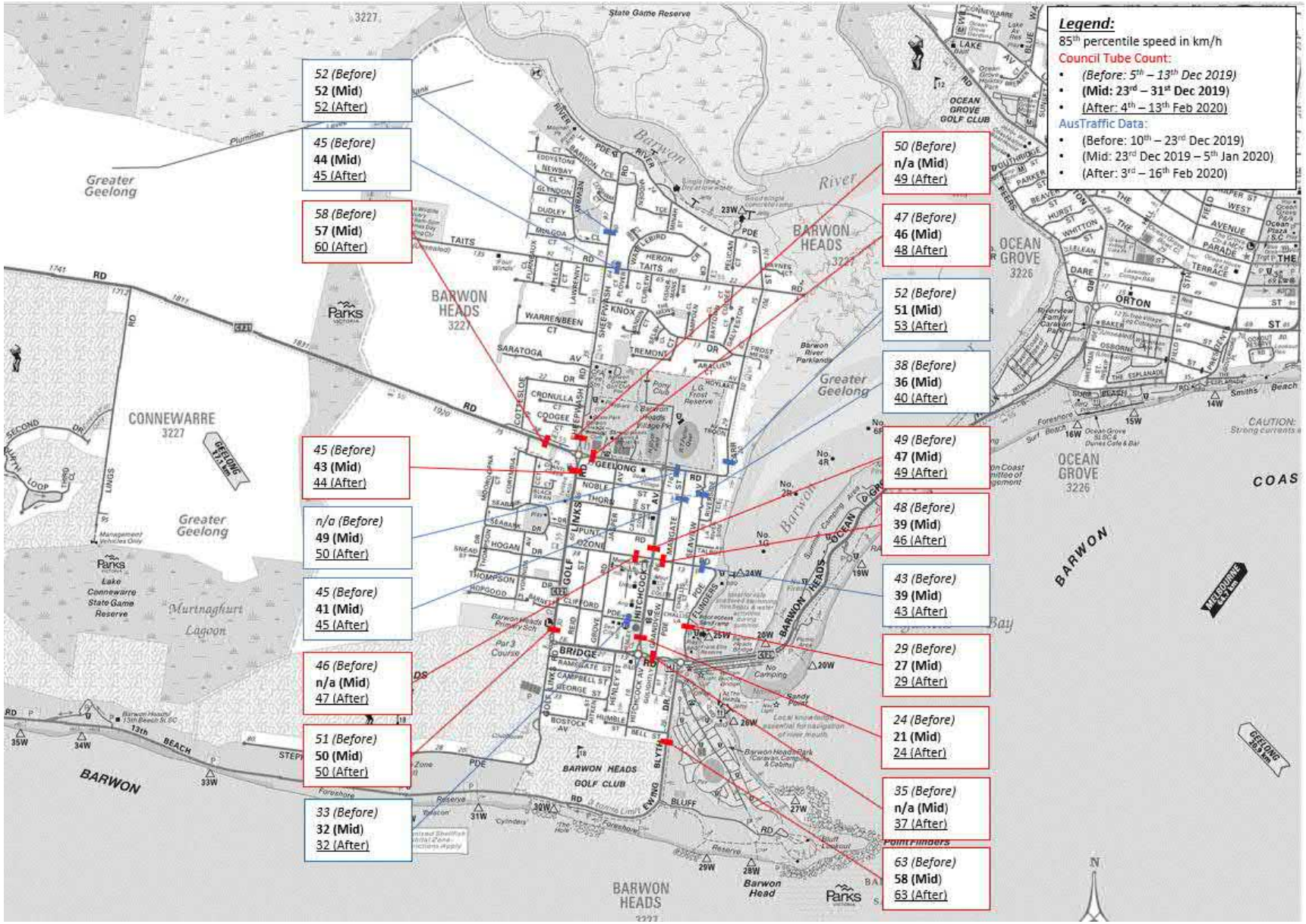


Figure 10-3: 85th Percentile Speed Data

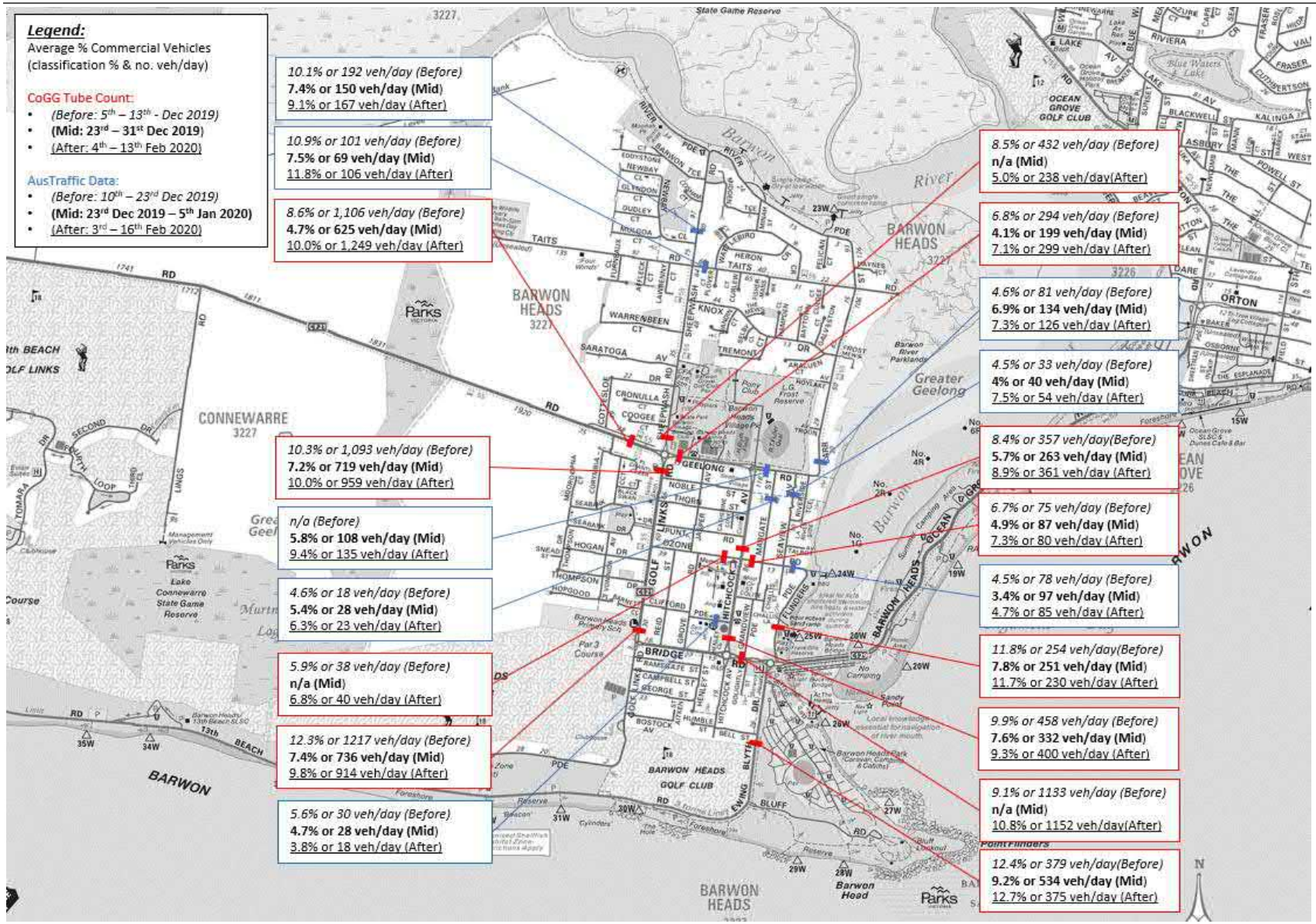


Figure 10-4: Average % Commercial Vehicles Data

Appendix C Crash Statistics

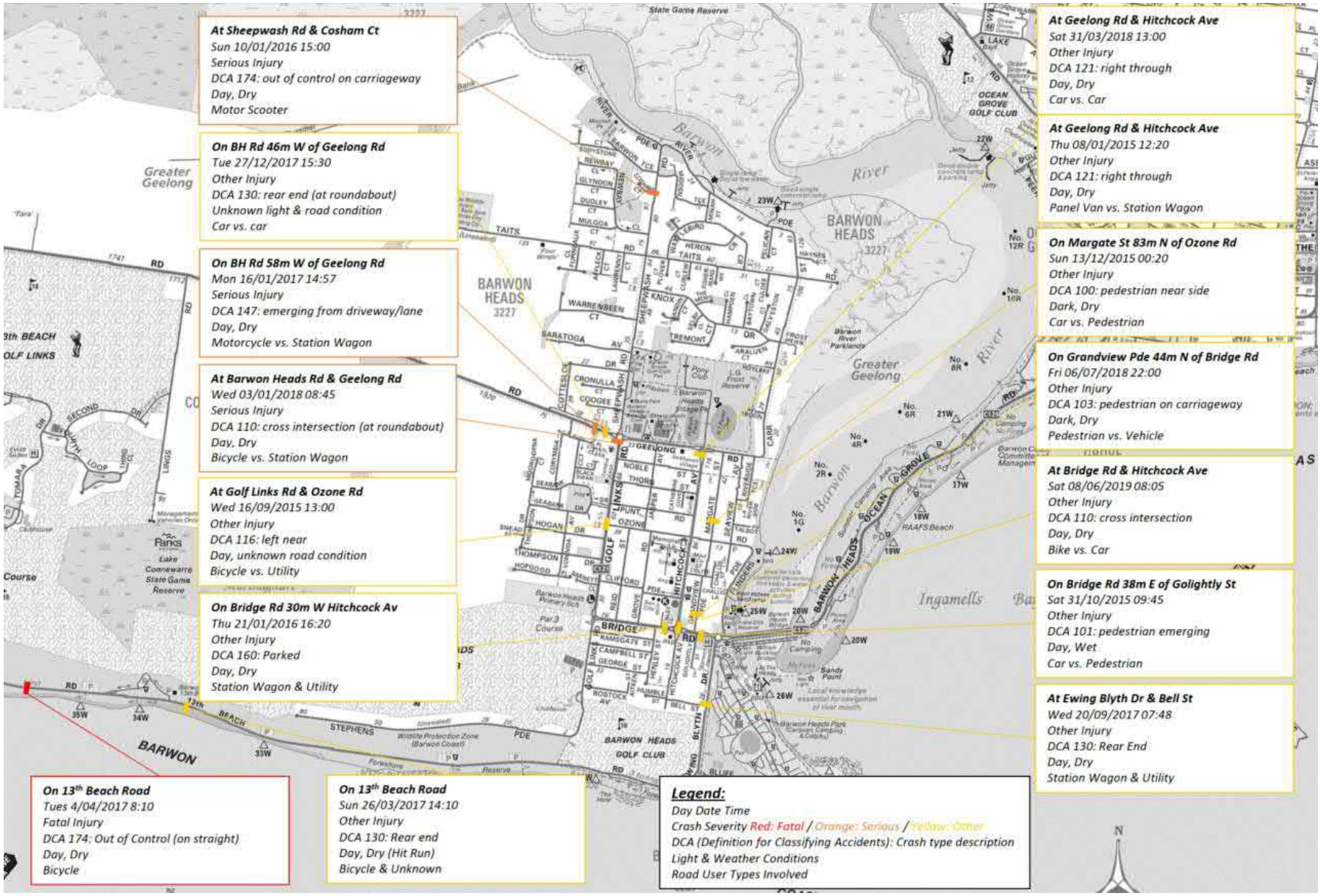


Figure 10-5: Summary of Crashes (5 years: 2015-2019)

Appendix D Proposed Treatment Concept Plans

N

SARATOGA AVENUE

SHEEPWASH ROAD

POSSIBLE REFUGE ISLAND LOCATION

SHEEPWASH ROAD

1. SHEEPWASH ROAD			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Safety concerns with route & connectivity issues based on Barwon Heads Primary School Consultation	- Sheepwash Road has an expected volume of 2,000-5,000 vehicles per day - 1 minor incident involving student and car occurring in the previous 5 years - Traffic volume is 4,700 vehciles per day with 85% travelling at or below a speed of 50km/h on Sheepwash Road	- Provide pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road	- Provides safe crossing options for pedestrians and forms part of the Safe Travel to School Routes - Major link to skate park - Improved crossing options away from Barwon Heads Road



2. SHEEPWASH ROAD			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Safety concerns with route & connectivity issues based on Barwon Heads Primary School Consultation	- Sheepwash Road has an expected volume of 2,000-5,000 vehicles per day - Traffic volume is 4,700 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below a speed of 50km/h on Sheepwash Road	- Provide pedestrian refuge island on Sheepwash Road	- Provides safe crossing options for pedestrians and forms part of the Safe Travel to School Routes - Major link to skate park - Improved crossing options away from Barwon Heads Road

3. GEELONG ROAD / HITCHCOCK AVENUE			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- 5 responses about safety and congestion - Safety concerns at intersection - Signage is confusing and unclear	- 2 right-through crashes recorded in crash history - 85% of drivers travelled at or below a speed of 48km/h on Geelong Road - 85% of drivers travelled at or below a speed of 49km/h on Hitchcock Avenue	- Intersection upgrade to a Modified T - New traffic islands, improved linemarking and signage	- Improves safety at intersection - Discourages traffic to use local roads as a shortcut - Clear linemarking to show who has right of way



N

HITCHCOCK AVENUE

PAINTED ISLANDS WITH RUMBLE BARS
(REFER IMAGE BELOW)

OZONE ROAD

OZONE ROAD

HITCHCOCK AVENUE

4. HITCHCOCK AVENUE / OZONE ROAD			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- 5 responses about safety and congestion - Safety concerns at intersection - Concern regarding vehicle speeds	- Traffic volume on Hitchcock Ave is 4,100 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 47km/hr - Traffic volume on Ozone Road is 1,100 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 47km/hr	- Intersection improvements/upgrades utilising yellow rumble bar islands, as shown in the below photo	- Improves visibilty of give way signage and stops see through effect - Reduces vehicle turn speeds - Improves pedestrian safety at intersection by highlighting presence of intersection and reducing vehicle approach and turning speeds



N

MARGATE STREET

RAISED INTERSECTION TREATMENT

OZONE ROAD

SEAVIEW AVENUE

MARGATE STREET

SEAVIEW AVENUE

5. OZONE ROAD			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Road very narrow - No separation between modes / visibility concerns - 8 responses regarding congestion & traffic flow concerns - 5 responses regarding rat running	- Removal of parking would assist with congestion, but not supported due to loss of parking spaces and potential to increase speeds - Residential streets are designed to carry up to 2000 vehicle per day - The traffic volume on Ozone Road is 1,100 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 46km/hr - The traffic volume during peak season is 1,900 vehicles per day with 85% of drivers travelling at or below 39km/hr	- Raised platform intersections at Seaview Ave and Margate St	- Improves road/pedestrian safety at intersection by reducing the likelihood of rat running - Reduce vehicle speeds - Discourages through movements

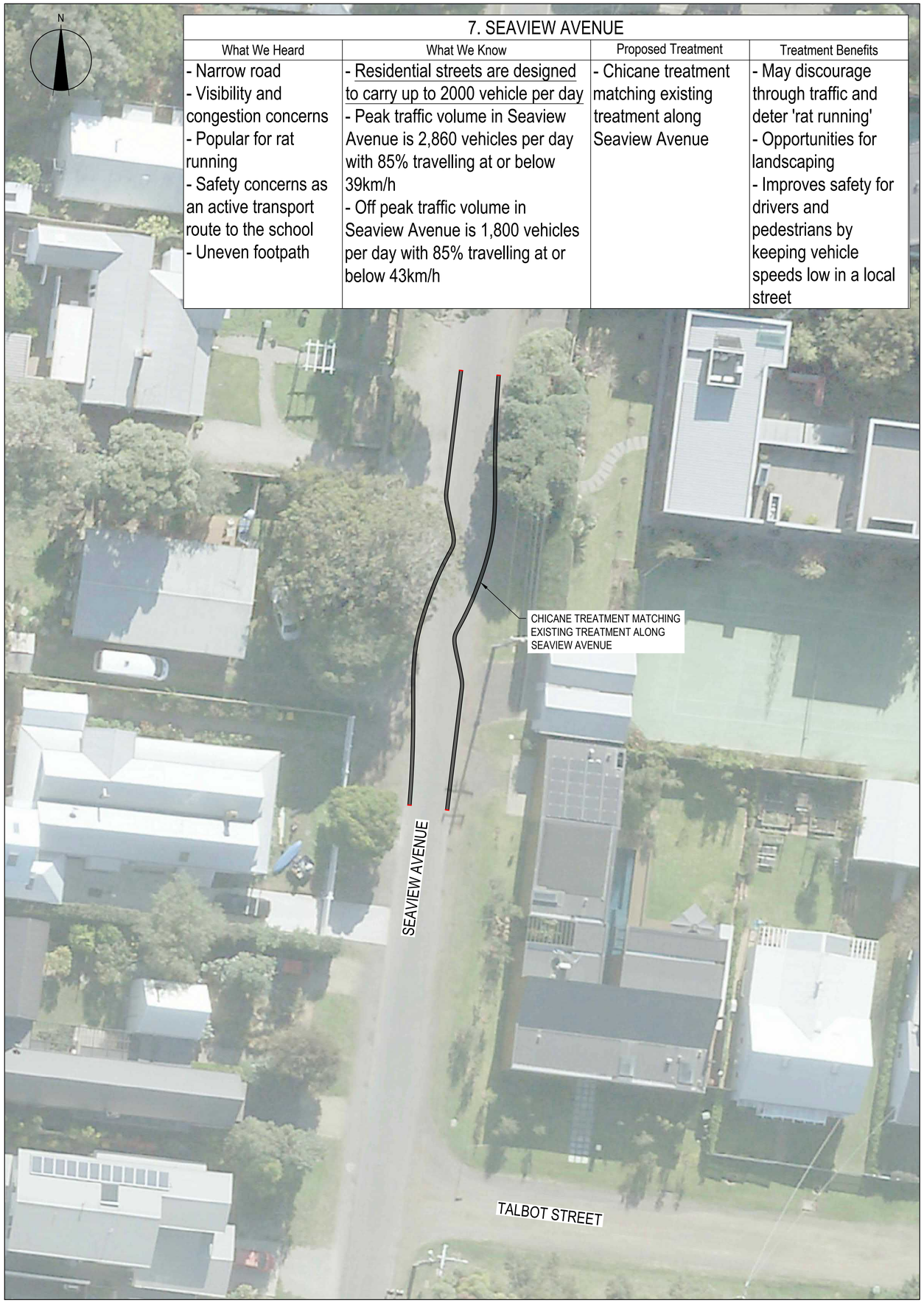


6. BRIDGE ROAD / GOLF LINKS ROAD			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Desire for more parking & 3-4 hour time limits - Some portions of footpaths are unsealed - 14 responses regarding congestion/traffic flow - 54 responses regarding active transport linkage - 23 responses regarding active transport safety	- Data indicates very high active transport demand east/west of Hitchcock - No opportunity to expand on-street parking opportunities	- Provide new footpath on north side of Bridge Road, between Grove Road and Golf Links Road, as shown	- Improves pedestrian safety by completing missing network link - Improves pedestrian connectivity for primary route between school and commercial centre



7. SEAVIEW AVENUE

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Narrow road - Visibility and congestion concerns - Popular for rat running - Safety concerns as an active transport route to the school - Uneven footpath	- Residential streets are designed to carry up to 2000 vehicle per day - Peak traffic volume in Seaview Avenue is 2,860 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 39km/h - Off peak traffic volume in Seaview Avenue is 1,800 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 43km/h	- Chicane treatment matching existing treatment along Seaview Avenue	- May discourage through traffic and deter 'rat running' - Opportunities for landscaping - Improves safety for drivers and pedestrians by keeping vehicle speeds low in a local street



8. THIRTEENTH BEACH ROAD

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Speed limit (60km/h) too high - Road quality concerns - Residential permits - Time-restrictions - More parking - Parking enforcement - Concerns for cyclist safety - limited shoulder - Desire for improved active transport links within and around the Thirteenth Beach Estate	- High demand for improved cycling conditions along Thirteenth Beach Road - High demand for improved/ dedicated active transport connections to 13th Beach precinct from town centre - 2 recorded cyclists crashes in recent history	- Investigate road widening to provide bike lanes / safe passing width, noting potential environmental concerns - Mark parking bays within off street parking areas - Improved wayfinding	- Improve access and safety for cyclists - Improved parking behaviour - Wayfinding signs will ensure pedestrians and cyclists know where paths and key locations are. Lower speed limit will improve road safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

N

BLACK ROCK ROAD

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

UPGRADE PARKING AREA WITH MARKERS TO OUTLINE BAYS - REFER INSET DETAIL BELOW

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE TO BE PROVIDED ALONG CORRIDOR - REFER INSET BELOW FOR DETAIL

UPGRADE PARKING AREA WITH MARKERS TO OUTLINE BAYS - REFER INSET DETAIL BELOW

BLUFF ROAD

THIRTEENTH BEACH ROAD PAVEMENT WIDENING - REFER TYPICAL CROSS SECTION BELOW



TYPICAL PARKING AREA TREATMENT





WAYFINIDNG SIGNANGE EXAMPLE

N

LAKE CONNEWARRE

CONNECT LAKE CONEWARRE, BARWON HEADS AND 13TH BEACH THROUGH POTENTIAL FOOTPATH LINKS (INDICATIVE FOOTPATH NETWORK SHOWN)

BARWON HEADS ROAD

TAITS ROAD

13TH BEACH GOLF LINKS

BARWON HEADS

THIRTEENTH BEACH ROAD

9. BARWON HEADS AREA			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Desire for more and better-connected active transport links throughout the town. Lake Connewarre and 13th Beach are desired connections - Desire for more parking signage - 11 responses regarding active transport linkage	- Community feedback and data indicates that active transport is popular around the Barwon Heads township - Data suggests highly popular for active transport (in particular walking/running) along the river trail	- New/extend existing footpaths and shared paths to Lake Connerwaree and 13th Beach as desired connection	- Expanding the active transport network will provide greater connectivity of the broader Barwon Heads Area - Improves safety and access for walking and cycling, and promotes active travel within Barwon Heads

10. TAITS ROAD

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Desire for improved active transport connectivity	- Data suggests highly popular for active transport (in particular walk/run) connecting to the River Trail - The road environment is typically safe for use for active transport due to low volumes - Posted speed limit of 50km/h - Residential streets are designed to carry up to 2000 vehicle per day - Traffic volume on Taits Road is 900-1000 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 52km/h	- Road stenciling, similar to the bike stencil shown to the right	- Brings awareness to cyclists and encourages drivers to share road



N

PAVEMENT STENCILING TREATMENT - REFER TO INSET FOR STENCIL DETAIL

SHEEPWASH ROAD

TAITS ROAD

TAITS ROAD

CARR STREET

SHEEPWASH ROAD

CARR STREET

N

11. GOLF LINKS ROAD

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Congested area near the Barwon Heads Primary School - Desire for improved paths - Desire for formal pedestrian crossings at Bridge Rd & Ozone Rd - Footpath finishes too early - 7 responses regarding congestion & traffic flow concerns - 11 responses regarding active transport linkage	- Community feedback and data indicates that active transport is popular around the Barwon Heads township - Golf Links Road north of Bridge Road is managed by Regional Roads Victoria - Residential streets are designed to carry up to 2000 vehicle per day - 85% of drivers travelled at or below a speed of 44km/h off season and 50km/h peak season on Golf Links Road (north of Bridge Road) - Golf Links Road (north of Bridge Road) has a daily volume of 9,000 per day (off season) and 10,000 per day vehicles (peak season)	- Footpath along eastern side of Golf Links Road - Road stenciling, similar to image as shown	- Improved safety for pedestrians - Brings awareness to cyclists and encourages drivers to share road



GOLF LINKS ROAD

BRIDGE ROAD

GOLF LINKS ROAD

FOOTPATH ALONG EAST SIDE OF GOLF LINKS ROAD

PAVEMENT STENCILING TREATMENT. REFER TO INSET FOR STENCIL DETAIL

12. BARWON HEADS AREA

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Desire for more and better-connected active transport links throughout the town - Desire for more parking signage - 11 responses regarding active transport linkage	- Community feedback and data indicates that active transport is popular along the proposed network with high usage	The Principal Bicycle Network (PBN) is a network of proposed and existing cycle routes that help people cycle for transport, and provide access to major destinations. - Addition of Sheepwash Road/Carr Street to the PBN - Upgrade cross section of Sheepwash Road/Carr Street for formal active transport facilities	- Providing formal walking and cycling paths improve access and safety for pedestrians and cyclists

N

SHEEPWASH ROAD

TAITS ROAD

TAITS ROAD

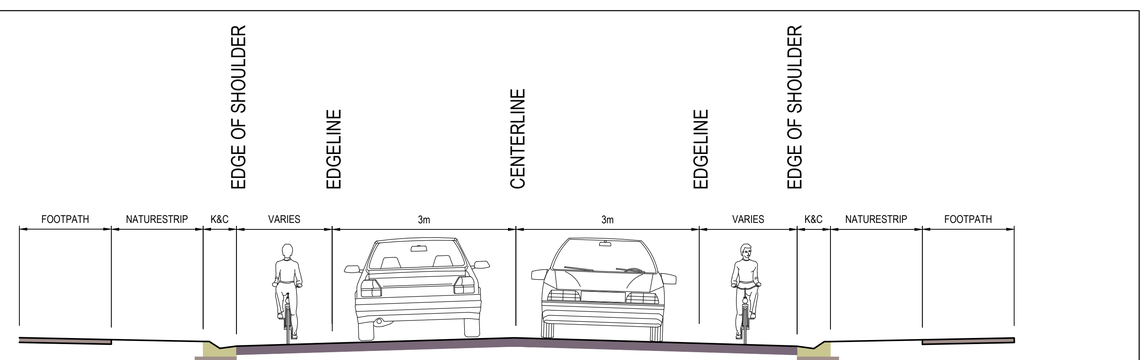
PROPOSED PRINCIPAL BICYCLE NETWORK

CARR STREET

SHEEPWASH ROAD

PRINCIPAL BICYCLE NETWORK

BARWON HEADS ROAD

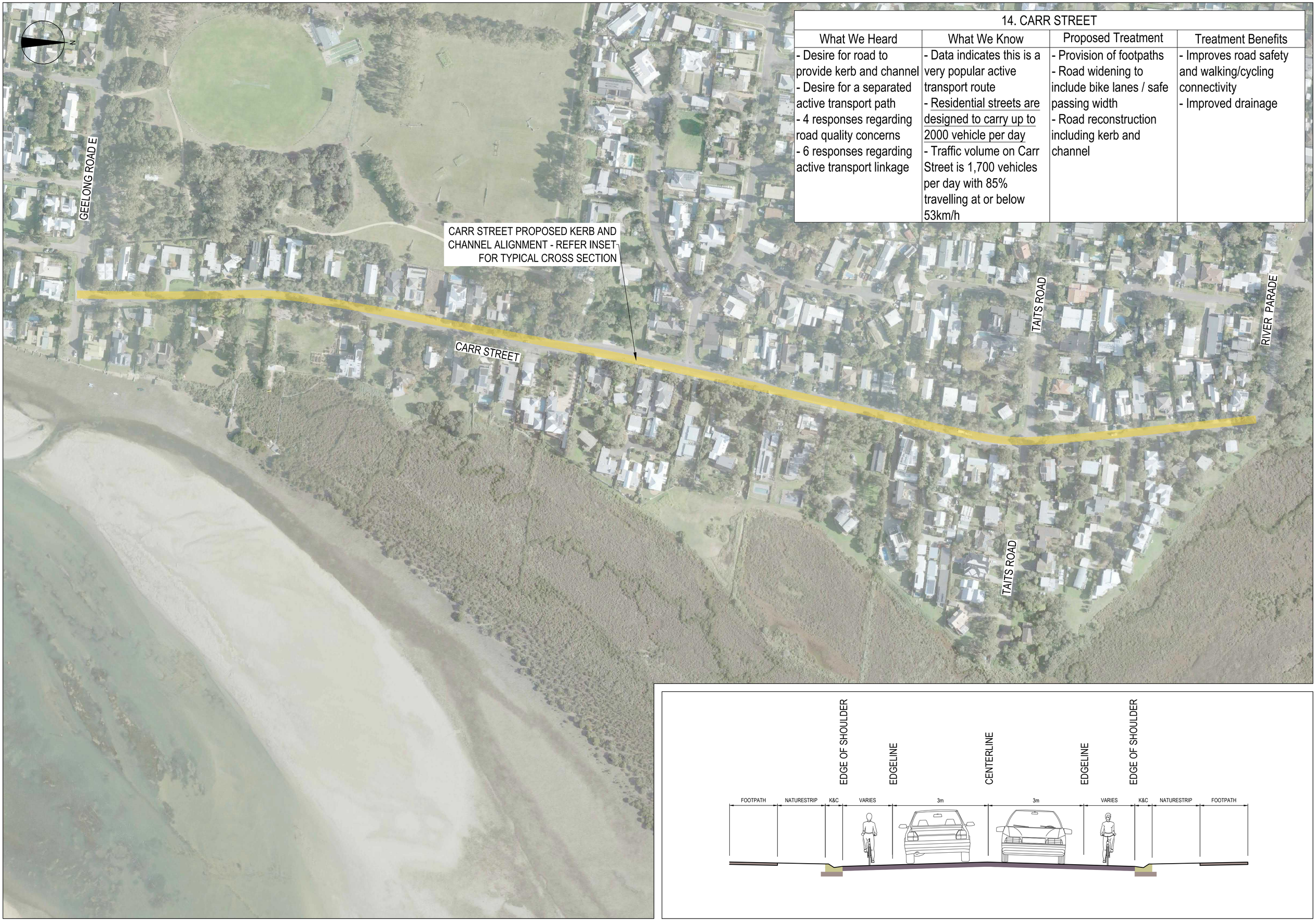




13. CLIFFORD PARADE			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Road is too narrow to cater for traffic - Desire for parking on both sides of road - Unsealed footpath - 4 responses regarding congestion & traffic flow concerns - 9 responses regarding parking	- Residential streets are designed to carry up to 2000 vehicle per day - Traffic volume on Clifford Parade is 900-1000 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 52km/h - Road is wide enough for parking on both sides of the road (7.0m wide). Narrow roads typically have lower vehicle speeds and prevent rat running	- Provide missing footpath connection links to south side of Clifford Parade between Golf Links Road and Grove Road	- Provides a safe walking route and improves access/connectivity with the existing footpath network

14. CARR STREET

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Desire for road to provide kerb and channel - Desire for a separated active transport path - 4 responses regarding road quality concerns - 6 responses regarding active transport linkage	- Data indicates this is a very popular active transport route - Residential streets are designed to carry up to 2000 vehicle per day - Traffic volume on Carr Street is 1,700 vehicles per day with 85% travelling at or below 53km/h	- Provision of footpaths - Road widening to include bike lanes / safe passing width - Road reconstruction including kerb and channel	- Improves road safety and walking/cycling connectivity - Improved drainage



N

15. STEPHENS PARADE			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Active transport connectivity concerns at the west end of road - 8 responses regarding active transport linkage	- Data shows there is popularity with Stephen Parade as an active transport route – particularly as a pedestrian/running route to Thirteenth Beach Road, the Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) and 13th Beach Estate	- Providing formal gravel pathway connection/s to Thirteenth Beach Rd and/or 13th Beach SLSC – and consider additional connections further west	- New/extended formal paths to promote active transport and provides a safe walking route - Improves connectivity

PROPOSED FOOTPATH LINK CONNECTING SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB & BEACH ACCESS CAR PARK / STEPHENS PARADE

THIRTEENTH BEACH ROAD

STEPHENS PARADE

N

BARWON HEADS ROAD

SHEEPWASH ROAD

PROPOSED SAFE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL EASTERN ROUTE - REFER INSET FOR TYPICAL STENCILING TREATMENT

JASPER AVENUE

GOLF LINKS ROAD

HITCHCOCK AVENUE

OZONE ROAD

CLIFFORD PARADE

16. SAFE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL ROUTES

What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Safety concerns with route & Connectivity issues based on Barwon Heads Primary School Consultation	- Speed and vehicle volumes on safe route are very low and have been investigated substantially previously. School principal confirms that the safe route to school is working well and appropriate - 1 minor incident involving student and car occurring in the previous 5 years - Roads identified on safe route to school have been regularly checked and are still most appropriate. Recent signage improvements over last few years have provided improved safety awareness	- Provide stencilling on road along route shown	- Promotes driver awareness of school children using the Safe Travel to School Routes and improves wayfinding

POTENTIAL STENCIL OPTION





17. SAFE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL ROUTES			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Safety concerns with route & Connectivity issues based on Barwon Heads Primary School Consultation	- Speed and vehicle volumes on safe route are very low and have been investigated substantially previously. School principal confirms that the safe route to school is working well and appropriate - 1 minor incident involving student and car occurring in the previous 5 years - Roads identified on safe route to school have been regularly checked and are still most appropriate. Recent signage improvements over last few years have provided improved safety awareness	- Complete missing footpath links on eastern side of Von Nida Avneue between Seabank Drive and Hopgood Place	- Improves safety and access for pedestrians as part of the Safe Travel to School Routes



18. BARWON HEADS ROAD / SERVICE ROAD			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- Identified by community as an area for safety improvements	- A new childcare development will increase parking and vehicle movements in this area	- Improved linemarking - One-way movement upon entering and exiting service road	- Reduce the risks of accidents occurring from vehicles trying to cross two lanes of traffic to do a left hand turn out of the service road and travel west



19. BICYCLE PARKING IN HITCHCOCK AVENUE			
What We Heard	What We Know	Proposed Treatment	Treatment Benefits
- There is currently a lack of bicycle parking in Barwon Heads - At times bicycles are parked over the footpath.	- Data shows high use of active transport, including cycling in Hitchcock Ave	- Convert one parking space to bicycle parking – see example below (*Exact Location To Be Confirmed)*	- Promotes active travel - Encourages more people to visit the area, as there can be 20 bicycles parked rather than one car

Appendix E Feedback on Proposed Solutions

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

BARWON HEADS TRANSPORT STUDY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT (STAGE 2)

On 9 November 2020, the City commenced the second round of engagement for the Barwon Heads Transport and Parking study, to seek the community's feedback on proposed solutions developed.

We sought feedback on 18 proposed solutions to issues raised by the community during stage 1 community engagement.

The proposed solutions include:

- Intersection upgrades
- Traffic calming treatments
- Speed zone changes
- Parking changes
- Active transport links
- Pedestrian safety upgrades

We reviewed all the feedback and received some really valuable comments about the projects. We've used this feedback to develop an implementation plan with some short, medium and long term solutions to address the concerns we heard from the community. In March 2021 we'll again invite the community to provide their feedback on the final report for the study.

35 DAYS
of engagement (Stage 2)

984
Visitors to the project's website

169
Number of people to leave feedback

4
print adverts in local newspapers

3
Hard copies of surveys received

SOCIAL MEDIA

22,000
Reach/Impressions

1,900
Actions (Clicks, reactions, shares, comments etc.)

85
People following the project

4
Advertising pamphlets in Barwon Heads shopping strip

1572
Website views

Appendix F Barwon Heads Primary School – Safe Routes to School



Barwon Heads Primary School - Safe Routes to School

Red Line - Safe Route - approved walking/riding route to and from school

Blue Line -Safe Route - approved walking/riding route to and from school

Walking and Riding Tips

Look both ways before crossing any road

Walk your bike across Childrens Crossings

When riding be respectful of pedestrians and other riders

Please Turn Over for Myths and Facts about walking and riding to school

ARRIVING SAFELY

THE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE



GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL SAFELY

All parents want their children to arrive at school safely and on time and most believe the best way is to drive them right to the school gate.

This instead creates hazards for children, as cars travel the street outside the school looking for parking, moving in and out of parking spaces.

Just three decades ago, 70 per cent of children walked or rode to school – now only 30 per cent do.

Many parents have practical reasons for wanting to drive their children to school. We need to look at other reasons and challenge some of these **walking to school myths.**

WALKING TO SCHOOL MYTHBUSTERS

MYTH 1:

THERE ARE MORE UNSAFE STRANGERS AROUND THE STREETS THESE DAYS

There is no evidence to show that streets are any less safe in terms of 'stranger danger' than they were 30 years ago (Tim Gill: No Fear – Growing up in a risk averse society; 2007). Many dangers may be exaggerated due to ongoing media reports of rare cases of child abduction.

Having more people walking the streets in fact reduces the risk of 'stranger danger' – more eyes on the street make it safer for everyone, and breaks down the 'stranger' barrier.

Children who walk to school get to know neighbouring children, parents and their houses, which can then become unofficial 'safety houses' if ever needed.

MYTH 2:

IT'S SAFER ALL ROUND IF I DRIVE MY CHILDREN TO SCHOOL

It's not! The greater the number of cars driving past the school, stopping to look for a park, reversing into and out of bays, doing u-turns etc, the less safe the school perimeters.

In Victoria 65 per cent of pedestrian accidents involving children occur before and after school **while they and others are being picked up and dropped off by parents.**

Studies show that more pedestrians on the streets make drivers slow down, and so kids walking to school helps to reduce the number and speed of cars. Remember what it looked like outside the school on the recent Walk to School Day?

MYTH 3:

IT'S TOO FAR FOR MY CHILD TO WALK TO SCHOOL

Do you know how far you live from school? – take a look on a map and work out the distance. From the Walking School Bus we know that younger primary school children can walk 250m in five minutes, 500m in ten minutes (the time it takes to get kids in the car and drive them) 750m in 15 minutes and 1km in 20 minutes, and some will happily walk 1.5km in 30 minutes.

If you live further than 1.5km, or if you are on the way to work how about just driving part of the way then walking with your young children to the school? Older children could join a group of friends at a planned meeting place.



MYTH 4:

MY CHILD WOULD BE TOO TIRED IN CLASS IF S/HE WALKED

In a UK survey of 100 teachers, 87 per cent said that children who walk to school seem more awake when getting to class, and 60 per cent said that children are more ready to start class work. This is due to exercise (it is well known that physical activity creates mental energy) and the chance to talk with friends on the way, rather than doing so in class.

A Brisbane study of children walking to school supports this research, with one child saying "Every time I walk to school I get everything right". *Anon, Age 7*

Walking home also allows children some 'head space' between one activity and another.



MYTH 5:

I SAVE TIME DRIVING MY CHILDREN TO AND FROM SCHOOL

By the time you've stopped at lights and signs, driven through 40km/h zones, gone around the block looking for a park…your child could have walked to school, and had a far nicer time than in the back seat of the car!

The time taken for short car trips increases as more children are driven everywhere and traffic becomes worse. The time spent looking for and sitting in a car park could instead be spent walking your child home: "I sit there for twenty-five minutes out the front, because if you don't you miss out on parking spot".

We've heard parents say too that they get 15 minutes or so to themselves in the morning before going to work when their children walk - they miss out on this when driving their children.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

WWW.GEELONGAUSTRALIA.COM.AU

TravelSmart better ways to go

Victoria The Place To Be

THE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE



MYTH 6:

I WOULD HAVE TO GET MY CHILD OUT OF BED MUCH EARLIER IF S/HE WALKED

Many children will get ready on time if they know they will see their friends on the way to school. We know of children who were once difficult to get out of bed until they joined a Walking School Bus, and now get their clothes and bags ready the night before so they won't miss walking with their friends.

Organisation is the key – making lunch the night before can help the household move on time in the morning.

MYTH 7:

MY CHILD DOESN'T LIKE WALKING

Are you sure you really know this? In a recent Melbourne survey, over 60 per cent of children said they wanted to walk to school because they get to chat with friends and see things. "Last Monday I walked back from school and I think it's lovely because you see stuff without just zooming past". *Chris, age 10*

Have your children walked with their friends? Or have you walked home with them? Try it! Many parents say that bonding increases when they walk with their children, and they chat in a way that doesn't happen in the car, or when children are at home watching television. They say it's quality time.

Many children do not enjoy being a passenger: "When I walk to school I don't have to sit in the back seat with my annoying brother"

MYTH 8:

DRIVING MY CHILDREN TO SCHOOL SHOWS I'M A 'GOOD' PARENT

Many parents feel trapped into driving their children to school because all the other parents are doing so, thinking that it is safer than walking. However they are actually increasing the risk of a crash involving children who walk.

Social researchers ask whether we can change this belief, so that a 'good' parent is one who allows their child to experience the joy and wonder that comes with walking to school.

MYTH (PART-TRUTH) 9:

MY CHILD HAS NO ROAD SENSE

Children do not 'get' road sense automatically and they can't get it from the back seat of a car. The only way for them to build road safety skills is to practice and to be supervised in traffic when young. This will help them be independent in traffic by about nine years.

Younger children can either walk to school with adults or with older children who have shown they have the skills.

A UK survey of 100 teachers (see Myth 3) showed that 93 per cent believe that walking to school makes children more aware of road safety issues.

"When I was walking I learnt a new rule: it was that you don't run across the road…you can only walk fast" *Ines, age 6*

MYTH (PART-TRUTH) 10:

MY CHILD WOULD GET LOST

Children do need to practise getting to and from home, just as they need to practise road skills. As they walk and explore they build a mental map of their 'home territory' and this helps them feel part of their environment and community.

As passengers, children have no need to find their way or think about a road situation and are likely to have a poorer understanding of their local area.

This is shown in a UK study where maps drawn by children who walk around their neighbourhoods were found to be more correct in terms of landmarks and direction than those of children who travel the same places in cars.

These navigation skills are needed for children to become confident and independent travellers.

"I walked a different way home so I could have a different adventure". *Rahul, age 8*

In another recent study in Victoria, 50 children were loaned a camera to record a week of their lives showing places they went and things they did. More than half the children included photos from the back seat of the car.

Childrens quotes from "*Eight Reasons Kids Reckon They Should Walk To School*" by David Engwicht

NOT A MYTH, BUT A NEW REALITY…THE "BUBBLEWRAP GENERATION"

This name for children today (Karen Malone, University of Wollongong) refers to their overprotection and the restricting of their movements. These children lack skills in working out hazards in their environment, putting them at greater risk of becoming a target for the dangers that parents want to protect them from.

Travelling without adults helps children develop a sense of control, independence and confidence in making their way around their own world.

"Letting go" is challenging but can be managed in stages, when you believe you've taught your child the skills they need. One local parent says about her daughter being allowed to cycle to school: "she is happier that I believe in her… she sees that I believe in her".

HOW TO LET YOUR CHILDREN WALK TO SCHOOL SAFELY

For some of the above myths we've offered solutions - here they are again:

- talk with other parents in your street/ neighbourhood about taking turns to walk with each other's young children to/from school.
- develop buddy groups of older children who can walk together without adults.
- drive just part of the way to school and drop your children 500m away so they can walk the remainder - or walk with them that distance.
- pack bags and make lunches the night before, to maximise walking time in the morning.
- teach your children road safety and navigation skills by walking with them around the neighbourhood – practice on weekends when roads are quieter and you have more time.

If we have more children walking and cycling to school than being driven as we had just a couple of decades ago, the streets will be safer for those children and the community in general.

CONTACT US

Telephone: (03) 5272 5272
TTY: (03) 5272 4973
Facsimile: (03) 5272 4277
Post: PO Box 104, Geelong, Australia 3220
Web: www.geelongaustralia.com.au

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

WWW.GEELONGAUSTRALIA.COM.AU

TravelSmart better ways to go

Victoria The Place To Be

local people
global experience

SMEC is recognised for providing technical excellence and consultancy expertise in urban, infrastructure and management advisory. From concept to completion, our core service offering covers the life-cycle of a project and maximises value to our clients and communities. We align global expertise with local knowledge and state-of-the-art processes and systems to deliver innovative solutions to a range of industry sectors.



www.smec.com

Cr Kontelj declared a Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item 2, Declaration of Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing, in that he owns a property in the Central Business District and left the meeting room at 7.21pm prior to discussion of the item.

2. DECLARATION OF SPECIAL RATE FOR CENTRAL GEELONG MARKETING

Source: **City Planning & Economy – Central Geelong & Waterfront**
Director: **Gareth Smith**

Purpose

1. For Council to consider declaring a Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing effective from 1 July 2021 until 30 June 2026.

Background

2. A Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing (CGM) has been in place for 20 years along with a Committee initially constituted as a Special Committee of Council, then in 2020 following the proclamation of legislation, as a delegated committee in accordance with section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

3. Consideration to declare the Special Rate occurs every five years and applies to 1,466 businesses across Central Geelong as an additional charge on their rates notice.

4. The Central Geelong Marketing Committee (CGMC) guides CGM and is made up of 13 volunteers representing business, retail and major Central Geelong stakeholders including the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Geelong Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Geelong and The Bellarine and the Real Estate Institute of Victoria.

5. An independent report was undertaken in 2020 by a recognised placemaking expert to assess the outcomes and function of the CGMC and CGM's programs and was presented to Council in February 2021. The conclusion from this report was that the '*Central Geelong Marketing program is very effective and represents the gold standard for main street centre management, marketing and business development programs in terms of best practice in Australia. It is one of the most productive special rate programs and is frequently being referred to and commented on by other organisations across Victoria and Australia'*.

6. The independent report also found that in the current Special Rate period, the CGM program has provided an average return on investment of $15.90 for every $1 spent.

7. The Special Rate expires on 30 June 2021 unless otherwise resolved by Council to continue. At its 23 February 2021 meeting, Council resolved its intention to declare a Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing and to direct officers to commence the statutory process under section 223 of the *Local Government Act* to receive submissions to inform their decision.

Key Matters

8. Submissions to the proposed Special Rate were invited for the full month of March 2021.

9. A total of 46 individual submissions were received, representing 110 properties. A summary of submissions is included in **Attachment 3.** A total of 5 submitters asked to address Council's Submission Hearing Panel, convened on 13 April 2021.

10. Comments made by submitters generally fell within 4 broad categories:

    10.1 21 submissions oppose the Special Rate;

    10.2 8 submissions stated that they should be exempt from the Special Rate;

10.3 4 submissions support collective marketing activities but with a different funding model; and

10.4 13 submissions support the continuation of the current model.

11. Council's Submission Hearing Panel heard from 5 submitters with general theme being one of support for the CGM program however the funding model was not supported.

12. The CBD Engagement Task Force Findings Report, tabled at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 21 September 2020, indicated general support for the services delivered by CGM but felt the program also provided broad benefits to the entire Greater Geelong municipality and that the costs related to the delivery of the program should not be borne by Central Geelong businesses and property owners.

13. The factors that need to be considered in weighing a decision to declare a special rate are:

13.1 On balance, there is general support for the program through feedback from the Taskforce and submitters but not for the funding model (i.e. charging a special rate);

13.2 The strong return on investment of $15.90 per $1 invested and the positive independent report on the benefits of the CGM program; and

13.3 A decision not to declare the special rate, but continue the program, will increase Council's budget deficit.

14. In summary, management believes that Council should continue the special rate for:

14.1 The collective benefit it brings to Central Geelong; and

14.2 The need to allocate a funding source that is specific to Central Geelong in a time of budget deficit.

AMENDMENT

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council:

1. **In accordance with the provisions of section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, resolve not to declare the Central Geelong Marketing Special Rate;**
2. **In accordance with the provisions of section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, notify submitters of Council's decision and thank them for their submission;**
3. **In accordance with the provisions of section 63 of the Local Government Act 2020, dissolve the Central Geelong Marketing Committee, a delegated committee of Council and thank them for their contributions;**
4. **Endorse an allocation of $700,000 in the 2021-22 budget to undertake Central Geelong Marketing activities up to this value for a transition period of 12 months from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022;**
5. **Request the Chief Executive Officer to undertake a review of the programs and activities that have been delivered historically by Central Geelong Marketing and develop recommendations for new innovative solutions (clever & creative) to create a marketing, events and activations program for Central Geelong to be presented to Council by March 2022, which will consider:**

5.1 outsourcing opportunities;

5.2 alternative funding options including but not limited to user buy in / membership marketing and event program model;

5.3 activities to attract visitation into Central Geelong, length of stay and spend;

5.4 the views of the Central Geelong Business Reference Group and businesses within the previous special rate declared area to help inform the review; and

5.5 developing ongoing program elements to support an increased residential population and reduction of vacancy rates for shopfront tenancies.

The Motion was carried on the casting vote of the Mayor.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The total amount of the proposed Special Rate for 2021/2022 is $1,139,605. This is the same as the 2020/2021 amount, with CPI adjustments for future years of the rate, with expenditure to be approved by the Committee annually. The annual budget is generally fully expended each year.

2. The CGM Special Rate was applied to 1,466 businesses across Central Geelong as an additional charge on their rates notice for 2020/2021. The rate is set on the capital improved value of the property. The property average cost is $14.83 weekly.

3. An independent report on the CGM program found that in the current Special Rate period, the CGM program has provided an average return on investment of $15.90 for every $1 spent.

4. Should Council decide to not declare the Special Rate and continue the CGM program the budget deficit would increase by a further $1,139,605.

5. Should Council decide not to declare the Special Rate and cease the CGM program, there will be financial implications relating to staff contractual matters.

6. Financial records are reviewed the City's Audit and Risk Committee and externally certified by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.

Community Engagement

7. Following Council's resolution of 23 February 2021 of an intention to declare the special rate for Central Geelong Marketing, letters were sent to 777 payers of the Special Rate who own 1,466 Central Geelong properties and 980 Central Geelong businesses operators. The intention to declare was also advertised via public notice in the local press and in 3 e-newsletters to Central Geelong businesses during the month of March 2021.

8. Submissions to the proposed rate were invited for the full month of March 2021.

9. A total of 46 individual submissions were received, representing 110 properties which are summarised in **Attachment 3.**

10. A total of 5 submitters asked to present to Council's Submission Hearing Panel, convened on 13 April 2021. Please refer to **Attachment 4** for the minutes of the Submission Hearing Panel.

11. Comments made by objectors generally fell within 4 broad categories:

    11.1 21 submissions oppose the special rate;

    11.2 8 submissions stated that they should be exempt from the special rate;

    11.3 4 submissions support collective marketing activities but with a different funding model; and

    11.4 13 submissions support the continuation of the current model.

12. Council's Submission Hearing Panel heard from 5 submitters with the general theme being one of support for the CGM program however the funding model was not supported.

13. It is important to note that two submitters stated that their submission represented the views of other parties, however as they did not provide any formal authority from those parties that they were claiming to represent, their submission has been counted as representing one business.

14. The January 2020 CGM Stakeholder Survey results indicated a high level of support for the consolidated marketing offered by CGM.

15. The feedback from the Central Geelong Engagement Task Force Report 2020 indicated the services provided by CGM are generally valued by many property and business operators but suggested that Council should fund the program.

16. Property owners and businesses that believe they should be exempt from paying the Special Rate are able to apply to Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal for exemption.

Social Equity Considerations

17. Most of the activities presented by CGM are free to participants, providing social equity and financially accessible activities and events.

18. The activities and programs that result from the Special Rate add significantly to the vibrancy and exciting experience of Central Geelong. They provide a collaborative approach to marketing and promoting Central Geelong for the disparate business and property owners.

19. Participants in CGM flagship events and activities from 1 July 2016 – 31 December 2020 were surveyed with the following results:

    19.1 92% of people felt safe and welcome in Central Geelong;

    19.2 86% felt proud of Central Geelong;

    19.3 90% enjoyed the vibrancy in Central Geelong; and

    19.4 80% felt connected to the community.

20. The ongoing success of Central Geelong as the ‘heart’ of the region is an essential element of broader community benefit.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

21. The Special Rate scheme has been prepared in accordance with the special rate and special charges provision of the *Local Government Act 1989*, and Regulation 10 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* and Council’s Special Rates and Charges Policy.

Alignment to Council Plan and other Strategies

22. Council Plan and Clever and Creative:

    22.1 A prosperous economy that supports jobs and educational opportunities;

    22.2 People feel safe wherever they are;

    22.3 An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community; and

    22.4 A destination that attracts local and international visitors.

23. The CGM placemaking approach supports the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2018-2021) including encouraging organisations and individuals to work collectively to improve local decision making and accountability for health in neighbourhoods.

24. Place-based approaches to placemaking offered by CGM creates spaces with activation, passive surveillance and safe pedestrian areas.

25. Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan:

    25.1 A stronger Central Business District; and

    25.2 Inhabiting the City.

Conflict of Interest

26. CGM staff are funded via the Special Rate and were not involved in the writing of this report. The officer responsible for the preparation of this report has declared no general or material conflict of interest and is not employed by Central Geelong Marketing.

Risk Assessment

27. The continuation of the Special Rate despite business feedback seeking an alternate funding model will be seen negatively by those submitters.

28. Non declaration of the Special Rate will result in all programs delivered by CGM ceasing on 30 June 2021 unless Council decided to fund the program, further increasing the City's deficit.

29. If the program is ceased this could be viewed as a withdrawal of support by Council for many Central Geelong businesses relying on the program to assist with post COVID-19 recovery. However, removal of the Special Rate will be seen as positive to those business that did not see value in the program for their business.

30. Non declaration of the special rate will result in ceasing employment of 4 full-time equivalent staff.

31. Coordinated marketing and place activities for Central Geelong as a destination will cease. This could increase future demands on Council funds for place activation, Christmas activity and supporting ad-hoc event requests.

Environmental Implications

32. There are no known environmental implications associated with this report.

Attachment 2

Overview of Central Geelong Marketing

1. The function of CGM is to drive economic spend in Central Geelong in the retail, hospitality and commercial sectors.

2. Businesses in Central Geelong have increased by 22% over the past decade.

3. Eighteen new businesses have opened in Central Geelong over the past 8 weeks, being supported by CGM.

4. Consideration to declare the Special Rate occurs every five years. If declared, the period 2021-2026 will be the fifth cycle.

5. The Central Geelong Marketing Committee (CGMC), a volunteer group representing business and stakeholder organisations in Central Geelong, reports to Council annually and resolved to request Council consider a further round of the special rate for Central Geelong from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2026.

6. The current rate period ends on 30 June 2021. If not re-declared the CGM program will cease on that date.

7. The Special Rate is declared for the purpose of fully funding CGM to deliver programs to increase visitation and economic benefit in Central Geelong.

8. The Special Rate is applied to Central Geelong premises within the area shown on **Attachment 5**.

9. All funds raised via the Special Rate are applied to promotional activities, marketing, advertising, business development, training, evaluation, administration and supporting activities which continue to deliver collective benefits to the Central Geelong economy.

10. Between 2016 and 2021, the CGM program delivered 32 flagship events as one part of the program. These 32 events attracted 640,596 participants, delivered 9,689 individual activities, involved 3,422 participating businesses with a total economic output of $79.15m.

11. People who came to Central Geelong specifically to attend a flagship event then went on to collectively spend an additional $29.78m at businesses in Central Geelong.

12. The CGMC continually evaluates the activities delivered with the proceeds from the special rate via participant and business surveys and feedback.

13. Vacancy rates (ground floor vacant premises) in Central Geelong have declined over the last period of the Special Rate as follows:

2016	10.90%	
2017	8.50%	
2018	8.60%	
2019	7.90%	
2020	8.80%	*(Increase possibly due to COVID-19 impacts).*

14. The CGM website commercial page ‘At your service’ received over 111,950 unique visits in 2019; 65,811 unique visits in 2020; and just over 43,000 unique visits from January to March this year. The commercial pages are promoted via Google and target key word searches. The adverts were suspended in 2020 due to lock-down periods.

15. The Committee and CGM officers acknowledge the feedback received from the former CBD Task Force in 2020. The CGMC and CGM officers welcome the opportunity to work more collectively with the soon to be formed Central Geelong Business Reference Group including seeking their input into alternate funding models and programs.

ATTACHMENT 3

Agenda for Council meeting 25 May 2021

Summary of submissions relating to the Intention to Declare a Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing

21	Respondents oppose continuation of the special rate
8	Respondents believe their business or property should be exempt from the special rate
4	Respondents support/somewhat support collective marketing activities with a different funding model
13	Respondents support the continuation of the current special rate and funding model

46	**TOTAL - All individual submissions received from 1,466 notices issued.**

Date Received	Respondent #	Business Operator/Property Owner	Business or Property Street	No. of properties represented	General basis of Submission:
3-Mar-21	Respondent 1	Business Operator	Brougham Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Premises are on the periphery of rate boundary.
3-Mar-21	Respondent 2	Represenative of Infrstructure Provider	Little Myers Street	1	Anomoly. Powercor Sub-station. To be excluded.
5-Mar-21	Respondent 3	Business Operator	Gheringhap Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
9-Mar-21	Respondent 4	Business Operator	Yarra Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
9-Mar-21	Respondent 5	Property Owner/Business Operator	Gheringhap St & Western Beach Rd	2	Objects. No benefit.
9-Mar-21	Respondent 6	Property Owner	Various properites in core precinct.	45	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high.
11-Mar-21	Respondent 7	Business Operator	Fenwick Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Mixed use.
11-Mar-21	Respondent 8	Business Operator	Eastern Beach Road	1	Objects. Commercial rates too high.
11-Mar-21	Respondent 9	Property Owner	Myers Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high. Marketing should be funded by Council.
11-Mar-21	Respondent 10	Business Operator	Eastern Beach Road	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
11-Mar-21	Respondent 11	Property Owner	Moorabool & Little Ryrie Street	2	Objects. No benefit. Does not support collective approach to marketing.
15-Mar-21	Respondent 12	Business Operator	Moorabool Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Marketing should be funded by Council.
15-Mar-21	Respondent 13	Business Operator	McKillop Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Premises are on the periphery of rate boundary.
15-Mar-21	Respondent 14	Business Operator	Gheringhap St	1	Objects. No benefit.
19-Mar-21	Respondent 15	Business Operator	Little Malop Street	1	Objects to special rate.
19-Mar-21	Respondent 16	Business Operator	Myers Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
22-Mar-21	Respondent 17	Business Operator	Little Ryrie Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
22-Mar-21	Respondent 18	Property Owner	Bellerine Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high.
23-Mar-21	Respondent 19	Property Owner	Various properites in core precinct.	4	Objects. Marketing should not be the responsibility of commercial businesses.
23-Mar-21	Respondent 20	Business Operator	Yarra Street	1	Should be changes to how special rate is applied to premises.
23-Mar-21	Respondent 21	Business Operator	McKillop Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
24-Mar-21	Respondent 22	Business Operator	Moorabool Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
24-Mar-21	Respondent 23	Business Operator	Moorabool Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
24-Mar-21	Respondent 24	Business Operator	Malop Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
25-Mar-21	Respondent 25	Business Operator	Shorts Place	1	Supports collective marketing using different funding model.
25-Mar-21	Respondent 26	Property Owner/Business Operator	McKillop Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
26-Mar-21	Respondent 27	Property owner	Bellerine Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high.
26-Mar-21	Respondent 28	Property owner	Moorabool Street	1	Objects. Should be exempt as not commercially tenanted.
26-Mar-21	Respondent 29	Business Operator	Gheringhap Street	1	Objects. Marketing should be funded by Council.
26-Mar-21	Respondent 30	Property owner	Eastern Beach Road	1	Supports special rate and collective approach to marketing.
28-Mar-21	Respondent 31	Property Owner/Business Operator	Ryrie Street	1	Supports special rate and collective approach to marketing.
29-Mar-21	Respondent 32	Property Owner/Business Operator	Brougham Street	1	Supports collective marketing using different funding model.
29-Mar-21	Respondent 33	CGM Partner (not subject to special rate)	Moorabool Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
29-Mar-21	Respondent 34	Property owner	Moorabool Street	1	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high.
29-Mar-21	Respondent 35	CGM Committee Member	Brougham Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
29-Mar-21	Respondent 36	Business Operator	Ryrie Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
29-Mar-21	Respondent 37	Property Owner	Malop Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
30-Mar-21	Respondent 38	Business Operator	Little Malop Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
30-Mar-21	Respondent 39	Property Owner	Various properites in core precinct.	3	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 40	Property Owner	Various properites in core precinct.	11	Objects. No benefit.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 41	Business Operator	Moorabool Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 42	Property Owner	Yarra Street & Ryrie Street	4	Objects. No benefit. Commercial rates too high.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 43	Business Operator	Yarra Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 44	Community Organisation/Advisory Committee	Brougham Street	1	Supports continuation and collective approach to marketing.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 45	Property Owner	Myers Street	1	Objects. No benefit.
31-Mar-21	Respondent 46	Business Operator/Advisory Committee	Gheringhap Street	1	Supports collective marketing using different funding model.
				110	

Cr Kontelj re-entered the meeting room at 7:49pm.

3. MUNICIPAL ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

Source: **City Services – Engineering Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Purpose

1. To adopt the reviewed Municipal Road Management Plan.

Background

2. The City's Municipal Road Management Plan (version 7) was reviewed and adopted by Council in June 2018. As required by the *Road Management (General) Regulations 2016*, the Municipal Road Management Plan (Plan) is required to be reviewed and adopted before 30 June 2021, triggered by the appointment of the new Council.

3. The Plan details the City's approach to how often roads and footpaths are inspected, what defects are repaired and the timeline for repairs.

4. The review of the Plan has resulted in several changes in the maintenance standards for infrastructure where the City is the Coordinating Road Authority under the *Road Management Act 2004*. The schedule of changes and amendments from version 7 to the updated version 8 is attached to this report (**Attachment 2**). The updated Road Management Plan version 8 is included at (**Attachment 3**).

Key Matters

5. A comprehensive internal review of the Plan was undertaken involving input from Engineering Services, City Works, Integrity and Risk and Legal Services.

6. Independent legal advice was sought from Macquarie Lawyers to inform the review of the Plan.

7. As required by the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016, the Plan was advertised in local media on 26 February 2021 and in the Victorian Government Gazette on 24 February 2021.

8. The Plan was advertised on the City's social media channels via a targeted advertising campaign to assist in reaching a wider audience.

9. The Plan was also advertised on the City's Have Your Say webpage. The community were given the opportunity to download the Plan and provide feedback. The page generated 518 page views and 415 unique visitors during the 28 day advertising period.

10. There were 24 submissions received during the advertising period, which closed on 26 March 2021.

11. A number of minor changes have been made to the plan to improve clarity.

12. Three proposed amendments that change the City's infrastructure maintenance standards are summarised below:

    12.1 Increased kerb and channel inspection frequency:

        12.1.1 The current Plan (Version 7) specifies kerb and channel be inspected every 6, 12, 24 or 36 months, depending on the road hierarchy;

12.1.2 The proposed Plan (Version 8) specifies kerb and channel assets will be inspected more often, at 4, 6, 12 or 24 months, depending on the road hierarchy; and

12.1.3 The reason for this amendment is to bring the kerb and channel inspection schedule in line with the road inspection schedule. As kerb and channel and roads are inspected at the same time, so this alignment is an operational efficiency improvement and will also realise an improvement in our response frequency of any defects.

12.2 Decreased response times for footpath defects in the CBD (category 5) from 20 to 30 business days:

12.2.1 Category 5 footpaths are inspected every 4 months, currently scheduled for April, August and December;

12.2.2 Feedback received during the internal workshops indicated that hazards identified in December often have some delays associated with the Christmas and New Year holiday period as staff levels are often lower and contractors away due to the holiday period;

12.2.3 To ensure compliance with the Plan it was decided to extend the response times as indicated. It is important to note these response times are a maximum target and we will still endeavour to repair hazards within the original timeframe as resources allow; and

12.2.4 Consideration was given to altering the inspection months for the CBD footpaths. This option was not progressed as it would have an adverse impact on the inspection program and resourcing.

12.3 Improved intervention levels for footpath potholes:

12.3.1 The current Plan (Version 7) specifies potholes in footpaths will be repaired once they exceed 50mm in depth.

12.4 The proposed Plan (Version 8) specifies potholes in footpaths will be repaired once they exceed 30mm in depth.

12.5 The reason for this amendment is to align the footpath pothole depth with the intervention levels for trip hazards which is also 30mm. It was identified that a pothole and trip hazard pose a similar risk to pedestrians and these intervention levels should align.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Moloney seconded -

13. That Council adopt the updated Municipal Road Management Plan (version 8).

Cr Nelson left the meeting room at 7.49pm
Cr Nelson re-entered the meeting room at 7.51pm

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The adoption of the Municipal Road Management Plan will have no direct financial implications.

   Internal workshops have been held across all relevant departments, including Engineering Services, City Works, Integrity and Risk and Legal Services. These workshops reviewed inspection frequencies, hazard intervention levels and repair response timeframes and determined that the amendments made to version 8 will not have a material impact on budgetary restraints or available resources.

Community Engagement

2. Members of the community and public were invited to provide feedback as part of the Municipal Road Management Plan review.

3. The engagement was posted on the City's Have Your Say webpage section on 26 February and closed on 26 March. The page generated 518-page views and 415 unique visitors during the 28 day advertising period, which closed on 26 March 2021.

4. The Plan was advertised in the City News section of the Geelong Advertiser on the 26 February 2021 and in the Victorian Government Gazette on 24 February 2021 and on social media channels to reach a wider audience.

5. There were 24 submissions received throughout the advertising period.

6. Although many submissions did not relate directly to the plan, some requested an increase in inspection frequencies, lower hazard intervention levels or faster repair response times.

7. Community submissions have been evaluated and considered in finalising the Plan. This evaluation has been done in conjunction with the work undertaken in the internal workshops, benchmarking with other Councils, independent legal advice and consideration of available resources.

8. The schedule of proposed changes and amendments from version 7 to version 8 of the Plan is summarised in **Attachment 2**.

9. Acknowledgement has been provided to everyone who made a submission and advice provided that their feedback would be considered in finalising the Plan. Once the review process is finalised and the Plan has been adopted, a formal response to all submitters and an engagement summary will be uploaded to our Have Your Say webpage.

Social Equity Considerations

10. The adoption of the Municipal Road Management Plan has no direct social equity implications.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

11. The Municipal Road Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with the following Acts, Regulations and Codes of Practice:

    11.1 *Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)*;

    11.2 *Local Government (Best Value Principles) Act 1999 (Vic)*;

    11.3 *Road Management Act 2004 (Vic)*;

    11.4 *Road Management (General) Regulations 2016 (Vic)*;

11.5 *Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015 (Vic)*;

11.6 *Road Safety Act 1986 (Vic)*;

11.7 *Wrongs Act 1958 (Vic)*; and

11.8 Ministerial Codes of Practice.

12. The Plan was originally prepared in 2004 as per sections 49 to 55 of the *Road Management Act (2004)*. The *Road Management (General) Regulations 2016* provides guidance on the review frequency of the Plan:

12.1 Legal advice was sought from Macquarie Lawyers on proposed amendments to the Plan. The feedback provided was incorporated in the review.

Alignment to Council Plan

13. This report aligns directly to the Council Plan 2018-2022, Objective 7 – Integrated Transport Connections by improving our road management program. The Plan is identified as a key document to assist delivery of priorities identified in the Council Plan.

Conflict of Interest

14. No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a general or material conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

15. Benchmarking has indicated that the proposed levels of service are comparable to other councils and can therefore be considered reasonable maintenance standards in relation to the City's roads, footpaths, kerb and channel, and other road-related infrastructure:

15.1 The City reviews its compliance in terms of inspection frequency and repair time frames through monthly and quarterly reports. These reports have indicated that the standards outlined in the proposed Plan are set at an appropriate level considering the City's current resourcing levels and ensures greater compliance of the Plan: and

15.2 There are no significant risks associated with adopting the Plan.

Environmental Implications

16. There are no direct environmental impacts associated with the Plan.

Attachment 2

Section	Amendments
General	General formatting changes and updates to references of relevant documents.
2.6.4	Added “Non-Road Infrastructure” to list of exclusions to our obligation to inspect and/or maintain.
3.3	Updated road network tables with current road length data.
3.4.1	Changed terminology from “make safe measure” to “temporary mitigation measure”.
Attachment 1	Removed column “Traffic Management Categories”.
Attachment 2	Removed column “Traffic Management Categories”.
Attachment 5	Increased kerb & channel inspection frequency.
Attachment 5	Added additional commentary regarding inspection frequencies.
Attachment 6	Added column for “Defect Codes”.
Attachment 6 (Sealed Roads)	Amended potholes (sealed roads) from “75mm depth or 300mm diameter” to “75mm depth and 300mm diameter”.
Attachment 6 (Sealed Roads)	Separated edge breaks and edge drop offs into separate rows.
Attachment 6 (Sealed Roads)	Added “drainage” and “side entry pits” to broken and missing pit lid hazards.
Attachment 6 (Sealed Roads)	Added measurement to roadside vegetation “located from the back of shoulder or kerb and a minimum height of 4m over the trafficable portion of road”.
Attachment 6 (Unsealed Roads)	Separated potholes, wheel ruts and scouring into separate rows.
Attachment 6 (Unsealed Roads)	Added diameter measurement to potholes in unsealed roads of 500mm.
Attachment 6 (Unsealed Roads)	Added measurement to roadside vegetation “located from the back of shoulder or kerb and a minimum height of 4m over the trafficable portion of road”.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Decreased response time for trippers, cracking, potholes, subsidence and missing pieces for category 5 paths from 20 to 30 business days.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Removed reference to material types for various footpath hazards.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Separated trippers and cracking into separate rows.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Separated potholes and cracking into separate rows.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Separated subsidence and dislodged / missing pieces into separate rows.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Increased potholes in footpaths intervention level from 50mm deep to 30mm deep to align with trippers.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Added measurement for dislodged / missing pieces of 300mm length / width.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Added “drainage” to broken and missing pit lid defects.
Attachment 6 (Footpaths)	Added measurement to vegetation “intruding into a clearance envelope between the edges of the path and a minimum of 2.4m height clearance over path”.
Attachment 6 (K&C)	Removed reference to “water ponding for greater than 10m in channel”.

Attachment 3

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

MUNICIPAL ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN

—

VERSION 8.00

ADOPTED DAY MONTH 2021

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

Definitions **3**

Introduction **5**

1.1 What is the purpose of this plan? 5

1.2 Legislation guiding this plan 5

1.3 What is covered in the plan? 5

1.4 Updating the plan 6

1.5 Suspending the plan 6

1.6 Responsibility for the plan 6

Rights and Responsibilities **7**

2.1 Public roads 7

2.2 Key stakeholders 7

2.3 Coordinating road authority 8

2.4 General functions of a road authority 8

2.5 Rights of the road user 9

2.6 Obligations of road users 9

2.6.1 General usage 9

2.6.2 Incident claims 10

2.6.3 Permits for works within a road reserve 10

2.6.4 Obligation to maintain exclusions 10

Road Management Systems **11**

3.1 Background and process 11

3.2 Asset hierarchies – municipal road network 11

3.3 Our road network 13

3.4 Maintenance management regime 14

3.4.1 Maintenance management 14

3.4.2 Asset management plans 14

3.4.3 Maintenance surveys and inspections 14

3.4.4 Maintenance responsiveness and performance targets 15

3.5 Asset levels of service 16

Register of Public Roads **17**

4.1 Maintenance demarcation (boundary) agreements 17

4.2 Roads not on the register 17

Technical References **18**

Attachment 1: Road Hierarchy – Urban Roads 19

Attachment 2: Road Hierarchy – Rural Roads 20

Attachment 3: Footpath Hierarchy 21

Attachment 4: Inspection Requirements 22

Attachment 5: Inspection Frequencies 23

Attachment 6: Hazard Intervention Levels & Response Times 24

Attachment 7: Municipal Boundary Map 27

Definitions

Arterial road – refers to freeways, highways and declared main roads, which are managed by the Victorian Government, through VicRoads (as the co-ordinating road authority).

Co-ordinating road authority – is the organisation which has the responsibility to co-ordinate works. Generally, if the road is a freeway or arterial road, this will be VicRoads. Generally, if the road is a municipal road, this will be the City.

the City, we, us and our – refers to the City of Greater Geelong.

Council - means the City.

Demarcation agreement – a formal agreement between the City and another organisation that defines areas of responsibility.

Motor vehicle – refers to a vehicle that is propelled by an in-built motor and is intended to be used on a roadway. This does not include a motorised wheelchair or mobility scooter which is incapable of travelling at a speed greater than 10 km/h and is solely used for the conveyance of an injured or disabled person.

Municipal road(s) – roads for which the municipal council – in this case, the City – is the co-ordinating road authority. The *Road Management Act 2004* imposes specific duties on the municipal council with respect to the inspection, repair and maintenance of these roads.

Non-road infrastructure – refers to infrastructure that is contained in, on, under or over a road, which is not road infrastructure. This includes gas pipes, water and sewerage pipes, cables, electricity poles and cables, tram wires, rail infrastructure (including boom gates, level crossings and tram safety zones), bus shelters, public telephones, mailboxes, roadside furniture and fences erected by utilities, or providers of public transport.

Other roads – include roads in state forests and reserves, and roads on private property. Municipal councils are not responsible for the inspection, repair or maintenance of these roads.

Pathway – refers to a footpath, bicycle path, shared path or other area that is constructed for members of the public (not motor vehicles) to use.

Public Road – has the same meaning as in the *Road Management Act 2004* and includes a freeway, an arterial road, a municipal road declared under section 14(1) of the Act and a road in respect of which the City has made a decision that it is reasonably required for general public use and is included on the Municipal Public Road Register.

Road – has the same meaning as in the *Road Management Act 2004*, being inclusive of any public highway, any ancillary area and any land declared to be a road under section 11 of that Act or forming part of a public highway or ancillary area.

Road infrastructure – refers to infrastructure which forms part of a roadway, pathway or shoulder, which includes structures and materials.

Road-related infrastructure – refers to infrastructure installed or constructed by the relevant road authority to either facilitate the operation or use of the roadway or pathway, or support or protect the roadway or pathway.

Road Reserve – refers to the area of land that is within the boundaries of a road.

Roadside – refers to any land that is within the boundaries of the road (other than shoulders) which is not a roadway or pathway. This includes land on which any vehicle crossing or pathway, which connects from a roadway or pathway on a road to other land, has been constructed.

Roadway – refers to the area of a public road that is open to, or used by, the public, and has been developed by a road authority for the driving or riding of motor vehicles. This does not include a driveway providing access to a public road, or other road, from adjoining land.

Shoulder – refers to the cleared area, whether constructed or not, that adjoins a roadway to provide clearance between the roadway and roadside. This does not refer to any area that is not in the road reserve.

Introduction

The City of Greater Geelong is the coordinating road authority for approximately $2.1 billion of infrastructure assets.

This Municipal Road Management Plan explains the standards, policies and systems we use to manage, inspect, repair and maintain these assets.

1.1 WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN?

Section 50 of the *Road Management Act 2004* sets the following objectives for a municipal road management plan:

1) To establish a system for our road management functions, which is based on policy, operational objectives and available resources.

2) To set a performance standard for our road management functions.

Although it is termed a 'plan' in the legislation, it is functionally an operational protocol document – describing the systems and rules we use to make decisions and execute our duties, within our available resources. The plan forms part of a larger Asset Management Framework related to maintenance and operations.

1.2 LEGISLATION GUIDING THIS PLAN

In addition to the *Road Management Act 2004*, the plan also considers the following Acts, regulations and codes of practice:

- Local Government Act 1989
- Ministerial Codes of Practice
- Road Management (General) Regulations 2016
- Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015
- Road Safety Act 1986
- *Wrongs Act 1958*.

1.3 WHAT IS COVERED IN THE PLAN?

The Municipal Road Management Plan is divided into seven sections:

1. Rights and responsibilities – covers legislation and local laws relevant to road management.
2. Road management systems - how we classify roads, streets and footpaths – known as our asset hierarchy – and the plans and processes we use to maintain roads and road-related infrastructure.
3. Road management framework – plans, policies and processes that influence how we manage roads.
4. Municipal Public Road Register – what's in it, how to access it and the process for making changes.
5. Technical references.
6. Supporting documents.
7. Attachments.

1.4 UPDATING THE PLAN

This plan must be updated within a set period following a Council election. Outside of this cycle, changes may be required from time to time.

The following process will be used to manage these changes:

- If material changes are made to standards and specifications, a report will be presented to Council, along with a brief explanation as to why such changes are necessary. The review process must follow the steps as set out in the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016 Part 3 – Road Management Plans.
- When changes do not alter these technical aspects of road management, changes will be approved by the City Services Director.

These changes will be made in accordance with the processes prescribed by the *Road Management Act 2004*. To assist with version control, these changes will be numbered as follows:

- Versions presented to Council will be renumbered by whole numbers – for example, from Version 1.00 to 2.00.
- Those approved by the Director will be renumbered by decimals – for example, from Version 1.00 to 1.01.

1.5 SUSPENDING THE PLAN

Although we will do our best to meet the requirements of this plan, there are times when circumstances beyond our control may prevent this from happening.

Our obligations may be suspended in the event of:

- Natural disasters – including floods, fires, droughts or similar events.
- Any other major event beyond our control.

Our Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority to suspend the plan in such circumstances. The decision to suspend the plan will be made in consultation with our City Services Director. Factors that might influence the decision include available resources and conflicting priorities.

If the plan is suspended, entirely or in part, the necessary changes to our activities and response times will also be documented.

As soon as circumstances allow, the City Services Director will recommend to the Chief Executive Officer how and when the plan should be reactivated, and the Chief Executive Officer will determine whether to do so.

1.6 RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PLAN

Overall responsibility for administering and implementing the plan rests with the City Services Director.

Rights and Responsibilities

2.1 PUBLIC ROADS

Public roads are defined in the *Road Management Act 2004* as including:

- a freeway
- an arterial road
- a road declared under section 204(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989*
- a municipal road declared under section 14(1) of the *Road Management Act 2004*
- a road in respect of which the City has made a decision that it is reasonably required for general public use and is included on the Municipal Public Road Register.

They can include streets, rights of way, bridges, footpaths, bicycle paths and nature strips.

2.2 KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The key stakeholder impacted by this plan include:

- the general community (for recreation, sport, leisure and business)
- residents and businesses adjoining the road network
- pedestrians
- vehicle users with motorised vehicles, such as trucks, buses, commercial vehicles, cars and motorcycles
- users of smaller, lightweight vehicles, such as pedal-powered bicycles, motorised buggies, wheelchairs, prams and so on
- tourists and visitors to the area
- emergency agencies (Victoria Police, Country Fire Authority, Ambulance Victoria, State Emergency Services)
- the military (in times of conflict and emergency)
- traffic and transportation managers
- managers of the road network asset
- construction and maintenance personnel, who build and maintain asset components
- utility agencies using the road reserve for infrastructure (water, sewerage, gas, electricity, telecommunications)
- the City of Greater Geelong, as custodian of the asset
- state and federal governments, who periodically provide funding for roads.

2.3 COORDINATING ROAD AUTHORITY

Section 36 of the *Road Management Act 2004* provides information on coordinating road authority. According to subsection (c), the coordinating road authority:

> If the road is a municipal road, it is the municipal council of the municipal district in which the road or part of the road is situated.

However, there are instances where several authorities are responsible for components of the road within the road reserve. Section 33 of the *Road Management Act 2004* covers this by saying:

> A road authority must, in performing road management functions, have regard to the principal object of road management and the works and infrastructure management principles.

Furthermore, Section 35 says:

> Subject to this Act, a road authority has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions under this Act.

2.4 GENERAL FUNCTIONS OF A ROAD AUTHORITY

Section 34 of the Road Management Act 2004 describes the general functions of a road authority, as follows:

(1) A road authority has the following general functions –

- (a) to provide and maintain, as part of a network of roads, roads for use by the community served by the road authority
- (b) to manage the use of roads having regard to the principle that the primary purpose of a road is to be used by members of the public and that other uses are to be managed in a manner which minimises any adverse effect on the safe and efficient operation of the road and on the environment
- (c) to manage traffic on roads in a manner that enhances the safe and efficient operation of roads
- (d) to coordinate the installation of infrastructure on roads and the conduct of other works in such a way as to minimise, as far as is reasonably practicable, adverse impacts on the provision of utility or public transport services
- (e) to undertake works and activities which promote the functions referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) and to undertake activities which promote the function in paragraph (d).

(2) The general functions conferred on a road authority under sub-section (1) are not to be construed as limiting any other functions conferred on a road authority by or under this Act or any other Act.

(3) In seeking to achieve its functions, a road authority should—

- (a) consult with the community and disseminate information in relation to the exercise of those functions
- (b) take steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure the structural integrity and safety of public roads in accordance with this Act.

2.5 RIGHTS OF THE ROAD USER

Sections 8 to 10 of the *Road Management Act 2004* outline the rights of public road users, which are legally enforceable:

Section 8 – Right of passage

(1) A member of the public is individually entitled as of right to pass along a road.

(2) Members of the public are generally entitled as of right to pass along a road.

(3) The rights conferred by this section extend to a member of the public using any means of public transport along a road.

(4) The rights conferred by this section do not derogate from any right of passage conferred by the common law.

(5) Rights of passage conferred by this section or at common law are subject to any restrictions, limitations or conditions which may be specified by or under this Act or any other Act or law.

Section 9 – Rights of owners and occupiers of adjoining land

(1) An owner or occupier of any land which adjoins a road is entitled as of right to access the road from that land.

(2) Rights of access conferred by this section or at common law are subject to any restrictions, limitations or conditions which may be specified by or under this Act or any other Act or laws.

Section 10 – Rights of the public in relation to a public highway

The rights of the public whether under this Act or at common law in relation to a public highway can only be extinguished if the public highway is discontinued as a road in accordance with section 12 or discontinued as a road or permanently closed as a road under a power to discontinue or permanently close a road by or under any other Act.

2.6 OBLIGATIONS OF ROAD USERS

2.6.1 General usage

The *Road Safety Act 1986* requires that:

(1) A person who drives a motor vehicle on a highway must drive in a safe manner having regard to all the relevant factors.

(2) A road user other than a person driving a motor vehicle must use a highway in a safe manner having regard to all the relevant factors.

(2A) For the purpose of subsections (1) and (2) and without limiting their generality, the relevant factors include the following:

(a) physical characteristics of the road

(b) prevailing weather conditions

(c) level of visibility

(d) the condition of any vehicle the person is driving or riding on the highway

(e) prevailing traffic conditions

(f) the relevant road laws and advisory signs

(g) the physical and mental condition of the driver or road user.

(3) A road user must:

(a) take reasonable care to avoid any conduct that may endanger the safety or welfare of other road users

(b) take reasonable care to avoid any conduct that may damage road infrastructure and non-road infrastructure on the road reserve

(c) take reasonable care to avoid conduct that may harm the environment of the road reserve.

2.6.2 Incident claims

If a person proposes to make a claim in relation to a public road or infrastructure for which we are the responsible road authority, they must send us something in writing within 30 days of the incident they are proposing to claim for.

In line with Section 110 of the *Road Management Act 2004*, we are not legally liable for property damages where the value of the damage is equal to or less than the threshold amount.

In cases where the claim relates to assets we don't own on the road reserve, claims should be referred to the authority responsible for those assets.

2.6.3 Permits for works within a road reserve

In cases where an individual or organisation proposes to carry out works within the road reserve that may impede public access, or interfere with road infrastructure, they must apply for a 'works within road reserve' permit. There are some exemptions, as noted in the *Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015*.

Local laws also require property owners to apply for a vehicle crossing permit if they plan to build a driveway.

In both cases, a fee applies to cover the costs of the administration and inspection of the work.

2.6.4 Obligation to maintain exclusions

There are several assets within the road reserve that we do not have an obligation to inspect and/or maintain. These include:

- **Non-road infrastructure**
- **Vehicle driveways** – the vehicle crossing, located between the carriageway and the property boundary, must be maintained by the adjoining property owner. However, we are responsible for the portion of the driveway where the constructed pathway is reasonably required by the public.
- **Single property stormwater drains** – for drains constructed within the reserve that carry water from a single property to an outlet in the kerb, or other drain.
- **Utilities** – including, but not limited to; telecommunication, power, water, gas and rail authority assets.

Road Management Systems

3.1 BACKGROUND AND PROCESS

Section 50 of the *Road Management Act 2004* states:

> The purposes of a road management plan are having regard to the principal object of road management and the works and infrastructure management principles –
>
> (a) to establish a management system for the road management functions of a road authority which is based on policy and operational objectives and available resources and
>
> (b) to set the relevant standard in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions.

Road asset management involves managing both physical assets, and uses and operation that have the potential to impact their condition. It applies to all road assets, including:

- the road – pavement and surface, as well as footpaths, kerb and channel
- structures – bridges, culverts and traffic management devices
- road infrastructure – traffic signals and on-road electrical assets.

The aim of our road management system is to deliver a safe and efficient road network and meet community needs to the best of our ability, within available resources.

To create a road asset management system that would best meet our needs when inspecting, maintaining and repairing public roads, we used the following nationally-recognised asset management frameworks:

- International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM) 2015, IPWEA
- IPWEA National Asset Management Systems (NAMS+)
- Other references, as listed in Technical References.

The system is designed to set the direction for our asset management activities. It is also linked to the annual business planning cycle.

3.2 ASSET HIERARCHIES – MUNICIPAL ROAD NETWORK

All roads and footpaths within the municipal road network are classified according to a hierarchy that takes into account how they are used, who uses them and how often.

The hierarchy classification is used to determine the levels of service required, prioritise works programs and determine defect intervention responses.

The three levels in the hierarchy are:

1. **Urban road and street network**

   This is further divided into four categories, as follows:

- Category 4: Main distributor
- Category 3: Secondary distributor and collector
- Category 2: Local access
- Category 1: Access lane.

See Attachment 1 for more information

2. **Rural road network**

   This is further divided into four categories, as follows:

- Category 4: Link road
- Category 3: Collector road – sealed and gravel
- Category 2: Local road – sealed and gravel
- Category 1: Limited access track and fire tracks.

See Attachment 2 for more information.

3. **Footpath network**

   This is further divided into four categories, similar to roads, as follows:

- Category 5: CBD and waterfront tourist precincts
- Category 4: Busy urbanised areas
- Category 3: Specific pedestrian generators
- Category 2: Other areas.

See Attachment 3 for more information.

3.3 OUR ROAD NETWORK

More information about the City's road network is shown in the tables below.

Table 3.1 – Road Length by Hierarchy – December 2020

Hierarchy	Length (km)	Percent of Network
Category 4: Main Distributor - Urban	125	5
Category 4: Link Road – Rural	131	6
Category 3: Secondary Distributor – Urban	225	10
Category 3: Collector Road – Rural	123	5
Category 2: Local Access – Urban	1,272	55
Category 2: Local Road – Rural	364	16
Category 1: Lane – Urban	48	2
Category 1: Fire Track – Rural	23	1
Total	2,310	100

Table 3.2 – Road Length by Surface Type – December 2020

Surface Type	Length (km)	Percent of Network
Sealed	1,940	84
Unsealed	370	16
Total	2,310	100

3.4 MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT REGIME

3.4.1 Maintenance management

We have a duty of care to all road users and the community to maintain public roads to a reasonably safe and suitable standard, within our available funds and resources. By developing long-term maintenance programs for our assets, we are better able to plan how we do this.

The following maintenance requirements shape our annual program and budget:

Routine maintenance standards

Standards vary across the network depending on the asset type and relevant risk factors, such as traffic volumes and composition, operating speeds, the susceptibility of assets to deterioration and the cost effectiveness of repairs. Competing priorities for funding are also relevant.

Defect intervention levels have been established using the *VicRoads Standard Specification Section 750* and adapting it to local conditions.

The standards will be reviewed periodically to make sure they are adequate.

Repair and maintenance works

Works must be completed within a specified time, depending on the severity and location of the defect. Response times were determined using local knowledge and experience and past performance as a guide.

Response times are monitored and will be periodically reviewed (see section 3.4.4).

Temporary mitigation measures

These are temporary works designed to reduce the risk of an incident, until such time as repair or maintenance works can be completed.

Response times and safety measures – for example warning signs, flashing lights, and safety barriers – are determined by reference to the risk to safety, road type and traffic volume.

Emergency works

Works that result from emergency incidents and must be undertaken immediately, for the safety of road users and the public.

Emergency works might include traffic incident management, responses to fires, floods, storms and spillages, and any assistance required under the Victorian State Emergency Response Plan and Municipal Emergency Management Plan.

3.4.2 Asset management plans

Our asset management plans guide the development of long-term asset renewal programs, helping us to plan and finance asset renewal and replacement.

3.4.3 Maintenance surveys and inspections

A four-tier regime is used to inspect our road network assets. It covers safety issues, incidents, defects and condition inspections.

1. Request for Service or RFS (reactive) inspections

These inspections are conducted in response to requests from the community. The inspection is carried out by a City employee and assessed according to the *Hazard intervention levels*, contained within Attachment 6.

2. Programmed (proactive) inspections

Regular timetabled inspections that are scheduled depending on traffic flow, the types of defects likely to impact the asset and the perceived risks of these defects (in line with *VicRoads Standard Specification Section 750*).

3. Condition inspections

These inspections identify structural integrity issues which, if untreated, are likely to adversely affect the network overall. These issues may impact short-term serviceability, as well as the ability of the asset to perform for the duration of its intended life span.

These inspections are carried out in accordance with the City's asset management plans. They are generally undertaken by specialised consultants on a four-yearly schedule.

4. Fatality inspections

These inspections are conducted by our Engineering Services and Risk Management personnel, in situations where a death has occurred on a municipal road. The inspection is conducted as soon as possible after the fatality, to record on-site conditions.

3.4.4 Maintenance responsiveness and performance targets

The following information is recorded when we receive a Request for Service (RFS) from the community:

- date the request was received
- details of the request
- date by which the request must be actioned (based on the target response time below)
- date when the request was actioned and/or completed (this typically involves someone carrying out an RFS inspection, as described in section 3.4.3).

By recording this information, we can monitor response times – that is, the time it takes from receiving a request to carrying out an inspection.

Customer requests will be inspected and assessed in no more than 10 working days. Following are some possible outcomes from a road inspection:

- If repairs are straight-forward, a work order would be created based on the *Hazard intervention levels* in Attachment 6.
- If repairs are significant - for example, rehabilitation works are required – this would be programmed. Temporary mitigation measures may be undertaken to remove a hazard until the proper works can be undertaken.
- If the defect is below the intervention levels specified in Attachment 6, it would be noted, but no remedial action would necessarily be planned.

In all cases, the action taken would be noted against the original request.

Target response times and intervention times are based on 'normal' conditions. The same level of service would not apply in cases where this plan has been suspended, under Section 1.5.

3.5 ASSET LEVELS OF SERVICE

Five elements are taken into account when determining appropriate levels of service for the road network. These are:

- community expectations
- technical standards
- organisational capacity
- performance measures and targets
- safety of road and footpath users.

Register of Public Roads

The City maintains a register of public roads – called the Municipal Public Road Register – with the details of all public roads, and ancillary areas for which we are responsible.

The Municipal Public Road Register is available on the City's website. A hard copy is made available at our Geelong Customer Service Centre, 100 Brougham Street, upon request.

4.1 MAINTENANCE DEMARCATION (BOUNDARY) AGREEMENTS

Where there are boundary agreements between us and other road authorities or private organisations, the schedule of roads affected, and agreements are listed in the Municipal Road Register.

We have agreements with the following road authorities:

- Surf Coast Shire - bridges and roads
- Golden Plains Shire – bridges and roads
- Moorabool Shire – bridges and roads
- City of Wyndham – bridges
- Borough of Queenscliff – roads
- VicRoads – roads.

4.2 ROADS NOT ON THE REGISTER

The following roads are not listed on our Municipal Public Road Register:

- roads which are the full responsibility of the state government, or a private enterprise
- unused roads that we have not accepted responsibility for
- roads drawn out on a plan of subdivision, until such time that we accept responsibility for these roads
- roads which we have not determined are reasonably required for general public use.

Technical References

i. Risk Management Standard, AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009

ii. Integrated Asset Management Guidelines for Road Networks (AP-R202) 2002, Austroads Inc.

iii. International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM) 2015, IPWEA.

iv. VicRoads Risk Management Guidelines.

v. VicRoads Standard Specification Section 750 – Routine Maintenance.

ATTACHMENT 1: ROAD HIERARCHY – URBAN ROADS

Road Hierarchy - Urban	Description*
Category 4 • **Main Distributor**	These carry heavy volumes of traffic, including commercial vehicles, and act as principle routes for traffic flows in and around the municipality. Key features typically include: • Supplementary to arterial road system • Connector between arterial roads and lower order streets • Cater for, but may restrain, service and heavy vehicles • Provide access to significant public services • Minimum two clear traffic lanes (excluding parking) • 5,000–10,000 vehicles per day • 60 km/h speed limit (or less)
Category 3 • **Secondary Distributor** • **Collector**	These carry significant volumes of traffic and provide access, by linking residential areas to arterial roads. They also provide links between the various collector roads. Key features typically include: • Non-continuous connector (do not cross arterial roads) • Limited through traffic (not promoted, or encouraged) • Cater for, but may restrain, service and heavy vehicles • Minimum two clear traffic lanes (excluding parking) • 3,000–5,000 vehicles per day and 60 km/h speed limit (or less)
Category 2 • **Local Access**	These carry only local traffic. The primary function is to provide access to private properties. Key features typically include: • Short distance travel to higher level roads • One clear traffic lane (excluding parking) • Less than 2,000 vehicles per day and 40 km/h target speed (or less)
Category 1 • **Lane**	These perform a very minimal function as local access roads. Key features typically include: • A side or rear entry lane, generally providing secondary access to properties • Low traffic counts and 20 km/h target speed (or less)

* Categories follow the Infrastructure Design Manual for residential streets

ATTACHMENT 2: ROAD HIERARCHY – RURAL ROADS

Road Hierarchy - Rural	Description*
Category 4 • **Link**	These roads act as links between population centres and are supplementary to the arterial road network. Key features typically include: • High truck (commercial vehicle) traffic volume • Access to major industries • Minimum 2 clear traffic lanes • Generally greater than 1,000 vehicles per day
Category 3 • **Collector**	These carry moderate volumes of traffic and provide access, by linking local areas to link and arterial roads. They also provide links between the various collector roads. Key features typically include: • Non-continuous connector (do not cross arterial roads) • Limited through traffic (not promoted, or encouraged) • Cater for, but may restrain, service and heavy vehicles • Minimum two clear traffic lanes (excluding parking)
Category 2 • **Local Access**	These carry only local traffic. The primary function is to provide access to private properties. Key features typically include: • Short distance travel to higher level roads • Less than 500 vehicles per day In the case of an unsealed local access road providing access to a single property, the road will only be maintained to the closest boundary of that property. The balance will be maintained as a limited access track (see below)
Category 1 • **Fire Access Tracks** • **Limited Access Track**	These perform a very minimal function. They typically act as fire access, or as a secondary or seasonal access road to large rural / farming properties. Key features typically include: • Provides secondary access to properties • Unsealed roads, often unformed or with minimal material Due to the limited function and use of these roads, they are not subject to a proactive inspection regime or the same hazard intervention levels of other roads.

* Categories follow the Infrastructure Design Manual classifications for residential streets

ATTACHMENT 3: FOOTPATH HIERARCHY

Footpath Hierarchy	Area	Description of categories
Category 5	**Central Business District & Waterfront Tourist Precincts**	The category of 'highest use' that includes all footpaths in the Central Activities Area and Geelong Waterfront.
Category 4	**Busy Urbanised Areas**	This category includes multi-shop shopping strips, including, but not limited to: • Pakington Street (Geelong West and Newtown); • High Street (Belmont); • Highton Village; • The Terrace (Ocean Grove); • Lara Village Shopping Centre.
Category 3	**Specific Pedestrian Generators**	This category includes areas adjacent to specific pedestrian generators, such as: • Small strip shopping centres, • Schools, • Senior citizens centres, • Railway stations, • Community centres.
Category 2	**Other Areas**	This category includes all other paths within road reserves, including: • Residential areas, • Commercial areas, • Industrial areas.

ATTACHMENT 4: INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

Inspection Type	Purpose	Inspection Performed by and Reporting Requirements
Request for Service (RFS) **(Reactive)**	Reactive inspections are designed to identify any defect that exceeds the intervention levels specified in Attachment 6. Safety issues may be detected as the result of notification by members of the community or City employees while undertaking their normal work duties. A subsequent inspection will be conducted by an appropriate City-employed officer.	Performed by a City representative with some knowledge of road maintenance techniques who may then call in a higher level of expertise if necessary. The report is required to identify specific safety defect, time first reported, time inspected and by whom, subsequent action and time of completion.
Programmed Inspection **(Proactive)**	Inspection undertaken in accordance with a formal programmed inspection schedule to determine if the road asset complies with the levels of service as specified. A record of each asset is to be completed detailing the name of the inspector, the inspection date, and a description of any defects found that exceed the specified intervention levels. In addition, the date of inspection and the inspector's details shall be recorded during the inspection process and in turn, electronically recorded against the particular asset inspected.	Performed by dedicated civil asset inspectors. A record of the inspection is to be signed by the inspector.

ATTACHMENT 5: INSPECTION FREQUENCIES

Asset Group	Hierarchy Category	Programmed Inspection Frequency
Sealed Roads	Category 4 (Main Distributor & Link Roads)	4 months
Unsealed Roads **Kerb & Channel**	Category 3 (Secondary Distributor & Collector Roads)	6 months
Regulatory, Warning and Hazard Signs	Category 2 (Local Access Roads)	12 months
	Category 1 (Lanes) – **Urban Only**	24 months
Footpaths	Category 5 (CBD and Waterfront Tourist Precincts)	4 months
	Category 4 (Busy Urbanised Areas)	6 months
	Category 3 (Specific Pedestrian Generators)	12 months
	Category 2 (Other – Residential, Commercial & Industrial)	24 months
Off-Street Car Parks	All	12 months
Bridges	Level 1 Bridge Inspections	12 months

A Note on Inspection Frequencies

Inspections are scheduled to occur within a given month.

For example, an asset may have an inspection frequency of 12 months and be scheduled in January. In this case it is expected that the asset will be inspected anytime within January, regardless of the specific date.

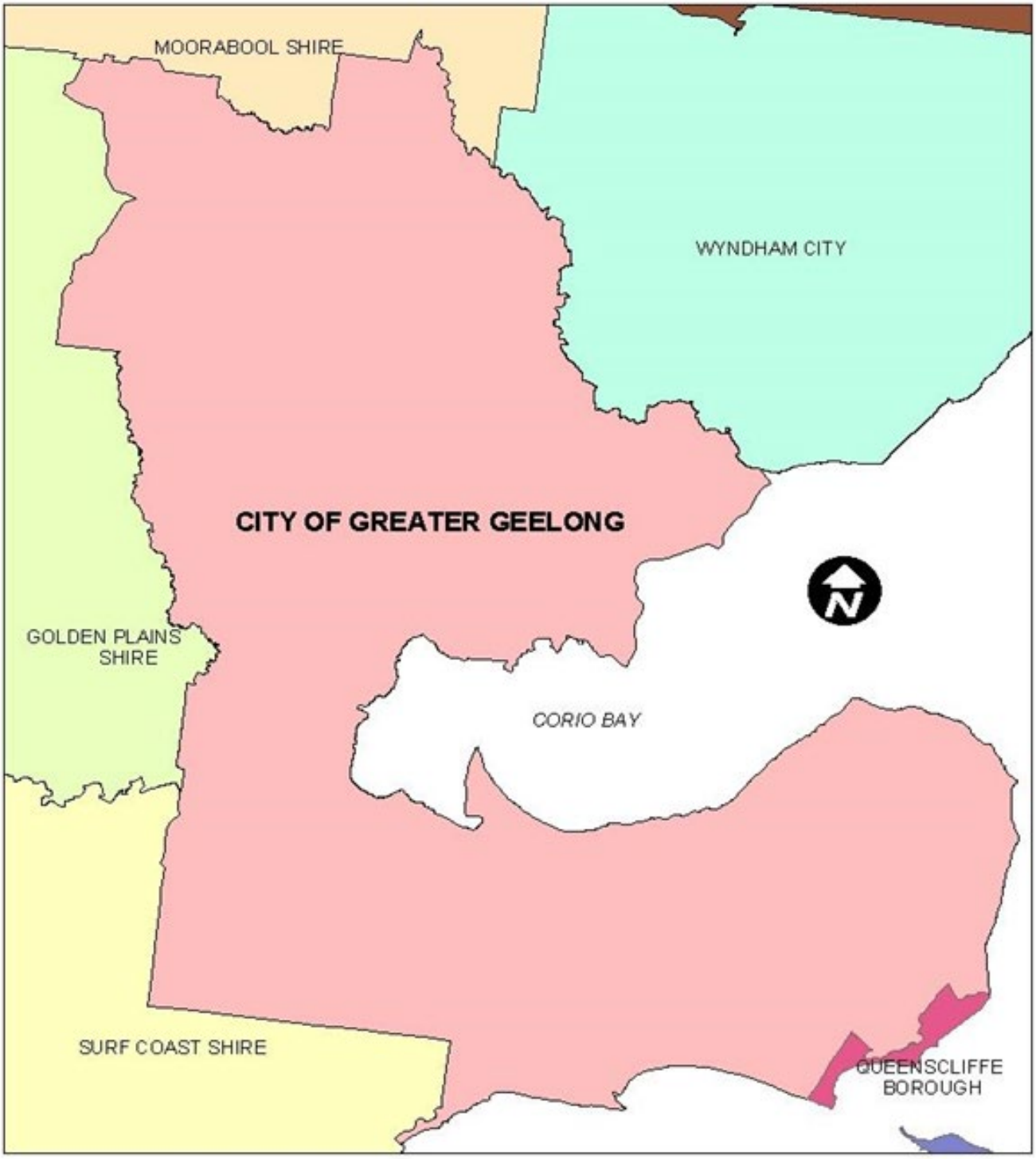
ATTACHMENT 6: HAZARD INTERVENTION LEVELS & RESPONSE TIMES

Defect Code	Description	Response Times by Hierarchy (Business Days)			
R01	**Sealed Roads**	**Cat 4**	**Cat 3**	**Cat 2**	**Cat 1***
R01P	Potholes in the traffic lane of a sealed pavement greater than 75mm in depth and 300mm in diameter.	10	10	20	20
R01E	Edge breaks exceeding 75mm laterally over a 5m or greater length from the nominal seal line	10	10	20	20
R01DO	Edge drops onto an unsealed shoulder greater than 50mm in depth over a 10m or greater length	10	10	20	20
R01R	Depression / deformations in the traffic lane of a sealed pavement greater than 75mm in depth under a 3m long straight edge	10	10	20	20
R01LM	Debris on a sealed road posing a possible danger to motorists, cyclists or pedestrians such as fallen materials from vehicles, dead animals, slippery surfaces and hazardous material	2	2	2	2
R01MPL	Missing drainage pit lids within the trafficable lane of the road, including side entry pits	2	2	2	2
R01BPL	Broken drainage pit lids within the trafficable lane of the road, including side entry pits	10	10	20	20
R01VE	Vegetation intruding into the road envelope creating a hazard to road users, located from the back of shoulder or kerb and a minimum height of 4m over the trafficable portion of the road	10	10	20	20
R01VO	Vegetation that is obstructing minimum sight distances at intersections and regulatory, warning and hazard signs	20	60	120	240

Defect Code	Description	Response Times by Hierarchy (Business Days)			
R02	**Unsealed Roads**	**Cat 4**	**Cat 3**	**Cat 2**	**Cat 1***
R02P	Potholes on an unsealed road greater than 75mm in depth and 500mm in diameter	30	60	120	240
R02R	Wheel ruts on an unsealed road greater than 75mm in depth	30	60	120	240
R02S	Scouring on an unsealed road greater than 75mm in depth	30	60	120	240
R02CO	Corrugations on an unsealed road greater than 75mm in depth and greater than 250m in length	30	60	120	240
R02V	Vegetation intruding into the road envelope creating a hazard to road users, located from the back of shoulder or kerb and a minimum height of 4m over the trafficable portion of the road	10	10	20	20
R02VO	Vegetation that is obstructing minimum sight distances at intersections and regulatory, warning and hazard signs	20	60	120	240
R03, R15, R23	**Traffic Control Devices**	**Cat 4**	**Cat 3**	**Cat 2**	**Cat 1***
R03DAM **R03FAD** **R03GRA** **R03MIS** **R03WRO**	Regulatory, warning and hazard signs missing, illegible or damaged making them substantially ineffective	10	10	20	20
R15GRR	Guard rail/fence damaged or missing making them substantially ineffective	20	20	90	90
MIN10 **MIN50** **MIN75**	Pavement markings which are missing or faded making them substantially ineffective	20	20	90	90

Defect Code	Description	Response Times by Hierarchy (Business Days)			
EFC	**Footpaths**	**Cat 5**	**Cat 4**	**Cat 3**	**Cat 2**
EFCTRP	Lip or step greater than 30mm in height	30	90	120	240
EFCCR	Cracking greater than 50mm wide over a 1.5m length	30	90	120	240
EFCP	Potholes greater than 30mm deep and 300mm in diameter	30	90	120	240
EFCSUB	Subsidence (depression) greater than 75mm in depth over a 1.5 metre straight edge	30	90	120	240
EFCMP	Dislodged or missing pieces creating depressions of 300mm in length/width and lips greater than 30mm	30	90	120	240
EFCMPL	Missing drainage pit lids within the trafficable lane of the path	2	2	2	2
EFCBPL	Broken drainage pit lids within the trafficable lane of the path	10	10	20	20
EFCVEG	Vegetation which presents a physical hazard to the public over pedestrian/bicycle paths, intruding into a clearance envelope between the edges of the path and a minimum of 2.4m height clearance over path	20	20	60	60
EKC	**Kerb & Channel**	**Cat 4**	**Cat 3**	**Cat 2**	**Cat 1***
EKCVD	Vertical displacement – uplift section greater than 30mm in tray	120	240	480	480
EKCHD	Horizontal displacement – lateral displacement of top of kerb and tilted tray greater than 50mm	120	240	480	480

ATTACHMENT 7: MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY MAP



MAP OF CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
AND NEIGHBOURING COUNCILS

4. DOG ORDERS ON HIGHTON WATERPIPE PATHWAY

Source: **Planning, Design & Development – Health & Local Laws**
Director: **Gareth Smith**

Purpose

1. To respond to the Notice of Motion from the 21 September 2020 Council meeting, in relation to dogs off-leash at the Highton pipe track reserve (behind Tim Hill Reserve).

Background

2. A review of the Dog Controls in Public Places Policy was undertaken in 2018, informed by community consultation. Community feedback informed changes to the Policy that increased the number of reserves that provide dogs off leash areas by 150%. The updated Policy was endorsed by Council at its 11 December 2018 meeting.

3. The Policy includes that public open space areas in the municipality are designated as being dogs 'on-leash', except where otherwise signed. This includes shared paths.

4. An audit of reserve signage was undertaken in 2019 to identify improvements in signage. Funding was included in the 2020-21 budget to implement the audit findings.

5. The audit identified a lack of signage along the Highton Waterpipe Pathway, which is a green corridor owned by Barwon Water separating Highton and Wandana Heights. Signage was installed in August 2020, noting that dogs were required to be on-leash, with this causing an immediate community response.

6. Council endorsed a Notice of Motion on 21 September 2020 seeking a report which considered the Highton Pipe Track Shared Path Maintenance Agreement with Barwon Water, the Dog Controls in Public Places Policy; and community consultation as appropriate.

Key Matters

7. An agreement was signed by Council and Barwon Water in 2016, which provides for maintenance of the Highton pipe track shared path, subject to the shared path works being completed by Barwon Water to an agreed level required by the City.

8. A review has determined that the shared path works were not constructed to the City's requirements, therefore Barwon Water is the Managing Authority, meaning that the Council's Dogs in Public Places Policy does not apply.

9. The City has consulted with Barwon Water on this position and sought clarification if they seek particular orders over the reserve. Barwon Water have confirmed it agrees with the City's position in relation to land management responsibilities and do not wish to enter into an agreement for the City to manage dog control orders at this time.

10. This means dogs are permitted to be off leash on the Highton pipe track reserve at any time. If Barwon Water would like the area to be patrolled to ensure compliance with dog orders in the future, they would need to enter a formal land management agreement with the City specifying this and the Council would need to endorse particular dog control orders relevant to this land.

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

12. That Council:

12.1 note that the Highton pipe track reserve is owned and managed by Barwon Water; and

12.2 note that the Council's Dogs in Public Places Policy does not apply to the Highton pipe track reserve and therefore dogs are permitted to be off leash.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. These are no financial implications relevant to this report.

Community Engagement

2. Community engagement is not required as the City does not manage the land and Barwon Water have confirmed they do not seek to develop dog control orders for this land.

Social Equity Considerations

3. The subject land is accessible to the broader community. It has been noted by the community that the main user group utilising the land for recreational purposes, are dog walkers.
4. The City's investigations in to this matter has confirmed there will be no change to past conditions where dog walkers can allow their dogs off leash.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

5. The Maintenance Agreement between the City and Barwon Water specifies that minor maintenance tasks for the asphalt path and the care of vegetation and waste adjoining the path are the City's responsibility. If Barwon Water would like the area to be patrolled to ensure compliance with dog orders, they would need to enter a formal land management agreement with the City specifying this and the Council would need to endorse particular dog control orders relevant to this land. Barwon Water has confirmed they do not plan to change the current arrangement at this time.

Alignment to Council Plan

6. Improved Health and Safety of our Community:
   - 6.1 Providing safer public places;
   - 6.2 Encouraging responsible pet ownership; and
   - 6.3 Promoting active living.
7. Informed Social Infrastructure and Planning:
   - 7.1 Provide more quality spaces that support active lifestyles.

Conflict of Interest

8. There is no conflict of interest with respect to any officer in the preparation of this report.

Risk Assessment

9. As this land is owned by Barwon Water, the City is unable to undertake proactive dog patrols, there is potentially a heightened risk that members of the public may experience a negative dog related event. The City's Animal Compliance Unit will continue to investigate any reports of dog related incidents on this land. There have been no attacks recorded on this land in the last five years.

Environmental Implications

10. Assuming dog owners act responsibly through maintaining effective control of their dog and disposing of their dog's excrement in the bins provided, environmental implications to wildlife and vegetation will be minimal.

Cr Grzybek declared a Conflict of Interest in Agenda Item 5, Tender T2100013 Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor – Stage 1, in that Cr Grzybek is an employee of the TAC who are funders of the bike paths, and left the meeting room at 7.57pm prior to discussion of the item.

5. TENDER T2100013 – BUILDING BETTER BIKE CONNECTIONS PROJECT – SOUTHERN CORRIDOR STAGE 1

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services – Property, Procurement & Assets**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To award Contract C2100013: Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor Stage 1 to Enoch Civil Pty Ltd (ABN 68 111 113 770).

Background

2. The City of Greater Geelong received funding from the State Government to invest in new dedicated paths and routes across Geelong, filling the 'missing links' in existing bicycle networks. The works will improve access to train stations, the CBD and keep cyclists separated from traffic.

3. The Southern Corridor Stage One is a critical link in Geelong's cycling network, connecting 25 per cent of Geelong's population located south of the Barwon River to Geelong's key employment precinct and transport hubs.

4. Design of the Southern Corridor Stage One was endorsed by Council in April 2019.

Key Matters

5. Procurement Services managed an open tender process seeking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced contractor to undergo the construction works of the Building Better Bike Connections – Southern Corridor Stage 1 project.

6. The submissions were evaluated in accordance with the processes detailed in the City's 'Procurement and Contracts Manual'.

7. Based on the tenderer's experience, expertise and value for money, the Tender Evaluation Panel (TEP) recommend that Enoch Civil Pty Ltd (ABN 68 111 113 770) be awarded the contract for the provision of the above project.

8. Subject to awarding the contract, the project will commence on 04 May 2021, with site works commencing 02 August 2021.

9. The lump sum for the delivery of the project is $1,969,434.94 (excl. GST).

AMENDMENT

Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

10. That Council:

10.1 Award Contract C2100013: Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor Stage 1 to Enoch Civil Pty Ltd (ABN 68 111 113 770) on a tendered lump sum price basis for $1,969,434.94 (excl. GST);

10.2 Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute Contract C2100013 and any other documents required by or to give effect to the terms of the Contract on behalf of Council;

10.3 Authorise the Chief Executive Officer, under officer delegation, to issue a Contract variation to construct a shared pedestrian bicycle path utilising the existing footpath on the west side between Fyans Street and Park Crescent; and

10.4 Review the performance of the shared path between Fyans Street and Park Crescent after the first 12 months and advise Councillors of any recommendations for improvements.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The TAC has committed funding of $2,129,675.00 towards Stage One.

2. The contract value of $1,969,434.94 is within the project budget.

Community Engagement

3. During the project design phase, two rounds of community engagement were held in January 2018 and February 2019.

Social Equity Considerations

4. The Victorian Cycle Strategy states that *women, children and senior Victorians cycle far less than the typical cyclist, who is male and under 45. Making the network safer and lower stress will increase the participation of underrepresented groups.*

5. When Hornby Street in Vancouver, Canada, was converted from a painted-on road lane to a protected bike lane, the percentage of female riders increased from 28 to 39 per cent over a four-year period. Separated bike lanes provide an environment where more people in the community, whether younger or older, male or female, feel safer and are more likely to ride.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

6. This tender was publicly advertised in accordance with the requirements of section 186 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the tender process has been conducted in accordance with the City's Procurement Policy.

Alignment to Council Plan

7. This project has a strong alignment to the Council Plan in the three areas of transport, community health and safety and environment

    7.1 Integrated Transport Connections - Delivering better connected walking, cycling and trail paths across our region and delivering the Better Bike Connections project.

    7.2 Improved Health and Safety of Our Community - Promoting healthy eating and supporting active living and working toward having the safest roads in Victoria.

    7.3 Effective Environmental Management - Educating and assisting our community to act on climate change, by reducing waste, emissions and water usage.

Conflict of Interest

8. No Council officers or contractors involved in the preparation of this report have a general or material interesting in the matters to which this report relates.

Risk Assessment

9. The tender evaluation process involved the assessment of legal and commercial risks, and of Work, Health and Safety policies, procedures and risk assessment documents. Any other risks associated with the acceptance of this tender will be managed through the contract conditions.

Environmental Implications

10. According to the City's Environment Management Strategy, vehicle emissions are the dominant contributor to air pollution in the region. Encouraging a shift away from cars towards cycling and active transport will have a positive effect on air quality.

11. The City has adopted the principles of One Planet Living. Sustainable Transport is one of these principles, aimed at encouraging low carbon modes of transport to reduce emissions.

Attachment 2

Tender Details

Contract Details

1. C2100013 – Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor Stage 1

Invitation to Tender

2. The City issued an open tender T2100013, closing Wednesday 22 January 2021, seeking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced contractor to undertake works required for the Southern Corridor Stage 1 of the Building Better Bike Connections project.

Table 1 Invitations to Tender

Medium	Date Advertised
Geelong Advertiser	28 November 2020
eProcure	28 November 2020

Tender Evaluation Panel

3. The Tender Evaluation Panel comprised the following staff:

Table 2 Tender Evaluation Panel

Position Title	Panel role
Procurement Specialist	Chair
Project Manager Capital Projects	Member
Special Projects Coordinator Capital Projects	Member
Active Transport Engineer	Member

Tender Submissions

4. Tenderers had to comply with the following mandatory criteria:

   4.1 OH&S system – if the tenderers OH&S processes and procedures do not meet a minimum standard determined by the City, the tenderer will not be considered for the contract.

   4.2 The tenderer must have traffic signal works completed by a VicRoads approved contractor.

   4.3 The tenderer must have significant past experience in delivering and completing similar sized projects, scope of works (greater than $500,000.00) and demonstrated experience working on public and operating roadways.

   4.4 The tenderer must complete and upload section 1-9 of the Local Industry Development Plan (LIDP).

Table 3 Tender Submissions Received

Tender		Conforming tender
A	Enoch Civil Pty Ltd	Yes
B	Tender B	Yes

Tender Evaluation

5. The Tender Evaluation Panel used the following qualitative criteria (in order of weighting) to assess the submissions:

Table 4 Comparative Criteria Weighting

Comparative Criteria	Weighting %
Methodology/plan for performing contract	37.5
Economic & Local Content contribution (mandatory)	20
Proposed Project Resourcing	17.5
Capability and experience, including past performance	17.5
Quality management policy; quality and audit systems	7.5

6. The tender was evaluated by the evaluation panel in a two staged process:

   6.1 Qualitative assessment of a weighted score totalling 100%; and

   6.2 Evaluation of price against weighted score:
   VFM = Tendered Price ÷ Weighted Score (lowest VFM Score = preferred supplier).

7. Enoch Civil Pty Ltd were deemed the best value for money tenderer, demonstrating best value for money for the City, and placing them as the preferred tenderer to clarification stage.

Tender Evaluation Scores

8. At the conclusion of the evaluation the tenders were ranked in the following order:

Table 5 Tender Evaluation Scores

Tender		Rank
#	Enoch Civil Pty Ltd	1
#	Tender B	2

Post-Tender Contact

9. The Tender Evaluation Panel sought clarifications in writing prior to an interview with Enoch Civil Pty Ltd regarding pricing and program.

10. Enoch Civil Pty Ltd demonstrated a thorough understanding of the requirements of the specification with a proven record of delivering comparable contracts. The Tender Evaluation Panel noted that Enoch Civil Pty Ltd are an experienced provider of comparable projects, with similar size and scope over the past three years.

11. Enoch Civil Pty Ltd submission identified all the experienced personnel, plant and subcontractors required for the project.

12. Enoch Civil Pty Ltd project methodology demonstrated that they have the available resources and expertise to successfully deliver the works as tendered and provided evidence of their capability to deliver the project within the City's timeframes.

13. Enoch Civil Pty Ltd OH&S documentation addressed the high risk tasks associated with the works, providing examples of SWMS used on projects with comparable risk profile and all qualifications required.

Probity

14. No probity issues identified.

Cr Grzybek re-entered the meeting room at 8.24pm.

6. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – MARCH 2021

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services – Financial Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To present to Council the financial performance information to 31 March 2021.

Background

2. On 30 June 2020 the 2020-21 budget was adopted with a recurrent operating deficit of ($24.6m) and a non-recurrent surplus of $110.2m, resulting in a net surplus of $85.6m.

3. The financial statements and commentary are for the period July 2020 to March 2021.

Key Matters

4. The recurrent operating result for the nine-month period is a deficit of ($12.0m), which compares to the budgeted deficit of ($20.4m). This represents a better than anticipated outcome by $8.4m. A summary of the year to date variances are provided in Attachment 2 of this report.

5. The non-recurrent result (including. gifted assets from development, capital income, sale of properties, developer cash contributions to infrastructure etc.) for the six months was a surplus of $106.7m, which compares to the budgeted surplus of $77.8m. This represents a better than anticipated outcome by $28.9m. A summary of the non-recurrent variances is provided in **Attachment 2** of this report.

6. The total surplus of $94.7m is $37.3m favourable to the year to date budget.

7. Through the Working for Victoria fund, the City has received close to $8m this financial year to employ just under 200 FTE to help stimulate employment throughout the region. To the end of March, $7.2m of income has been recognised, of which $6.8m has been used to fund these FTE and other related costs.

8. The City has also been sourcing Government grants to support recovery from COVID-19 pandemic. To date we have received funding of $500k to support outdoor dining initiatives and further $2.1m boost for local roads and infrastructure to fund shovel ready projects.

9. Capital expenditure year to date is $83.1m against a year to date budget of $102.4m. Spend on capital projects is continually being reviewed throughout the year. A summary of capital expenditure variances is provided in **Attachment 2** of this report.

10. The cash and investment balance of $153.0m is ($3.4m) lower than budgeted mainly due to lower borrowings, user charges income, land sales, rates receipts and higher general expenditure, offset by favourable developer cash contributions, grants income and capital income and expenditure.

11. During September a $45m loan was taken out in order to fund the Civic Precinct and LED Streetlighting capital projects. The budget allows for total loan borrowings of $66.9m for the financial year if required.

12. The full year forecast is an expected deficit of $19.7m, or $4.9m favourable to budget. This forecast fairs $10.7m favourable to the full year forecast in our December 2020 Quarterly Financial Management Report that indicated a ($30.4m) recurrent deficit.

13. Since December 2020, a stronger outlook in leisure centres and waste service costs, lower utility expenses, savings from continued office closures and phasing of discretionary project spend and management initiatives to reduce expenditure have resulted in the improved forecast.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Kontelj seconded -

14. That Council endorse the Financial Management Report to 31 March 2021.

Cr Mason left the meeting room at 8.24pm
Cr Mason re-entered the meeting room at 8.27pm

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. Any financial implications are addressed within the body of the report.

Community Engagement

2. Project managers have been consulted and provided the latest project updates which have been factored into this report.

Social Equity Considerations

3. There are no social equity implications arising from the subject of this report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

4. The report is provided in accordance with requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020.*

Alignment to Council Plan

5. The report is aligned to the Council Plan Strategic Objective 'Innovative Finances and Technology'.

Conflict of Interest

6. No Council officer has a general or material conflict of interest relating to the matters contained in this report.

Risk Assessment

7. There are no high or extreme risks arising from the subject of this report.

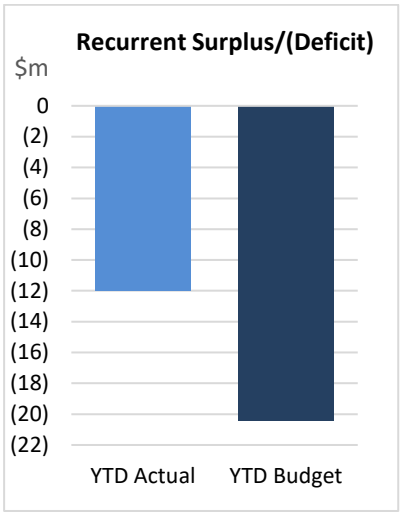
Environmental Implications

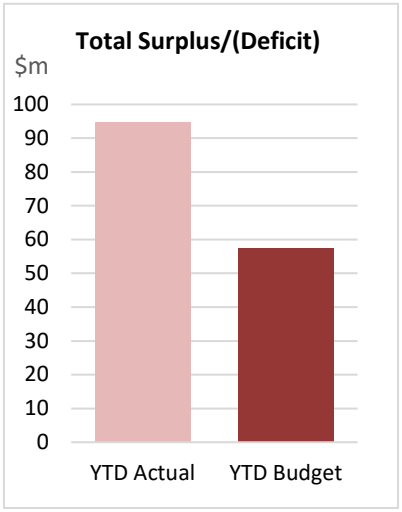
8. There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

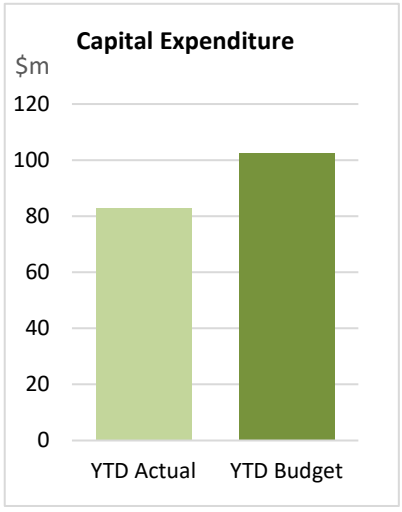
Attachment 2

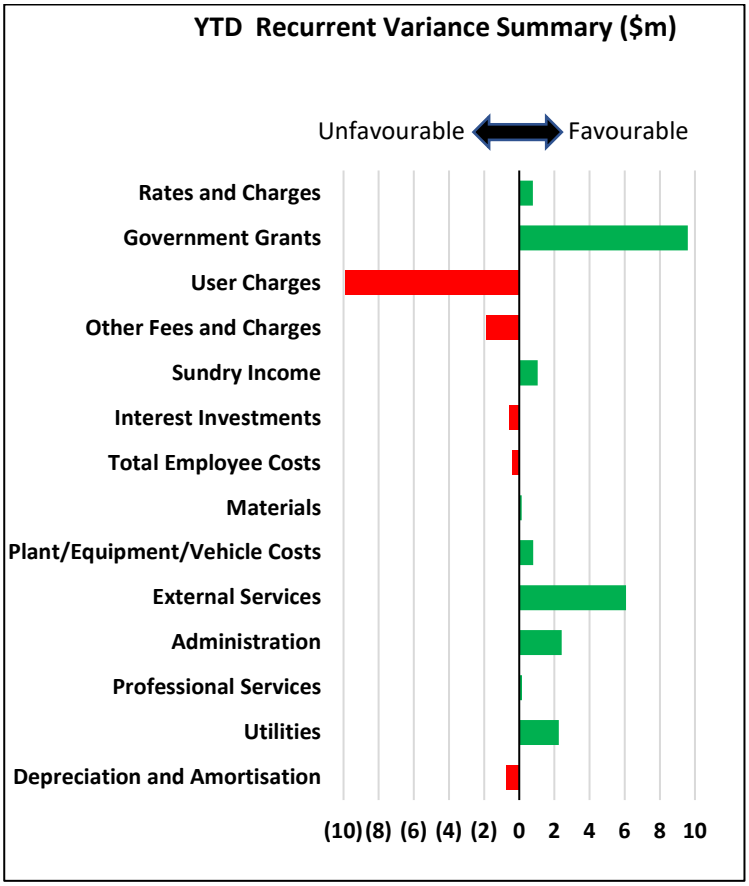
QUARTERLY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

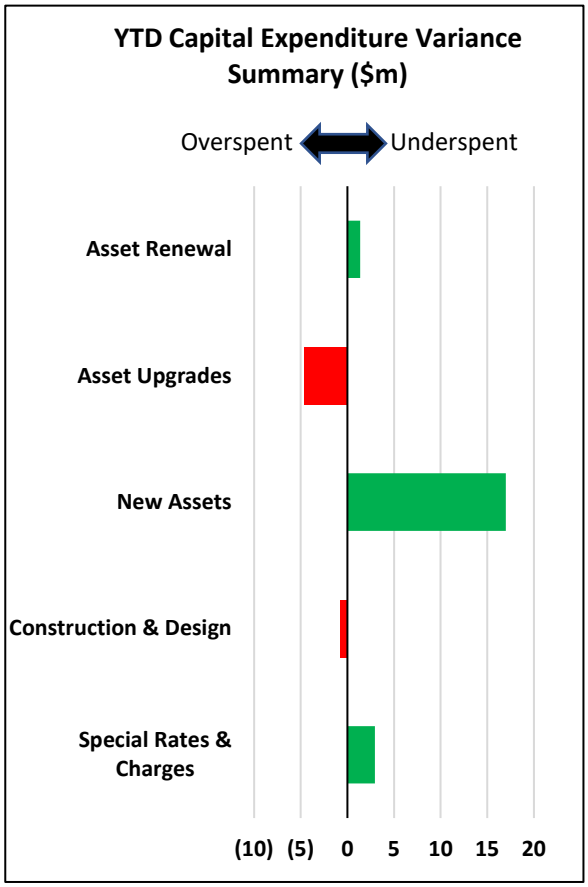
March 2021











1. The March data is provided in the following table to report year to date performance versus the budget. The full year high level forecast is expecting a recurrent deficit of ($19.7m) or $4.9m favourable to budget and a non-recurrent surplus that is $23.9m favourable

Overall Summary						
	YTD Actual $m	**YTD Budget $m**	**YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m**	**FY Budget $m**	**FY Forecast $m**	**FY Var Forecast v Budget $m**
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	(12.0)	(20.4)	**8.4**	(24.6)	(19.7)	**4.9**
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	106.7	77.8	**28.9**	110.2	134.1	**23.9**
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	94.7	57.4	**37.3**	85.6	114.4	**28.8**
Capital Expenditure	83.1	102.4	**19.3**	160.4	170.9	**(10.5)**
Closing Net Cash Positive/(Negative)	153.0	156.4	**(3.4)**	106.6	90.8	**(15.8)**

Recurrent Summary						
	YTD Actual $m	**YTD Budget $m**	**YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m**	**FY Budget $m**	**FY Forecast $m**	**FY Var Forecast v Budget $m**
Recurrent Income	276.7	277.6	**(0.9)**	372.4	369.5	**(2.9)**
Recurrent Expenditure	288.7	297.9	9.2	397.0	389.2	**7.8**
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	(12.0)	(20.4)	**8.4**	(24.6)	(19.7)	**4.9**
YTD Variance - $8.4m Favourable						

2. The following major variances contributed to this recurrent result:

Income:

2.1 **Rates & Charges $0.8m favourable** – Mostly driven by higher supplementary rates (an increase of 4,231 rateable properties compared to budget), however this is subject to be offset by objections in Q4.

2.2 **Government Grants $9.6m favourable** – Timing of Working for Victoria Fund receipts $7.2m (offset by $6.8m expenditure), favourable Home Care Packages due to high demand. Additional grants in Family Services due to additional State funding and transition payment to support the under-utilisation and freeze on fee increases. This is partly offset by a reduction of Commonwealth Home Support Packages funding based on lower targets due to COVID restrictions and Food Act reimbursements, also due to COVID-19.

2.3 **User Charges ($9.9m) unfavourable** – lower activity/program fees ($7.0m - Leisure & Family Services) and car parking fees ($2.1m) due to free parking initiatives in Q1/Q2 and lower utilisation in Q3.

3. **Other Fees and Charges ($1.9m) unfavourable** – Food Act Licences waived due to COVID ($1.4m) and lower parking fines ($1.4m), offset by higher planning approvals/submissions $0.8m.

Expenditure:

3.1 **Employee costs ($0.4m) net unfavourable** – Working for Victoria staff costs offset by vacancies and staff turnover.

3.2 **External Services $6.1m favourable** – Favourable contractors $5.9m, contributions $2.3m (event cancellations/postponements, waste disposal $7.8m, Events/Functions $0.6m and building maintenance $0.5m, offset by unbudgeted building demolition works ($1.2m).

3.3 **Administration $2.4m favourable** – Lower training/development costs $1.1m, printing/stationery/photocopying costs $0.5m and Doubtful Debts/Debt Collection $0.5m.

4. **Utilities $2.2m favourable** – lower costs for water $1.5m (low usage due to wet weather) and electricity/gas $0.6m (office and facility closures).

Non-Recurrent Summary						
	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m	FY Budget $m	FY Forecast $m	FY Var Forecast v Budget $m
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	106.7	77.8	**28.9**	110.2	134.1	**23.9**
YTD Variance – $28.9m favourable						

5. This non-recurrent result was driven by favourable developer contributions income $16.4m, capital grant income $10.9m and subdivision gifted assets $5.1m, offset by a lower than expected gain on property sales ($4.9m).

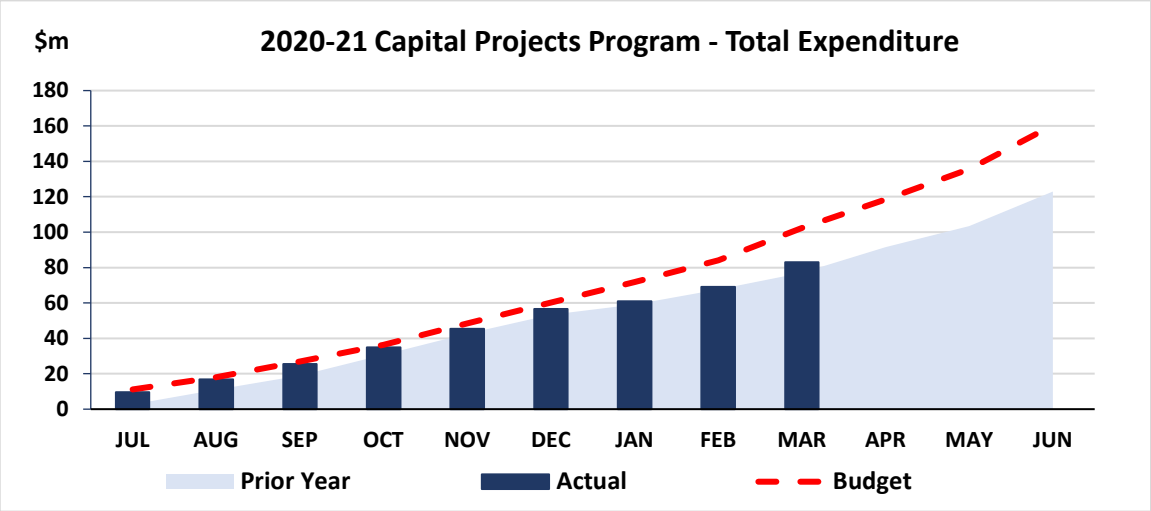
Capital Expenditure Summary				
	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Underspent/ (Overspent) $m	FY Budget $m
Capital Expenditure	83.1	102.4	19.3	160.4
YTD Variance – $19.3m underspent				

6. The capital program is currently $19.3m underspent, mostly due to the timing of project spend. Large project variances to budget are as follows:

Project	YTD Var Underspent/(Overspent) $m
C20420 - Civic Accommodation Project	7,975
C17301 - Elcho Channel SRC Scheme	5,237
C19204 - ICT Strategy Projects	4,319
C21601 - Armstrong Creek land acquisition program	3,053
C17507 - Land Acquisition Fyansford	1,826
C11206 - New Corio/New Station Estates Purchase Scheme	1,721
C18423 - Northern Aquatic and Community Hub Detailed Design	(610)
C20307 - Coriyule Rd - Stormwater drainage outfall stage 2	(1,001)

Project	YTD Var Underspent/(Overspent) $m
C68902 - DCP - JR Tivoli Drive Curlewis _ R001, R003 and P003	(1,028)
C20402 - Herne Hill Reserve	(2,152)

7. The graph below summarises total capital gross expenditure to date.



Environmental Upgrade Agreements

8. The City has two environmental upgrade agreements in place.

8.1 An environmental upgrade agreement was entered into in June 2017 for Lot 2 on Plan Subdivision 041455, Volume 08704 Folio 526.

- The total charge for this agreement is $115k and all payments that have fallen due have been remitted.
- The total value of payments that are yet to fall due is $72k.

8.2 An environment upgrade agreement was signed in April 2020, with payments deferred until 30 September 2020 due to COVID-19 for Lot 3 on Plan Subdivision 74780, Volume 08651 Folio 328.

- The total charge for this agreement is $122k. This agreement is in default with no payments made, interest has been charged to the account.

OPERATING STATEMENT
as at 31 March 2021

Figures in $000s	Current Month			Year to Date			Full Year		
	ACT	BUD	Δ BUD	ACT	BUD	Δ BUD	F/CAST	BUD	Δ BUD
Rates and Charges	21,230	21,204	**26**	192,073	191,295	**778**	254,819	254,042	**777**
Government Grants	3,074	3,152	**(78)**	44,264	34,664	**9,600**	57,293	45,907	**11,386**
User Charges	4,337	5,071	**(734)**	26,307	36,196	**(9,889)**	38,057	50,943	**(12,886)**
Other Fees and Charges	1,794	1,669	**125**	9,547	11,418	**(1,871)**	13,286	15,877	**(2,591)**
Sundry Income	195	423	**(228)**	4,020	2,973	**1,047**	5,481	4,236	**1,245**
Interest Investments	51	125	**(74)**	460	1,005	**(545)**	609	1,400	**(791)**
Total Recurrent Income	**30,681**	**31,643**	**(962)**	**276,672**	**277,550**	**(878)**	**369,544**	**372,405**	**(2,860)**
Salaries	16,801	15,296	**(1,505)**	127,362	126,924	**(438)**	170,624	169,903	**(721)**
Workcover	231	240	**9**	1,993	2,049	**56**	2,664	2,724	**60**
General Works - Materials	660	715	**55**	5,672	5,816	**144**	8,066	7,734	**(332)**
General Works - Plant/Equipment/Vehicles	806	709	**(97)**	5,684	6,473	**789**	7,731	8,609	**878**
General Works - External Services	11,072	7,514	**(3,558)**	71,683	77,756	**6,073**	96,625	103,050	**6,425**
Administration	1,231	1,033	**(198)**	8,059	10,473	**2,414**	11,421	14,582	**3,161**
Professional Services	652	627	**(25)**	6,241	6,393	**152**	8,894	8,278	**(616)**
Utilities	884	1,099	**215**	7,135	9,382	**2,247**	9,796	12,232	**2,436**
Efficiency Dividend	-	(200)	**(200)**	-	(1,800)	**(1,800)**	-	(2,400)	**(2,400)**
Depreciation	6,276	6,037	**(239)**	55,198	54,433	**(765)**	73,465	72,263	**(1,202)**
(Gain)/Loss on Sale of Plant & Equipment	(72)	5	**77**	(368)	44	**412**	(63)	59	**122**
Total Recurrent Expenditure	**38,542**	**33,077**	**(5,465)**	**288,660**	**297,941**	**9,281**	**389,223**	**397,034**	**7,811**
Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	**(7,861)**	**(1,432)**	**(6,429)**	**(11,989)**	**(20,392)**	**8,403**	**(19,679)**	**(24,629)**	**4,950**
Subdivision Gifted Assets	8,226	6,250	**1,976**	61,363	56,250	**5,113**	80,000	75,000	**5,000**
Capital Grants and Income	3,518	310	**3,208**	19,305	8,401	**10,904**	24,758	16,801	**7,957**
Developer Contributions	2,782	2,124	**658**	26,611	10,208	**16,403**	34,333	14,510	**19,823**
Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Property	2,198	791	**1,407**	2,199	7,121	**(4,922)**	4,232	9,495	**(5,263)**
Total Non-Recurrent Income	**16,725**	**9,475**	**7,249**	**109,478**	**81,980**	**27,498**	**143,324**	**115,805**	**27,518**
Loss on Disposal of Infrastructure	48	464	**416**	1,365	4,178	**2,813**	5,570	5,570	**0**
Prior Year Adjustments	343	-	**(343)**	1,436	-	**(1,436)**	3,663	-	**(3,663)**
Total Non-Recurrent Expenditure	**391**	**464**	**73**	**2,801**	**4,178**	**1,376**	**9,233**	**5,570**	**(3,664)**
Non-Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit)	**16,334**	**9,012**	**7,322**	**106,677**	**77,802**	**28,875**	**134,090**	**110,235**	**23,854**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**8,473**	**7,580**	**893**	**94,688**	**57,411**	**37,277**	**114,411**	**85,606**	**28,805**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

at 31 March 2021

Figures in $000s	YTD ACTUAL	PRIOR MONTH	Comments on major monthly movements
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	152,979	161,716	
Trade and Other Receivables	66,460	97,708	Reduction mostly due to continued rate payments.
Prepayments	3,195	3,907	
Inventories	1,212	1,276	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**223,846**	**264,606**	
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	30,417	43,350	
Unearned Income	71,981	93,727	Reducing as revenue is recognised on the Operating Statement.
Loans	11,907	11,870	
Refundable Deposits	11,566	9,813	
Employee Benefits	39,131	40,607	
Landfill Provision	124	124	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	**165,126**	**199,492**	
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**58,720**	**65,114**	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Land and Buildings	1,230,682	1,233,461	
Plant and Equipment	30,800	30,725	
Infrastructure	1,515,057	1,507,251	
Intangible Assets	2,547	2,579	
Work In Progress	121,773	113,091	Capital projects not yet finalised.
Right Of Use Assets	3,927	4,193	
Investments	11,835	11,835	
Receivables	9,429	9,429	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	**2,926,050**	**2,912,565**	
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Developer Contributions Liability	68	68	
Loans	111,134	112,296	$45m loan drawdown in Sep, less loan principal repayments.
Employee Benefits	1,112	1,334	
Landfill Provision	16,559	16,559	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	**128,874**	**130,258**	
NET ASSETS	**2,855,896**	**2,847,421**	
Represented by:			
RATEPAYER EQUITY			
Surplus Year to Date	94,687	86,215	
Accumulated Surplus	1,541,041	1,541,041	
Asset Revaluation Reserve	1,187,580	1,187,580	
Reserves	32,588	32,588	
TOTAL RATEPAYER EQUITY	**2,855,896**	**2,847,423**	

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
at 31 March 2021

Figures in $000s	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Δ BUDGET
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Payments			
Employee Costs	(125,341)	(130,424)	5,083
General Works / Utilities / Disbursements	(122,103)	(105,902)	(16,201)
Administration / Professional Services	(13,416)	(15,290)	1,874
Interest Expense	(2,174)	(2,272)	98
	(263,034)	**(253,887)**	**(9,147)**
Receipts			
General Rates	208,259	215,881	(7,622)
Fire Services Levy	1,559	0	1,559
Fees and Charges	34,261	52,906	(18,645)
Investment Income	460	1,005	(545)
GST Recoveries on Operating Transactions	18,044	8,138	9,906
Government Grants	45,059	34,664	10,395
	307,642	**312,594**	**(4,952)**
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Operating Activities before Capital Income	**44,608**	**58,707**	**(14,099)**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for Land & Buildings, Plant & Equipment and Infrastructure Assets	(83,052)	(102,364)	19,312
Capital Income	19,305	8,047	11,258
Proceeds from Sale of Land & Buildings	4,255	18,187	(13,932)
Proceeds from Sale of Plant & Equipment	700	979	(279)
Developer Cash Contribution	26,653	10,208	16,445
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities	**(32,139)**	**(64,943)**	**32,804**
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Repayment of Borrowings	(7,859)	(7,684)	(175)
Proceeds from New Loans	45,000	66,936	(21,936)
Net Cash Outflow from Financial Activities	**37,141**	**59,252**	**(22,111)**
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	**49,610**	**53,016**	**(3,406)**
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year	103,369	103,369	
Cash at the End of Current Period	**152,979**	**156,385**	**(3,406)**

	YTD Actual $m	YTD Budget $m	YTD Var Fav/ (Unfav) $m	FY Budget $m
Closing Net Cash Positive/(Negative)	153.9	156.4	(3.4)	106.6
YTD Variance – ($3.4m) unfavourable				

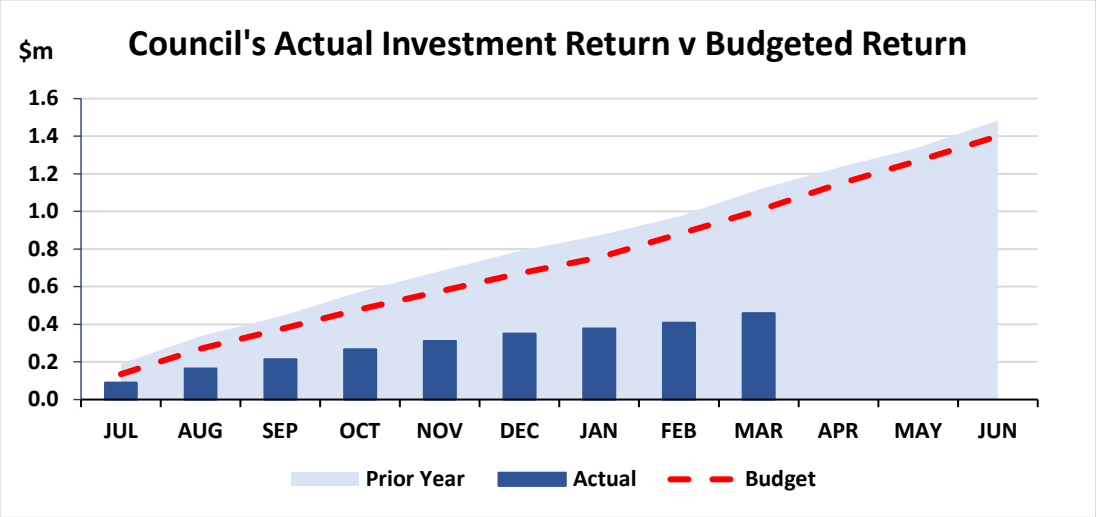
9. As at the end of March the cash and investments balance was $153.9m or ($3.4m) favourable to budget, mostly due to lower borrowings, user charges income, land sales and rates receipts and higher general expenditure, offset by favourable developer cash contributions, grants income and capital income and expenditure.Cashflow continues to be closely monitored, especially given the pressures resulting from COVID-19.

10. Council has future commitments for $52.2m, as detailed below:

Long service leave	$24.3m
Statutory reserves	$ 8.4m
Refundable deposits	$11.6m
Income in advance	$ 7.8m
Asset development	$ 0.1m
Total	**$52.2m**

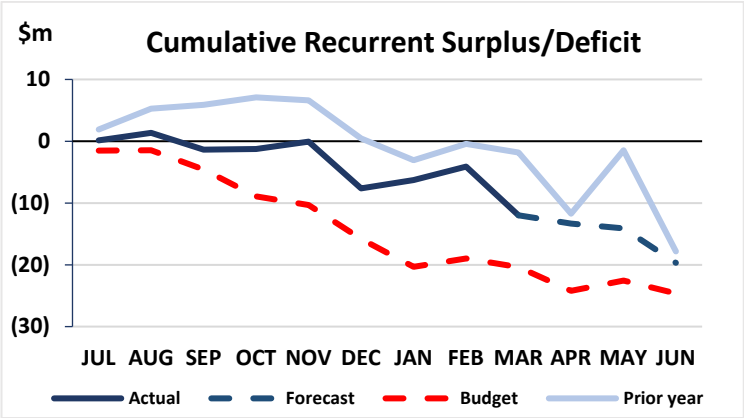
11. The landfill provision balance is currently $16.6m.

12. Working capital funds are invested in short term deposits and investment returns are as follows:



13. Investment returns are currently ($545k) below budget and ($656k) lower compared to the same time last year. This is driven by declining interest rates and lower amounts invested, due to a focus on maintaining a healthy cash balance due to the uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

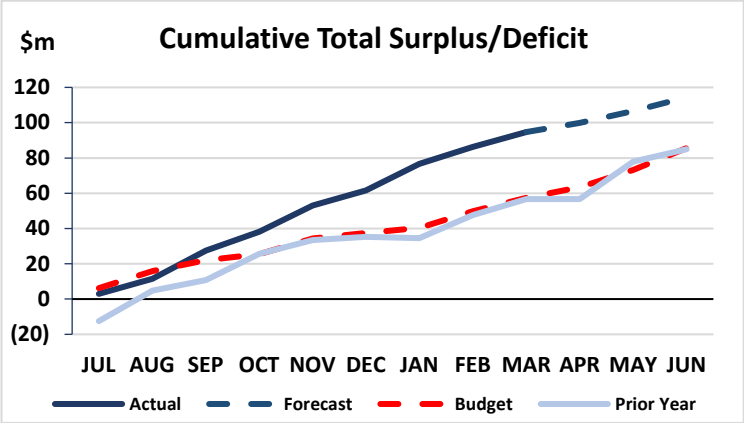
Financial Performance Indicators



Our **recurrent deficit** of ($12.0m) is favourable to budget, due to lower contractor and consultants' costs, higher planning permits and government grants income and lower expenditure on landfill costs, building maintenance, training/development, printing/stationary, events/functions and utility costs. This is partly offset by income loss driven by COVID-19 (mainly leisure centres and car parking) and higher depreciation expenditure.

At the same time last year, the recurrent deficit was ($1.8m). In the current year, income is ($0.2m) lower, due to reduced user charges, offset by higher rates and grants income. Expenditure is $9.9m higher, due to higher salaries and depreciation.

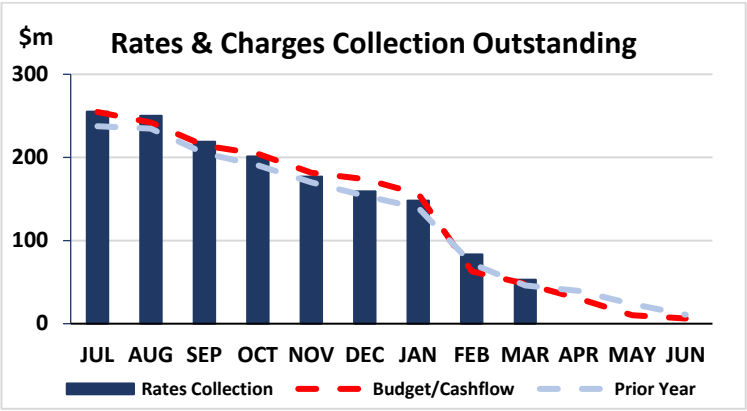
The full year recurrent forecast indicates a deficit of ($19.7m).



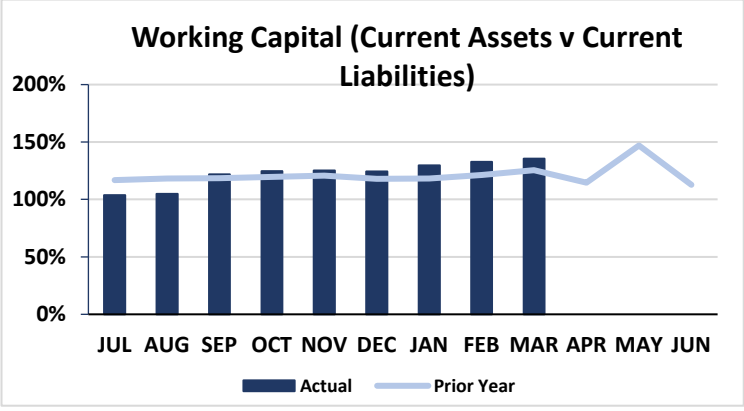
Our **total surplus** of $94.7m is favourable to budget, due to favourable developer contributions income, capital income and subdivision gifted assets, offset by lower property sales.

At the same time last year, the total surplus was $63.8m. In the current year, developer contributions, capital income and subdivision gifted assets are higher, which is partly offset by this year's unfavourable recurrent position.

The full year total forecast indicates a surplus of $114.4m.



Rates collection is around ($7m) behind budget, with 79% of full year rates received as at 31st March. The continuation of monitoring of collections and hardship is a key focus.



Working Capital ratio is marginally favourable compared to the same time last year, mostly due to a higher cash balance due to a $45m loan taken out during September. This loan is to fund the Civic Precinct and LED Streetlighting capital projects.

The budget allows for total loan borrowings of $66.9m to be taken out during the financial year if required.

7. 2021-22 GRANT GUIDELINES

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services – Financial Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To seek Council's approval for the 2021-22 Grant Guidelines in **Attachment 3** and advise Council of the key dates for the 2021-22 grants.

Background

2. On 2 February 2021 Council resolved to 'review the current guidelines with Councillor input and report back to Council before next advertised scheduled grant round any recommendations' and noted that the '2021-22 Community Infrastructure Grants are programmed for commencement and advertisement in the 2021-21 financial year'.

Key Matters

3. All 2021-22 grants are scheduled to open in June 2021 and funding recommendations will be presented to Council from September to November 2021.

4. Approved guidelines are required by the end of May in order to open the grants to the public in June.

5. The review of the current guidelines has considered feedback from Councillors, applicants and assessors gathered during running this year's grants. The guidelines have been edited to improve consistency, comprehension for users and reflect changes in Council policies or strategy.

6. The 2021-22 guidelines include the inaugural First Nations Cultural Heritage Grants.

AMENDMENT

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

7. That Council:

7.1 endorse the carry-over of the First Nations Cultural Heritage Grants 2020-21 budget of $100,000 to 2021-22 grants;

7.2 approve the changes to the guidelines as shown on the table in Attachment 2 with the removal of the following sentence from the Geelong Heritage Criteria, "If total requests for funding exceeds the grant funds available, prioritise applications within the Central Geelong Action Plan boundary";

7.3 authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make administrative changes to the guidelines;

7.4 note that the 2021-22 grants will open by June 2021; and

7.5 note that funding recommendations for grants will be presented to Council for endorsement between October and December 2021.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. There are no financial implications for the City in changing the grant guidelines.

2. The 2021-22 budget for grants will be adopted at the June 2021 Council meeting.

3. Due to the time taken to open the First Nations Cultural Heritage Grant, the 2020-21 budget of $100,000 will be allocated in 2021-22. This means this grant will have two rounds of $100,000 each in 2021-22.

Community Engagement

4. The review of grant guidelines has considered feedback from Councillors, previous applicants, assessors and officers.

5. Feedback from the community is gathered from direct contact with community organisations, individuals, business and property owner from phone conversations and meetings. The SmartyGrants online application system gathers feedback from applicants on how easy or hard the on-line process is, time taken to complete an application, and general feedback.

Social Equity Considerations

6. The grant guidelines prioritise community impact, access and participation.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

7. The grant guidelines respond to Council's Community Investment and Support Fund policy.

8. The Standard Guidelines are the overarching framework for individual grants and set standards on how the grants are administered by the City.

9. All relevant information from the Standard Guidelines is incorporated into the guidelines of each individual grant. This means that applicants no longer required to refer to two sets of guidelines when applying for a grant. If there is an inconsistency between the Standard Guidelines and individual grant guidelines, the provisions of the individual guidelines will take precedence.

Alignment to Council Plan

10. The provision of grants to the community supports local community organisations and endorses the aim of the Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future vision.

11. The grants aim to fund projects that assist in achieving goals and outcomes consistent with the strategic priorities of the *Council Plan 2018-22*.

Conflict of Interest

12. No Council officers involved in the consultation process or preparation of the report have a general or material interest in the issue to which this report relates.

Risk Assessment

13. There are no high or extreme risks associated with implementing the recommendations contained in this report.

Environmental Implications

14. The guidelines include funding opportunities for environmental initiatives.

15. The guidelines include environmental impact as an assessment criterion.

Attachment 2

Changes to Council Endorsed guidelines

Grant	Guideline Change	Comment
All grants	New standard template for all guidelines template	Template changed to improve accessibility and clarity of information
Grant Names	Community Grants (umbrella term for all grants) Arts Projects (formerly Creative Communities – Arts Projects) Community Events (no change) Community Infrastructure (no change) Environmental Sustainability (no change) Festival – Arts (formerly Creative Communities – Community Festivals) First Nations Cultural Heritage (new) Geelong Heritage (formerly Central Geelong Heritage) Healthy & Connected Communities (no change)	This change is in response to request from Councillor to simplify grant names
Arts Projects	New assessment criteria	This change reflects the strategic intent of the draft Arts and Cultural Strategy and removes references to outdated strategy and policy
	Allow applicants from arts business and individual/sole traders. Previously not eligible to apply	Follows the success of the COVID-19 Arts, Culture and Heritage grants which allowed applications from arts business and sole practitioners. This change provides opportunity for a wider section of the arts community to apply for funding and to deliver on Council's objectives.
Community Events	Streamline the funding rounds from two to one.	Offering one round of funding aligns the Community Events Grants with the other grants and allows for better use of the Events Quick Response Grant. As with all grants, a second round may be offered subject to the outcomes in round one.
	COVID-19 expenses	Option for event organisers to apply for funding to cover the costs of implementing COVID-19 Safety Plans. Available for event post 1 January 2022, for events already funded and new applicants. This inclusion provides an option for funding COVID-19 compliance costs

Grant	Guideline Change	Comment
		specifically for event organisers, especially if the COVID-19 Community Quick Response grants do not continue in 2021-22 and for those applicants who may not be eligible to apply for the COVID-19 Community Quick Response Grants.
Community Events – Quick Response	Change the assessment process from Council Endorsed to Executive Endorsed	Executive approval allows for more timely responses to out-of-round applications.
Community Infrastructure	Under the heading 'What Won't be Funded' (i.e. ineligible projects), change: *Capital projects with total costs in excess of $3.5 million* to *Capital Works applications with total costs in excess of $3.5 million (no limit on total project costs for Planning applications)*	This change allows groups with large projects to seek support for feasibility and planning studies.
	Change weighting of assessment criteria; Community Impact 55%-no change Well Planned Project 30%-increase to 40% Environmental Impact 15%-reduce to 5%	This change acknowledges the importance of project planning for successful outcomes.
	Confirm nominated priority funding themes remain the same as 2020-21; • Access for all abilities 10% • Social equity 10%	These themes are linked to priorities in Council Plan.
	Under the assessment criteria Well-Planned Projects provide an option for the requirement to provide three quotes for projects in excess of $150K as follows: – Project cost $150K and above = three current written quotes and an independent quantity surveyors (QS) report – You may choose to include as a minimum the QS report only. If your application is successful you must provide three quotes to secure funding and enter into a funding agreement	This change responds to feedback from applicants about the difficulty in securing three quotes for large projects, when funding is not guaranteed, and project is at concept stage, but ensures the responsible financial management of the grants. Applications that include both the QS report and up to three quotes may be rated higher.

Grant	Guideline Change	Comment
Environmental Sustainability	Introduce a new category for small equipment purchases with a limit of $2,000	This new category responds to applications from environmental community groups received in previous rounds (e.g. purchase of a weed slasher) that don't align to our existing equipment grants offered by the Healthy & Connected Community Grant. This category will be evaluated prior to offering again in future years
	Increase the maximum funding for minor capital works from $4000 to $10,000	The increase allows for a greater scope of environmental capital works projects.
Festivals – Arts	New assessment criteria	This change reflects the strategic intent of the draft Arts and Cultural Strategy and removes references to outdated strategy and policy
	Allow applicants from arts business and individual/sole traders. Previously not eligible to apply	Follows the success of the COVID-19 Arts, Culture and Heritage grants which allowed applications from arts business and sole practitioners. This change provides opportunity for a wider section of the arts community to apply for funding and to deliver on Council's objectives.
First Nations Cultural Heritage	New grant	
Geelong Heritage	Remove the Central Geelong Action Plan boundary as an eligibly criterion for projects and allow applications from the across the Municipality	These changes allow applications for restoration of properties from across the municipality.
	If total requests for funding exceeds the grant funds available, prioritise applications within the Central Geelong Action Plan boundary	
Healthy & Connected Communities	Under the heading 'What can you apply for?' (i.e. eligibility for Project Grants), include the following; *Equipment directly related to project delivery. The total request for equipment purchases must not exceed $2,000 and must comply with the requirements for equipment grants*;	This change responds to a gap in our funding model as previously, equipment that was part of a Project Grant application and necessary to the successful delivery of the activity, was ineligible, and applicants were only allowed to apply to one category (projects or equipment).

Attachment 3

Attached are copies of relevant documents, as follows:

1. Standard Guidelines
2. Arts Projects
3. Community Events
4. Community Infrastructure
5. Environmental Sustainability
6. Festival - Arts
7. First Nations Cultural Heritage
8. Geelong Heritage
9. Healthy & Connected Communities

Attachment 3

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

2021-22 COMMUNITY GRANTS

STANDARD GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

Executive Summary 3

Applying for a grant 4

What grants are available 4

Application Process 4

Key Dates 4

Permits and Approvals 4

Application support and help 4

Budget 5

Other City of Greater Geelong funding options 5

Privacy information 5

Who can and can't apply? 6

Eligibility information for all grants 6

Eligibility Information specific to individual grants 6

Auspice information 7

What will and won't be funded 8

What will be funded 8

What won't be funded 8

Grant allocation information 8

How are applications assessed 9

Assessment – Council Endorsed Grants 9

Assessment – Executive Endorsed Grants 9

Prioritising applications 9

What happens after assessment 10

Notification 10

Funding Agreements 10

General information 11

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 11

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 11

GST (clause tbc) 11

Insurance 11

Payment of grants 11

Timing 12

Variation to funded projects 12

Appendix A 2021-22 Grants 13

Council Endorsed Grants 13

Executive Endorsed Grants 15

Appendix B 2021-22 Key Dates 17

Council Endorsed Grants 17

Executive Endorsed Grants 17

Executive Summary

The City offers a range of competitive grants for groups and organisations to undertake projects that benefit the local community. The City's grants are governed by the Community Investment Support Fund (CISF) Policy endorsed by Council and operate under these Standard Guidelines.

The Standard Guidelines include information and requirements that are common to all the City's grants. They outline the application and assessment process, eligibility criteria, decision making process and requirements for successful applicants.

The Standard Guidelines set out the standards and expectations of how the City will administer grants.

The Standard Guidelines are the key resource for City staff and Councillors to guide decision making when implementing the grants programs.

Relevant information for applicants from the standard guidelines is included in each individual set of guidelines. If there is an inconsistency between the Standard Guidelines and individual Grant Guidelines, the provisions of the individual guidelines will take precedence.

The Standard Guidelines are endorsed by Council on an annual basis.

Applying for a grant

WHAT GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE

The City offers a range of competitive grants for groups and organisations to undertake projects that benefit the local community. Each grant has its own objectives, priority areas and criteria.

The list of grants available is included in **Appendix A 2021-22 Grants.**

Grants information and guidelines are available on www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for all grants must be made via the City's SmartyGrants online system.

Applicants can access the online application form directly by selecting the link included in the guidelines of the grant they are applying for or logging into SmartyGrants with an existing account; or

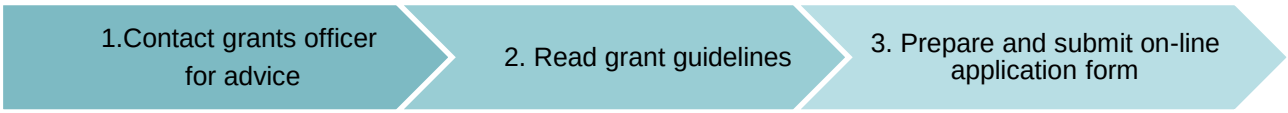
- applicants with a SmartyGrants account can visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply
- new users can visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date.

Incomplete or late submission of applications will not be accepted.

Applications cannot be made on paper forms or submitted by email/post/hand delivery.

Applicants will be advised to complete the following steps



KEY DATES

Each grant will include the dates when the grant opens and closes, and when funding decisions will be made/announced.

Dates will be published in the grant guidelines and on the Geelong Australia website.

The length of time a grant is open should be adequate to allow applicants to prepare a quality submission and will reflect the nature of the grant. In general, a grant should be open for a minimum of three to four weeks.

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Applicants must provide evidence of permits or approvals (if required) with their applications.

The types of approvals or permits required will be listed in each of the grant guidelines.

APPLICATION SUPPORT AND HELP

It is important to the City that applicants can submit a well thought through and well-developed application that answers all eligibility questions, addresses all the criteria and provides the documentary evidence and support documents required.

To enable potential applicants to provide quality applications we will provide.

- **Information Sessions:** These sessions will provide detailed information and advice about the grants, including the online application process.
- **Grant Writing Workshops:** These sessions will provide with how to plan and write a grant application.
- **Contact staff:** who can assist with the SmartyGrants applications process**.**

- **Contact staff:** who can provide additional information about the grants and discuss project ideas.

BUDGET

It is important to the City that applications are well-planned to deliver a successful outcome. The budget is an indicator of how well an applicant has developed their project, the level of risk of the proposal and how much support they have from the community.

All applications must include a budget to substantiate the request for funding. This is to ensure that the grants operate according to the financial management principles of the Local Government Act 2020, and the City manages its finances in a responsible and sustainable way.

Guidelines and application forms will:

- include clear instructions, examples and a sample template for budgets.
- include a list of what will not be funded.
- include information on how GST applies to grant funding.

Budgets must

- be balanced i.e. total income must equal total expenses.
- show specifically what grant funds will be spent on.
- show the Applicant contribution to the project cost.
- show all sources of funding.
- list all project costs.
- clearly state the amount of funding requested.
- include quotes from suppliers/contractors where applicable.
- provide details of the in-kind contributions for example donated equipment; assistance from volunteers estimated at $20 per hour.
- be presented without GST.

OTHER CITY OF GREATER GEELONG FUNDING OPTIONS

Grant guidelines will include information on other funding opportunities to ensure applicants apply for the grant best suited to their proposal.

PRIVACY INFORMATION

Grant guidelines will comply with the City's Privacy and Health Records Council Policy for the management and handling of personal information.

When collecting personal or health information, the City will take reasonable steps to advise the individual of what information is being sought, for what purpose, whether any law requires the collection of the information and the main consequences, if any, of not providing the information. The notice will be provided in a form similar to below:

The City of Greater Geelong values the privacy of all individuals. We consider that the responsible handling of personal information is a key aspect of democratic governance. We will handle your personal information in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. Our privacy policy is available on our website. If you wish to alter any of the personal information, you have supplied to the City of Greater Geelong, please contact us by sending an email to privacy@geelongcity.vic.gov.au.

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION FOR ALL GRANTS

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through the grants.

Table 1: Eligibility to apply for all grants.

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required – this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year - in the same grant (*note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project*)		X

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

Table 2: Eligibility to apply for Community Events Grants

	YES	NO
as per table 1 plus		
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders	✓	

Table 3: Eligibility to apply for Arts Projects and Arts Festivals Grants

	YES	NO
as per table 1 plus		
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders	✓	

Table 4: Eligibility to apply for Healthy and Connected Communities Grants

	YES	NO
as per table 1 plus		
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	

Table 5: Eligibility to apply for Community Infrastructure Grants

as per table 1, plus		
Not for Profit, incorporated bodies or registered under company law who operate on public land managed or owned by Council, or Crown land where the management of the facility is community based and there is access for the broader community (herein referred to as **"PUBLIC")**	✓	
Not for Profit, incorporated bodies or registered under company law who operate in facilities NOT located on Council owned or managed land; or managed or maintained by Council (herein referred to as **"PRIVATE")** which provide access for the broader community	✓	
Tenant clubs/organisations that have **not** resolved a breach of the Victorian Code for Community Sport		**X**

Table 6: Eligibility to apply for Central Geelong Heritage Grants

as per table 1, plus		
Property owners and occupiers		

AUSPICE INFORMATION

If a group is a not-for-profit organisation but is not incorporated or is not one of the other types of legal entities as listed in the individual grant guidelines under "Who can apply?" they will need to find another organisation that meets the eligibility status to act as an 'Auspice' for the grant applications.

If the application is successful, grant funds will be paid to the Auspice organisation for distribution to the Applicant.

The Applicant must obtain advance approval from the organisation before listing them as Auspice. The Applicant must keep the Auspice fully informed of the details of the application and all project aspects and progress.

Some Auspice organisations may charge an Auspice fee, at their discretion.

What will and won't be funded

WHAT WILL BE FUNDED

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

Each individual grant has its own set of objectives, priority areas and criteria and applicants are required to address the respective grant program's specific guidelines requirements when applying.

WHAT WON'T BE FUNDED

The following will not be funded through the City's grants.

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects or activities that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicant organisations that did not receive funding in the previous financial years.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

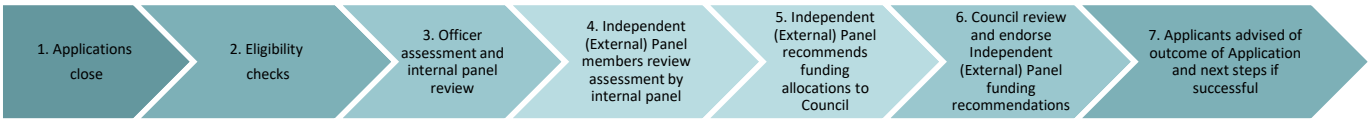
Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

How are applications assessed

All applications received will go through either a Council Endorsed or an Executive Endorsed assessment process.

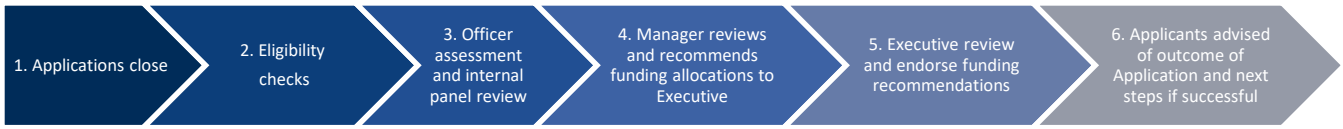
ASSESSMENT – COUNCIL ENDORSED GRANTS



The Council Endorsed assessment process is suitable for the City's competitive grants that are open to the general community. Applications received will go through the following steps:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria of who can apply and what will and won't be funded to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas as detailed in the respective grant guidelines then.
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT – EXECUTIVE ENDORSED GRANTS



The Executive Endorsed assessment process is suitable for smaller grant budgets or when a quick response is required which justifies the time saved by removing assessment by the Independent Panel and endorsement by Council. Applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria of who can apply and what will and won't be funded to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas as detailed in the respective grant guidelines then.
- Executive will review the panel's recommendation and determine the outcome.
- Funding recommendations are reported to Council.

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise:

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

What happens after assessment

NOTIFICATION

Notification of successful and unsuccessful applications will take place within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed. The City will publish a list of all successful grant recipients on the Geelong Australia website.

Successful applicants will be informed in the following manner:

- Email regarding outcome.
- Inclusion in public media release.

Unsuccessful applicant will be informed in the following manner:

- Email regarding unsuccessful application, offer of feedback and contact details of person to provide feedback.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into Funding Agreement that will establish the terms and conditions of funding and set out the activity details, the deliverables and schedule of payments.

General information

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice or a 'Statement by Supplier' form is required prior to releasing any grant funds. The Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a "Statement by a Supplier" form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date of the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding and seek repayment of funds if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

Appendix A 2021-22 Grants

The following table lists the grants that will be offered in 2021-22 and includes information on eligibility and amount per grant. The first list is the Council endorsed grants; the second list is the Executive endorsed grants. Grants are listed in alphabetical order.

COUNCIL ENDORSED GRANTS

Grant Name	Summary of categories available	Who Can Apply?	maximum per grant?	When? *
Arts Projects	Exploration, development and presentation of arts projects A two-year funding option may be considered for particularly large projects with two distinct phases. For example: planning phase for community consultation and research followed by a delivery phase for production and public outcome.	Not for profit community organisations Arts businesses Sole traders Schools	$10,000	Once per financial year
Community Events	Operating expense to run safe, moderate sized, public events that provide economic and community benefits the greater Geelong region. Cost of compliance with COVID-19 restrictions. Multi-year funding may be offered with a maximum of 3 years	Not for profit community organisations Commercial entities Sole Traders	$10,000	Once per financial year
Community Infrastructure	**Planning for Capital Works** Costs associated with facility development planning, concept designs and feasibility studies for future infrastructure projects that demonstrate strong community benefit and align with key priority areas of this program. **Capital Works** To assist with cost of ready to go community infrastructure projects. Infrastructure projects must be openly accessible to and have strong community benefits and align with the key priority areas of this program. Not applicable for the purchase of land.	Not for profit community organisations -who operate on public land managed or owned by Council, or Crown land where the management of the facility is community based and there is access for the broader community (**PUBLIC)** - NOT located on Council owned or managed land; or managed or	$50,000 $350,000	Once per financial year

Grant Name	Summary of categories available	Who Can Apply?	maximum per grant?	When? *
		maintained by Council which provide access for the broader community (**PRIVATE)**		
Environmental Sustainability	**Capital Works** Small environmental capital works (e.g. water tanks, solar)	Not for profit community organisations	$4,000	Once per financial year
	Projects For the delivery of responsive environmental sustainability projects, programs and community activities		$10,000	Once per financial year
	Equipment To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups to deliver services and programs		$2,000	
Festival - Arts	Operating expenses for the inclusion of arts and cultural development within community festivals	Not for profit community organisations	$10,000	Once per financial year
	Festivals that have operated successfully and have received Festival - Arts Grants for three or more consecutive years may be invited to apply for three-year (Triennial) funding.	Commercial entities		
First Nations Cultural Heritage	Projects that preserve, protect and renew Aboriginal cultural heritage.	Not for profit community organisations Commercial entities Sole Traders	No maximum amount (note: the allocation cannot exceed the grant budget)	Once per financial year
Geelong Heritage	**Strategic Projects** Projects that relate to a building or streetscape with identified historic value	Not for profit community organisations Commercial entities	$70,000 per property Up to 70% of eligible project costs	Once per financial year
	General Projects Projects that are visible to the public and focus on presentation to a street or public space	Owners and/or occupiers of properties	$30,000 per property Up to 50% of eligible project costs	
	Planning Feasibility and investigation projects to provide technical, planning, project scoping advice for future restoration projects		$10,000 per property Up to 100% of the eligible project costs	

Grant Name	Summary of categories available	Who Can Apply?	maximum per grant?	When? *
Healthy & Connected Communities	**Projects** For projects, programs, activities, small community forums or events, and equipment necessary to deliver the activities (up to $2,000) that improve health and wellbeing, build community capacity and benefit the broader community.	Not for profit community organisations	$10,000	Once per financial year
	Equipment To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups: deliver services and programs; improve health and safety outcomes; or improve resources that support volunteer groups.		$2,000	Once per financial year

*If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we advise them to review their application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria.

EXECUTIVE ENDORSED GRANTS

Grant Name	Summary of categories available	Who Can Apply?	maximum per grant?	When?
Arts- Professional Development	Support selected professional and skill development for artists.	Individual Artists	$1,000	Open when Arts Projects and Community Festivals grant round closes
Arts- Quick Response	Support urgent arts, culture and heritage projects whose timelines prevent the applicant from applying within the major Creative Communities Arts and Festivals Grants Program application period	Not for profit community organisations	$1,500	Open when Arts Projects and Community Festivals grant round closes
Community Events - Quick Response	Support for moderate sized events which bring economic benefits to the City with timelines that prevent the applicant from applying to the Community Events main round.	Not for profit community organisations Commercial enterprises Sole Traders	$10,000	Open when the Community Events grant round closes
Community Meals	Grants to assist a diverse range of eligible community groups and organisations to support older vulnerable people and/or people with a disability (who are not eligible to receive support from the National Disability Insurance Scheme - NDIS) and who are on low or fixed incomes to provide	Not for profit community organisations	maximum of $5 per meal $10,000 per applicant	

Grant Name	Summary of categories available	Who Can Apply?	maximum per grant?	When?
	low cost, healthy and nutritious meals that are culturally appropriate in an environment that is welcoming and fosters inclusiveness and diversity			
Geelong Children's Week	Small grants to facilitate events held during Children's Week – This is an international event designated by the United Nations and celebrated annually in the fourth week of October.	Not for profit community organisations	$400	Once per financial year – applications generally open between May and July
Geelong Seniors Festival	Small grants to facilitate events held during Geelong Seniors Festival, held annually during October. It's the largest community celebration for seniors in regional Victoria and a major partner of the state-wide Victorian Seniors Festival.	Not for profit community organisations	$450	Once per financial year –generally open between May and July
Neighbourhood Houses	Partnership with Neighbourhood Houses for operating costs and community development projects.	Neighbourhood Houses	$12,500	Once per financial year
Christmas in the Community – Neighbourhood Houses	Small grants to provide greater equity and inclusion for festive celebrations across the municipality, with a focus on the Northern and Eastern Suburbs	Neighbourhood Houses	$5000	Once per financial year

Appendix B 2021-22 Key Dates

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 p.m. on the final day. Incomplete or late submissions will not be accepted.

COUNCIL ENDORSED GRANTS

GRANT	GRANT APPLICATION DATES	FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS ENDORSED
Arts Projects Community Events Environmental Sustainability Festivals - Arts Healthy & Connected Communities	5 June 2021 – 12 July 2021	26 October 2021
Community Infrastructure First Nations Cultural Heritage Geelong Heritage	5 June 2021 – 20 August 2021	14 December 2021

EXECUTIVE ENDORSED GRANTS

Geelong Children's Week	GRANT APPLICATION DATES	FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS ENDORSED
Geelong Senior's Festival	5 June 2021 – 12 July 2021	Within four to eight weeks of receiving the application
Geelong Children's week	5 June 2021 – 12 July 2021	
Neighbourhood Houses (NHH)	5 June 2021 – 12 July 2021	
Christmas in the Community (NHH)	August 2021 - tbc	
Community Meals	August 2021 - tbc	
Creative Communities – Professional Development Creative Communities –Quick Response Community Events – Quick Response	Open after the main grant rounds close and/or funding recommendations are endorsed.	Within four to six weeks of receiving the application

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

ARTS PROJECTS GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ARTS

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

How to apply 3

Key dates 3

Permits and approvals 3

Contact information 4

Not the right grant for you? 4

Who can and can't apply? 5

Auspice information 5

What can you apply for? 6

What won't be funded? 7

How are applications assessed? 8

Assessment criteria 8

Prioritising applications 9

What happens next? 10

If your application is successful 10

If your application is unsuccessful 10

Funding agreements 10

General information 11

Grant allocation information 11

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 11

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 11

GST (clause tbc) 11

Insurance 12

Payment of grants 12

Timing 12

Variation to Funded Projects 12

About these grants

The purpose of the Arts Projects Grants is to support individual artists, artist collectives, creative organisations and groups to explore, develop and present arts projects.

The grants aim to foster creativity, engage the wider community and embed the role of the arts in the life and experience of the people of the Geelong region.

There is a total grant pool of $220,000 to cover the four arts grants offered by the City (Arts Projects, Festival-Arts, Professional Development and Quick Response) with individual Arts Projects grants being offered of up to $10,000 per application.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Arts Projects	Exploration, development and presentation of arts projects	$10,000
Multi-year Funding	A two-year funding option may be considered for particularly large projects with two distinct phases. For example: planning phase for community consultation and research followed by a delivery phase for production and public outcome.	10,000 per year for two years (refer to note) *

- *Note: Multi-year applications that could be delivered in a single year, or for which there are insufficient funds, will be considered for single year funding

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **XXX**

Grant applications decided: **XXX**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Some events/activities will require a permit to proceed. If you are organising a community event, please refer to our Events Planning Guide for further information.

Note: Successful applicants must obtain permits and approvals before commencing projects.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are offered to individual artists, artist collectives, creative organisations.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE-STANDARD	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	~~X~~
Individuals/Sole Traders	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		**X**
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		**X**
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		**X**

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

Applicants can apply for projects that align with at least one of the key focus areas listed in the Assessment Criteria.

Projects funded in previous years can be found at the Geelong Australia website.

If you are unsure that your project is suitable, please contract a grants team member to discuss.

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to the announcement of your successful funding.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political or gaming activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by Arts Projects Grants

- capital works – including building, renovations, refurbishments to the inside of outside of a building or to any outdoor spaces such as playgrounds, sporting groups, parks or reserves etc.
- purchase (not hire) of equipment for ongoing use including tools, pre-made costumes. (Refer to the Healthy & Connected Communities Grants).
- professional development training for artists and volunteers (may be eligible under the Creative Communities Professional Development Grants).
- activities that may be covered by Federal or State Education Training funding – e.g., school fete activities based on school grounds.
- staff wages or salaries to existing employed ensemble members/artists, unless for duties outside their usual role.
- in the case of schools, funding for the employment of teaching or support staff and/or the delivery of curriculum.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below).
- independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

Key criteria - weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Community Impact - 40%	Demonstrates alignment with one or more of the following key focus areas: • Sustain our community's health and wellbeing through arts participation • Engagement and participation with Wadawurrung and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • Nurture local and diverse cultures throughout Greater Geelong, focus on diversity, equality of access and inclusion • Support the development and profiling of cultural tourism products and experiences; for example, live music • Activate our public spaces across the whole municipality, connect with our natural environment, our urban city and our neighbourhoods • Celebrates Geelong's unique culture and stories
Strategic Priorities – 30% • Growing the Arts • Caring for Culture • Creative Partnerships	Demonstrates alignment with one or more of the following key focus areas: • Engages artists and creative practitioners by providing employment in developing projects that engage the community • Support experimentation and contemporary art through adventurous artist opportunities, public experiences, creative spaces, temporary works and long-term investment in development • Demonstrates professional development opportunities, education opportunities, raising cultural awareness and knowledge • Support lifelong learning for our residents • Support industry collaborations – venues working together, strategic partnerships, creative collaboration • Cross sector arts engagement – tourism, sport, food, wine, lifestyle and environment
Well planned project – 30%	Demonstrates the following: • Clear artistic rationale, purpose and anticipated outcomes • Operational capacity including artist/team, timelines, production, marketing and financial planning

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within two months of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY EVENTS GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES



CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

What is a Community Event? 3

How to apply 4

Key dates 4

Quick response grants 4

Permits and approvals 4

Contact information 4

Not the right grant for you? 4

Who can and can't apply? 5

Auspice information 5

What can you apply for? 6

Waste Wise and Sustainable Events 6

What won't be funded? 7

How are applications assessed? 8

Assessment criteria 8

Prioritising applications 9

What happens next? 10

If your application is successful 10

If your application is unsuccessful 10

Funding agreements 10

General information 11

Grant allocation information 11

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 11

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 11

GST (clause tbc) 11

Insurance 12

Payment of grants 12

Timing 12

Variation to funded projects 12

About these grants

The purpose of the Community Events Grants is to support moderate sized events which bring economic benefits to the City of Greater Geelong, will strengthen and enrich community, celebrate common interests, showcase local competitive advantages and provide opportunities for local participation.

The grants are available to applicants who deliver event(s) that have a strong focus on social connections, creative and cultural benefits and driving the economy for the City of Greater Geelong community.

The City will partner with applicants delivering events that align with the strategic priorities of Council Plan 2018-2022 and support the region's community-led vision for a clever and creative future. Partnerships will include funding, value-add event promotion and may include in-kind support.

The aim of providing these grants is to:

- support a diverse and inclusive annual calendar of events.
- generate economic, social and creative benefits for the Geelong community.
- support event organisers to achieve longer term self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Community Events Grants are complimentary and in addition to the Geelong Major Events (GME) Sponsorship program offered by the City of Greater Geelong. GME is designed to support events which significantly maximise economic, tourism and employment outcomes and infrastructure legacies for the Greater Geelong region.

There is a total grant pool of $200,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 per application.

All events must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria
- www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/public-events-information-for-organisers

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY EVENT?

For the purposes of this grant, a community event is defined as a temporary organised activity, open to the general public, where people gather with a common purpose that aims to enhance community life. The activity is held in open spaces, facilities or venues where there will be more people or a different use of the asset, than usually found at that location.

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Annual Funding	Operating expense to run safe, moderate sized, public events that provide economic and community benefits the greater Geelong region. Cost of compliance with COVID-19 restrictions.	$10,000
Multi Year Funding	Multi-year funding may be offered with a maximum of 3 years.	$10,000 per annum

- Support may include cash funding, value-add promotional support via Events Geelong platforms and in-kind support such as waived venue hire. Any in-kind support already provided by the City to the applicant will be considered during the funding evaluation process.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **xxx**

Grant applications decided: **xxx**

QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS

If your event meets the eligibility criteria for a Community Events grant, however the timelines prevent you from applying within the stated application period, you may be eligible to apply for Quick Response funding. This program is very limited and requires exceptional circumstances. To discuss Quick Response funding, please contact our Event Services Team on 5272 4139.

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Some events/activities will require a permit to proceed. If you are organising a community event, please refer to our Events Planning Guide for further information.

Note: Permits and approvals must be obtained before you submit your application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Festivals and programs that predominantly focus on the cultural life of our community and/or the enrichment of the arts may be better suited to the Festivals-Arts Grants and may be deemed ineligible under the Community Events.

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

Please note: the organisation applying for funding must be the same entity that applies for any event permits or approvals.

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders	✓	
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		**X**
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		**X**
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		**X**

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass it on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

These grants are open to applications for events that will be staged from **1 January 2022**.

Applicants must offer an event within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria
- www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/public-events-information-for-organisers

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive. We are looking to support events that:

- have a strong focus on social connections
- are open to the general public and include free components
- contribute to economic growth for the region
- include a State or National title activity
- celebrate diversity and inclusivity
- celebrate common interests
- showcase local competitive advantage
- will strengthen and enrich community
- are complementary to our existing calendar of events in Geelong
- have the potential to attract visitation from other areas outside of Geelong
- promote healthy and sustainable practices
- provide legacy for the local community

We will consider funding event organisers for the cost of compliance with COVID-19 restrictions. This is available for

– self-sufficient events wanting support to cover the cost of COVID-19 compliance

– events previously funded by the City's grants requiring additional support

– new applications as part of the overall event budget.

WASTE WISE AND SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

As part of our community-led vision, Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future, the City is committed to reducing the environmental impacts of waste, including from events we run, support or grant permits to.

We highly encourage and prefer events that show consideration for avoiding or reducing waste – especially from single-use plastics – and maximising recycling outcomes in their event plans.

Waste Wise events follow these broad principles:

- organisers commit to purposefully avoid and minimise waste wherever possible, and manage what is unavoidable responsibly
- participants and attendees are encouraged to reduce their own waste through education before the event, and with clear signage and bin facilities at the event
- re-usable, recyclable, compostable or already-recycled products are used wherever possible

You can learn more about making your event waste wise in our Events Planning Guide.

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following will not be funded by Community Events Grants

- fundraising events. e.g. Fetes, markets, fun runs, concerts, competitions, and other activities where the main aim is to directly fundraise for a charity or cause.
- events that are ongoing, regular activities of a venue e.g. monthly markets, seasonal sporting events approved under a licence/tenancy agreement.
- events that will not be approved by the City, when the City's permit or approval is required.
- events that are held prior to the 1st January 2022.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- pre-eligibility checks – applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

Key criteria – weighting	What we look for when assessing a project grant application
Well Planned Project – 40%	**The application must demonstrate** • the reasons for staging/developing the event. Includes details on its target audience/participants/spectators. • the capacity of the event organiser to deliver a safe, successful and sustainable event. • that the event is well planned and scoped. The application includes a summary event plan. • an appropriate budget for the event, which indicates the event organiser has a thorough understanding of the costs associated with delivering safe events. • that the funding request is proportionate to community attendance and economic return • an understanding of the permits and approvals that will be required for the event to proceed. Including evidence that the venue/location is suitable and available for the event i.e. via submission of the City's Event Application Form to the City's Event Services Unit or a Venue Booking Form. • contribution to a diverse and balanced (seasonal and geographical) calendar of events
Community Impact – 30%	**The application must demonstrate how the event;** • will enhance health, wellbeing, diversity and quality of life for Greater Geelong communities. • supports our community to live sustainably and the environmental impact of the event • aligns with the City's principles of Waste Wise and Sustainable Events (refer to the City's Events Planning guide) • provides opportunities for local participation.
Strategic Impact – 30%	**The application must demonstrate;** how the event aligns with the aims of the Community Events Grants to: • deliver economic benefits for the Geelong community • strengthen and enrich community • celebrate common interests • showcase local competitive advantage • contribute to social equity and inclusion
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the specific grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As it is a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material, and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong through its Community Investment and Support Fund program.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. The Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES

COMMUNITY
INFRASTRUCTURE

CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

You will have to match our funding 3

Match-funding exemptions 4

How to apply 4

Key dates 5

Permits and approvals 5

Contact information 5

Not the right grant for you? 5

Who can and can't apply? 6

Auspice information 6

What can you apply for? 7

Application Checklist 7

What won't be funded? 8

How are applications assessed? 9

Assessment criteria 9

Nominated priority funding themes 10

Prioritising applications 10

What happens next? 11

If your application is successful 11

If your application is unsuccessful 11

Funding agreements 11

General information 12

Grant allocation information 12

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 12

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 12

GST (clause tbc) 12

Insurance 13

Payment of grants 13

Timing 13

Variation to funded projects 13

About these grants

The purpose of these grants is to support the planning and delivery of community-led infrastructure projects that help us maintain the lifestyle and strong sense of community our region has always enjoyed.

The City is committed to building a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive community to improve the lives of our people. Planning, building and maintaining high quality community infrastructure, in partnership with our community and key stakeholders, is essential for our overall physical and mental health, wellbeing and economic prosperity.

Community Infrastructure includes open spaces, recreation and sports facilities, arts and cultural facilities, community centres, early years facilities and meeting places. This Infrastructure provides places and spaces for building community.

Our priority is support community-led projects that increase community access and participation, demonstrate collaboration between groups and result in greater use of facilities.

There is a total grant pool of $3,000,00 with individual grants being offered of up to $50,000 for planning and $350,000 for capital works per application.

The grant is divided into two categories (see table below) and our aim is to help eligible community organisations to renew, upgrade, or build new facilities to provide a better level of service, increased programs or improve how spaces function.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Planning	Costs associated with facility development planning, concept designs and feasibility studies for future infrastructure projects that demonstrate strong community benefit and align with key priority areas of this program.	$50,000
Capital Works	To assist with cost of ready to go community infrastructure projects. Infrastructure projects must be openly accessible to and have strong community benefits and align with the key priority areas of this program. Not applicable for the purchase of land.	$350,000

- Only one proposal can be considered per applicant organisation per financial year.
- Success with a planning application is not a guarantee for funding in subsequent years for delivery of capital works.
- Applicants must have satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City.

YOU WILL HAVE TO MATCH OUR FUNDING

The city will only fund up to two-thirds of your total project cost to the maximum grant funding offered.

You must match our funding with one dollar for every two dollars we grant and provide any remaining funding required. Evidence of match-funding must be provided for all applications.

Match-funding ensures project viability and demonstrates community commitment to finalising the project.

Example of match-funding amounts			
Total Project Cost	City of Greater Geelong funding (2/3 of total project cost)	Applicant match-funding (one dollar for every two dollars funding)	Additional applicant contribution (if required)
$45,000	$30,000	$15,000	nil
$525,000	$350,000 (maximum grant)	$175,000	nil
$600,000	$350,000 (maximum grant)	$175,000	$75,000

MATCH-FUNDING EXEMPTIONS

Organisations who wish to apply for a full or partial exemption from match-funding must apply via our SmartyGrants online system. You can access the online form directly by selecting this link XXXX.

Important – If you are applying for an exemption you must do this first and include the outcome of the assessment with your Planning or Capital Works funding application.

The application for match-funding exemption requires you to:

- describe the project and estimate the total cost
- explain why you cannot contribute the required funds
- outline how much you can contribute (if any)
- provide financial statements for the last three years*
- address the assessment criteria (listed below)

* Note: Financial statements can be sourced from Consumer Affairs Victoria (through myCAV), the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission or in another format, provided the City agrees it's acceptable.

Assessment of exemptions will take into consideration:

- financial capacity of the applicant to contribute funds
- improved access to service
- age of organisation (with a preference to support new and emerging organisations)
- diversity and/or disadvantage of applicant's members, community or location
- alignment to the City's policies

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for Community Infrastructure Grants must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly by selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Match-funding exemption applications close	XXXX
Match-funding exemption outcomes notified	XXXX

Grant Applications close:	**xxx**
Grant applications decided:	**xxx**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects may require permits or approval.

Applicants must consider whether the proposed works will require any permits or approvals for example, a building permit, planning permit or heritage assessment.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and may require additional time and expense. Applicants can start the permits and approvals process at any time including prior to applying for grant funding.

Public Art projects require endorsement by the City's Senior Public Arts Officer in line with Council's Public Art Strategy.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not for Profit, incorporated bodies or registered under company law who operate on public land managed or owned by Council, or Crown land where the management of the facility is community based and there is access for the broader community (herein referred to as "PUBLIC").	✓	
Not for Profit, incorporated bodies or registered under company law who operate in facilities NOT located on Council owned or managed land; or managed or maintained by Council (herein referred to as **"PRIVATE")** which provide access for the broader community.	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders		X
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		X
Tenant clubs/organisations that have not resolved a breach of the Victorian Code for Community Sport.		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive.

- Design development (for planning grants)
- Accessibility upgrades of a facility to comply with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) requirements.
- Unisex and/or accessible change facilities
- Sports lighting that improves participation and safety
- General facility upgrades that demonstrate an increase in community access, equity and participation
- Multipurpose training facilities
- Public art projects that contribute to the cultural value of a space
- Environmental initiatives

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Information you need for your application:

- Financial statement for the last three years, if applying for an exemption from match-funding.
- Evidence of landowner approval.
- Evidence of support for the proposed work by other tenants or users of the facility.
- Does your project need a commercial builder?
- Quotes as per the guideline requirements
  - Project cost up to $25K = one current written quote.
  - Project cost $25K-$150K = three current written quotes.
  - Project cost $150K and above = three current written quotes and an independent quantity surveyors (QS) report. You may choose to include as a minimum the QS report only. If your application is successful you must provide three quotes to secure funding and enter into a funding agreement.
  - Current = within the last six months.
- Concept design drawings for your proposal, particularly for projects requesting $150K and above in funding.
- Site plans.
- A certificate of Currency for public liability insurance with a minimum cover of $10 million for any one occurrence.
- Evidence that all other funding sources are secured.

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application or signing of funding agreement.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- Political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by Community Infrastructure Grants

- purchase of land.
- Maintenance.
- costs associated with insurance claims.
- repair works caused by natural disasters such as fire or as a result of vandalism.
- projects that do not meet relevant Australian standards (e.g. lighting projects or netball court dimensions).
- projects where contributions from funding partners or other grant/funding programs are not confirmed in writing within a timeframe stipulated by Council.
- capital works applications for projects with total costs in excess of $3.5 million (there is no project cost limit for Planning applications).
- projects that are deemed by the City of Greater Geelong as not ready to proceed.
- facilities where little or no public/community access is available.
- facilities designated for electronic gaming machine operations.
- bar facilities.
- purchasing or maintenance of equipment (except as part of a facility fit out).
- projects previously funded by the City of Greater Geelong (exception will be made if applicant can demonstrate additional or new uses resulting in increases in participation or program outcomes).
- projects that do not support implementing the principles of Universal Design and Environmentally Sustainable Design.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 6 and 8 to determine their eligibility.
- internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

PLANNING AND CAPTIAL WORKS APPLICATIONS	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Well Planned Project 40%	The application must demonstrate: • Demonstration that the project is well planned by clearly describing what is included in the project (scope) and that the project is ready to proceed. • Support letters for projects that involve partnerships with other organisations or agencies. • Provision of a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. Budgets must describe and show the total cost of the project including contingency and list any other additional sources of funds that will contribute to the total project income. • If there are no other additional sources of funding, applicants must provide evidence of exemption from match-funding. • Relevant construction and/or architectural drawings permits and approvals. • Demonstrated capacity that the applicant has the necessary expertise to support the delivery of the project. • Written quotes that accurately reflect the complete scope of proposed works as follows: – Project cost up to $25K = one current written quote. – Project cost $25K-$150K = three current written quotes. – Project cost $150K and above = three current written quotes and an independent quantity surveyors (QS) report. You may choose to include as a minimum the QS report only. If your application is successful you must provide three quotes to secure funding and enter into a funding agreement. Current = within the last six months.
Community Impact 55%	The application must demonstrate: • clear reasons for the project's need, who and how many community members will benefit and what those benefit will be. • information on where the facility is/will be located and who will have access to it when complete.

Key criteria – weighting	What we look for when assessing a project grant application
	• for PRIVATE applicants, how is long-term ongoing community access to the infrastructure guaranteed. • that the project will assist to achieve one or more of the following outcomes to: – improve social connections in our community. – support older people, young people and children in our community. – improve access to facilities and programs for people with all abilities. – promote healthy eating and support active living. – improve safety in our community. Demonstration how the project will assist to achieve one or more of the following outcomes to: – strengthen the capacity of an organisation or groups to deliver existing programs. – provide or generate additional services for the community. – strengthen the social and economic capacity of community members and volunteer groups.
Environmental Impact 5%	The application must demonstrate: how the project enhances our natural environment and addresses climate change and environmental challenges in the following areas: – Protect, enhance and restore our region's biodiversity. – Move toward a zero-emission, climate-ready city and region. – Create greener community spaces. – Contribute to the circular economy by reducing waste.
TOTAL 100%	

NOMINATED PRIORITY FUNDING THEMES

The Council may on an annual basis nominate priority funding themes which will attract an additional score as part of the application assessment. The nominated priority funding themes for 2021-22 attracting additional scores are:

PRIORITY THEMES	
Key Criteria and weighting %	KEY INDICATORS – (what we look for when assessing an application)
Access for all abilities **10%**	• Demonstration that the project will empower people with a disability to be active contributors and participants in our community.
Social equity **10%**	• The outcomes of social equity are intended to result in an increased sense of belonging, universal participation and a level playing field for all.

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

Successful applicants must not commence their project until the funding agreement is finalised and signed.

Please note: It may take up to three months after notification of a successful grant for the City to finalise a funding agreement and make an initial payment. Applicants should factor this into their project timelines, expiry dates on quotes and project cash flow.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. The Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES

ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY

CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

How to apply 3

Key dates 4

Permits and approvals 4

Contact information 4

Not the right grant for you? 4

Who can and can't apply? 5

Auspice information 5

What can you apply for? 6

Capital works 6

Projects 6

Equipment 6

What won't be funded? 7

How are applications assessed? 8

Assessment criteria 8

Prioritising applications 9

What happens next? 10

If your application is successful 10

If your application is unsuccessful 10

Funding agreements 10

General information 11

Grant allocation information 11

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 11

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 11

GST (clause tbc) 11

Insurance 12

Payment of grants 12

Timing 12

Variation to funded projects 12

About these grants

The purpose of the Environmental Sustainability grants is to support the initiation, development and delivery of projects that enhance our natural environment and drive environmental sustainability actions across the Geelong region.

The grants respond to the City's Environment Strategy 2020-2030 and are also aligned with relevant objectives in the Sustainability Framework 2020.

We look for projects that assist the City to improve the health of our local environment, reduce our environmental footprint and protect the lifestyle our community enjoys. The grants help to raise the profile of the Geelong municipality as a leader in addressing climate change and environmental challenges and opportunities in the following areas:

- Climate Change: Move towards a zero-emission, climate-ready city and region.
- Urban Ecology: Create greener community spaces.
- Biodiversity: Protect, enhance and restore our region's biodiversity.
- Waste: Contribute to a circular economy by reducing waste.
- Water: Achieve better integrated water management.

Please refer to the City of Greater Geelong Environment Strategy 2020-2030 for further details.

The program is structured to support a wide range of community groups for a variety of projects.

There is a total grant pool of $150,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 for small environmental capital works, up to $10,000 per application for project delivery and up to $2,000 for small equipment purchases.

The grant is divided into three categories (see table below) and our aim is to help community groups deliver environmental outcomes that benefit the region.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Capital Works	Small environmental capital works (e.g. water tanks, solar)	$10,000*
Projects	For the delivery of responsive environmental sustainability projects, programs and community activities	$10,000
Equipment	To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups to deliver services and programs	$2,000

* For capital works above $10,000, applicants are advised to apply for a Community Infrastructure Grant.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **xxx**

Grant applications decided: **xxx**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Some events/activities will require a permit to proceed. If you are organising a community event, please refer to our Events Planning Guide for further information.

Note: Permits and approvals must be obtained before you submit your application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant. *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CAPITAL WORKS

In this category we are seeking proposals to support the sustainable and efficient use of natural resources, including energy, water and materials. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include

- Saving energy e.g. energy efficiency upgrades to facilities and solar installations
- Saving water e.g. water efficiency upgrades

PROJECTS

In this category, we are seeking proposals that improve the health of our local environment, reduce our environmental footprint and protect the lifestyle our community enjoys. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

Protect our Natural Environment

- Re-vegetation with indigenous (locally native) plants.
- Purchase of re-vegetation materials and equipment.
- Pest plant and/or animal control measures.
- Creating healthy waterways.

Environmental Sustainability

- Sustainable transport e.g. reducing fossil fuels associated with transport, bicycle skills training, end-of-trip facilities, carpooling initiatives.
- Reducing waste e.g. reducing waste going to landfill, recycling systems, composting systems.
- Greening urban spaces e.g. urban/rooftop gardens, sustainable food production, community gardens, local food events, connecting people to nature, reducing urban heat.

Capacity Building and Community Engagement

- Community events that engage on environmental or sustainability themes.
- Development of educational or capacity building materials and resources.
- Development of a strategic or business plan, or land management plans for a community group.
- Initiatives that build capacity and promote best practice in the natural environment or environmental sustainability e.g. workshops, networking events, training and skill development.

EQUIPMENT

Note: Equipment must remain the property of the applicant organisation and be located within the City of Greater Geelong.

In this category we provide support for small equipment purchases that help community groups deliver services and programs and directly contribute to positive environmental benefits or outcomes. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

- tools for tree planting and weed removal.
- tree guards to reduce damage to newly planted trees.

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants:

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following will not be funded by Environmental Sustainability Grants

- removal of native vegetation or other environmental assets.
- re-vegetation with non-indigenous plants.
- works or equipment for landscaping without positive biodiversity benefits or outcomes.
- upgrading facilities where the sustainability outcomes or credentials are minimal or incidental.
- events or initiatives that do not have a clear focus on environment or sustainability outcomes.
- catering costs.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Well Planned Project **25%**	**Project Rationale** • Considers the need and reasons for doing it. Includes estimated number, age and location/region of those participating in the project. **Well Scoped Project and Sound Budget** • Demonstration that the project is well planned and scoped. Where relevant project plans, required permits and approvals should be provided. • Provision of a clear, well balanced budget that details total project costs and all income sources relevant to the project. • Demonstrated capacity of the applicant organisation to support delivery of the project. • One written quote for goods, services and works that are part of project.
Community Impact **20%**	**Considers how the project will:** • Lead and support education for business and community to encourage sustainable practice • Encourage and support local, sustainable food production • Work with others to achieve better health outcomes for our community • Harness community knowledge to drive sustainable change • improve access to programs for people with all abilities. • the direct or indirect impact on local economic growth, business and/or organisational capacity.
Environmental Impact **55%**	**Considers how the project responds to the objectives of City's Environment Strategy 2020-30** • Reduction of carbon emissions • Build community resilience to the impacts of climate change • Increase the quantity and quality of our protected natural environment • Lead and support our community to adopt sustainable practices to move toward zero-waste • Manage our water efficiently using best practice standards

CATEGORY	
	• Greening our urban spaces
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise:

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.

.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

FESTIVAL - ARTS GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES FESTIVALS

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

How to apply 3

Key dates 3

Permits and approvals 3

Contact information 4

Not the right grant for you? 4

Who can and can't apply? 5

Auspice information 5

What can you apply for? 6

Waste wise and sustainable events 6

What won't be funded 7

How are applications assessed? 8

Assessment criteria 8

Prioritising applications 9

What happens next? 10

If your application is successful 10

If your application is unsuccessful 10

Funding agreements 10

General information 11

Grant allocation information 11

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 11

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 11

GST (clause tbc) 11

Insurance 12

Payment of grants 12

Timing 12

Variation to funded projects 12

About these grants

The purpose of the Festival - Arts Grants is to support the inclusion of art within small to moderate sized community-based festivals that have creative, community and cultural outcomes.

The grants aim to foster creativity, engage the wider community and embed the role of the arts in the life and experience of the people of the Geelong region.

There is a total grant pool of $220,000 to cover the four arts grants offered by the City (Arts Projects, Festival-Arts, Professional Development and Quick Response) with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 per application.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Festival - Arts	Operating expenses for the inclusion of arts and cultural development within community festivals	$10,000
Multi-year Funding	Festivals that have operated successfully and have received Festival - Arts Grants for three or more consecutive years may be invited to apply for three-year (Triennial) funding.	$10,000 per year for three years

- Note: Applicants are required to speak with an Arts and Culture Officer prior to a multi-year application being considered.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **XXX**

Grant applications decided: **XXX**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Some festivals will require a permit to proceed. If you are organising a community festival, please refer to our Events Planning Guide for further information.

Note: permits for your festival must be identified and in principle support obtained before you submit your application. Successful applicants must obtain permits and approvals before commencing projects.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with permits and the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE-STANDARD	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Individuals/Sole Traders		X
Schools and Learning institutions		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

Applicants can apply for projects that align with at least one of the key focus areas as listed in the Assessment Criteria. You may apply for support to deliver a new festival or continue to deliver or grow an existing festival.

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive

- innovative arts programming within a new, or existing festival.
- professional Artist fees; e.g. Musicians, Artistic Director.
- arts and cultural workshop expenses.
- materials for art installations, performance art.
- venue hire (for the period of the festival i.e. not ongoing).
- equipment rental essential to the festival program.
- marketing or tourism; e.g. advertising and promotional expenses.
- professional expertise for business plans for the development and sustainability of your festival.
- hospitality integral to the artistic and cultural significance of the program.
- community engagement activities for research purposes.

WASTE WISE AND SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

As part of our community-led vision, Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future, the City is committed to reducing the environmental impacts of waste, including from festivals we run, support or grant permits to.

We highly encourage and prefer festivals that plan for waste minimisation.

Waste Wise and Sustainable Events follow these broad principles:

- Organisers commit to purposefully avoid and minimise waste wherever possible and manage what is unavoidable responsibly.
- Participants and attendees are encouraged to reduce their own waste through education before the festival, and with clear signage and bin facilities at the festival.
- Re-usable, recyclable, compostable or already-recycled products are used wherever possible.

You can learn more about making your event waste wise in our Events Planning Guide.

What won't be funded

The following will not be funded through the City's grants

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to the announcement of your successful funding.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political or gaming activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by Festival – Arts Grants:

- capital works – includes building, renovations, refurbishments to the inside of outside of a building or to any outdoor spaces such as playgrounds, sporting groups, parks or reserves etc.
- purchase (not hire) of equipment for ongoing use including hand tools, pre-made costumes.
- professional development training for artists and volunteers (may be eligible under the Creative Communities Professional Development Grants).
- activities that may be covered by Federal or State Education Training funding – e.g. school fete activities based on school grounds.
- catering costs where provision of food is not considered integral to the cultural nature of the project (e.g. food and drink provided at a launch).
- a concert or series of performances to be held in a theatre or outdoor venue. (May be eligible under Creative Communities Arts Projects Grants).
- activities that are ongoing, regular activities of a venue i.e. monthly markets, seasonal sporting events approved under a licence/tenancy agreement.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

Key criteria - weighting	What we look for when assessing a project grant application
Community Impact - 40%	Demonstrates alignment with one or more of the following key focus areas: • Sustain our community's health and wellbeing through arts participation • Engagement and participation with Wadawurrung and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • Nurture local and diverse cultures throughout Greater Geelong, focus on diversity, equality of access and inclusion • Support the development and profiling of cultural tourism products and experiences; for example, live music • Activate our public spaces across the whole municipality, connect with our natural environment, our urban city and our neighbourhoods • Celebrates Geelong's unique culture and stories
Strategic Priorities– 30% • Growing the Arts • Caring for Culture • Creative Partnerships	Demonstrates alignment with one or more of the following areas: • Engages artists and creative practitioners by providing employment in developing projects that engage the community • Support experimentation and contemporary art through adventurous artist opportunities, public experiences, creative spaces, temporary works and long-term investment in development • Demonstrates professional development opportunities, education opportunities, raising cultural awareness and knowledge • Support lifelong learning for our residents • Support industry collaborations – venues working together, strategic partnerships, creative collaboration • Cross sector arts engagement – tourism, sport, food, wine, lifestyle and environment
Well planned project – 30%	Demonstrates the following: • Clear artistic rationale, purpose and anticipated outcomes • Operational capacity including timelines, production, marketing and financial planning • Expertise and experience of festival team and participating artists

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machine

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within two months of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

Acknowledgement for Country 3

About these grants 4

Legislation 4

Definitions 4

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage 4

Aboriginal Intangible Heritage 4

How to apply 5

Key dates 5

Permits and approvals 5

Contact information 5

Resources 5

Not the right grant for you? 5

Who can and can't apply? 6

Auspice information 6

What can you apply for? 7

What won't be funded? 8

How are applications assessed? 9

Assessment criteria 9

Prioritising applications 10

What happens next? 11

If your application is successful 11

If your application is unsuccessful 11

Funding agreements 11

General information 12

Grant allocation information 12

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 12

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 12

GST (clause tbc) 12

Insurance 13

Payment of grants 13

Timing 13

Variation to funded projects 13

Acknowledgement for Country

Council acknowledges Wadawurrung Traditional Owners of this land and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

About these grants

The First Nations Heritage Grant were established to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage, promote a greater appreciation and awareness of our Aboriginal cultural heritage in Geelong and improve the skills and expertise of heritage professionals.

This grant was established in collaboration with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and is guided by the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. The objectives of the grant are:

- to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage in the greater Geelong area;
- to conserve and protect items of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage that are included on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR);
- to improve knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage particularly as it relates to Traditional Owners as protectors of their cultural heritage;
- to increase understanding, respect and celebration of and cultural participation in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage; and
- to support connection to Country and self-determination.

There is a total grant pool of $100,000 with no set limit on the amount of individual grants being offered.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

GRANT	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
First Nations Cultural Heritage	Projects that preserve, protect and renew Aboriginal cultural heritage.	There is no maximum amount of funding an applicant can apply for (note: the maximum allocation cannot exceed the grant budget of $100,000)

LEGISLATION

This grant has been developed in accordance with the Aboriginal Heritage Act (the Act) 2006 and Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 (the Regulations).

The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 primarily provides for the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria.

The Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 gives effect to the Act.

DEFINITIONS

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Under Section 4 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage means Aboriginal places, objects and Aboriginal ancestral remains. An Aboriginal place is defined as an area in Victoria or the coastal waters of Victoria that is of cultural heritage significance to Aboriginal people generally or of a particular community or group of Aboriginal people in Victoria.

Aboriginal Intangible Heritage

Section 79B of the Act, defines Aboriginal Intangible Heritage as any knowledge of or expression of Aboriginal tradition, other than Aboriginal cultural heritage, and includes oral traditions, performing arts, stories, rituals, festivals, social practices, craft, visual arts, and environmental and ecological knowledge, but does not include anything that is widely known to the public.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into SmartyGrants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **xxx**

Grant applications decided: **xxx**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Applicants must provide written support from the WTOAC for their proposal.

Proposed projects may require permits or approvals.

Applicants must consider whether the proposed works will require approval under the State Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 *and Regulations 2018* and/or Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. This may include a permit to undertake works and/or action or prepare a CHMP.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan. Approval under these Acts requires formal consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Party, WTOAC, and applicants may start the permits and approvals process prior to applying for grant funding.

For Aboriginal cultural heritage, the City encourages all work to avoid impacts to Aboriginal sites. Where avoidance is not feasible, then the scale of impact is to be minimised or mitigated.

Note: Permits and approvals must be obtained before you submit your application. Timing TBC

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

WTOAC contact details TBC

RESOURCES

It is important to the City that applicants can submit a well thought through and well-developed application that answers all eligibility questions, addresses all the criteria and provides the evidence and support documents required. To assist applicants, we have compiled a list of useful website links as follows:

- Aboriginal Heritage Legislation www.aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-heritage-legislation
- Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register – refer to Aboriginal Victoria staff for assistance www.aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/victorian-aboriginal-heritage-register
- Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation www.aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/wadawurrung-traditional-owners-aboriginal-corporation
- Greater Geelong Planning Scheme – refer to Statutory Planning staff for assistance https://planning-schemes.api.delwp.vic.gov.au/schemes/greatergeelong

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is (and isn't) eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE-STANDARD	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Organisations with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy (and individuals is applicable)		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant.		X
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	TBC	TBC
Government Departments and Agencies		X
Organisations that have breached their Reconciliation Action Plan as determined by Reconciliation Australia		X
organisation in breach of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and/or the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- keep the auspice fully informed of the details of the application and all project aspects and progress.

Your auspice may also provide public liability insurance for your project. If this is your intention, you must obtain a Public Liability Insurance Certificate of Currency from the auspice and include it with this application. Please note that a policy statement or receipt is not acceptable.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

The following is a list of ideas and examples that will be considered for funding. It is guide only and the list should not be considered exhaustive.

- development of a Cultural Heritage Permit (CHP) for an Aboriginal Heritage Place and objects (including those on the VAHR).
- activities and works identified in an approved Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) where they fall within the boundary of the Aboriginal Heritage Place or object or curtilage of the heritage place or object. This might include:
  - bollards and fencing to protect a site.
  - projects to record site values including oral histories.
  - interpretative signage, seating, track work or other activities to enhance visitor's experiences to a site.
- re-establishment of native plants

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants:

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to announcement of funding outcome.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- Political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by the First Nations Cultural Heritage Grants:

- heritage management documents required for statutory or legal purposes, for example fees required to be submitted to the Registered Aboriginal Party, except for the development of a CHP.
- heritage services that seek to repeat existing services or products.
- major capital works.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 6 and 9 to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Cultural Heritage Benefits – 40%	The application must demonstrate: • a community or public need for the activity or works • the long-term cultural heritage benefits of the activity • the level of risk to the heritage significance of the item or cultural knowledge (with priority to items with more immediate urgent need) • the extent that the project links to an item of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance that is included on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register AND/OR an approved Cultural Heritage Management Plan or Cultural Heritage Permit.
Well Planned Project - 40%	The application must demonstrate • a clear description of what is included in the project (i.e. scope) • letter of support from Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Corporation • relevant documentation including plans (e.g. architectural, engineering, building) and photographs • permits as required (e.g. cultural management, planning, building) • specialist heritage advice if relevant • evidence that the applicant has the necessary expertise to support delivery of the activity • a clear, balanced budget that shows total income equals total expenditure. The budget must describe and show the total cost of the activity including contingency and list any other sources of funds that will contribute to the total project income • written quotes that accurately reflect the complete scope of proposed works as follows: – project cost up to $25K = one written quote – project cost $25K-$100K = three current written quotes.
Community Engagement - 20%	The application must demonstrate • the extent of active and continuous community engagement in understanding, celebrating and participating in Aboriginal cultural heritage.
Total 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.
- applications relating to items with immediate or urgent need.
- applications from Aboriginal managed organisations.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application.

Applicants using an Auspice, must include a PLI certificate of Currency from the Auspice in their application.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant organisation.

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

GEELONG HERITAGE GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

How to apply 3

Key dates 4

Permits and approvals 4

Contact information 4

Not the right grant for you? 4

Who can and can't apply? 5

Auspice information 5

What can you apply for? 6

Category 1 – Strategic Projects 6

Category 2 – General projects 6

Category 3 - Planning 6

Application checklist 6

What won't be funded? 7

How are applications assessed? 8

Assessment criteria 8

Prioritising applications 9

What happens next? 10

If your application is successful 10

If your application is unsuccessful 10

Funding agreements 10

General information 11

Grant allocation information 11

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 11

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 11

GST (clause tbc) 11

Insurance 12

Payment of grants 12

Timing 12

Variation to funded projects 12

About these grants

The purpose of these grants is to assist owners in conserving heritage buildings within the Greater Geelong region that contribute to the visual character of the city's streetscapes and public space and/or provide community amenity.

The objectives of these grants are:

- to enhance the appearance and grandeur of heritage buildings through appropriate restoration and reconstruction of exterior heritage features to a significant period of the building's history.
- to enhance the visual quality of the city's streetscapes and public spaces.
- support property owners in delivering conservation work beyond routine maintenance.
- encourage heritage restoration projects which have been identified through heritage studies and/or other evidence as beneficial to the city's streetscapes and public space.
- celebrate; and raise the awareness and appreciation of our heritage.

Our priority is to support

- major conservation works or repairs to key facades or street frontages of the building.
- removal of streetfront additions or alterations that are unsympathetic to the historical character or style of the building.
- reinstatement of streetfront heritage features that have been altered or removed over time, including verandahs and balconies, parapet details, shopfronts, windows and entranceways, historic signage, etc.

There is a total grant pool of $100,000

The grant is divided into three categories (see table below) and our aim is to help property owners and occupiers with the cost of conserving heritage buildings that benefit the greater Geelong community.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria.

CATEGORY	WHAT WILL BE FUNDED	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Strategic Projects	Projects that relate to a building or streetscape with identified historic value	Up to 70% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $70,000
General Projects	Projects that are visible to the public and focus on presentation to a street or public space	Up to 50% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $30,000
Planning	Feasibility and investigation projects to provide technical, planning, project scoping advice for future restoration projects	Up to 100% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $10,000

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00 pm on the closing date. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **XXX**

Grant applications decided: **XXX**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Proposed projects may require permits or approvals.

Applicants must consider whether the proposed works will require any permits or approvals for example, building permit, planning permit or heritage assessment.

These processes are separate to the grant application process and require additional time and budget in the project plan. Applicants may start the permits and approvals process prior to applying for grant funding.

Note: Permits and approvals must be obtained before you submit your application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au, or call our grants team on 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to not-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications as required and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE-STANDARD	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses	✓	
Owners and/or occupiers of properties	✓	
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant (note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)		X
Organisations who have undertaken works on the property without an appropriate permit or approval (could add a timeframe, could qualify it to say no funding to rectify impacts on the heritage significance due to unapproved works)		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated; or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed above.

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass them on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

Category 1 – Strategic Projects

Funding up to 70% of total project costs)

In this category we are seeking to support projects relating to a building or streetscape with identified historic value, by:

- being affected by a heritage overlay.
- being within an identified heritage precinct.
- being identified as having historic significance in a referenced study or strategic document in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme; or
- being provided with other appropriate evidence of historical significance, to the satisfaction of Council Officers.

Category 2 – General projects

Funding up to 50% of eligible project costs)

In this category we are seeking to support projects that will be visible to the public and focus on presentation to a street or public space. Suggested ideas are

- projects that are of a reconstructive or restorative nature, and can be supported by early building plans, historical photographs, references in heritage studies or other strategic documents, drawings, and other satisfactory evidence.

Category 3 - Planning

Funding up to 100% of eligible projects costs)

In this category we are seeking to support project feasibility and investigation of works directly relevant to conserving the heritage significance of the building. Suggested ideas include

- technical investigations and design.
- planning.
- project scoping.
- feasibility.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Information you need for your application

- a current copy of title for the land. A current copy of title can be obtained online at www.landata.vic.gov.au or by visiting the Land Information Centre located at Level 10, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne.
- •if not the property owner, applicants must provide a communication signed by the owner indicating the owner is both fully informed and fully supportive of the proposal.
- a copy of any live planning permit and endorsed plans related to the property, inclusive of conservation-related or general development works.
- a statement or outline of the heritage skills of the consultants or tradespersons that will be engaged to undertake the works, and their abilities (including examples) to undertake traditional work and repairs associated with heritage buildings.
- confirmation whether the consultant or contractor being engaged is listed on the consultant's directory provided by Heritage Victoria at https://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/consultants-directory (for planning grants).

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants:

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- political, gaming or gambling activities.
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits).
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by the Geelong Heritage Grants

- projects associated with works that do not seek to restore original historic fabric associated with the building (i.e. painting a building in a colour that historically never existed, installing a verandah on a building that historically did not have a verandah, installing metal windows on a building that historically had timber windows, etc.).
- interior works or works which are not easily visible to the public.
- works which have been required by a building or emergency order issued by the City of Greater Geelong.
- projects for properties where monies are owing to the City of Greater Geelong.
- works that have been completed or have commenced at the time of submitting the application.
- works that would generally be considered routine maintenance on most buildings (heritage or otherwise). This exclusion may be waived at the discretion of Council, in exceptional circumstances such as:
  - where the cost or complexity of such work is far greater than the owner of an equivalent non-heritage property would face and/or
  - the nature of the building or organisation limits the capacity to provide money for essential maintenance works.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process:

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

CATEGORY	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Heritage Benefit –30%	The application must demonstrate • That the project will result in a positive heritage conservation outcome such as – deliver major conservation works to a façade/streetfront – remove unsympathetic alterations and additions from a façade – reinstate lost heritage features on a facade.
Community Benefit – 30%	The application must demonstrate • that the project will deliver a visible enhancement to a streetscape or public space, through enhancing the presentation and condition of the heritage place. • there is a demonstrated public need for the project based on a net community benefit. • the project will act as a catalyst for change within a streetscape that provides significant opportunities for heritage restoration projects.
Well planned project – 40%	The application must: <u>Category 1 and 2 applications</u> • demonstrate that the applicant (or a project manager, consultant or tradesperson engaged by the applicant) has the necessary expertise to support the delivery of the project. • include a clear, well balanced project budget, detailing the different costs associated with the delivery of the project evidenced by quotes. • include supporting documentation, including plans, photographs and other documents to clearly outline the intended works. Where the applicant is proposing other works to the building such as addition of alterations to improve amenity - which are not conservation work – the works documentation and budget should clearly identify what is and what is not conservation work intended to be funded by the grant. <u>Category 3 applications</u> • demonstrate that the consultants and tradespersons proposed to be engaged for project planning have the necessary expertise to support the delivery of the project, and have experience working on similar projects associated with heritage buildings.

CATEGORY
TOTAL 100%

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.
- Applications that will deliver the greatest heritage and community benefit.
- Applications in the Central Geelong area.

.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

Successful applicants must not commence their project until the funding agreement is finalised and signed.

Please note: It may take up to three months after notification of a successful grant for the City to finalise a funding agreement and make an initial payment. Applicants should factor this into their project timelines, expiry dates on quotes and project cashflow.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

HEALTHY AND CONNECTED COMMUNITIES GRANTS

2021-22 GUIDELINES



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

About these grants 3

How to apply 3

Key dates 3

Permits and approvals 4

Contact information 4

Not the right grant for you? 4

Who can and can't apply? 5

AUSPICE INFORMATION 5

What can you apply for? 6

Project grants 6

Equipment Grants 6

What won't be funded? 7

How are applications assessed? 8

Assessment criteria 8

Prioritising applications 10

What happens next? 11

If your application is successful 11

If your application is unsuccessful 11

Funding agreements 11

General information 12

Grant allocation information 12

Acknowledgement, promotion and marketing 12

Acquittal, evaluation and reporting 12

GST (clause tbc) 12

Insurance 13

Payment of grants 13

Timing 13

Variation to funded projects 13

About these grants

The Healthy & Connected Communities Grants support projects, programs, activities and small community forums or events that are responding to a community need and will improve the health, wellbeing and capacity of our community.

In particular, the grants are intended to support projects that are in line with *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* guide, and will help achieve the following four goals across the Greater Geelong municipality, identified in Our Community Plan 2021-25:

1. Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
2. Sustainable growth and environment.
3. Strong local economy.
4. High performing council and organisation.

There is a total grant pool of $243,000 with individual grants being offered of up to $10,000 or $2,000 per application.

The grant is divided into two categories (see table below) and our aim is to support community groups to improve the health and wellbeing of our community. You can only apply for one category per funding round.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

CATEGORIES	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FUNDING PER APPLICANT
Project grants	For projects, programs, activities, small community forums or events, and equipment necessary to deliver the activities (up to $2,000) that improve health and wellbeing, build community capacity and benefit the broader community.	$10,000
Equipment grants	To assist with the cost of small equipment purchases that help community groups: deliver services and programs; improve health and safety outcomes; or improve resources that support volunteer groups.	$2,000

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this grant must be made via our SmartyGrants online system.

You can access the online form directly be selecting this link XXXXX; and creating an account or logging into Smarty Grants with your existing account.

If you have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant, log-in and apply.

If you don't have a SmartyGrants account – visit geelong.smartygrants.com.au/applicant to register, then apply.

KEY DATES

Applications will be accepted until 5.00pm on the final day. **Incomplete or late submissions of applications will not be accepted.**

Applications close: **XXX**

Grant applications decided: **XXX**

PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Some events/activities will require a permit to proceed. If you are organising a community event, please refer to our Events Planning Guide for further information.

Note: Permits and approvals must be obtained before you submit your application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To discuss your project or request help with the application process, please contact our grants team at communitygrants@geelongcity.vic.gov.au Alternatively, you can call 5272 5039 or 5272 4736.

NOT THE RIGHT GRANT FOR YOU?

There are a variety of other funding opportunities available. Find out more by visiting www.geelongaustralia.com.au/grants

Who can and can't apply?

The City's grants are primarily offered to no-for-profit community organisations with some exceptions to suit the objectives of individual grants.

All applicants must possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier Form available from the ATO website https://www.ato.gov.au.

Applicants must have fully acquitted previous successful (funded) applications and have no outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong.

The following table describes who is and isn't eligible to apply for funding through these grants:

APPLICANT TYPE	YES	NO
Not-for-profit, incorporated bodies, co-operatives or associations	✓	
Registered charitable organisations – refer to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	✓	
Unincorporated bodies with an auspice	✓	
Schools and Learning institutions – only for activities that are not curriculum based and the primary benefit is for the wider community	✓	
Profit-making organisations, commercial entities, businesses		X
Individuals/Sole Traders		X
Organisations (and individuals if applicable) with outstanding debts or arrears to the City of Greater Geelong or experiencing insolvency or bankruptcy		X
Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted previous funding from the City as required - this includes organisations that have acted as an auspice for an unincorporated group		X
Organisations that have already received funds within the current financial year from this grant *(note: this does not prevent applicants applying to different grants in the same financial year for a different project)*		X

AUSPICE INFORMATION

Your application will require an auspice if your not-for-profit organisation is either:

- not incorporated or
- is not one of the other types of legal entities listed in the individual grant guidelines (see Who can apply?).

An auspice is an organisation that meets our eligibility criteria and agrees to support your application. If you're successful, the grant funds will be paid directly to the auspice, who must then pass it on to you.

If you are planning on using an auspice, you must:

- obtain approval from your proposed auspice before you submit your application.
- ensure the auspice is involved in making the application and all project aspects and progress.

Be aware that some auspice organisations may charge an auspice fee. This is at their discretion and should be negotiated between the applicant and the auspice.

What can you apply for?

Applicants must offer a project within the City of Greater Geelong municipality.

All activities must comply with the latest health advice and government restrictions, as detailed on the following websites:

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

PROJECT GRANTS

In this category we are seeking proposals that will benefit the community. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

- initiatives that promote healthy lifestyles, such as those that increase community participation in physical activities, recreational pursuits or promote and improve healthy eating.
- initiatives aimed at improving mental health and wellbeing outcomes in the community.
- community celebrations or events that mark a specific milestone, a significant anniversary or promote community inclusion and social connections.
- activities that strengthen community relationships and encourage active participation in community life.
- initiatives that complement or support existing programs, or strategies that aim to raise awareness or address complex social issues, such as discrimination, gender equality, family violence or community safety.
- initiatives that address specific needs of Aboriginal, multicultural and new arrival communities, LGBTQIA+ people, children, young people, seniors and people with disabilities.
- projects that aim to increase community knowledge and capacity to use and embrace digital technologies and contribute to lifelong learning.
- initiatives that provide capacity building and community group governance strengthening and training opportunities for volunteers.
- establishment costs of setting up a new community group.
- development of strategic or business plans to facilitate and assist community groups to identify and achieve goals and objectives that are consistent with their charter.
- equipment directly related to project delivery. The total request for equipment purchases must not exceed $2,000 and must comply with the requirements for equipment grants.

Note: We generally only fund projects once. Applicants cannot rely on this grant for ongoing or recurrent funding. However, we will consider funding a project again if there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant. Any decision to award further funding will be based on the merit of the application.

EQUIPMENT GRANTS

Note: Equipment must remain the property of the applicant organisation and be located within the City of Greater Geelong.

In this category we provide support for small equipment purchases that help community groups to deliver services and programs, improve health and safety outcomes and improve resources for volunteers. Suggested ideas that are suitable for applications include:

- sporting equipment, such as soccer nets and crash mats (excludes balls).
- office equipment, such as laptops and office furniture.
- kitchenware, such as microwaves, crockery and microwave ovens.
- general equipment, such as tables, chairs and barbeques.
- equipment costs of setting up a new community group.

What won't be funded?

The following will not be funded through the City's grants

- projects or activities that occur outside the City of Greater Geelong municipality (where activities also have outcome/s that occur outside the Municipality, only the portion taking place within Greater Geelong is eligible).
- cost of Council services where fees are normally charged e.g. Council rates; waste removal; building or planning permit fees; parking fees, etc.
- staffing costs, although we will consider funding if the costs are related to the specific proposed project – such as costs to engage an external facilitator, consultant or contractor – if they can supply an ABN and written quote.
- requests for retrospective purchases or projects, or where activities commence prior to submission of application.
- fundraising events, prizes, gifts, awards or sponsorship costs, such as trophies, medals, money and vouchers.
- Political, gaming or gambling activities
- activities that could be considered core business i.e. those associated with the application organisation's normal or day-to-day operation (including regular projects and activities, administration, staffing costs, insurances and permits). Exceptions will be considered for Healthy & Connected Communities Grants if the project is to establish a new community group.
- projects, activities or events that could potentially commit Council funding on an ongoing basis.
- projects, activities or events that have already received support from the City's grants.
- projects, activities or events that better meet the criteria of another City of Greater Geelong grant or program.

Additionally, the following items, activities or projects will not be funded by Healthy & Connected Communities Grants

- equipment requiring building permits or permissions for installation.
- consumable items such as stationery, replacement of toner cartridges and so on.
- projects that duplicate or do not link with developed strategies of other local service responses (unless evidence of need, coordination and cooperation is demonstrated).
- club uniforms (unless there are compelling reasons, in line with the objectives of this grant).
- learning institutions seeking funding for programs or equipment that does not have a benefit for the wider community.
- budget items that have not been substantiated with suitable supporting evidence – for example, quotes or price estimates.

How are applications assessed?

All applications received will go through the following assessment process

- Eligibility checks –applications are checked against the criteria on pages 5 and 7 to determine their eligibility.
- Internal panel assessment – eligible applications will be assessed according to the assessment criteria and priority areas (see tables below).
- Independent (External) panel assessment – the panel reviews the internal officer assessments and recommends funding allocations to Council in a council report.
- Council review and endorsement – funding recommendations are further reviewed by Council then endorsed.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on a weighted average scoring system, as shown in the tables below:

PROJECT GRANTS	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing a project grant application**
Well-planned project – 30%	The application must demonstrate: • a sound rationale for the project idea, clear aims and an explanation as to why the funding is needed and can't be sourced elsewhere • a well-considered project plan, or a clear list of tasks and timelines • that the organisation delivering the project has the capacity to do so – that is, there are enough people with the right skills and knowledge available, and the timeframes are achievable • that required permits and approvals have been obtained and are provided with the application – for example, event permits • a clear, well-balanced budget that shows: – the total project costs – additional funding sources that will contribute to total project costs, or an explanation of why additional funding isn't possible • the cost of all budget items or services that the grant will help fund, substantiating them with suitable supporting evidence – for example, quotes or price estimates.
Community impact – 65%	The application must demonstrate how it will assist in achieving one or more of the following outcomes: • improve social connections in our community • support local Aboriginal people to achieve their priorities • promote gender equity and diversity • support older people, young people and children in our community • foster inclusive communities, multicultural activities and respect for cultural diversity • improve access to programs for people with all abilities • promote healthy eating and support active living • improve safety in our community • address social and economic vulnerability

PROJECT GRANTS	
	• improve social equity and inclusion, resulting in an increased sense of belonging, universal participation and a level playing field for all. The application must also demonstrate how it will help achieve one or more of the following: • strengthen an organisation's governance structure, and/or financial capacity • strengthen the social and economic capacity of community members and groups • provide, or generate, additional services for the community • increase or enhance volunteering • foster lifelong learning.
Environmental impact – 5%	The application must demonstrate how it will: • enhance environmental sustainability • avoid negative impacts on the built and natural environment • minimise the project's environmental footprint, including through waste wise events.
TOTAL 100%	

EQUIPMENT GRANTS	
Key criteria – weighting	**What we look for when assessing an equipment grant application**
Well-planned project – 15%	The application must demonstrate: • clear reasons why the equipment is needed, and how it will be used • where it will be located and who will have access to it • a clear, well-balanced budget that shows: – the total cost of the equipment – additional funding sources that will contribute to total equipment costs, or an explanation of why additional funding isn't possible • a written quote, sourced within the last six months.
Community impact – 70%	The application must demonstrate how purchasing the equipment will achieve one or more of the following outcomes: • improve social connections in our community • support older people, young people and children in our community • improve access to programs for people with all abilities • promote healthy eating and support active living • improve safety in our community • address social and economic vulnerability • improve social equity and inclusion, resulting in an increased sense of belonging, universal participation and a level playing field for all. The application must also demonstrate how purchasing the equipment will achieve one or more of the following outcomes: • strengthen the capacity of an organisation or group to deliver existing programs

EQUIPMENT GRANTS	
	• provide, or generate, additional services for the community • strengthen the social and economic capacity of community members and volunteer groups.
Environmental impact – 15%	The application must demonstrate how the equipment will: • enhance environmental sustainability • avoid negative impacts on the built and natural environment • minimise the project's environmental footprint – for example, through the purchase of equipment from organisations that are eco-friendly and use repurposed, organic, recycled, or certified sustainable materials, or through the donation of existing unused equipment where appropriate.
TOTAL 100%	

PRIORITISING APPLICATIONS

If the total request for funding exceeds the grant funds available, we will prioritise:

- Applications that have not received funding from the City in the previous financial year.
- Applications from organisation that do not receive funding from electronic gaming machines.
- Applications where there is clear evidence of an intent to increase the social and economic participation of our most vulnerable people, and/or enhance a sense of community belonging.

What happens next?

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

Successful applicants will be notified in writing within one week after funding recommendations are endorsed.

If you are successful, you will be sent a funding agreement explaining the terms and conditions of our offer. Once you sign and return the agreement, we will send your funding within 30 working days.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing. If you would like further feedback on why your application was unsuccessful, please contact economicdevelopment@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

If there are funds remaining in the grant pool, we may choose to offer a second round of grants. While unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply, we would recommend revising the application to make sure it fits the assessment criteria before doing so.

FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful grant applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement that will establish:

a. the terms and conditions of funding;

b. the details of the activity;

c. the deliverables;

d. acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements; and

e. the schedule of payments.

General information

The following information applies to all City of Greater Geelong grants.

GRANT ALLOCATION INFORMATION

A single project, event, activity or program will only be funded in one grant program category within a given financial year. This means we will not fund part of a project in one grant program, and part in another.

Applications can be made to multiple grant programs for relevant and distinct projects or programs.

Priority will be given to applicants that did not receive funding in the previous financial year.

Projects or programs that have already commenced prior to the application submission may not be eligible under some grant programs, please refer to individual grant guidelines or contact the Grants team for clarification.

Grant amounts allocated are specific to the grant category as detailed in each individual program guidelines.

Grant amounts offered to successful applicants are based on outcomes determined during the assessment process and in line with budget limitations.

As grants are a competitive process, not all applications will necessarily be funded even if they are eligible. In some cases, applicants may also be offered partial funding to run a reduced or modified project.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Successful grant applicants must acknowledge The City of Greater Geelong as a funding source on marketing and publicity material and include the City's official logo with the following wording: 'This project is supported by the City of Greater Geelong Community Grants.

A logo will be supplied via email to successful applicants.

Applicants are advised to contact the City's Communication and Marketing team on 5272 4803 to arrange for approval of proofs of all marketing materials before production.

Unauthorised use of the City of Greater Geelong logo or inappropriate attribution may result in the Funded Applicant being ineligible to apply for further grants.

ACQUITTAL, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The acquittal, evaluation and reporting requirements will be confirmed with successful applicants as relevant to individual grant programs and be reasonable and commensurate with the purpose and amount of funding.

An online acquittal, evaluation template form will be provided to the funding recipient.

Where progress payments form part of the funding allocation arrangement, an online Milestone Progress Report template will be provided for the funding recipient to complete to demonstrate the agreed deliverables have been achieved prior to the release of the next scheduled payment.

Council officers may request meetings with the Applicant to check progress or undertake an independent audit of the books and records of the Applicant as they relate directly to the grant.

Accurate financial records of the recipient organisation must be maintained and made available to Council in the event of any further audit by Council into the use of the grant.

Organisations that do not submit a completed acquittal/evaluation form, including provision of an accurate statement of actual expenditure of funds will be ineligible to apply to City of Greater Geelong for future grants.

GST (CLAUSE TBC)

If an organisation is registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the City will pay GST on top of the amount awarded.

If an organisation is not registered for GST and if the grant application is successful, the applicant will receive just the grant amount awarded – GST will not be added on top.

INSURANCE

If required, applicants must arrange Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to cover the activity detailed in the grant application and include a PLI Certificate of Currency with their application. Applicants using an Auspice would include a certificate from the Auspice organisation.

A policy statement or receipt of payment is not an acceptable substitute for the Certificate of Currency.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

Grant payments are made to the applicant (or Auspice).

A Tax Invoice is required prior to releasing any grant funds. the Grants Team will contact successful grant applicants to arrange this at the appropriate time.

If successful applicants do not provide either an ABN or a “Statement by a Supplier” form the City may be required to withhold the top marginal tax rate (i.e. 46.5%) from the grant payment.

TIMING

Successful applicants must spend their allocated funds within 12 months of Notification, unless their funding agreement extends beyond 12 months or otherwise negotiated.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if we do not receive a Tax Invoice within the financial year the grant was awarded or by the due date/s included in the agreement.

All funds must be acquitted within one month of the agreed completion date for the project.

VARIATION TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Projects are funded for delivery as described in the Funding Agreement. Successful applicants must seek approval in writing from the City if changes need to be made. This includes delays to the original completion date or the ability to fully expend the grant funds within the agreed timeframes.

The City reserves the right to withdraw funding if the applicant is unable to confirm alternative arrangements within a reasonable time frame.

If a project is discontinued or the grant funds are no longer required, all funds must be repaid to the City.

8. G21 AND AFL BARWON 'TOWARDS 2030 STRATEGY' – DRAFT

Source: **Community Life – Social Planning and Investment**
Director: **Robyn Stevens**

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to note the draft G21 and AFL Barwon *'Towards 2030 Strategy'* and the public exhibition process for all G21 Local Government Authorities.

Background

2. AFL Barwon in partnership with local government authorities within the G21 region commissioned the preparation of the G21 and AFL Barwon "*Towards 2030 Strategy*".
3. This draft strategy (**Attachment 2**) builds on the efforts and achievements realised since the initial 2015 strategy and aims to provide a roadmap to the continued enhancement of facility provision and participation in AFL.
4. The draft strategy provides clubs, leagues, local government authorities and other stakeholders in the G21 region the opportunity to align planning, investment and development priorities across the region for the next 10 years.
5. The draft strategy highlights the previous strategy's achievements and indicates new initiatives in response to changes and trends since 2015.

Key Matters

6. The growth in AFL football and netball across the City of Greater Geelong has increased significantly over the past five years, with an overall growth of 38 per cent.
7. The draft strategy has highlighted a range of issues that AFL Barwon and G21 local government authorities face, particularly related to growth in participation. This strategy seeks to develop a plan that drives participation and enhances the experience of all participants, while identifying the priorities for investment in related infrastructure.
8. The draft strategy has considered a range of regional and local issues specific to the City of Greater Geelong including:

    8.1 a focus on ensuring that player and umpire change rooms are gender neutral, accessible and universal in their design by 2030;

    8.2 development of partnerships with schools to advocate for access to facilities and consider collaborative investment into school facilities where increased usage outcomes can be demonstrated;

    8.3 facilitate the provision of sports lighting to training standards to assist in meeting demand for playing fields and courts; and

    8.4 provision of more sporting fields and netball courts, by increasing the capacity and/or capability of existing facilities, including those on education land.

Cr Nelson moved, Cr Murrihy seconded -

9. That Council:

9.1 note the Draft G21 and AFL Barwon 'Towards 2030 Strategy';

9.2 approve the release of the draft strategy for public exhibition for a period of six weeks; and

9.3 receive a further report and the final strategy following the consultation period.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The strategy outlies the priorities for the sport (AFL and Netball). The strategy will act as guidance to the City when considering a range of social infrastructure priorities in future budget planning.

Community Engagement

2. The draft strategy has been endorsed by the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar and is being presented to each Council for the purposes of community engagement.

3. The draft strategy will be aligned across all five G21 local government authorities with public exhibition scheduled for six weeks between 31 May – 12 July 2021.

4. At the conclusion of the public exhibition period, community feedback will be assessed, with a final revised strategy to be considered by AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, G21 and the respective Councils in September / October 2021.

Social Equity Considerations

5. Ensuring social equity in investment is one of the key principles underpinning some of the strategic priorities in this draft strategy, including (but not limited to) an investment in gender neutral facilities to accommodate the rapidly increasing and extensive numbers of females participating in both AFL and netball.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

6. There are no known legal or statutory impediments to the arrangement proposed in this report.

Alignment to Council Plan

7. This proposal aligns with the strategic objectives of the Council Plan, specifically in response to ‘Improved Social Infrastructure and Planning’, which aims to provide new sports and leisure facilities and upgrade existing ones and engage with sporting clubs and community groups to improve access to community and sporting facilities.

Conflict of Interest

8. There are no staff involved in the preparation of this report who have an undisclosed conflict of interest either general or material.

Risk Assessment

9. The finalisation and endorsement of the strategy will not be possible without the draft strategy being released for public exhibition as proposed.

Environmental Implications

10. The development of any new and upgraded facilities will need to consider the City’s Sustainability Framework and Universal Design Principles.

Attachment 2

G21
GEELONG REGION ALLIANCE



Geelong West Giants Football Club players

G21 AND AFL BARWON TOWARDS 2030: STRATEGY

DECEMBER 2020

DRAFT

SPORT & RECREATION PILLAR

Surf Coast Shire · Golden Plains Shire · Colac Otway Shire · City of Greater Geelong · AFL Barwon · AFL Victoria · netball Victoria

CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE
► WELCOME FROM AFL BARWON	3
► SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS	4
► INTRODUCTION	5
► PROJECT METHODOLOGY	6
► PROJECT STUDY AREA	7
► 2015 STRATEGY – HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	8
► WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE 2015	12
► STATE OF PLAY	22
► TOWARDS 2030: STRATEGY	37
► STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION	58
► APPENDICES	70
► POPULATION AND PARTICIPATION PROJECTIONS	71
► FACILITY CONDITION RATINGS	74
► FACILITY PROVISION FORECASTS	83
► FOOTBALL AND NETBALL CLUB PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK	92
► CASE STUDIES	94

WELCOME FROM AFL BARWON

As we rebound from COVID-19, one of the most significant crises that AFL Barwon has seen, football and netball clubs will be pivotal in continuing to connect and enhance communities through our great games. Now more than ever is the time to focus on community sport, and to deliver high quality and inclusive infrastructure to enable continued growth in participation.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented significant challenges to communities and our industry, and AFL Barwon will play a key role in the re-emergence of sport once government restrictions ease. Throughout 2020, AFL Barwon has maintained that its number one priority is the health and safety of players, coaches, umpires, officials, volunteers and the community, and we will continue to ensure this occurs. To support this approach, senior football and netball seasons were cancelled in 2020, and only a small amount of junior football and netball was played. The affect of 2020 on participation is yet to be determined, however we will rely on the recommendations within this Strategy, and the support of our partners, in driving participant retention and attraction once competition resumes. It is imperative that AFL Barwon remains one of Victoria's strongest regions for football and netball participation moving forward.

AFL Barwon is proud to have experienced significant growth over the last five years with over 23,000 club football and netball participants in 2019. Of these participants, over 2,500 were female footballers, which has seen growth of 424% since 2015. To ensure we are well equipped for the dynamic future of the sport, we must ensure that high quality and inclusive facilities are at the top of our agenda.

The *G21 & AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy* builds on the fantastic efforts and achievements realised since the initial 2015 Strategy, and highlights the success we as a Region, have achieved in partnership with our key stakeholders.

It is important to highlight the financial investment of the five G21 Local Government Authorities, as well as the Victorian and Commonwealth Government's, over the past five years who have significantly contributed to the delivery of facilities and the prosperity of football and netball. A combined total infrastructure investment across the G21 Region of $67 million demonstrates their commitment to both sports, and has driven the need for AFL Barwon to prioritise the update to the Strategy.

The *Towards 2030 Strategy* aims to provide a roadmap to the continued enhancement of facility provision and participation, as well as an updated strategic framework that guides all project partners in collaboration. In addition, the Strategy provides clubs, leagues, LGAs and other stakeholders the opportunity to align planning, investment and development priorities across the Region.

The Strategy also includes forecasts for population and participation, and aims to assist in managing the future facility requirements to facilitate both sports. The Strategy has been designed to assist the provision of safe, accessible, and welcoming facilities that will keep our players and officials engaged over the next decade.

AFL Barwon would like to thank those who contributed to the development of the *Towards 2030* Strategy, including financial investment made by Buckley's Entertainment Centre, AFL Victoria, and Netball Victoria.

I look forward to working with all stakeholders to bring the Strategy to life and to deliver the facilities needed to ensure the success of our great games into the future.



Will McGregor
Region General Manager
AFL Barwon

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

The key findings of the G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy are:

Sustained growth in participation is being experienced across club-based football and netball throughout the Region, particularly in female football.

There is a healthy provision of modern, regional level facilities which have the capacity to host higher level events, finals, competitions and greater spectator numbers over the next 10 years.

Continuing to provide gender neutral amenities and increasing the capacity of existing facilities to cater for participation growth and future demand is critical.

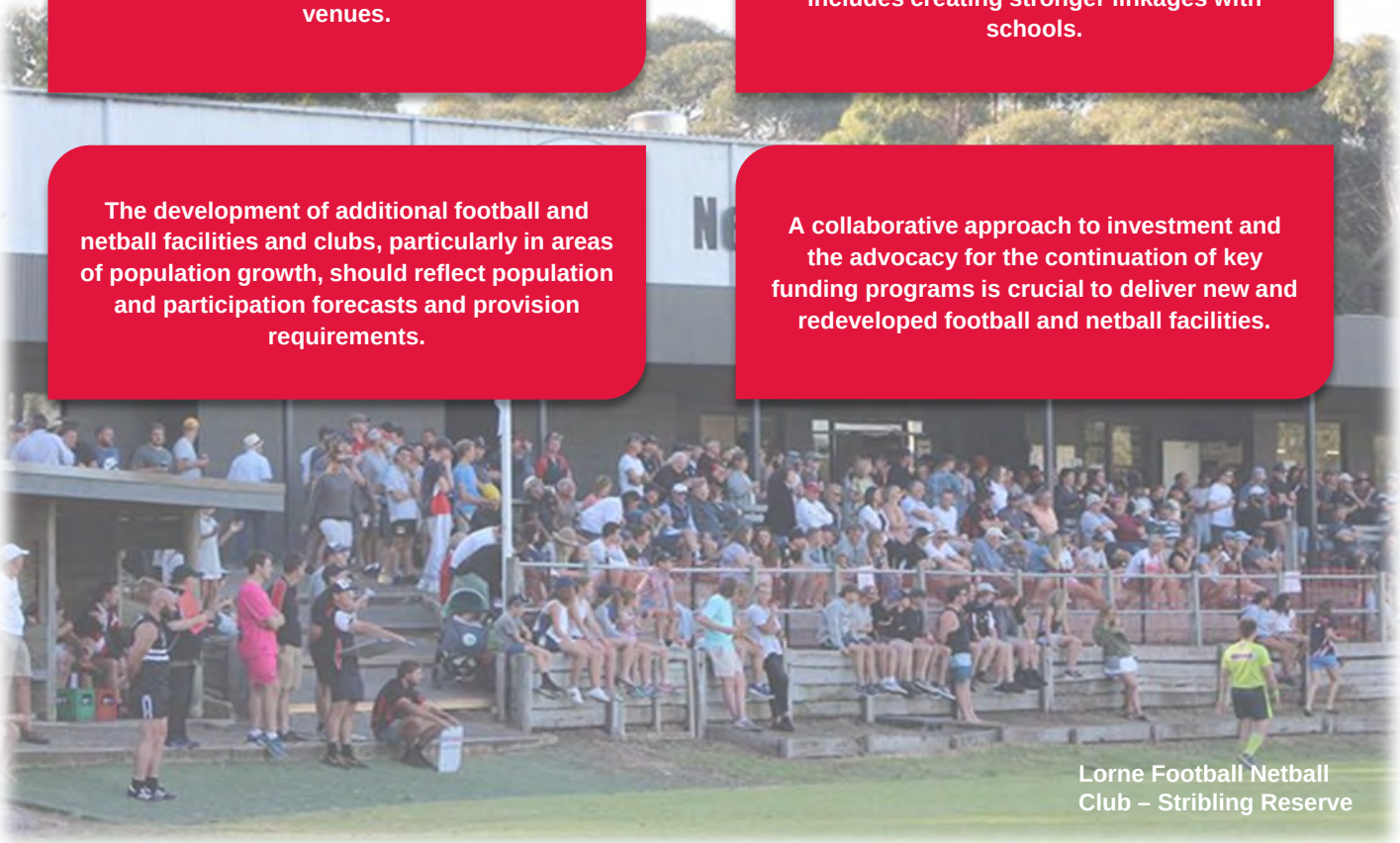
A coordinated approach to monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on football and netball clubs and the engagement of players during the cessation of sport is critical.

The provision and improvement of playing surface lighting at existing facilities will create better access, programmability and capacity of venues.

Participation strategies in areas identified as vulnerable are required to ensure club-based football and netball remains viable. This includes creating stronger linkages with schools.

The development of additional football and netball facilities and clubs, particularly in areas of population growth, should reflect population and participation forecasts and provision requirements.

A collaborative approach to investment and the advocacy for the continuation of key funding programs is crucial to deliver new and redeveloped football and netball facilities.



Lorne Football Netball Club – Stribling Reserve



Colac Football Club player



St Joseph's Netball Club player

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy aims to guide the future planning and development of football and netball throughout the G21 Region for the next 10 years. The Strategy highlights the achievements and challenges of the initial 2015 Strategy, and revisits infrastructure and sport development priorities that are relevant to the game in 2020 and beyond.

The G21 Region has a strong history of collaboration between project partners to deliver strategies which address infrastructure and sport development initiatives. The success of the 2015 G21 and AFL Barwon Regional Strategy saw it become the blueprint and catalyst for regional sport planning across Victoria. The initial Strategy, through collaboration and partnership, has seen substantial achievements for football and netball via a coordinated approach to infrastructure and sport development.

The 2015 Strategy investigated the issues and opportunities facing club-based football and netball on a regional scale, utilising the knowledge and resources from each of the five represented LGAs along with AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Leisure Networks, Deakin University and Sport & Recreation Victoria.

Since 2015, the football and netball landscape has changed considerably, and the Region is presented with several opportunities and challenges regarding the provision of facilities, services, support and delivery of both sports that must be addressed.

Towards 2030 highlights the initial Strategy's achievements and understands how changes and trends since this time have impacted and influenced the sports and their facilities. Towards 2030 outlines how the refreshed Strategy will respond to new trends in participation, facilities and demographics. Towards 2030 also reconsiders and refocuses priorities and identifies any new emerging areas which will require strategic action.

The key themes for 2020 and beyond will focus on changes and diversity in participation, enhanced club development and education along with improved infrastructure and access to football and netball facilities across the network.

PROJECT METHODOLOGY



AFL Barwon Umpire

AFL Barwon is one of 12 designated AFL Victoria Regional Commissions that are responsible for the promotion, growth and sustainability of community football and netball in regional Victoria.

AFL Barwon and the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar identified the need to update the 2015 Strategy to ensure current trends and strategic priorities are reflected throughout.

The initial 2015 Strategy undertook significant consultation with AFL Barwon Clubs, affiliated Leagues and other stakeholders. Towards 2030 has considered the initial consultation findings, recommendations in the 2015 Strategy, and re-engaged with selected stakeholders through a Project Control Group (PCG) and Project Reference Group (PRG). Towards 2030 has also been developed through findings and insights gained via the 2019 AFL National Facility Audit, AFL participation data for the Barwon Region and through consultation with G21 LGAs, G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar, Sport & Recreation Victoria, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, AFL Barwon, Deakin University, Leisure Networks and the Geelong and District Football League.

NATIONAL AFL FACILITIES AUDIT: OCT 2019

- Audit of all club-based football and netball facilities using the Sports Facility Auditor program

STAGE ONE: JAN 2020

- Project initiation
- Project Control Group meeting
- Project Reference Group meeting

STAGE TWO: MAR - MAY 2020

- Review of 2015 Strategy
- Facility and participation analysis
- Review and update 2015 Strategic Framework

STAGE THREE: AUG - NOV 2020

- Draft G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy
- Project Control Group feedback on Draft
- Review by AFL Barwon Commission
- Project Reference Group feedback on Draft

STAGE FOUR: FEB - MAR 2021

- Draft Strategy – community feedback and public exhibition

STAGE FIVE – APR 2021

- Final G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy
- Endorsement by all five G21 LGAs and the G21 Sport and Recreation Pillar

The Updated Strategy will follow a formal public exhibition process through each of the five LGAs which will allow for broader feedback from the football and netball community. The endorsement of Towards 2030 is recommended by all LGAs to ensure the Strategy's timely implementation.

PROJECT STUDY AREA

The study area for the G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy covers the five municipalities of City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast Shire, Golden Plains Shire, Colac Otway Shire and Borough of Queenscliffe.

The Carngham/Linton and Rokewood Football Clubs are located within the G21 Region however are not affiliated with AFL Barwon. Facility audit information for these venues is included within this report as it contributes to the Region's overall provision. Participation information for these clubs however is not included as it is attributed to the AFL Goldfields Region.

Werribee Centrals and Simpson Football Clubs are not located within the G21 Region but are affiliated with AFL Barwon. Therefore, participation figures are included however facility audit information has not been included.



AFL BARWON 2020 QUICK FACTS

- 5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES
- 337,000+ RESIDENTS
- 75KM - 160KM SOUTH WEST OF MELBOURNE
- 23,000+ REGISTERED FOOTBALL AND NETBALL PLAYERS IN SEASON 2019
- 4 SENIOR FOOTBALL AND NETBALL LEAGUES
- 3 JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUES
- 2 UMPIRE LEAGUES/ASSOCIATIONS
- 49 CLUBS
- 485 FOOTBALL TEAMS
- 431 NETBALL TEAMS MANAGED BY AFL BARWON

2015 STRATEGY – HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



St Joseph's v St Mary's Football Club



Torquay Football Club player

2015 STRATEGY – HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The implementation of the 2015 Strategy saw a range of highlights and achievements delivered through collaboration and partnership. The following summary demonstrates how a regional approach to sport planning has resulted in widespread community benefit and participation outcomes.

The initial 2015 Strategy pioneered a new, collective and collaborative framework to guide facility development, investment, partnerships and participation. The sporting landscape has changed considerably since 2015 most notably with the boom in female AFL participation. Whilst the representation of females in sport within G21, particularly within netball, has always been strong, the emergence of female football has resulted in unprecedented growth. Consequently, this has opened a new market for AFL. **From 2015 to 2019, female football in AFL Barwon club competition increased 424% from 474 to 2,482 participants, seeing an increase of 22 female teams from season 2017 to 2019 alone.**

The 2015 Strategy also created better alliances, partnerships and collaboration with a range of stakeholders who have been, and will continue to be, imperative to the Towards 2030 Strategy delivery. The success of the 2015 Strategy has been achieved through the tireless efforts of so many within the Region.

The key strategic priorities identified within the 2015 Strategy delivered a framework resulting in 86% of priority actions being completed or underway. Towards 2030 will consider the reshaping of strategic actions and the subsequent implementation plan to continue the levels of success achieved to date.

A summary of key items and initiatives delivered within the 2015 Strategic Framework is detailed on page 11.

Since the inception of the 2015 Strategy, over $67M worth of investment into football and netball facilities occurred across the G21 Region via a range of funding partners including Local Government, Victorian and Commonwealth Governments, AFL, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, AFL Barwon and football and netball Clubs. This investment has delivered more than 60 infrastructure projects including 23 change room redevelopments, 9 new AFL ovals, 13 sports lighting upgrades, 6 oval redevelopments and 4 new netball courts.

2015 STRATEGY – HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The following summary highlights the key achievements of the 2015 AFL Barwon Regional Strategy.

OVER 60
FOOTBALL - NETBALL PROJECTS COMPLETED

$67M
TOTAL COMBINED INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT ACROSS G21

23
CHANGE ROOM REDEVELOPMENTS

9
NEW AFL OVALS

13
SPORTS LIGHTING UPGRADES

4
NEW NETBALL COURTS

86%
OF 2015 STRATEGIC ACTIONS COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS

3,773
ADDITIONAL AFL BARWON CLUB PARTICIPANTS FROM 2015 - 2019

424%
INCREASE IN AFL BARWON FEMALE FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION FROM 2015-2019

65
FEMALE FOOTBALL TEAMS IN 2019

48%
GROWTH IN JUNIOR AFL BARWON PARTICIPATION FROM 2015-2019

64%
NETBALL PARTICIPATION GROWTH FROM 2015-2019

2015 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK DELIVERY

The following key outcomes and initiatives have been achieved within each of the six priorities identified in the 2015 Strategy.

PRIORITY 1

Support the capacity building of clubs and their people

Key outcomes:

- Ongoing improvements and changes to the AFL Barwon competition structure to address sustainability and competition equalisation.
- Development of five year club strategic plans in partnership with AFL Barwon and Leisure Networks.
- Annual AFL Barwon Club Health Checks.

PRIORITY 2

Increase the quality and functionality and maximise the carrying capacity of existing facilities

Key outcomes:

- $67M of investment into football and netball facilities including playing surfaces, lights and change rooms across all G21 municipalities through partnerships with LGAs, Victorian and Commonwealth Governments, AFL, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, AFL Barwon and local sources.

PRIORITY 3

Plan and develop new facilities in key growth areas across the Region

Key outcomes:

- Armstrong Creek East Sporting Precinct (Armstrong Creek) – growth area facility completion
- Drysdale Sporting Precinct Stage 1 (Drysdale) – growth area facility completion
- Deakin University Elite Regional Sporting Precinct (Waurn Ponds) – oval completion
- Spring Creek Reserve (Torquay) - regional level upgrade completion
- Colac Central Reserve (Colac) - regional level upgrade completion
- West Oval (Geelong) - regional level upgrade (currently under construction, due for completion by 2021)
- Banyul-Warri Fields (Torquay) – growth area facility completion

PRIORITY 4

Capitalise on opportunities to create a Regional Administration Centre

Key outcomes:

- Upgrades to the existing AFL Barwon and Geelong Falcons administration facility at Highton Reserve including floodlighting to support talent pathway programs.
- Ongoing upgrades to Kardinia Park (GMHBA Stadium) and linkages with Geelong Football Club and Geelong Falcons to facilitate elite player pathway programs.

PRIORITY 5

Ensure programs and facilities cater for the diversity of participants that are attracted to our game

Key outcomes:

- AFL Barwon delivery and support of female football participation and competition to facilitate exponential growth.
- In partnership with Leisure Networks, delivery of programs including successful FIDA program.
- Leveraging of funding through Sport & Recreation Victoria and other bodies for the implementation of grassroots programs.
- In partnership with Leisure Networks, delivery of the Barwon Game Changer program.
- Considerable improvements made in the provision of gender neutral player and umpire amenities for both football and netball.

PRIORITY 6

Continue to enhance the relationship between football / netball, government and community partners in planning and provision of facilities

Key outcomes:

- Ongoing AFL Barwon annual government forum to share information and discuss Strategy progress and implementation with key stakeholders and project partners.
- Participation at the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar Sports Forum.
- AFL Barwon, Sport & Recreation Victoria, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria and LGAs partnering in the planning, funding and delivery of facility upgrades and improvements.

WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE 2015



Barwon Heads Football Club players

Since the 2015 Strategy's inception, the football and netball landscape within the G21 Region has diversified significantly, resulting in new trends and pressures, particularly surrounding participation, facility design, sports development and competition delivery.

Several shifting trends over the last five years has driven the need for G21 & AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy. These changes include substantial growth in female football, which has seen participation soar, exceeding all forecasted expectations.

In response, facility design and the AFL's *Preferred Facility Guidelines (2019)* has needed to quickly adapt to highlight the necessary provision of facilities that are accessible, welcoming and inclusive for all. This response, which will be further discussed throughout this report, has placed significant pressure on facilities, their providers and investors. The implications of and predictions for future female growth in the G21 Region will continue the demand for places and spaces that meet the requirements of the modern game.

Other emerging challenges influencing the requirement for the refresh of the 2015 Strategy, now known as the Towards 2030 Strategy, include:

- **Population and participation forecasts, particularly within growth areas,** seeing increased demand and pressure for the delivery of new football and netball facilities.
- **The delivery of additional venues such as those at Deakin University** further assisting in the provision of facilities across the network.
- **Participation increases across both football and netball creating greater demand for access to facilities** that can cater for increased capacity for training, games and events.
- **Socio economic and diversity in population which sees niche areas of the Region experiencing participation stagnation or decline.**
- **Fair Go Rates System - rate capping for Local Government Authorities (LGAs), limiting Council's capacity to fund discretionary projects.**
- **2015 Action Plan implementation status** - whilst 86% of strategic actions identified are either in progress or complete, there are a number which have not yet started.
- **COVID-19** – at the time of preparing this report, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption to community sport including AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon and Netball Victoria which has seen participation and club operations severely affected for season 2020. This will also result in some challenges around forecasting participation for 2021.

Towards 2030 will consider how these challenges are impacting and influencing club-based football and netball and recommend the best strategic response and action plan. The Strategic Framework as presented in the initial Strategy will be updated to reflect current priorities and future need. The actions within will aim to outline a more definitive and measurable mechanism for delivery.



Geelong Amateur Football Club player

In June 2020, and in consultation with clubs and community football stakeholders, the AFL Barwon Commission cancelled the 2020 senior and reserve football and netball season as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. 79% of senior clubs indicated that they did not support the resumption of the 2020 premiership home and away season.

The extent of the impacts and effects of having no competitive play in 2020 are unlikely to be known for some time, however G21 football and netball stakeholders agreed that the cancellation of the season was necessary to sustain the viability of the competition moving forward.



WHAT THE 2030 STRATEGY WILL DELIVER

The G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy investigates the issues and opportunities facing club-based football and netball in the Region. The Towards 2030 Strategy considers the recommendations formed within the initial 2015 Strategy, and reshapes them where required to address the current context. Recommendations within Towards 2030 will continue the legacy of the 2015 Strategy and work to improve the delivery and prosperity of both sports into the future.

Using the knowledge and resources from each of the five represented LGAs, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, AFL Barwon and the leagues associated; Geelong Football Netball League (GFNL), Geelong and District Football Netball League (GDFL), Bellarine Football Netball League (BFNL) and Colac and District Football Netball League (CDFNL), the Strategy will assist project partners in delivering, advocating and attracting funding for community football and netball facilities and activities.

The document will create recommendations based on the insights, trends, issues and opportunities emerging throughout the Strategy's development. The Strategy will not provide a prioritised list of facility investment requirements, individual club/venue master plans, infrastructure development pricing structures or proposed capital works programs. These will continue to be developed at the discretion of LGAs, in consultation with users, pending analysis of identified facility gaps and venue usage requirements.

Key actions recommended in the Strategy will be subject to each LGAs prioritistation and annual budget process.

KEY DELIVERABLES INCLUDE:

- **Auditing of football and netball facilities** in conjunction with AFL Victoria and Netball Victoria throughout the G21 Region.
- **A participation snapshot of football and netball** in the Region and future participation projections.
- **Identifying opportunities to optimise the use of existing facilities** including non-traditional football venues such as schools.
- **Support the capacity, operation, administration and education of clubs** and their people.
- **Identification of the need and potential provision requirement for new facilities** in identified growth areas.
- **The need to identify a future facility that can facilitate a Regional Administration Centre** and enhance talent pathways.



Barwon Heads Football Club players

CURRENT STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Since the initial 2015 Strategy, changes in strategic context and supporting documentation have emerged that must be considered in the development of the Towards 2030 Strategy. Summaries of these documents are provided below.

AFL VICTORIA'S 'GROWING THE HEARTLAND' FOOTBALL FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2017-2022

The initial *Heartland Strategy* was released in 2014. The changing face of football across Australia however led to a review in 2016 to ensure strategic directions evolved to best assist all partners and meet the needs of communities where football is played. These changes were driven through:

- The extraordinary growth of female football which resulted in 100 new female teams in 2016 and 300+ new female teams in Season 2017;
- The need to align the *Heartland Strategy* with strategic priorities in AFL Victoria's Strategic Plan 2017-2022;
- A larger focus being placed by government on areas such as female participation, gender neutral design and access for all abilities;
- Recognising the increased financial pressures being faced by local government through rate capping and reduced funding opportunities;
- Rapid demographic change in some areas of Victoria requiring planning for future communities; and
- The need to explore alternate facility options such as school venues and use of synthetic grounds to ensure participation growth opportunities are capitalised on.

The revised *Heartland Strategy* captures these changes through initiatives such as the inclusion of population and participation projections in growth areas and details the importance of facilities to participation. This will encourage continued stakeholder commitment to ongoing investment and renewal.

New strategic commitments were also established in key areas such as:

- Ongoing facility audits and assessment to understand investment needs;
- Continued promotion of synthetic surfaces to address ground carrying capacity issues;
- Supporting planning processes to prioritise gender neutral change room provision;
- Implementing a venue improvement program for second tier venues to support player pathways and implementation of female football at the elite level;
- Supporting the provision of two oval and two netball venues in greenfield sites;
- Capitalising on school ground access opportunities as they become available and ensuring school venues are fit for purpose; and
- Working with State Government to maximise funding and provide flexibility in funding programs and categories.

AFL PREFERRED FACILITY GUIDEINES (2019)

Developed after the completion of the initial G21 Strategy and revisited in 2019, the *AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines* outline the preferred facility requirements for venues which are utilised for AFL training and competition. The Guidelines are to be used as a key tool during the planning phase of a project to identify the spatial requirements for facilities to support male and female teams, umpires, officials and the broader AFL community. The Guidelines also provide recommendations for the specification of supporting infrastructure such as floodlights and spectator amenities.

NETBALL VICTORIA STATEWIDE FACILITIES STRATEGY 2019-2022 AND NETBALL VICTORIA FACILITIES MANUAL 2017

Developed following the delivery of the initial G21 Strategy, both documents assist in the planning of facilities and the facilitation of netball across the State. Netball Victoria's Facilities Manual contains technical information on netball courts and associated infrastructure. It is Netball Victoria's expectation that all new and redeveloped facilities are constructed to meet the standards outlined within this document.

The G21 Region is noted as having the highest number of participants of any rural or regional area in Victoria within the *Statewide Facilities Strategy*, and the development and future provision of facilities will rely on the guidance of the Facilities Manual to ensure compliance.

ACTIVE VICTORIA: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR SPORT AND RECREATION IN VICTORIA 2017-2021

This document aims to provide a consolidated approach to the improvement in participation in sport and recreation from a State-wide perspective.

The vision for participation outcomes in sport within the document are based upon five key areas;

- **More active:** increased proportion of Victorian's regularly participating in sport or active recreation.
- **More diverse and inclusive:** providing opportunities for all to become involved.
- **Robust, flexible, sustainable and affordable:** providing flexible and affordable choices for participants.
- **Collaborative:** well-planned and connected investment that maximises participation and other community benefits.
- **Broad-based and connected:** A system that addresses the different demands, contributors and structure of sport and active recreation and maximises connections across the system.

AFL BARWON STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2020 (update currently underway)

This document outlines the key objectives to progress AFL Barwon in achieving its vision of 'to grow and prosper community football and netball in the Barwon Region'. The strategic actions to achieve this vision include:

- **Participation** – develop and support pathways to increase player participation rates at all levels of football and netball in order to facilitate growth of the game.
- **Community** – support communities to provide quality management and environments to motivate volunteers, umpires, coaches, teachers, sports trainers and fans for all levels of football and netball.
- **Engagement** – develop stakeholder and community engagement initiatives that support the vision, mission statement and values of AFL Barwon.
- **Development & Welfare** – provide and promote participant development programs, including talent pathways and facilitate welfare outcomes.
- **Facilities** – promote region wide plans to advocate for and collaborate on facility development for leagues, their clubs, umpires and schools.
- **Sustainability** – ensure that AFL Barwon and its affiliates have a responsible, sound and sustainable business model to enable long term growth of community football and netball in the region.
- **People & Culture** – attract, develop and retain quality people and develop a high-performance culture in line with AFL Barwon's key objectives and values.

GROWTH AREA PLANNING

Population projections, particularly for the City of Greater Geelong, are largely due to several growth areas, most notably Armstrong Creek, the Bellarine and Lara West. In addition, the recent announcement of a new growth area the 'Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas' (NWGGA) will further contribute to population projections for the municipality into the future. Areas identified to see significant population growth will likely be required to provide access to, or new, playing surfaces for sport as demand increases. In the context of the Towards 2030 Strategy, population forecasts and potential future provision requirements for the 2025 and 2030 population will be discussed throughout.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG'S SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

The Social Infrastructure Plan guides and prioritises investment into community facilities based on equity and evidence. Five (5) directions for the strategic development of outdoor community sporting facilities are identified in the Plan, including the investment in infrastructure that improves the quality, functionality and carrying capacity of venues and the activation of facilities to increase participation and maximise use.



Geelong Dragons FIDA Football

THE VALUE OF FOOTBALL AND NETBALL BEYOND SPORT

The benefits of investing in football and netball extend beyond sports participation to providing economic and social outcomes that positively impact the communities that clubs support. These outcomes include inclusiveness, diversity, female participation and commitment to participant welfare and wellbeing.

The *Value of a Community Football Club* study undertaken by La Trobe University in 2015 found that for every $1 spent to run a community football club, there is at least a $4.40 return in social value.

This "social value" is measured in terms of increased social connectedness, wellbeing and mental health status, employment outcomes, personal development, physical health, civic pride and support of other community groups. The study identified that the reach of a football club is significant and extends beyond club players and volunteers; *"for every 1 player, football clubs reach 10 people in their community."*

The economic impact of football is also well known. An independent economic contribution assessment completed during the 2017 season estimated that AFL Goldfields contributed $51.6 million to their regional economy. This economic contribution had grown 8.29% since the last assessment in 2012 due to the significant increase in participation. With high participation growth, such estimates are comparable for the G21 Region.

AFL Victoria's *Heartland Strategy* estimates that football participation contributes $3.1 billion per annum across Victoria, with Community Football estimated to account for 45% of the total. This highlights the significant impact the sport has on local communities.

Sport Australia's *The Value of Community Sport Infrastructure (2018)* estimated that the annual valued supported by sport infrastructure in Australia is at least $16.2 billion. This study also indicates that sport infrastructure is used by over 8 million people annually, and sees a $6.3 billion economic value contribution, $4.9 billion health value and $5.1 billion social value of community sport infrastructure.

Each project partner LGA has their own strategic commitment as to why investing in sport and recreation and associated facility improvement is important. The Region's LGAs have expressed their continued commitment to supporting football and netball in their municipalities. These LGAs provide ongoing investment into sport and recreation infrastructure that addresses facility gaps and provides new development, ensuring opportunities will continue to be offered to their local and regional communities.



Portarlington Recreation Reserve (Netball Club Rooms)

FACILITY AUDITS

The location, provision and condition of 74 football facilities across the G21 Region were audited by AFL Barwon staff during October 2019. Audits were carried out using the AFL National Sports Facility Auditor tool.

As a sport, the AFL has made a six-year commitment to the AFL National Sports Facility Auditor database and audit program to collect, update and monitor facility provision and their quality and compliance with guidelines. This resource has been made available to AFL Victoria staff and regional commissions to assist in providing empirical evidence to effectively plan and support the delivery of facility improvement and development projects.

The audit program assesses provision and condition and analyses compliance with Australian Standards, *AFL Preferred Facilities Guidelines* and criteria identified during extensive consultation with AFL Barwon and Netball Victoria staff. Audit data is then used to provide a rating for each facility, identifying gaps in provision and standards (condition, size and general provision).

Facility Condition Ratings (see Appendices section of this Report) are a guide to identify strengths and gaps in football and netball facility and amenity provision. They will also support prioritisation of investment into facility renewal and development.

Ratings used to determine the condition of club facilities are outlined in the *Criteria for Rating Facility Infrastructure and Amenities* (see Appendices). Where a club has access to multiple facilities, such as two ovals, the rating is based on the primary facility (the main oval).

When reviewing ratings it is important to note that the audits do not consider “functional issues” and that condition ratings relate to cosmetic and non structural issues only. Lux level readings for playing field lighting are estimates only, as night-time light meter readings were not completed.

Priority weighting has been given to amenities and infrastructure that have the greatest influence and directly impact on football participation, competition requirements and growth. These are:

- Home and away player and umpire change rooms as well as the capability of change rooms to cater for female participants.
- Ground surface condition.
- Court condition.
- Pavilion size and condition.
- Lighting lux levels.

Netball facilities have been included within the audits conducted by AFL Victoria staff and verified by Netball Victoria. Only facilities utilised for club-based netball are included within this Report. Association based Netball facilities are not included.

DATA LIMITATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

A summary of the study limitations relating to data availability are provided below to ensure a transparent and consistent understanding of the analysis results.



St Mary's Football Club player

AFL PARTICIPATION DATA

Football participant data is provided by AFL Victoria for seasons 2015 to 2019. Analysis of club participation as well as resident participation (all known participant data) across project partner LGAs has been undertaken. Participation data has been analysed by LGA regardless of league affiliation. Analysis has also been included based on the 5 to 39 age and gender cohorts.

Participation data for Linton, Rokewood and Smythesdale Football Clubs **is not** included within this report as, although part of Golden Plains Shire, all three Club's compete within the AFL Goldfields Region.

Simpson Football Netball Club and Werribee Centrals Football Club participation data **is** included within this report as, although located outside of the G21, both Clubs compete within the AFL Barwon Region.

Participant data is based on registered members and does not include school football participation.

Please note that 2020 participation data has been excluded from this report due to the disruption of the season due to COVID-19. Future participation forecasts within this Report must be considered against any possible participation impacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time of writing this Report, preliminary evidence indicates that football and netball in G21 are set to bounce back in season 2021, however ongoing monitoring will be required. This is a key action of the Towards 2030 Strategy.

NETBALL PARTICIPATION DATA

Netball participation data is provided by AFL Barwon on behalf of all leagues. Netball participation data is for club-based netball and does not include Association netball. All netball participants are affiliated with a football and netball club playing in the G21 Region. Netball resident data (i.e. all known participant data) was not available at the time of writing this Report.

POPULATION DATA

Population and participation penetration analysis has been based on population data grouped by recognised player categories.

Population and demographic information for four of the five G21 LGAs, Colac Otway, Greater Geelong, Golden Plains and Surf Coast, has been sourced via *forecast.id.* and is the current data as of March 2020.

Population information for the Borough Queenscliffe was not available via forecast.id and therefore data has been sourced through the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Victoria (DELWP) *Victoria in Future 2016* data release.

Whilst every effort has been made to address potential gaps and limitations in these areas, readers should be mindful of these factors when considering this document and the key focus areas and issues presented.

FACILITY AUDIT DATA

The facility audit data captured within this report was undertaken through AFL's National Facility Audit program in October 2019. Following this, data was reviewed by each LGA through the project's governance structure in October 2020. There are a number of infrastructure projects currently underway which, we completed, will continue to improve the region's number of compliant facilities. Those identified as receiving an upgrade presently, or within the near future, have been noted within the facility audit tables on page 75-83.

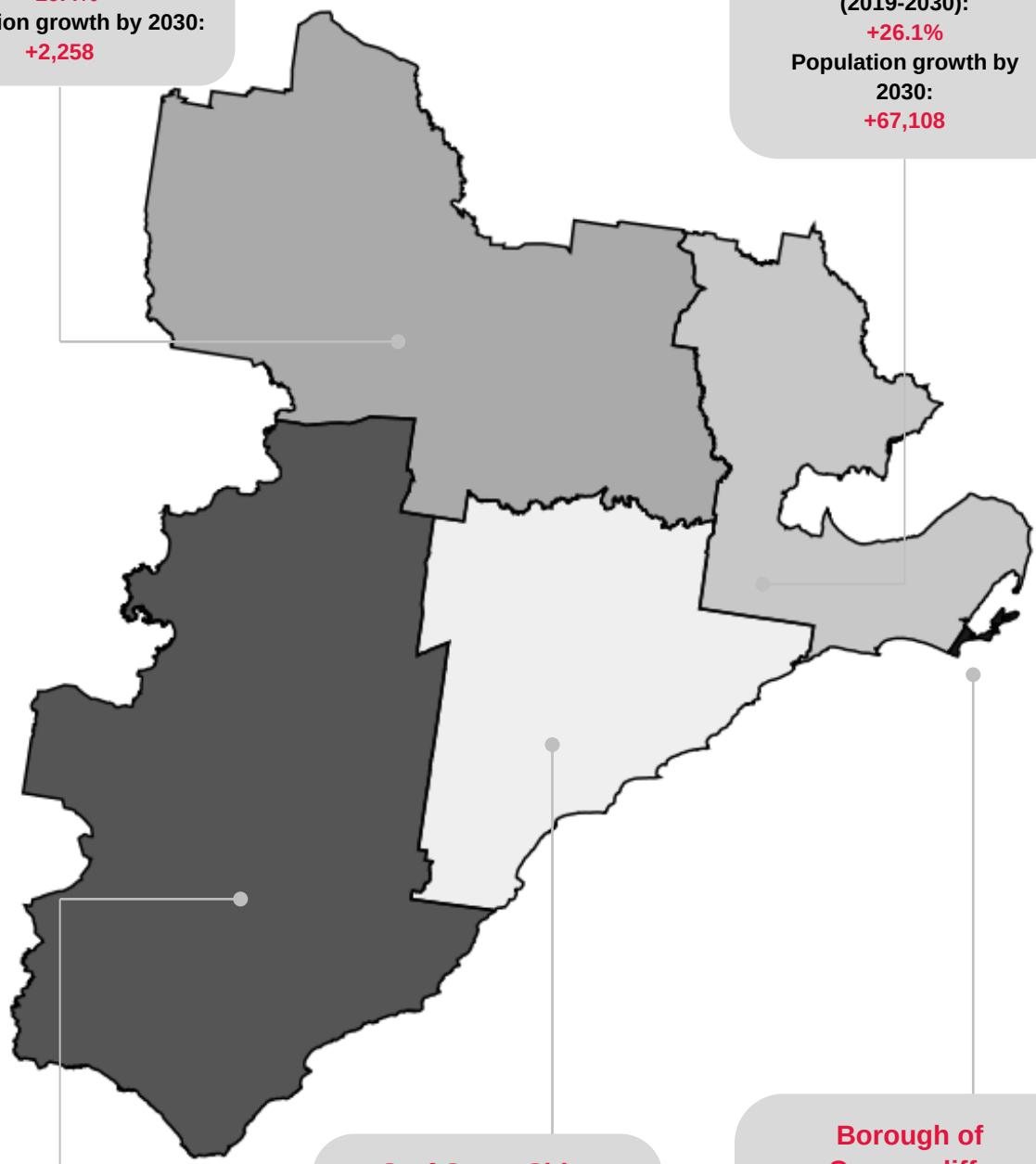


St Mary's Football Club coach and players

G21 POPULATION SUMMARY

LGA	2019	2025	2030	5-19 Y/O CHANGE 2019-2030	20-39 Y/O CHANGE 2019-2030
COLAC OTWAY	21,685	22,846	23,943	+359	+335
GOLDEN PLAINS	23,384	26,356	28,939	+880	+1,282
GREATER GEELONG	257,181	292,855	324,289	+12,779	+18,260
SURF COAST	32,654	37,193	41,051	+1,200	+1,726
QUEENSCLIFFE	2,940	3,083	3,127	-26	+102
TOTALS	**337,844**	**382,333**	**421,349**	**+15,192**	**+21,705**

- G21 is the fastest growing Region in Victoria, outside of metropolitan Melbourne, with over 337,000 residents in 2019.
- The City of Greater Geelong has the largest population and highest growth of the five LGAs as a result of several residential developments, most notably, within Armstrong Creek and the Bellarine Peninsula.
- The G21 Region offers the best of regional, rural and coastal lifestyles with the Golden Plains Shire and Surf Coast Shire, in particular, expected to see strong population growth to 2030 as many people seek a sea and tree change.
- Colac Otway Shire and the Borough of Queenscliffe are set to experience smaller levels of growth, with an additional 2,258 and 187 people to 2030 respectively.
- The estimated G21 population aged 5–39 (typically the key football and netball market) in 2019, was 149,871. By 2025 the population within this age cohort is forecast to increase by 12.6% to 168,763 individuals. Between 2025 to 2030 this will increase an additional 10.4% to 186,278.
- By LGA, the growth of the 5-39 age cohort to 2025 will be split as follows: Greater Geelong by 16,672 individuals, Golden Plains by 1,128, Surf Coast by 813, Colac Otway by 197 and Queenscliffe by 82.
- The planning areas of Armstrong Creek, Marshall and Charlemont in the City of Greater Geelong are expected to see an additional 10,105 people between 2019 and 2025. Clifton Springs, Curlewis, Drysdale and Bellarine an additional 3,374 people, Barwon Heads, Connewarre, Breamlea, Ocean Grove an additional 3,498 people and Grovedale, Mount Duneed, Waurn Ponds an additional 6,021 people to 2025.
- At completion, the new Northern and Western Geelong Growth Area (Lovely Banks, Batesford, Moorabool and Rural North) will welcome more than 110,000 residents. Population forecasts however suggest that the only relatively small amounts of growth i.e. additional 1,063 people will call this area home by 2030.
- The Appendices section of this Report provides a detailed population forecast by LGA and key football age cohort projections.



Golden Plains Shire
Projected change (2019-2030):
+10.4%
Population growth by 2030:
+2,258

City of Greater Geelong
Projected change (2019-2030):
+26.1%
Population growth by 2030:
+67,108

Colac Otway Shire
Projected change (2019-2030):
+6.4%
Population growth by 2030:
+2,258

Surf Coast Shire
Projected change (2019-2030):
+25.7%
Population growth by 2030:
+8,397

Borough of Queenscliffe
Projected change (2019-2030):
+10.4%
Population growth by 2030:
+187

Population data and forecasted projections has been sourced from *forecast.id* for Geelong, Surf Coast, Golden Plains and Colac Otway Shires. Vic in Future population data and projections has been utilised for Queenscliffe. Population projections utilised throughout this report are based on available projections from March 2020. It should be noted that population data from these sources is updated on an annual or bi-annual basis and therefore the projections within this report are subject to change.



STATE OF PLAY

St Joseph's Football Netball Club player

2019 G21 AFL PARTICIPATION SNAPSHOT

Participation in AFL in G21 is thriving, with consistent increases over the past five seasons. Female participation in particular has increased significantly and is the fastest growing segment of the game. Demographic forecasts on page 21 and within the Appendices section of this Report indicate that the key football market age cohort (5-39 year old's) will continue to grow and occupy a large portion of the population in most G21 LGAs. This demographic trend indicates that football has adequate opportunity to capitalise and continue positive participation trends.

The following pages provide a summary of participant information and the changes experienced since the initial Strategy's inception. These summaries included separate data sets for both club participants as well as resident participants.

Club participant data

The table on page 25 labelled as 'Figure 01' provides a summary of participants who played at Clubs affiliated with AFL Barwon in the 2019 Season. These participants either reside within or outside of the G21 Region.

Resident participant data

The table on page 25 labelled as 'Figure 02' provides a summary of participants who resided within the G21 Region and participated at Clubs located both within and outside of the G21 Region in the 2019 season.

Participation penetration rates and future participation forecasts are formulated utilsing resident participation data alongside population projections.

Understanding the two data sets is important to fully gauge participation trends and to identify, where applicable, residents travelling outside of the Region to participate.

Please note that 2019 participation data has been utilised due to the disruption to the 2020 home and away season due to COVID-19.

16,420 AFL Barwon Club Participants in 2019
(33% increase from 2015)

2,539 AFL Barwon Female Football Participants in 2019
(424% increase from 2015)

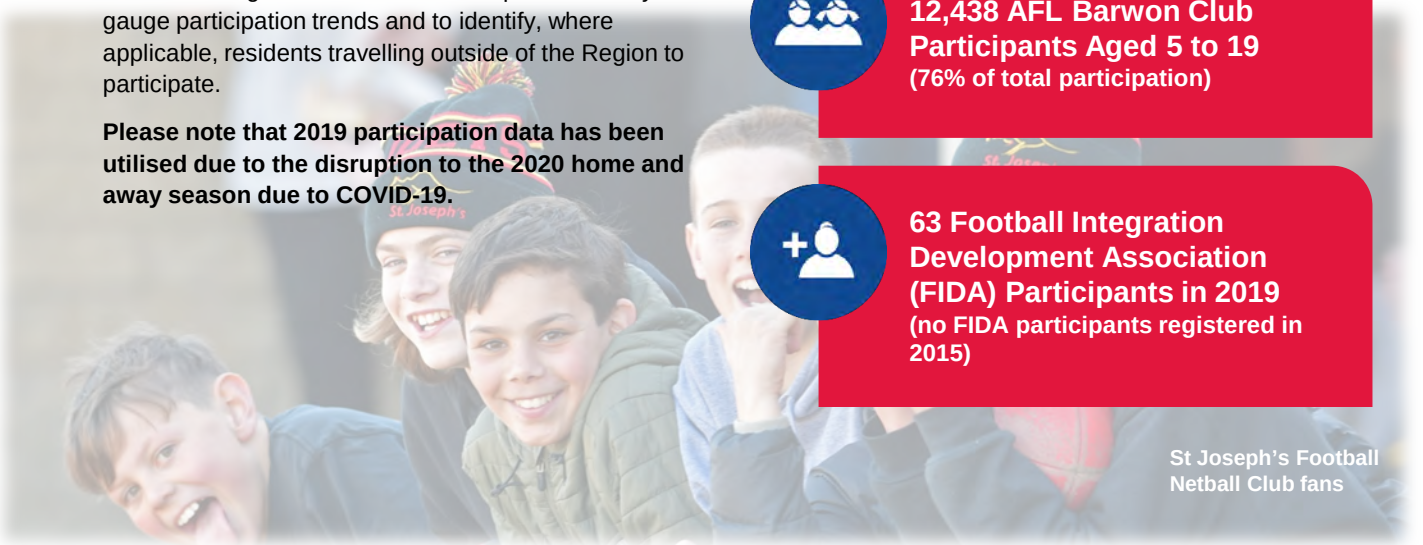
504 AFL Barwon Umpires
(33% increase from 2015)

4.9% Penetration Rate
(Players per total population)

3,239 AFL Barwon Auskick Participants
(3% increase from 2015)

12,438 AFL Barwon Club Participants Aged 5 to 19
(76% of total participation)

63 Football Integration Development Association (FIDA) Participants in 2019
(no FIDA participants registered in 2015)



St Joseph's Football Netball Club fans

FIGURE 01 | AFL BARWON CLUB PARTICIPANTS 2019 BY PLAYER AGE CATEGORY AND LGA

2019 AFL BARWON CLUB PARTICIPATION SUMMARY												
LGA	PARTICIPANT AGE						MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+						
Colac-Otway*	5	307	414	370	643	58	1,676	121	1,797	+21	+270	+18%
Golden Plains**	31	330	245	83	124	11	710	114	824	+91	+248	+43%
Greater Geelong***	248	3,662	3,150	2,136	2,248	65	9,468	2,041	11,509	+1,058	+3,163	+38%
Surf Coast	29	613	640	315	383	44	1,775	249	2,024	+84	+327	+19%
Queenscliffe	5	55	63	55	86	2	252	14	266	-6	+36	+16%
TOTAL	**318**	**4,967**	**4,512**	**2,959**	**3,484**	**180**	**13,881**	**2,539**	**16,420**	**+1,248**	**+4,044**	

Note that VFL and NAB League participants are not included in AFL Barwon club participant data.
*includes Simpson Football Club participation
**participation includes those within AFL Barwon only, does not include Golden Plains Shire participants competing within the AFL Goldfields region.
***includes Werribee Centrals Football Club GDFL participation

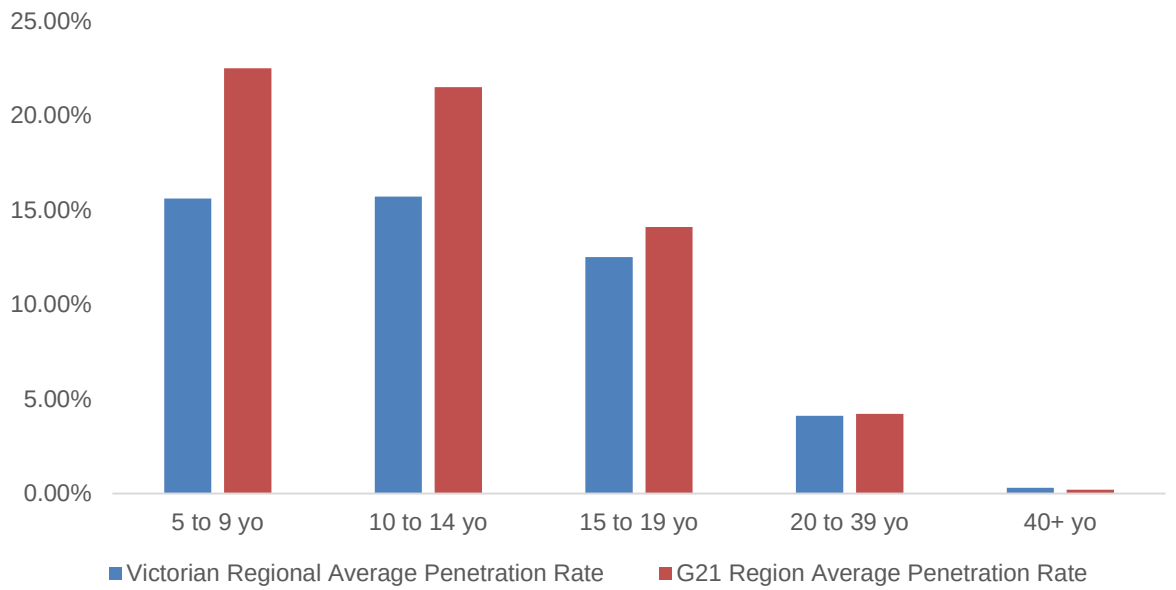
FIGURE 02 | G21 RESIDENT PARTICIPANTS 2019 (LIVE IN G21, PLAY ANYWHERE) BY PLAYER AGE CATEGORY AND LGA

2019 G21 RESIDENT PARTICIPATION SUMMARY												
LGA	PARTICIPANT AGE						MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+						
Colac-Otway	4	301	387	346	457	39	1,414	120	1,534	+243	+554	+56%
Golden Plains	28	300	303	161	127	16	789	146	935	+66	+386	+70%
Greater Geelong	233	3,527	3,104	2,033	2,591	183	9,783	1,888	11,671	+693	+4,832	+71%
Surf Coast	44	731	635	307	342	52	1,797	314	2,111	+425	+928	+78%
Queenscliffe	4	50	59	47	58	2	187	33	220	+2	+55	+33%
TOTAL	**313**	**4,909**	**4,488**	**2,894**	**3,575**	**292**	**13,970**	**2,501**	**16,471**	**+1,429**	**+6,755**	

ALL KNOWN AFL PARTICIPATION ACROSS THE G21 REGION (COMBINED MALE AND FEMALE)

- **In season 2019, there were 16,420 AFL Barwon football participants.** These participants resided either within or outside of the Region.
- In season 2019 there were 16,471 AFL Resident Participants. These participants competed within any competition (AFL Barwon inclusive) and resided within the Region.
- **The close correlation of both AFL Barwon and Resident participant data sets suggests that most people residing in G21 also play within the Region**, and/or there is a balance of people leaving and entering the Region to play. This is a positive sign for the sport and would indicate that the competition is in a healthy position.
- There was an increase of approximately 8% and 9.5% for both Club and Resident participants respectively from season 2018 to 2019. This is in line with Victorian participation growth rates.
- **The highest participation rate is in the 5-9 age cohort with over 30% of total registrations** for both Club and Resident participants.
- The key market for AFL participation is between the ages of 5-39. Within this age cohort, **the G21 Region average penetration rate is 15.3%. This is well above the Victorian regional average of 11.98%.**
- Across all player categories, the **G21 Region's average penetration rate is 12.3% of the total population. It is higher than the Victorian regional average** penetration rate of 9.6%.
- Participation is split as follows across project partner LGAs, with the highest number of participants residing in the Greater Geelong (70%), followed by Surf Coast (12%), Colac Otway (11%), Golden Plains (5%) and Queenscliffe (2%).
- In terms of umpire participation, there has been a **33% increase in total number of AFL Barwon umpires from 2015 to 2019.** The highest increase has been in male umpire participation which has increased from 333 participants in 2015 to 465 in 2019.

FIGURE 03 | COMPARISON OF PENETRATION RATES G21 REGION AND VICTORIAN REGIONAL AVERAGES (BY PLAYER CATEGORY)





Grovedale Football Club players

FEMALE AFL PARTICIPATION TRENDS ACROSS THE G21 REGION

- There were **2,539 registered female AFL Barwon Club participants** playing in season 2019.
- There were 2,501 female football participants residing in the G21 Region in 2019. Given this number correlates to AFL Barwon Club participant data closely, this would indicate **that the majority of female football players residing locally in G21 also play within the Region.**
- There was an increase of 16% female AFL Barwon Club participation from season 2018 to 2019 and 69% from season 2017 to 2018 which saw an additional 351 and 1,014 female participants respectively.
- There was an increase of 13% female G21 resident AFL participation from season 2018 to 2019 and 44% increase from 2017 to 2018. The 2018 to 2019 growth in female participants is lower than the State average of 24%, however higher than the 2017 to 2018 State average of 25%. The lower than average growth from season 2018 to 2019 is likely due to the early boom in female participation in AFL Barwon, which occurred sooner than the majority of Victoria. This also explains the higher than average increase is season 2017 to 2018.
- **The most significant growth in AFL Barwon Club female participants from season 2018 to 2019 was in the 5-9 age cohort** (+28%) and 20-39 age cohort (+42%).
- Four out of five project partner LGAs saw growth in female football participation between seasons 2018 to 2019.
- From seasons 2015 to 2019 the Region has experienced growth of 424% in female AFL Barwon club participation. From only 476 in 2015 to 2,539 (including female Auskick) in 2019. T**his is the equivalent of an additional 100 teams requiring access to grounds in the last three football seasons.**
- Greater Geelong experienced a 21% increase in female participation from 2018 and 2019, with an additional 351 participants. Surf Coast experienced a 20% increase with an additional 42 participants.. Golden Plains experienced a 19% increase or an additional 18 players and Colac Otway 2% increase or an additional 2 players. Queenscliffe experienced a 60% decline in female participation from 35 to 14 club participants from 2018 to 2019. The decline in participation in Queenscliffe is due to an already low participation base, and is the result of the municipality not fielding one female side. It is anticipated that a future return of a female team to the area will reinvigorate participation and void any current decline.
- The Region's average for female football penetration is at 0.7% of the Region's female population. **This is above the State metropolitan female penetration average of 0.6%.**
- **Female AFL Barwon Umpire participation has remained fairly stable**, with approximately 40 female umpires in both 2015 and 2019. There are likely opportunities to identify increased female umpire participation to mirror football participant trends.

FIGURE 04 | G21 REGION **FEMALE AFL BARWON CLUB PARTICIPANT** REGISTRATIONS SEASON 2019 (BY PLAYER CATEGORY AND LGA) AND CHANGE FROM 2018 AND 2015

LGA	AGE						TOTAL	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+				
Colac-Otway*	0	17	34	43	27	0	121	+2	+105	+656%
Golden Plains**	5	64	41	4	-	-	114	+18	+64	+128%
Greater Geelong***	46	524	642	392	412	25	2,041	+351	+1,729	+554%
Surf Coast	3	84	82	33	34	13	249	+42	+157	+171%
Queenscliffe	1	12	-	1	-	-	14	-21	+8	+133%
TOTAL	**55**	**701**	**799**	**473**	**473**	**38**	**2,539**	**+392**	**+2,063**	

Note that VFL and NAB League participants are not included in AFL Barwon club participant data.
*includes Simpson Football Club participation
**participation includes those within AFL Barwon only, does not include Golden Plains Shire participants competing within the AFL Goldfields region.
***includes Werribee Centrals Football Club GDFL participation

FIGURE 05 | G21 REGION **FEMALE RESIDENT AFL PARTICIPATION** SEASON 2019 (BY PLAYER CATEGORY AND LGA) AND CHANGE FROM 2018 AND 2015

LGA	AGE						TOTAL	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+				
Colac-Otway	0	18	35	41	26	0	120	+12	+117	+3900%
Golden Plains	6	55	55	18	10	2	146	+11	+104	+245%
Greater Geelong	36	497	618	348	360	29	1,888	+218	+1,685	+830%
Surf Coast	11	107	80	42	61	13	314	+44	+272	+648%
Queenscliffe	1	12	4	11	5	0	33	-5	+31	+18%
TOTAL	**54**	**689**	**792**	**460**	**462**	**44**	**2,501**	**+280**	**+2,209**	

FIGURE 06 | G21 REGION **MALE AFL BARWON CLUB PARTICIPANT** REGISTRATIONS SEASON 2019 (BY PLAYER CATEGORY AND LGA) AND CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018 AND 2015

LGA	AGE						TOTAL	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+				
Colac-Otway*	5	290	380	327	616	58	1,676	+19	+165	+11%
Golden Plains**	26	266	204	79	124	11	710	+76	+184	+35%
Greater Geelong***	202	3,138	2,508	1,744	1,836	40	9,468	+707	+1,434	+18%
Surf Coast	26	529	558	282	349	31	1,775	+42	+170	+11%
Queenscliffe	4	43	63	54	86	2	252	+15	+28	+13%
TOTAL	**263**	**4,266**	**3,713**	**2,486**	**3,011**	**142**	**13,881**	**+859**	**+1,981**	

Note that VFL and NAB League participants are not included in AFL Barwon club participant data.
*includes Simpson Football Club participation
**participation includes those within AFL Barwon only, does not include Golden Plains Shire participants competing within the AFL Goldfields region.
***includes Werribee Centrals Football Club GDFL participation

FIGURE 07 | G21 REGION **MALE RESIDENT AFL PARTICIPATION** SEASON 2019 (BY PLAYER CATEGORY AND LGA) AND CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018 AND 2015

LGA	AGE						TOTAL	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+				
Colac-Otway	4	283	352	305	431	39	1,414	+231	+427	+43%
Golden Plains	9	245	248	143	117	14	789	+55	+55	+8%
Greater Geelong	197	3,030	2,486	1,685	2,231	154	9,783	+475	+3,147	+47%
Surf Coast	33	624	555	265	281	39	1,797	+111	+614	+52%
Queenscliffe	3	38	55	36	53	2	187	+2	+55	+42%
TOTAL	**246**	**4,220**	**3,696**	**2,434**	**3,113**	**248**	**13,970**	**+874**	**+4,298**	

G21 AFL PARTICIPATION FORECAST

The following provides a high-level summary of the AFL participation forecast within the Region to 2025 and 2030. More detailed analysis by LGA can be found in the Appendices section of this Report.



6.3%

The average AFL participation rate in 2019 in the G21 Region



71%

Of forecasted AFL participation in 2025 will be within the City of Greater Geelong



2,091

Additional AFL participants in the G21 Region in 2025 (84 teams)



13%

Forecasted AFL participation growth from 2019-2025



9.9%

Forecasted AFL participation growth from 2025-2030



3,921

Additional AFL participants in the G21 Region in 2030 (157 teams)

- The potential football market to 2025 and 2030 is developed by analysing population projections against current (2019) individual LGA penetration rates. Population projections are sourced from forecast.id for Colac Otway, Greater Geelong, Golden Plains and Surf Coast. Queenscliffe population data is sourced from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) *Victoria in Future 2016* data release.
- Based on population projections and current participation rates, the 2025 football market in G21 is expected to be 18,511 participants, or an additional 2,091 players. This is the equivalent of an additional 84 teams (assuming 25 players per team).
- The strong participation growth in Greater Geelong will largely be due to population increases in identified growth areas.
- In 2015 the City of Wyndham (via the Werribee Centrals Football Club) contributed 75 registered players to AFL Barwon participation numbers and the Simpson Football Club contributing 96 players for the Corangamite Shire. These figures are included within the participation summaries for both 2015 and 2019.
- Participation increases from 2019 to 2025 range from small amounts of change in Queenscliffe (+13) to +1,596 participants in Greater Geelong. Healthy growth of +281 players is also forecast for the Surf Coast.
- With projected population growth and a high percentage of people within the 5-39 age cohort by 2025, Golden Plains should be expected to experience greater increases in participation.
- Colac Otway demonstrates consistent forecasted participation growth based on population projections.
- The key football market (persons aged between 5-39) is forecast to contribute, on average, 39% of the total G21 population by 2025. Therefore, there is ample opportunity for the forecasted numbers to be achieved, and potentially increased, in some circumstances.



Drysdale Football Club players

G21 FOOTBALL PROVISION RATIOS

Playing field, participant and population provision ratios provide a general guide to the average number of playing fields required within a specific geographic area. While ratios can be influenced by a range of factors (including planning policies, facility quality, supporting amenities and user activities) they do provide a general comparative guide to provision and usage levels, and highlight potential areas for more detailed investigation.

Population provision ratio - 1 oval : to 5,000 people *

G21 average population per football playing field.

1 Oval : to 3,312 people

Participant to oval ratio for AFL** - 1 oval : to 175 players

G21 average registered participants per football playing field.

1 Oval : to 160 participants

2019 Oval to population ratios by LGA

Colac Otway : 1 : 1,971 people

Golden Plains 1 : 1,949 people

Greater Geelong : 1 : 3,897 people

Surf Coast : 1 : 2,969 people

Queenscliffe : 1 : 1,470 people

2019 Registered participants per AFL oval by LGA

Colac Otway : 1 : 163 participants

Golden Plains : 1 : 68 participants

Greater Geelong : 1 : 174 participants

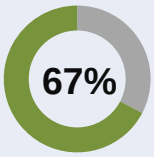
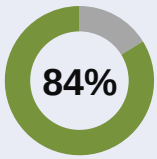
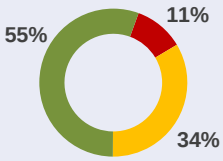
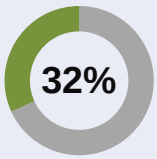
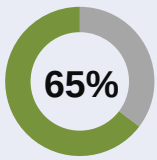
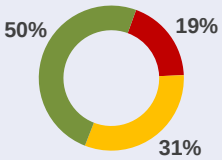
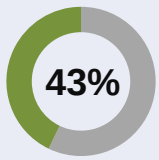
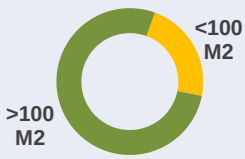
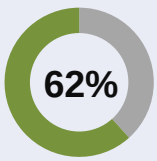
Surf Coast : 1 : 184 participants

Queenscliffe : 1 : 133 participants

*Population ratio of 1 oval : 5,000 population is derived following review of the Parks & Leisure Australia recommended provision ratios for AFL, benchmarking of LGAs and in reference to AFL's Growing the Heartland Strategy. **Participant to oval ratio is the AFL's recommended ratio for participants per oval for community football.

G21 AFL FACILITIES SNAPSHOT

A summary of 2019 facility provision and condition across the G21 Region is provided below. More detailed assessments of individual facilities can be found within the Appendices section of this Report.

SITES	**74** SITES	**101** PLAYING FIELDS	**1:3312** POPULATION PROVISION RATIO	**1:160** PARTICIPANT PROVISION RATIO
PLAYING FIELDS	 BOUNDAY RUN OFF COMPLIANCE	 IRRIGATION	 CONDITION	 LIGHTS 100+ LUX
CHANGE FACILITIES	**62** CHANGE FACILITIES	 SIZE COMPLIANCE	 CONDITION	 GENDER NEUTRAL
PAVILION / UMPIRE ROOMS	**62** PAVILIONS	 SOCIAL ROOM SIZE COMPLIANCE	**55** UMPIRE FACILITIES	 GENDER NEUTRAL UMPIRE FACILITIES

FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS

	Over half of AFL playing fields in G21 (55%) are considered to be in good to excellent condition. Facility audits including ground inspections were undertaken outside of football season.
	Of the 101 ovals in G21, 47 ovals in G21 had lighting levels below 100 lux. 21 ovals had lighting above 100 lux. 33 ovals did not have playing field lighting. Of these 33, 19 venues were not required to have lighting as they are considered a junior or school venue.
	There are 62 change facilities (i.e. home and away change rooms) in G21. This is made up of 133 individual changing rooms. Of these, 43% are considered to be gender neutral, which provide lockable showers and pan toilets.
	There are 62 main pavilions/social rooms in the Region. 77% of social rooms are in excess of 100m2 in size. The minimum size for social spaces in the AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines for local facilities is 100m2.
	There are 55 umpire change facilities across G21 and 59 individual umpire changing rooms. Of these umpire facilities, 59% do not meet minimum size standards. 62% however are suitable for gender neutral use.

2019 G21 NETBALL PARTICIPATION SNAPSHOT

Netball participation data has been provided by AFL Barwon and includes those participating in club-based netball. Please note that Association based netball participation has not been included.

As per Figure 08 on page 34, netball participation has experienced growth from 2015 to 2019. From season 2018 to 2019, Surf Coast experienced the greatest participation increase with an additional 182 players.

Colac Otway has also experienced significant growth in netball participation, with an additional 729 players since 2015. Whilst Colac Otway's participation from 2018-2019 has stabilised, the growth experienced from 2015 has undoubtedly increased demand for the sport and facilities within the municipality.

Other LGAs experienced small levels of growth between 2018 and 2019, whilst Geelong experienced a decline of 36 players. The overall participation growth in Geelong however is trending positively, with a 48% increase from season 2015-2019. The decline in netball participation from season 2018 in Geelong should be closely monitored moving forward to determine why this is occurring. This includes highlighting any limitations in the collection of participant data, and also identifying if participants have transitioned to other sports, particularly female football.

Netball facilities have been included within the audits conducted by AFL and verified by Netball Victoria. The Kardinia Park netball facility has been included within the audit due to it being used for both association and club based netball.

Please note that 2019 participation data has been utilised due to the disruption to the 2020 home and away season due to COVID-19.

Please note that participation for Golden Plains Shire includes netball participants within AFL Barwon only.

6,764 **AFL Barwon Club Netball Participants in Season 2019**

64% **Club Netball participation growth from season 2015 to 2019**

2.9% **Participation Growth from Season 2018 to 2019**

2% **Club Participation Rate** **(Club participants per total population)**

62 **Males participated in Club Netball in season 2019**



Corio Community Netball Club players

FIGURE 08 | AFL BARWON NETBALL CLUB PARTICIPANTS 2019 BY PLAYER AGE CATEGORY AND LGA

2019 AFL BARWON NETBALL CLUB PARTICIPATION SUMMARY										
LGA	PARTICIPANT AGE					TOTAL	2018 PARTICI-PATION	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2018	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015	CHANGE FROM SEASON 2015-19 %
	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-39	40+					
Colac-Otway	88	241	220	229	54	832	826	+6	+729	+758%
Golden Plains	31	70	43	62	10	216	217	-1	+16	+8%
Greater Geelong	688	1,595	986	1,105	181	4,555	4,591	-36	+1,477	+48%
Surf Coast	185	402	171	183	39	980	798	+182	+643	+415%
Queenscliffe	34	54	32	36	12	168	152	+16	-11	-7.8%
LGA not provided	0	6	3	2	2	13	0	13	-208	N/A
TOTAL	**1,026**	**2,368**	**1,455**	**1,617**	**298**	**6,764**	**6,584**	**+180**	**+2,646**	

G21 NETBALL PARTICIPATION FORECAST

The following provides a high level summary of the participation forecast for Netball within the Region to 2025 and 2030. More detailed analysis by LGA can be found in the Appendices of this Report.

3%
The average Netball participation rate in the G21 Region

7,599
Forecasted Netball participants in G21 in 2025

8,341
Forecasted Netball participants in G21 in 2030

23.5%
Overall netball participation growth 2019-2030



69%
Netball participation in 2030 will be within the City of Greater Geelong



15%
Netball participation in 2030 will be within Surf Coast Shire

- The potential netball market to 2025 and 2030 is developed by analysing population projections against current (2019) individual LGA participation rates. Population projections are sourced from forecast.id for Colac Otway, Greater Geelong, Golden Plains and Surf Coast. Queenscliffe population data is sourced from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) *Victoria in Future 2016* data release.
- Based on population projections and current participation rates, the 2025 netball market in G21 is expected to increase by an additional 848 players to a total of 7,599 participants. An additional 848 players is equivalent to an additional 121 teams at 7 players per team.
- The strongest participation growth in netball to 2025 and 2030 will be within the City of Greater Geelong and Surf Coast Shire.
- Colac Otway Shire show stable levels of participation growth to 2025 and 2030 relative to population projections.
- Golden Plains Shire has relatively small levels of participation growth to 2025 and 2030 in AFL Barwon Club Netball competition. It needs to be noted however that there are additional participants within the Shire competing within the AFL Goldfields region.
- Ideally, with the projected population growth and high percentage of people within the 5-39 age cohort by 2025 and 2030, Golden Plains should be experiencing greater participation growth than projections indicate.
- Queenscliffe indicates that there has been a decline in players from 2015-2019 and therefore growth projections to 2025 and 2030 are limited.
- The key football and netball market (persons aged between 5-39) is forecast to contribute, on average, 39% of the total G21 population by 2025. Therefore, there is ample opportunity for the forecasted numbers to be achieved, and potentially increased, in some circumstances.



Torquay V Modewarre Netball Club

G21 NETBALL FACILITIES SNAPSHOT AND PROVISION RATIOS

Benchmark provision ratio for regional and rural netball 1 court : to 60 players*

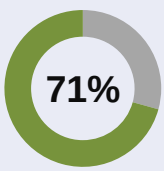
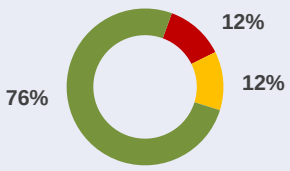
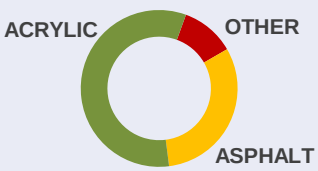
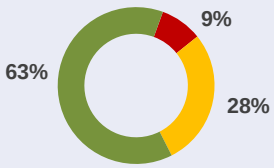
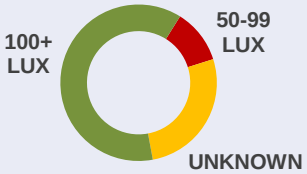
2019 netball court to player ratios

G21 average netball participant to court ratio.

1 court : to 63 players

2019 Registered players per netball court by LGA

Colac Otway : 1: 52 players
Greater Geelong : 1 : 70 players
Golden Plains : 1: 20 players**
Surf Coast : 1: 70 players
Queenscliffe : 1: 84 players

SITES	**50** SITES	**108** COURTS	**1:63** COURT : PARTICIPANT PROVISION RATIO
SPECIFICATIONS	 COURT RUN OFF COMPLIANCE	 COURT CONDITION	 COURT SURFACE TYPE
FACILITIES	**46** CHANGE FACILITIES	 CHANGE ROOM CONDITION	 COURT LIGHTING

FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS	
	The majority of netball courts in G21 are in good to excellent condition with compliant run offs and line marking as per Netball Victoria's facility guidelines.
	The majority of netball change facilities are in good to excellent condition with 29 of 46 being awarded this rating. 13 netball change rooms were considered in moderate condition and 4 netball change rooms were identified in poor or very poor condition.
	The recommended provision ratio of 1 netball court to 60 players is exceeded within three of five LGAs within the Region. This may indicate that there is an immediate need for access to additional courts within these municipalities. Provision ratios, as previously discussed, must however be considered amongst other determining factors including access, capacity and location of facilities.
	Where lighting is provided and an accurate assessment could be made, audits indicated that 55 netball courts had lighting greater than 100 lux whilst 10 facilities had lighting less than 100 lux. 11 courts did not have lighting.

*Netball court provision ratios for regional and rural areas are per those indicated within the Netball Victoria Statewide Facilities Strategy. The rural and regional provision ratios differ to those outlined for Greater Melbourne. The summary above indicates provision for outdoor, football and netball club competition and does not include Association netball. Any ratio calculation should be accompanied by an assessment which considers other factors including venue capacity, quality of infrastructure, participation and usage.

**Golden Plains Shire provision ratios for netball courts are based on provision across all sites within the municipality.



St Albans v St Joseph's Netball Club



TOWARDS 2030: STRATEGY

Drysdale Netball Club player



St Joseph's Football Club players

TOWARDS 2030: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Following consultation with key stakeholders and the analysis of participation, population and facilities information, a revised strategic framework for the Towards 2030 Strategy has been identified. The six key priorities below will guide the direction of club-based football and netball into the future and will be underpinned by objectives, priorities and actions that will require collaborative implementation across all project partners.

► AFL VICTORIA GROWING THE HEARTLAND FOOTBALL FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2017-2022
► NETBALL VICTORIA STATEWIDE FACILITIES STRATEGY 2019-2022
► AFL BARWON STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2020 (update underway)

PRIORITY 1	Continue to enhance the relationship between football and netball, government and community partners in the planning and investment of facilities.
PRIORITY 2	Increase the quality, functionality, capacity and sustainability of existing facilities.
PRIORITY 3	Ensure facilities cater for the diversity of participants playing across the G21 Region.
PRIORITY 4	Support the capacity building and education of clubs and people.
PRIORITY 5	Plan and develop facilities in growth and priority areas across the G21 Region.
PRIORITY 6	Identify the location, role and function of regional level facilities and a secure a long-term plan for the Regional Administration Centre.

► STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS
(Defined for each priority on subsequent pages)



Barwon Heads Football Club players

PRIORITY 1

Continue to enhance the relationship between football and netball, government and community partners in the planning and investment of facilities

A collaborative approach to the planning, investment, implementation and activation of football and netball facilities is required to align partner objectives and deliver best possible outcomes.

Rate capping, ageing infrastructure, COVID-19, and competing interests for capital investment are key challenges for LGAs. Developing and continuing relationships that encourage multiple investment opportunities and partners, and a strategic approach to facility investment is considered critical to the successful delivery of the Towards 2030 Strategy.

The G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy aims to increase participation opportunities, strategic relationships and partnerships with key stakeholders must continue.

LGA's are the major financial sponsor of local sport, and as costs for facility development increase, so does the reliance on external funding partners to ensure successful project delivery.

To reduce overall capital investment requirements, partnerships between all levels of government, as well as clubs, peak sporting bodies and other alternate funding streams must be considered. Collaboration should extend to project partners as well as stakeholders outside of the Strategy's development, including the Department of Education and Training and other state sporting organisation's.

In highlighting the requirement for co-contributions, it is also important that these partners are involved in the planning, delivery and activation of facilities. Collaboration in all phases of facility development will contribute to greater returns on investment and generate positive outcomes for sport and the community post construction.

LGAs are faced with pressure to balance investment across the many facets of the organisation, in a manner that is fair, equitable and based on evidence and need. LGA investment should continue to be supported by State and Federal Government through the provision of additional, and the continuation of existing, funding programs. New funding, or a revised approach to existing models, could consider accepting multiple or bundled funding applications for facility upgrades (e.g. floodlighting), as well as programs that encourage the retention of participants, rather than growth alone. AFL Victoria is currently working with the Victorian Government to review funding programs, and LGAs should be prepared to capitalise on any new or renewed opportunities for investment. This includes undertaking pre-planning and scoping of projects in anticipation of a future funding program announcement. It should be noted that the Victorian Government budget will be known in November 2020, following the endorsement of the draft document. It is recommended that a review of available funding programs following this announcement should be undertaken.

PRIORITY 1

Continue to enhance the relationship between football and netball, government and community partners in the planning and investment of facilities

Measures currently undertaken by AFL Victoria to reduce financial burden on Clubs, including the removal of all affiliation fees over the next three years, as well as salary cap reductions, should assist in creating greater opportunities for clubs to make financial contributions to all phases of infrastructure upgrades. In some instances, and within a number of LGAs, club contributions to projects will be considered critical. Continued support from AFL Victoria through resources identified within its *Growing the Heartland Strategy (2017-2022),* has seen the implementation of specific funding programs and partnerships in facility development. In 2016, AFL Victoria introduced its Community Club Sustainability Program, which saw the introduction of a player points system and player payment rules. This Program reviewed the impact of player remuneration on clubs, and the burden set on volunteers to continually fundraise to generate income for payments. An industry approach and consultation process saw a more regulated process initiated, including across AFL Barwon, that provided a greater focus on pathways, player development and a more balanced and competitive environment. The implementation of a more sustainable system was identified as critical action 1.1 in the initial *2015 Heartland Strategy* which should now see clubs with greater financial capacity to contribute to capital investment, particularly where provision of infrastructure is required beyond core amenities. A measure of success of this initiative, as well as the Strategy, will be the continued and improved capital contributions made towards infrastructure projects by clubs. In addition, the salary cap reduction will also give clubs greater capacity to respond to ongoing challenges, including financial implications due to COVID-19. Furthermore, reducing salary caps in season 2021 has been adopted by AFL Barwon and its affiliated leagues which will see the following changes undertaken:

	GFNL AFL	BFNL AFL	GDFL AFL	CDFNL AFL
2020 salary cap	$145,000	$110,000	$90,000	$80,000
2021 salary cap	$100,000	$80,000	$70,000	$60,000
Change 2020-21	<31%	<27%	<22%	<25%
	GFNL NETBALL	**BFNL NETBALL**	**GDFL NETBALL**	**CDFNL NETBALL**
2020 salary cap	$20,000	$20,000	N/A	N/A
2021 salary cap	$17,500	$17,500	N/A	N/A
Change 2020-21	<25%	<25%	-	-

Key stakeholder relationships were also highlighted as a key priority in the initial Strategy, and the cohesion between project partners attributed greatly to its success. The continued focus on information sharing and collaboration is identified as a critical priority in the Towards 2030 Strategy.

PRIORITY 1

Continue to enhance the relationship between football and netball, government and community partners in the planning and investment of facilities

HOW WILL PRIORITY 1 BE ACHIEVED?

- **Continuation of the annual AFL Barwon Government Forum** for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the Strategy, information sharing and continuing strong stakeholder relationships.
- **Delivery of an annual State of Play Report** to provide an update to project partners on participation trends, annual facility audit findings and Strategy implementation status. State of Play Reports should be presented to the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar annually.
- **A five (5) year review of the Strategy** to monitor and evaluate it's performance, status and review strategic pillars and actions.
- **Advocacy via the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar**, including support from AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon and Netball Victoria, **for the continuation of facility investment programs through the Victorian Government.**
- **Partnerships between sport, government and education** (where applicable) in the planning for facility renewal and new developments.
- The **initiation of financial contributions to capital projects at club level,** with the aim of balancing expenditure on player remuneration and contributions to infrastructure development.
- **Advocacy for the initiation and continuation of local level grant programs** that focus on infrastructure development and capacity building.

HOW WILL SUCCESS BE MEASURED?

- **The successful and timely implementation and monitoring of the G21 AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy.**
- **Strategic investment in facility upgrades** that align with the recommendations within this Strategy.
- **The continuation of the Country Football Netball Program** (CFNP) through the Victorian Government, AFL Victoria and Netball Victoria.
- **Continuation of other eligible infrastructure investment programs** through the Victorian Government that enable greater participation outcomes and partnership opportunities (e.g. Local Sports Infrastructure Fund).
- **Improved relationships between project stakeholders and education providers**, e.g. schools, Department of Education and Training (DET), Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) and Deakin University to drive collaborative planning, investment and access to facilities.
- **Continuation of local investment programs that target infrastructure upgrades** to improve participation outcomes, facility provision and greater activation of venues.



St Mary's Football Club players

PRIORITY 2

Increase the quality, functionality, capacity and sustainability of existing facilities

Since 2015, investment into football and netball facilities has occurred in-line with the principles of the initial Strategy; to increase access and the provision of functional, quality facilities that maximise participation opportunities. Increasing the carrying capacity of facilities broadens participation outcomes and the multi-use of venues. Capacity building initiatives such as gender neutral change rooms, sports lighting, playing surface upgrades, access to school facilities and the investigation into alternate playing surfaces contribute to a sustainable game and offer varied opportunities for investment.

AFL Victoria has expressed a desire for existing facilities to meet preferred minimum standards as outlined within the *AFL Preferred Facilities Guidelines (2019).* Following recent audits of football and netball facilities across the Barwon region, gaps in provision have been identified. Clubs who occupy facilities that are not meeting recommended guidelines, including gender neutral standards, are recognised as being at a greater disadvantage with limited ability to capitalise on participation growth, and reduced opportunities for the activation of venues.

Diversity in participation is a key growth market for both AFL and netball, and in particular female football, as well as all-abilities, multicultural, Indigenous, FIDA, Auskick, NetSetGO and other modified formats of the game. Ensuring that facilities meet guidelines and expectations including the provision of supporting amenities, adequate sports lighting and amenities for match officials and umpires has never been more important.

The provision of sports lighting beyond training standard to facilitate night games at local venues must be considered in consultation with AFL Barwon, LGAs, Clubs and against a cost benefit analysis. As per the *AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines*, the minimum standard competition lighting for local venues is 100 lux with 150 lux preferred to improve spectator viewing and amenity. The fixturing of night games requires a collaborative approach to assist in managing stakeholder expectations and ensure that any investment into competition standard lighting is commensurate with the recommendations in this Strategy. Consideration must also be given to each LGA's standard provision of sporting infrastructure across its facility network and in reference to any relevant facility hierarchy. A consistent approach to lighting provision within LGA boundaries however should be taken to ensure equity and transparency.

AFL Victoria's Growing the Heartland Strategy (2017-2022) indicates that the provision of good oval lighting goes hand in hand with the right amount of oval provision and is important for all levels of Australian Football. It provides user groups with more opportunity to train and play and assists in ensuring that the use of facilities can be maximised. The installation of higher quality sports lighting assists to grow ground capacity, improve fixturing flexibility and helps to address oval demand. Good quality lighting also extends oval use later into the evening, especially in the winter months, allowing greater programming, flexibility and optimisation of facility use. It is important to balance the many benefits of providing lighting against initial costs and ongoing maintenance and energy costs. A lack of lighting provision can lead to lost opportunities for participation growth as well see ovals being overused and prematurely worn.

PRIORITY 2

Increase the quality, functionality, capacity and sustainability of existing facilities



Anakie v Grovedale Football Club

The *AFL's Growing the Heartland Strategy* suggests that a plan for the spread of well-located competition standard lit grounds (preferably 150+ lux) should be available, with all community leagues having access to at least one competition lit venue.

The Strategy also indicates that for local level facilities, training standard for sports lighting is 50 lux. For regional or state level venues, this increases to 100 lux. Lighting to training standard is considered a key priority and a core component of any club facility Any new sports lighting infrastructure development, or redevelopment where capacity permits, should include LED technology, which offers 40% reduced energy consumption, reduced maintenance, spill control and immediate brightness *(source: AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines (2019)).* Whilst the initial capital outlay for LED infrastructure is generally higher than traditional metal halide lighting, cost savings throughout the life of LED assets and the reduced environmental impact, far outweigh initial capital costs.

In addition to increasing facility capacity through infrastructure LGAs, AFL Barwon and Clubs should work collaboratively to meet the changing landscape and demand for football and netball.

This will see a more flexible approach to use being required, with Clubs needing to adapt to varied training nights, times and locations to ensure facility usage can be evenly spread throughout the week.

In regards to netball facilities, a number of local venues are single-court facilities, which limits capacity, programmability and participation outcomes for clubs and leagues. Single court facilities do not align with recommendations in the *Netball Victoria Facilities Manual (2017)* which notes that two courts for local football and netball clubs are required to cater for training and competition activities (where space and demand permits). The provision of lighting of 100 lux for club netball venues is also considered essential within the Manual for both training and competition.

An additional opportunity to support and strengthen capacity is to facilitate greater access to alternate facilities including schools **(**both those within new growth areas and those set to be redeveloped)**.** Where identified, joint use agreements with education providers can assist in addressing demand. At times, barriers to utilising school facilities exist due to lack of infrastructure including appropriate lighting and change facilities. The Victorian Government recently released a Joint Ministerial Statement on Physical Activity for Children and Young People, which includes a goal to 'Create Active Communities' through participation in after school hours sport, and through broader community access to school facilities. It is recommended that a regional approach to connecting and partnering with the Department of Education and Training is taken to facilitate future use of school venues. School facilities presently utilised for football and netball within the G21 Region are included within the facility audit analysis in this Report. Where school venues have the opportunity to address facility gaps, a collaborative approach to investment is recommended.

PRIORITY 2

Increase the quality, functionality, capacity and sustainability of existing facilities

HOW WILL PRIORITY 2 BE ACHIEVED?

- **Prioritising collaborative investment in facilities which have identified facility gaps in core provision**. This includes facilities which lack adequate gender neutral football and netball player amenities, gender neutral umpire facilities and single court netball facilities.
- **Prioritising investment into sports lighting to training standard commensurate with facility hierarchy,** where lighting does not meet standard and where demand necessitates. Preference to prioritise LED developments over traditional metal halide lighting.
- **Investment in oval upgrades including the conversion to warm season grass surfaces and exploring the use of alternate playing surfaces** such as hybrid and synthetic fields, to improve carrying capacity and to protect against future drought and water restrictions.
- **Increase the use of school facilities and alternate non-traditional venues** to address demand and capacity issues, and undertake a collaborative approach to investment in partnership with the Department of Education and Training.
- **AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria and LGAs to encourage Clubs to consider flexible training and competition venues**, away from their home facility, to help meet demand and over-use of ovals due to high volumes of traffic. This includes the potential use of association netball venues not normally used by club-based netball.
- **LGAs to consider investment into existing underutilised and/or overflow venues**, including the provision of adequate playing surfaces, lighting and basic amenities where demand necessitates.
- **Report annually on the status of football and netball facilities** following annual facility audits and identify the change over time in provision (gaps versus improvements).

HOW WILL SUCCESS BE MEASURED?

- **Increased provision of existing venues meeting recommended guidelines for core amenity provision.**
- **Improved quality of sports lighting infrastructure and the installation of sports lighting (where lighting is not provided) at existing venues** to improve programmability and capacity.
- **The provision of second netball courts at existing venues** where single courts are currently provided and where need, demand and land availability can be clearly demonstrated.
- **Greater access to schools and other non-traditional venues** and a stronger relationship and increased levels of shared investment with the Department of Education and Training (DET).
- **Activation of underutilised facilities through increased facility provision and greater programmability.**
- **Continued annual audits of all AFL Barwon football and netball facilities by region staff.**



St Mary's v Geelong Amateur Football Club

PRIORITY 3

Ensure facilities cater for the diversity of participants playing across the G21 Region

Since 2015, over $67M worth of collective investment into football and netball facilities in the G21 Region has occurred. This funding has been contributed through budget allocations, grant funding and local contributions. This expenditure has delivered over 60 projects, all focused on improving the quality and capacity of infrastructure. The redevelopment of change facilities has provided amenities that create better environments for the diversity of participants attracted to the game. A sustained focus on prioritising facility upgrades that are inclusive of all people will be imperative over the next 10 years.

Female football has become the fastest growing segment of the game, contributing to 53% of total participation growth from 2015-2019 in the Region. Female football now accounts for 15% of total AFL Barwon Club participation in 2019, with 65 teams participating across all five LGAs. In addition, female AFL umpires contribute approximately 10% of the total umpire contingent in AFL Barwon. As participation increases, there will continue to be a strong requirement for the delivery of gender neutral change facilities to cater for this demand. The consistent growth in female participation since 2015 is creating greater expectations on LGAs, and increasing facility gaps which, on most occasions, require significant investment to address. Although substantial progress has been made to address gender neutral provision, 57% of change rooms and 39% of umpire change rooms do not meet the AFL's Preferred Facility Guidelines for female friendly facilities in the Region.

Female friendly infrastructure grants available through AFL Victoria and Sport & Recreation Victoria provide an opportunity for the Region to target facility upgrades where female participation is current or projected. Collaboration with peak sporting bodies that are considered a co-tenant or complimentary to football and netball provides further opportunity to maximise funding opportunities.

The development of gender neutral amenities, including player and umpire facilities, should reference the *AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines (2019)* and *Sport & Recreation Victoria's Female Friendly Sport Infrastructure Guide* to ensure that facilities meet best practice as well as the objectives of potential funding partners.

Sport & Recreation Victoria's Design for Everyone Guide aims to instil the principles of Universal Design to make the built environment more simplified and inclusive of as many users as possible. Equitable design, for people of all genders, all abilities and of all cultures should be at the forefront of any design process. Flexibility in changing spaces, adaptability of multi purpose areas and accessible and intuitive layouts will improve the form and function of venues and improve user experience.

In relation to netball facilities, facility audit information indicates that 63% of player change rooms are in good to excellent condition, leaving 37% as potentially requiring improvement. As netball is predominantly a female sport and continues to be a great contributor to female participation across the Region, addressing facility gaps should be afforded equal priority. In addition, the availability of modern, gender neutral umpire amenities will also support the prosperity of the game. Opportunities for shared umpire spaces that can cater for both football and netball could be explored further.

PRIORITY 3

Ensure facilities cater for the diversity of participants playing across the G21 Region



Torquay Tigers Football Club fans

Over recent years, the use of modular buildings has become a popular option in facility development, enabling outcomes that can be delivered up to 60% faster and at 15-30% less cost than traditional construction *(source: AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines 2019).* Options to utilise modular change rooms to assist in meeting gender neutral amenity shortages, and where additional change room provision is required, should be considered. The use of modular change facilities can also be useful for larger clubs and/or where back to back games are hosted. The AFL in partnership with Ausco Modular has developed designs for local and regional facilities that can easily be adapted to any venue in a cost-effective manner.

As both female and male participation continues to grow throughout G21, competition structures will need to become more responsive to demand. Flexible training and equal opportunities for all participants to train and play on main grounds through innovative fixturing should be considered. Greater use of facilities with identified capacity and appropriate supporting infrastructure should be at the forefront of scheduling, particularly for venues that offer flexibility and cater for the diversity of participants. Further detailed data regarding individual facility audit provision and compliance against the AFL's *Preferred Facility Guidelines* can be found in the Appendices section of this Report.

PRIORITY 3

Ensure facilities cater for the diversity of participants playing across the G21 Region

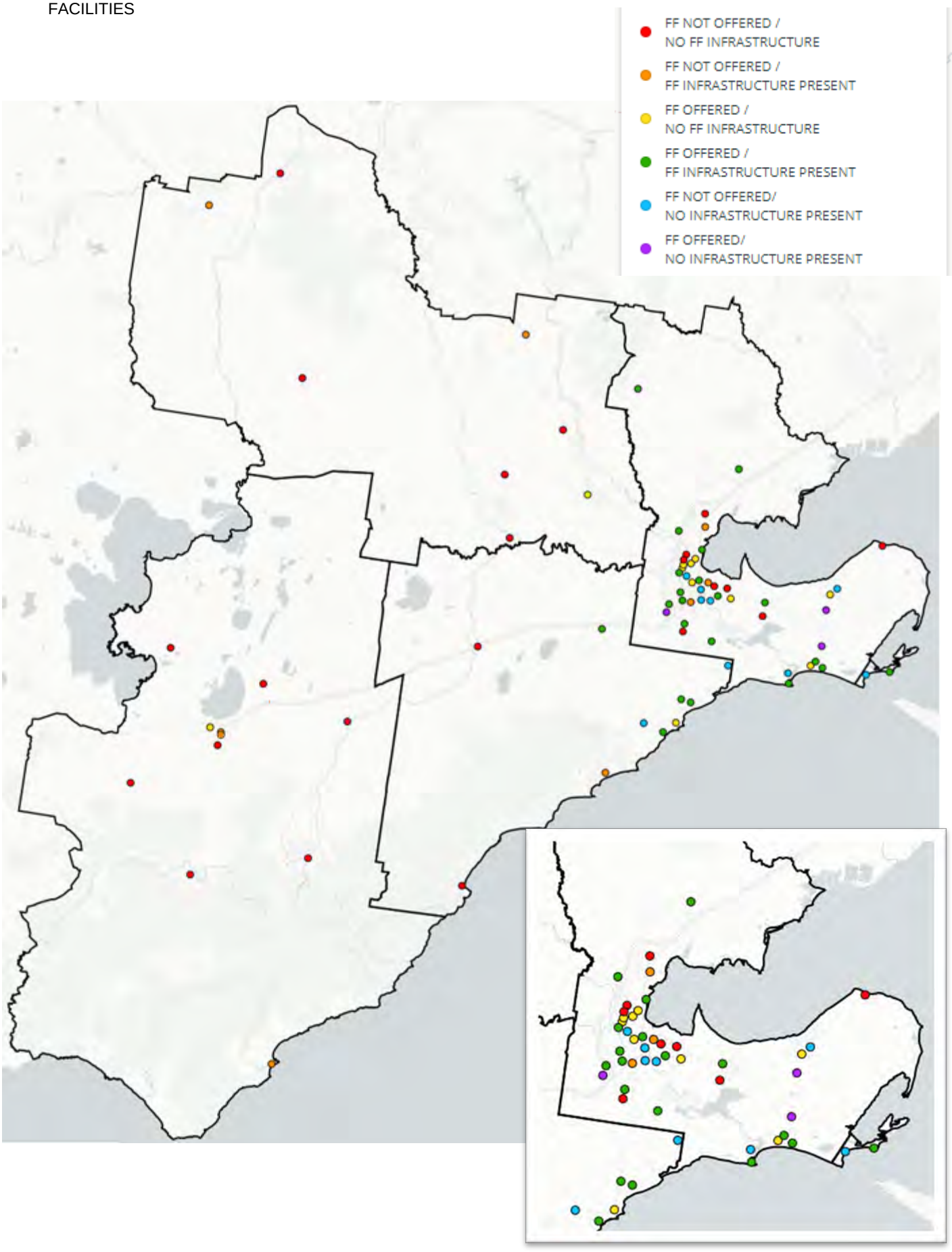
HOW WILL PRIORITY 3 BE ACHIEVED?

- **Every new or redevelopment football and netball facility will provide gender neutral and accessible facilities** that will support participation for people of all gender, ability and from any culture or background.
- **The *AFL's Preferred Facility Guidelines (2019) and Netball Victoria Facilities Manual (2017)* will be referenced** in the planning phase for all new or redevelopments of facilities.
- ***SRV's Design for Everyone Guide* and *Female Friendly Sport Infrastructure Guide* will be referenced** in the planning phase for all new and redevelopment of facilities.
- **Continuation of grant programs that offer facility funding focussed on inclusivity** and enhancing opportunities for females will be key to successful project delivery.
- **Flexible fixturing and competition structures** will evolve to facilitate and accommodate the growing female participation forecast. Fixturing will be delivered from an equitable standpoint, offering females the same opportunity as men to play and train on the main ground and on traditional training nights.
- **Exploring modular facility construction for new and redeveloped facilities** and/or at venues where participation and capacity requires additional change room infrastructure.

HOW WILL SUCCESS BE MEASURED?

- **All venues that are used for female football will cater for gender neutral and accessible use and be flexible in design.** This includes for all participants of the game such as players, umpires, officials, coaches and spectators. Target to complete venues which presently offer female football with no infrastructure present including Bakers Oval, Drysdale Recreation Reserve, Elderslie Reserve, Frier Reserve, Grinter Reserve, Herne Hill Reserve, McCartney Oval, Victoria Park (Bannockburn), West Oval and Western Reserve followed by venues which do not have female participation but also do not have female suitable venues (see map on page 49).
- **All netball change and umpire facility provision will be considered in good to excellent condition by 2030.**
- **The delivery of facilities that have flexible spaces to encourage broader multi-use opportunities** both within and outside of traditional sport.

FIGURE 09 | CURRENT G21 AFL FEMALE FOOTBALL MAP AND FEMALE FRIENDLY (GENDER NEUTRAL) FACILITIES





Belmont Lions and Corio Community Football Club players

PRIORITY 4

Support the capacity building and education of clubs and their people

Community clubs continue to be the lifeblood of regional and rural areas, driven by dedicated volunteers who are integral to the development of the game. The identification of educational opportunities and partnerships that support and build capacity will continue to contribute to the success of clubs both on and off the field.

The value that sport brings to communities extends well beyond the playing field, contributing to social outcomes including community cohesion, reduced feelings of isolation, increased civic pride, greater social capital and improved physical and mental health. In 2013, Street Ryan undertook the 'Review of Football in Country Victoria' study which measured the social impacts derived from regional football and netball and found that clubs provided a crucial community service. Particularly in smaller towns, the study found clubs assisted in keeping children and youth engaged and prevented disenfranchisement from the local community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly disrupted the 2020 football and netball season, with the regular (senior) football and netball competition cancelled until 2021. The impact of the pandemic on local sporting clubs will require close monitoring now and into the future by all project partners.

Whilst AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, AFL Barwon and LGAs are devising strategies for the reopening of facilities, including health and safety protocols, the future viability and sustainability of some clubs as a result of the disruption may not immediately be evident. Other potential financial impacts on clubs including the likelihood of limited sponsorship and other forms of financial support in future seasons is high, with stable sources of income and revenue streams possibly becoming more difficult to secure.

In addition, there is a risk that participants who will not be playing in competition and/or training in 2020, could be less inclined to return once sport resumes. Strategies regarding the re-engagement of participants and the promotion of the game, including the importance of sport for mental and physical wellbeing, should be considered as a critical priority for project partners moving forward.

To support the future sustainability of clubs ongoing, and to deliver other educational and capacity building opportunities, engagement via the new AFL Victoria Club Champion Program will be a critical resource and support service. Beginning in early 2021, the role of Club Champion will be a resource available to regional football commissions, including AFL Barwon, to provide face to face club support to enhance management and community building capabilities.

The current 'Club Health Check' utilised by AFL Victoria and AFL Barwon will be encompassed into the key responsibilities of the Club Champion role, where clubs that are identified as requiring most support will be prioritised. Additional key aims of the Club Champion will be to develop initiatives to assist in club operations including strategic planning, financial management, volunteer engagement and sponsorship acquisition.

PRIORITY 4

Support the capacity building and education of clubs and their people

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a small number of football and netball clubs, mostly located in areas of identified disadvantage and/or where population characteristics are limiting involvement in sport, were experiencing stagnant, fluctuating or declining participation, particularly in junior and female cohorts. Whilst this is in direct contrast to the general trend of increasing participation in G21, further investigation and a strategic, collaborative response should be taken. It is recommended that project partners critically assess the spread of participation in the Region and consider the most appropriate approach to facilitate participation across all locations. Consideration should be given to understanding why disparity in participation occurs and how the equalisation of participation across all clubs and facilities can be addressed. Player pathways from Auskick, NetSetGO, junior through to senior age groups are crucial for player retention and clubs should be supported to enable this to occur. In areas where participation is fluctuating or declining, resources need to be targeted at schools to promote programs and linkages to the local competition.

The initial 2015 Strategy identified that a review of current club and league structures to address and improve sustainability and equalisation should be pursued. Whilst significant progress has been made, revisiting this priority to test that the current structure still reflects the recent evolution of the game and its competition is recommended. Considering the restructure of the competition format at senior level following the salary cap equalisation will be an important next step to ensuring greater sustainability of the game across the Region.

Whilst community and sport development expectations are inherently understood by clubs, they, at times, require further guidance and support to achieve these initiatives. One of the roles of the new AFL Club Champion and Netball Victoria Participation Coordinators is to provide training and education opportunities aimed at building capacity of volunteers. These initiatives however cannot be delivered by these people alone and the importance of continuing to work alongside other project partners including Leisure Networks, Geelong Cats Foundation, LGAs and other peak sporting bodies will continue to be vital.

Due to the current pandemic, there has been a significant reduction in staffing resources across AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria and AFL Barwon in response to the suspension of football and netball at both elite and local levels. Resourcing requirements and the structure of AFL Barwon is expected to be reviewed once play returns.

There is also opportunity to undertake an assessment of the Football Development Manager (FDM) roles to identify where additional resourcing could assist. FDMs are considered key to driving game development however limited resources mean that these core functions, along with other aspirational initiatives, become increasingly difficult to deliver. It is identified that further support in the game development area could assist greatly in the delivery of participation initiatives identified within the Strategy, including for areas experiencing participation stagnation or decline. In addition, the joint and shared planning of club education by FDM's and Participation Coordinators to reduce duplication and create a more efficient and effective training model should be explored.

Any recommendation for development and expansion of the game must include support for officials. This includes umpire recruitment and retention policies, provision of appropriate training facilities and amenities, support for umpire in schools' programs, expanding pathways and encouraging club involvement in developing umpires. AFL Barwon's Umpire Academy's aim to align umpire development programs with Clubs as a way of recruiting, supporting and nourishing umpires through inclusive environments. This initiative should continue to be an integral part of game development for the sport through to 2030, with a greater number of clubs engaged in providing this program. There is also opportunity to engage and recruit a greater number of female AFL umpires. As per page 27 of this report, female umpire participant numbers has remained stable, with approximately 40 female participants in 2015 and 2019. Further attraction and recruitment of female umpires to the game, will support sport's inclusive and diverse profile, and influence more girl's and women to become involved.



AFL Barwon Umpire and East Geelong Football Club player

PRIORITY 4

Support the capacity building and education of clubs and their people

HOW WILL PRIORITY 4 BE ACHIEVED?

- **A collaborative and structured approach** including all project partners, affiliated Leagues and club representatives **to understand the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on community football and netball.**
- All project partners including levels of government and sport to collaborate in **engaging with existing participants during the period of competition cessation.**
- **The development of participation strategies and identifying resources to attract participants in areas experiencing decreased or limited participation.**
- **Greater connection and promotion of football and netball amongst schools** and the development of linkages to clubs that can support involvement in traditional competition and other modified formats of the game.
- **Support for umpire leagues in the development of retention and recruitment policies** and identifying initiatives for clubs to actively promote umpiring to their member base, in particular for female umpires.
- **Strong partnerships with LGAs, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria and Leisure Networks** in the continuation of club development seminars and initiatives to provide education and learning opportunities on a regular basis.
- **Greater allocation of resources** to AFL Barwon to support participation initiatives and club support.

HOW WILL SUCCESS BE MEASURED?

- **Retention of football and netball participants following the COVID-19 pandemic** into season 2021 and 2022.
- **The delivery of quarterly club development seminars** in partnership with LGAs, Leisure Networks, AFL Barwon and Netball Victoria. These seminars should aim to provide education to clubs that encapsulates information to improve and implement healthy sports environments, infrastructure planning processes and improved club administration.
- **Deliver the Club Champion Program through the appointment of the Club Champion position** to assist in development initiatives including sustainability, governance, financial, volunteerism and administration.
- **Completion of strategies to stimulate participation in areas of decline,** targeting school programs and as a key opportunity to increase participation at club level.
- **Greater involvement and engagement with current and prospective umpires** including increased club engagement with the AFL Barwon Umpire Academy program to encourage participation, recruitment and retention of officials.



Torquay Tigers Football Netball Club – Spring Creek Reserve

PRIORITY 5

Plan and develop facilities in growth and priority areas across the G21 Region

Population growth is predicted for the G21 Region, particularly within the City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast Shire and Golden Plains Shire to 2030. This will affect future football and netball participation, and place increased demand for the improvement of existing facilities and new venues in greenfield development sites.

Since 2015, an additional 9 AFL Ovals and 4 Netball Courts have been delivered across G21, including:

- 2 Ovals and 2 Netball Courts at Armstrong Creek East Sporting Precinct (Armstrong Creek)
- 1 Oval and 2 Netball Courts at Sovereign Drive (Armstrong Creek)
- 1 Oval at Banyul-Warri Fields (Torquay)
- 2 Ovals at Drysdale Sporting Precinct (Drysdale)
- 1 Oval at Oakdene Estate (Ocean Grove)
- 1 Oval at Bannockburn P-12 College (Bannockburn)
- 1 Oval at Deakin University (Waurn Ponds)

The development of additional facilities has assisted greatly in addressing demand as identified in the initial Strategy. Updated population forecasts for G21 in the Towards 2030 Strategy identify that access to approximately 16 additional AFL Ovals and 26 netball courts across the Region to 2030 is required (using the recommended benchmark population ratio). This forecast is based on demographic changes as well as analysing the projected market for football and netball. A detailed analysis of facility provision forecasts by Region and LGA can be found in the Appendices section of this Report.

AFL's recommended best practice ratio of 1 oval to 7 teams has also been utilised for comparison within the LGA facility forecast (also found in the Appendices section of this Report). This ratio provides another comparison and benchmark for stakeholders in understanding potential oval access requirements should this ratio be considered.

Facility provision forecasts and ratios used throughout to identify playing surface requirements should not be used as a standalone measure, and consideration regarding the access to existing facilities, their capacity, geographic spread and current usage should be afforded. Consideration to improving playing surfaces and associated infrastructure can also extend the programable hours of a facility and assist in addressing additional demand. A case study outlining the benefits of improved oval playing surfaces can be found in the Appendices section of this Report.

Current ratios for football used throughout this Report indicate that there is generally an adequate number of ovals, aligning to the recommended AFL ratio of 1 oval to 5,000 people across all LGAs.

Netball court provision ratios used throughout this Report indicate that 3 of 5 G21 LGAs are currently exceeding the recommended ratio of 1 court per 60 players for regional and rural areas. Within these LGAs, there may be an immediate requirement for access to, or the provision of, additional facilities to meet demand. The Appendices section of this Report outlines the projected participation growth and court requirements for each LGA to 2030. Again, these forecasts must be considered against current supply, condition, access and usage to existing facilities.

In addition, the use of existing indoor venues for netball should be considered to support demand. The use of indoor venues for club based netball however is only endorsed by Netball Victoria for training and development programs, not competition.

The regional netball venue at Kardinia Park is currently utilised for both club based netball as well as association netball, and court and facility provision has been considered within the audits in the Appendices section of this Report. Future upgrades to the complex will be considered within the Kardinia Park Master Plan which is currently underway.

Any future facility development recommendations should consider the impacts on existing provision ratios. Where an oversupply of facilities is evident, increasing the capacity of existing facilities or the possible repurposing of underutilised venues should be pursued prior to the development of new venues.

Planning of greenfield sites where LGAs have control over facility provision should consider the projected need of the sport and work to reduce any gaps in infrastructure. As a minimum, LGAs experiencing population growth may consider the installation of at least one synthetic field (as it is the equivalent to three natural turf ovals) combined with options for hybrid turf at other venues to meet increased demand. In addition, synthetic facilities also provide opportunity for use by other sports (e.g. hockey, soccer, cricket). Most oval access requirements to 2030 is centered around the City of Greater Geelong and its growth areas with access to an additional 12 ovals required across six identified planning areas. The Appendices section of this Report provides a detailed forecast of AFL oval projections by planning area for the Greater Geelong municipality.

The planning and development of any new playing fields and venues will need to maximise shared usage for sports outside of football and netball and be flexible enough to meet the changing needs of the community. The delivery of any new local level multi-use facilities should consist of two ovals or surfaced areas which can accommodate full sized AFL ovals, as well as two lit netball courts to maximise viability of the venue. AFL Victoria recommends the development of two oval (or multi oval) venues in new developments to support more sustainable clubs and multi use outcomes. Two oval sites enable a club to grow and spread usage across playing fields and provides better economies of scale in terms of supporting infrastructure. Whilst single oval facilities can be considered important, particularly in LGAs where population forecasts are limited, in areas of growth and heightened demand, multi-oval venues should be given preference. Existing single oval facilities, if adequate demand and suitable infrastructure is provided, should continue to be considered integral in a facility network for overflow, training and junior football uses.

The success of sport, particularly within new clubs and facilities, relies on well coordinated on and off-field activities. The importance of establishing well run clubs and empowered volunteers will contribute to the outcomes of a venue and create better return on investment. Guiding documents such as the City of Greater Geelong's Armstrong Creek Sports Development Plan outlines a consolidated approach to the initiation of sport including establishing and growing participation, people and partnerships, creating viable clubs and the appropriate resourcing for delivery. Where new facilities are identified between 2020-2030, the creation of sport development documents should be considered to ensure the successful initiation and grassroots facilitation of the game.

Prioritising local infrastructure projects should be measured against the recommendations within this Strategy, LGA strategic planning and capital works budget cycles, external funding availability and the Project Development Framework for Clubs on page 93. The Framework provides an outline of expectations and guidance to ensure that any club driven project is developed in a robust manner and in consultation with project partners. Any proposal will be subject to available funding and the capacity of project partners to prioritise investment.

Finally, project stakeholders will need to continually monitor football and netball participation and plan accordingly. The initiation of the annual State of Play Report, as identified in Priority 1, by AFL Barwon will ensure there is a collective understanding of participation trends across the Region. This will be essential to support the identification of facility investment priorities.

PRIORITY 5

Plan and develop facilities in growth and priority areas across the G21 Region

HOW WILL PRIORITY 5 BE ACHIEVED?

- **Utilising participation projections and provision projections progressively provide additional access to 16 AFL ovals and 26 netball courts to 2030 across the Region** in line with population and participation projections for both sports.
- **G21 LGA's, AFL Barwon and AFL Victoria partner to investigate options for the installation of a synthetic oval for the region** and identify a suitable location and potential funding models.
- **LGAs to work collaboratively with greenfield developers and AFL Barwon** in the identification and provision requirements of football and netball facilities.
- **Initiate a region based, collaborative approach to the Victorian School Building Authority** (VSBA) regarding new school facilities and their capacity to assist in addressing demand.
- **AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, Leisure Networks and LGAs to work collaboratively on sport development strategies for growth areas and new facilities** that will facilitate best participation and facility usage outcomes.

HOW WILL SUCCESS BE MEASURED?

- **Access to an additional 8 AFL ovals and 14 netball courts to 2025 along with an additional 2,000 AFL and 850 netball participants across the Region.**
- **Access to an additional 8 AFL Ovals and 12 netball courts from 2025-2030 along with an additional 1,800 AFL and 740 netball participants across the Region.**
- **Strong participation, occupation and usage of newly developed facilities** through strategies that drive grassroots club development.



St Mary's Football Club player



Colac Imperials Football Club player

PRIORITY 6

Identify the location, role and function of regional level facilities and a secure a long-term plan for the Regional Administration Centre

The initial 2015 Strategy identified three regional venues for the Region which, through increased capacity and infrastructure provision, can service higher levels of participation, spectators and events. All three regional venues have since been upgraded or are underway, which will see AFL Barwon well serviced to 2030.

The development of Regional Administration Centre's (RAC) and Hubs for Commissions is a priority within AFL Victoria's Growing the Heartland Strategy. The current home of AFL Barwon at Highton Reserve presents limitations and a long-term plan for a RAC is required. The initial Strategy identified potential venues for a future RAC which should continue to be pursued.

The three identified regional level venues in the initial 2015 Strategy are soon to be delivered, commensurate with regional facility provision. These three venues are:

- Spring Creek Reserve (Torquay)
- Colac Central Reserve (Colac)
- West Oval (Geelong West)

The completion of these upgrades now meets the recommended requirement for regional facility provision over the next 10 years, and aligns with AFL Victoria's *Growing the Heartland Strategy;* that each league requires access to at least one regional venue. All three facilities now provide a higher standard of infrastructure and will host larger numbers of spectators. Regional facilities will be prioritised and scheduled for higher level games and events, particularly those outside of local competition, over other venues. Since 2015, the Elite Sporting Precinct at Deakin University has come to fruition, which includes an MCG-sized oval and floodlighting.

This facility should now be recognised as playing a regional role also in the network of G21 facilities. Further negotiation and partnerships with AFL Barwon, LGAs and Deakin regarding access to this venue for local and regional use should be pursued.

As identified in the 2015 Strategy, oval usage at Simonds Stadium, the only AFL Standard facility in the Region, is generally considered at capacity. This limits community access and heightens the importance of the identified regional venues and their ability to service events and competitions including VFLW, NAB League, Marsh Community Series and AFL Barwon finals.

AFL Barwon currently operate from Highton Reserve, sharing the facility with NAB League team the Geelong Falcons. Highton Reserve is classified as a local level venue and has limited capacity due to it being a single oval facility with seasonal access.

PRIORITY 6

Identify the location, role and function of regional level facilities and a secure a long-term plan for the Regional Administration Centre

The development of a long-term plan for an AFL Barwon RAC continues to be a priority in the Towards 2030 Strategy, which would provide a facility that can house AFL Barwon staff, including League administrators, as well as services for growing participation, talent pathways, coaching and other club education. A single location for the administration of football and netball will create efficiencies and collaboration and replace any duplication in effort.

The requirement for a RAC to provide talent pathways is essential and balancing the needs of elite teams and players whilst continuing access for community programs must be considered equally. The significant advantage of the existing relationship and connection with AFL Barwon and the Geelong Falcons is recognised, and the opportunity for the future RAC to incorporate facilities that cater for the many facets of both football as well as netball should be pursued.

The development of a RAC would ideally be at a non-aligned venue with access to multiple playing surfaces for football and netball. As indicated in AFL Victoria's *Growing the Heartland Strategy,* on-site region commission staff could provide added value through assistance with ground management, program delivery and scheduling, increasing shared use and other outcomes which can be challenging in traditional club tenancy models.

It is recommended that a feasibility study be undertaken in conjunction with project partners for the identification of the most suitable location for the RAC moving forward. The feasibility study should highlight the need for a collaborative approach to investment through partners including AFL Victoria, Geelong Falcons and AFL Barwon. Any long-term option for a RAC should also include planning for an improved Centre of Excellence for the Geelong Falcons.



Lara Football Club player

PRIORITY 6

Identify the location, role and function of regional level facilities and a secure a long-term plan for the Regional Administration Centre

HOW WILL PRIORITY 6 BE ACHIEVED?

- **Completion of all three regional level facility upgrades and the increased programming of these venues** for higher level events and games.
- **The activation of Deakin University as a regional level venue**, particularly once change room facilities are provided.
- **AFL Barwon to commission a feasibility study, in conjunction with project partners, to investigate and recommend the best long term home for a RAC.**
- **Investment into the preferred identified RAC requires multiple investment partners** including AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon and Geelong Falcons.

HOW WILL SUCCESS BE MEASURED?

- **Through the increased usage of the three identified regional facilities identified and the Deakin University facility.**
- **The completion of a long term feasibility study identifying the future RAC location in the Region.**
- **The development of a RAC that is funded through a collaborative approach a number of responsible project partners.**



St Alban's Football Club officials

STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Through the implementation phases of the Strategy there will be three key roles for stakeholders to play:

INITIATE

Planning the scoping and timing of strategic directions, programs, activities and service provision.

DELIVER

Delivery of strategic directions, activities and services.

SUPPORT

Support for program, activity and service delivery through the provision of people, skills, funding, equipment and promotion.

Many strategic directions will require further stakeholder consultation. To ensure key actions can be achieved in a timely manner, continued collaboration between sport and government is crucial.

Proposed strategic directions have been allocated a level of priority based on their relative impact on delivering the desired outcomes for the Region. The level of priority should be used to inform each project partner of the relative importance of a particular action along with the expected delivery timeframe. A description of each priority level is provided below.

It is recommended that a five (5) year review of the Strategy be undertaken to monitor, evaluate and ensure the currency of priorities and actions



North Geelong Football Club player

CRITICAL ACTION
A direction that has a serious impact on ongoing service delivery and without achievement other priorities cannot be progressed or will be severely hindered in their implementation.
HIGH
A direction that has a high level of impact that must be prioritised to ensure the successful delivery, implementation and success of the Strategy.
MEDIUM
A direction that contributes to meeting the overall Strategy objectives.
LOW
A direction that contributes to overall Strategy improvement activities.
ONGOING
A direction that will require ongoing commitment of sport and government stakeholders.

KEY STAKEHOLDER IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy has highlighted a range of critical issues that AFL Barwon and G21 LGA's face regarding growth in football and netball participation and the need to prioritise and plan for infrastructure upgrades and new development. The following project partners will be imperative to the Strategy's delivery. The role of each partner in the Strategy's implementation is summarised below.

AFL BARWON

AFL Barwon will play a lead role in coordinating and supporting the implementation of Strategy recommendations including club development initiatives, as well as supporting infrastructure projects and directing regional staff work plans and priorities.

The most critical roles of AFL Barwon will be in driving a return to play strategy and engagement of participants following the COVID-19 pandemic. This will include monitoring the financial status of clubs from season 2021 and beyond. AFL Barwon will need to work in partnership with stakeholders in supporting strategic planning and financial management processes at club level. In addition, the fixturing of games to accommodate for increased demand, including female participation, to maximise usage of venues and offer alternate facilities where available. For higher level events and competitions, including finals, AFL Barwon should look to maximise use of the Region's identified regional level venues.

AFL Barwon will need to bring the regional football and netball community together, assist in prioritising recommendations and advocate to LGA stakeholders for financial and resource support to deliver key actions. Without AFL Barwon's drive and commitment to these reforms, successful implementation cannot be achieved.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The five G21 LGAs have a core responsibility to directly deliver football and netball infrastructure planning, improvement and revitalisation actions, as well as support participation and club development initiatives.

LGAs will need to focus on the implementation of Critical Action Plans, as well as support regional objectives through policy adoption and development and in prioritising and securing partner investment.

Via the G21 Sport and Recreation Pillar and through internal LGA governance structures, LGAs are encouraged to adopt strategy objectives and priorities and utilise them as the basis for future local planning regarding football and netball.

LEISURE NETWORKS

Leisure Networks play a crucial role in providing support, education and capacity building of clubs and their administrators. Their expertise in delivering participation programs and assisting to create welcoming, inclusive, sustainable and healthy sporting environments will be key to achieving several updated Strategy recommendations.

AFL VICTORIA

AFL Victoria will play a support role in action implementation. They will also have an active and direct role in staffing of game development and promotional activities. In addition, AFL Victoria should provide support in sustainability initiatives including player points and salary cap systems that enable regional commissions to implement successfully.

AFL Victoria will promote statewide strategies for regional and local implementation, including club health checks, regional planning, annual facility auditing, professional development and education programs, and advocating for the continuation of the Country Football Netball Funding Program (CFNP) and other relevant funding programs.

NETBALL VICTORIA

Netball Victoria will play a support role in action implementation, but also have an active and direct role in staffing of game development and promotional activities, and supporting regional partners to meet their community, development and infrastructure aspirations. Netball Victoria's commitment to supporting continuation of the CFNP is also essential.

Netball Victoria will have a role assisting grass roots netball growth and development at a local level, supporting competition and club structure review, assisting with grants and facility development and ensuring statewide strategies for netball are implemented. Netball Victoria also plays a crucial role in working with AFL Barwon in the resumption of sport following COVID-19.

CLUBS

Clubs' commitment to delivering and supporting football and netball in a changed environment is critical. Specific to strategy implementation, clubs will need to participate in Club Health Checks, professional development and education programs, openly provide information to other regional stakeholders on strategic planning and financial management and commit to supporting proposed new governance processes and activities, in addition to standard club operational requirements. Critical to infrastructure improvement will be the capacity for clubs to financially plan for and invest in projects. Regional implementation of female football, grassroots programs and modified formats of the game will continue to be core development opportunities for clubs to expand their member base and grow their club.

STATE / FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Government will play a key support role in the funding of strategic initiatives, and in promoting the benefits of the G21 and AFL Barwon Towards 2030: Strategy throughout other Victorian regions. It will also be responsible for ensuring continued focus is provided on the delivery of strategy actions for greater benefit of the G21 Region. Government will be relied upon to support sport, the game and its facilities return to play through funding and other initiatives.

EDUCATION PROVIDERS

Schools within the Region will have a key role in growing participation through embracing programs offered by AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria and umpire leagues. School capabilities to accommodate increased access to school grounds and amenities where there is high usage will also be essential if sport growth initiatives are to be maximised. The Victorian School Building Authority and Department of Education and Training will be beneficial in discussions around the delivery of new school facilities and facilitating access to existing venues, in partnership with sport and LGAs.

Other providers such as Deakin University will be relied upon to facilitate access to existing facilities to assist in building the capacity of the facility network.



Modewarre Netball Club player

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Continue to enhance the relationship between football / netball, government and community partners in planning and investment of facilities

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
1.1 AFL Barwon to continue to host the annual AFL Barwon Government Forum to monitor and deliver the actions identified within the 2020 Strategy and to build stakeholder relationships and collaboration with project partners.	**Critical**	**Annually**	**AFL Barwon**	**AFL Barwon**	**AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Leisure Networks, Deakin University, Sport & Recreation Victoria, LGAs**
1.2 Project partners and the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar to work collaboratively in advocating for the continuation of existing, and identification of alternate, funding streams to support infrastructure investment, including the Country Football and Netball Program (CFNP).	**Critical**	**Immediate**	**G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar**	**G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar, LGAs**	**AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Sport & Recreation Victoria**
1.3 AFL Barwon to initiate the development of an annual State of Play Report to outline participation trends, facility compliance, new development initiatives and the implementation of the Strategy. The State of Play Report should be shared with project partners either via the Government Forum or via the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar annually.	**Critical**	**Annually**	**AFL Barwon**	**AFL Barwon & Netball Victoria**	**LGAs, Leisure Networks, G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar, Sport & Recreation Victoria**
1.4 AFL Barwon in partnership with Clubs initiate and outline the importance of the requirement of club contributions towards facility development, particularly when provision beyond core amenities is being sought.	High	Via quarterly Club Development Seminars	AFL Barwon	AFL Barwon	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, LGAs, Clubs
1.5 Project partners to educate venue users on the benefits of collaborative planning of sporting facilities and accessing school venues via successful case studies.	High	Through the G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar quarterly meetings	G21 Sport & Recreation Pillar, LGAs	LGAs & AFL Barwon	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Schools
1.6 AFL Victoria to continue capital investment grant programs outside of the Country Football Netball Program (CFNP) that can contribute towards new and redevelopment of facilities.	High	2020 to 2030	AFL Victoria	AFL Victoria	AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria

STRATEGIC DIRECTION #2 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Increase the quality, functionality, capacity and sustainability of existing facilities.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
2.1 Utilising facility audit information provided within the Strategy, prioritise collaborative investment with project partners into core facility upgrades where facility gaps are evident.	**Critical**	**80% of all player and umpire change facilities to meet gender neutral, accessible and universal design requirements by 2030.**	**AFL Barwon, LGAs**	**LGAs, AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria**	**Sport & Recreation Victoria**
2.2 A collection, region-based approach with project partners to develop partnerships with schools to advocate for access to facilities where adequate provision is available to meet demand. Consider collaborative investment into school facilities where increased usage outcomes can be demonstrated, and promote and advertise accordingly.	**Critical**	**Prior to the resumption of season, identify a collective approach to improve partnerships with schools to assist in meeting demand.**	**AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, LGAs**	**AFL Barwon, LGAs, Department of Education and Training**	**AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Deakin University**
2.3 Develop all facilities to include lighting to a minimum training level standard – this will help to alleviate demand and capacity issues experienced across the Region.	**Critical**	**Utilising the facility audit information in the Appendices of this Report, upgrade facilities where need and demand necessitate as funding becomes available.**	**AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, LGAs**	**AFL Barwon & LGA's**	**Sport & Recreation Victoria, AFL Victoria**
2.4 AFL Barwon and LGAs to work in partnership in the fixturing of night games to ensure venues that have competition lighting capacity are prioritised. Should existing competition lit facilities not suffice, project partners to collaboratively identify venues which should have lighting provision increased.	Medium	Annually through fixturing and scheduling of competition by AFL Barwon.	AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, LGAs	AFL Barwon & LGA's	Sport & Recreation Victoria, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria

STRATEGIC DIRECTION #2 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Increase the quality, functionality, capacity and sustainability of existing facilities.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
2.5 AFL Barwon and LGAs to promote and educate clubs on the use of overflow and alternate non-traditional venues to accommodate training and to reduce the over-use of ovals. Investment into non-aligned venues with required ground surface, lighting and basic amenities to assist and support identified demand.	Medium	Utilising AFL Barwon's club correspondence and educational tools. LGAs to consider facility audit information within this report and identify non-aligned and/or underutilised venues that could be enhanced to support overflow use.	AFL Barwon, LGAs	AFL Barwon, LGAs, Department of Education and Training	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Clubs
2.6 AFL Barwon and project partners including LGAs to support, encourage and provide feedback on strategic club-driven infrastructure development plans and encourage the identification of cash and/or in-kind contributions.	Medium	Using the club project development framework in the Appendices of this Report.	AFL Barwon, LGAs	AFL Barwon, LGAs	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Leisure Networks and Clubs

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Ensure facilities cater for the diversity of participants playing across the G21 Region.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
3.1 All new and redeveloped facilities must meet the requirements in the AFL's Preferred Facility Guidelines including the provision of gender neutral facilities for football and netball players as well as umpires.	**Critical**	**100% of new football and netball player and umpire change room developments must be gender neutral. LGAs to update any local strategies and policies to reflect this position.**	**AFL Barwon**	**LGAs**	**Sport & Recreation Victoria, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria**
3.2 In conjunction with facility audit data, female participation information and map on page 49, prioritise gender neutral facility developments that address facility gaps.	**Critical**	**Upgrade facilities that have existing female football participation but which are not gender neutral as priority. These venues include; Bakers Oval, Drysdale Reserve, Elderslie Reserve, Frier Reserve, Grinter Reserve, Herne Hill Reserve, McCartney Oval, Victoria Park, West Oval and Western Reserve**	**LGAs, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, AFL Victoria**	**LGAs**	**Sport & Recreation Victoria**
3.3 In conjunction with facility audit data, continue to improve the quality of netball player and umpire change facilities in the Region to enhance participant experience and opportunity	**Critical**	**All netball player and umpire change facilities to be considered in good to excellent condition by 2030.**	**LGAs, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, AFL Victoria**	**LGAs**	**Sport & Recreation Victoria**
3.4 AFL Barwon to continue to investigate and implement an approach to flexible fixturing models to support participation growth, equity in access to and the demand for facilities.	Medium	Season by season approach	AFL Barwon	AFL Barwon	LGAs, Netball Victoria, Clubs

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Ensure facilities cater for the diversity of participants playing across the G21 Region.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
3.5 Consider modular facilities as an alternate to traditional construction where applicable and to assist in servicing increased demand including where back to back games are played.	Medium	Project specific consideration	LGAs, AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria	LGAs	Sport & Recreation Victoria
3.6 Include multi-use and flexible design spaces in change rooms and social room developments that can be modified for a range of uses and that will encourage broader community use.	Medium	Project specific consideration	LGAs	LGAs, AFL Barwon Netball Victoria, AFL Victoria	Sport & Recreation Victoria

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #4 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Support the capacity building and education of clubs and their people

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
4.1 Project partners to set up a COVID-19 working group to establish a return-to-play timeline which includes strategies for engagement of participants during competition cessation and the ongoing monitoring of club health from season 2021 onwards.	**Critical**	**Immediate**	**AFL Barwon**	**AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria**	**LGAs, Leisure Networks, Deakin University**
4.2 LGAs, AFL Barwon and Leisure Networks, identify vulnerable areas experiencing participation decline. Develop participation strategies that identifies actions for improvement, resource requirements and a focus on school participation and linkages.	**Critical**	**Immediate**	**AFL Barwon**	**AFL Barwon, LGAs , Leisure Networks**	**Netball Victoria, AFL Victoria, Sport & Recreation, Department of Education and Training**
4.3 AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria and AFL Barwon to work collaboratively in clarifying human resource allocation following COVID-19. An assessment and opportunity to further review and support the FDM roles should be explored further.	**Critical**	**2020/21**	**AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria**	**AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria**	**LGAs**
4.4 AFL Barwon and LGAs collaborate in analysing the impacts of COVID-19 on clubs once regular play resumes. This analysis should extend to all five municipalities and in areas of identified growth, decline and stagnation.	High	2021	AFL Barwon, LGAs	Netball Victoria, AFL Victoria, Leisure Networks	Sport & Recreation Victoria, Clubs
4.5 AFL Barwon and AFL Victoria to revisit salary and points cap to reduce financial burden on clubs from season 2021.	High	Prior to 2021 season	AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon	AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon	Clubs

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #4 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Support the capacity building and education of clubs and their people

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
4.6 LGAs, AFL Barwon and Leisure Networks partner to deliver quarterly (or as agreed) club development seminars either as a Region or per each individual LGA. Seminars to focus on the delivery of information relating to items such as governance, volunteer retention, diversity and inclusion, financial management, infrastructure planning, infrastructure use and participation strategies.	High	Quarterly Club Development Seminars	LGAs, AFL Barwon, Leisure Networks	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria	Sport & Recreation Victoria, Clubs
4.7 New Club Champion role implemented to support and target the identified most vulnerable clubs and assist in enhancing club operations, capacity building and compliance.	High	New Club Champion role implemented.	AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon, Leisure Networks	AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria	LGAs, Clubs
4.8 AFL Barwon to revisit current club and league structure to continue to assist in club sustainability and competition equalisation. This includes critically assessing the spread of participation across the Region and ways to evenly distribute players between clubs.	Medium	Ongoing	AFL Barwon	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria	Clubs
4.9 Continue to provide linkages and connections with AFL Barwon Umpire Academies which attract, sustain and grow participation, particularly in female umpiring.	Medium	Ongoing	AFL Barwon	AFL Barwon	Clubs

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #5 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Plan and develop facilities in growth and priority areas across the G21 Region.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
5.1 LGAs, AFL Barwon and project partners successfully provide access to additional football and netball facilities identified by LGA in the Appendices of this Report.	**Critical**	**Access to an additional 8 Ovals and 14 Courts by 2025** **Access to an additional 8 Ovals and 12 Courts by 2030 (in addition to those identified to 2025)**	**LGAs**	**LGAs, AFL Barwon**	**AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria, Sport & Recreation Victoria, Victorian Government**
5.2 AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria, Leisure Networks and LGAs to develop sport development strategies to identify, develop and support newly established clubs in new facilities, particularly within growth areas.	High	As new facilities are planned and funded	AFL Barwon	Netball Victoria, AFL Victoria, LGAs	Leisure Networks, Clubs
5.3 LGAs, AFL Barwon and project partners to preference the development of multi-oval facilities over single oval facilities in growth areas consistent with the AFL *Growing the Heartland Strategy*.	Medium	As population and participation projections necessitate	AFL Barwon	AFL Barwon, LGAs, Clubs	AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #6 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Identify the location, role and function of regional level facilities and a secure a long-term plan for the Regional Administration Centre

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS	PRIORITY	DIRECTION OBJECTIVE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
6.1 AFL Barwon and LGAs utilise and program the three identified regional level facilities; Spring Creek Reserve, Colac Central Reserve and West Oval to host higher level games and/or events.	**Critical**	**Through AFL Barwon fixturing and opportunity for higher level event hosting**	**AFL Barwon**	**AFL Barwon, LGAs, Netball Victoria**	**Clubs**
6.2 AFL Barwon and AFL Victoria undertake a feasibility study in collaboration with project partners to identify the ideal location of a future long-term RAC.	**Critical**	**End of 2021**	**AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria**	**AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria**	**Netball Victoria, LGAs, Geelong Falcons, Deakin University, Sport & Recreation Victoria**
6.3 AFL Barwon and AFL Victoria in consultation with project partners initiate an advocacy document to guide the co-investment into the future identified RAC	High	Prior to November 2022	AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria	AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria	Netball Victoria, LGAs, Geelong Falcons, Deakin University, Sport & Recreation Victoria
6.4 AFL Barwon, LGAs and Deakin University to work in collaboration to facilitate access to the oval and facilities at the Waurn Ponds campus to assist in additional provision across the network.	Medium	Prior to 2021 season	AFL Barwon	Deakin University, LGAs	Clubs



APPENDICES

Grovedale v Portarlington Netball Club

G21 POPULATION AND PARTICIPATION FORECASTS



St Mary's v Bell Park Netball Club

G21 POPULATION FORECAST

The following population forecast for the G21 Region summarises the expected trends by LGA to 2025 and 2030 respectively. The percentage of male and female population is included along with the anticipated projection for people aged between 5-39 which is considered the key participation market for sport.

LGA	Population			Change in Total Population 2019-2025		% Change Total Population 2025-2030		Overall Change in population 2019-2030	
	2019	2025	2030	# of persons	pop % change	# of persons	pop % change	# of persons	pop % change
Colac-Otway	21,685	22,846	23,943	+1,161	5.4%	+1,097	4.8%	+2,258	10.4%
Golden Plains	23,384	26,356	28,939	+2,972	12.7%	+2,627	9.8%	+5,555	23.7%
Greater Geelong	257,181	292,855	324,289	+35,674	13.9%	+31,434	10.7%	+67,108	26.1%
Surf Coast	32,654	37,193	41,051	+4,539	13.9%	+3,858	10.4%	+8,397	25.7%
Queenscliffe	2,940	3,083	3,127	+143	4.9%	+44	1.4%	+187	6.4%
TOTAL	**337,844**	**382,333**	**421,349**	**+44,489**	**13.1%**	**+39,060**	**10.2%**	**83,505**	**24.7%**

LGA	2019 Population		2025 Population		2030 Population		No. of persons aged between 5-39 in 2025		No. of persons aged between 5-39 in 2030	
	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female	# of persons	% of total pop	# of persons	% of total pop
Colac-Otway	49.8%	50.2%	49.8%	50.2%	49.6%	50.4%	8,821	38.6%	9,177	38.3%
Golden Plains	51.2%	48.8%	51.2%	48.8%	51.1%	48.9%	11,517	43.7%	12,551	43.4%
Greater Geelong	48.8%	51.2%	48.6%	51.4%	48.5%	51.5%	132,706	45%	147,326	45.4%
Surf Coast	50%	50%	49.9%	50.1%	49.8%	50.2%	14,946	40%	16,289	39.6%
Queenscliffe	46.7%	53.3%	47.1%	52.9%	47.1%	52.9%	866	28%	797	25%
TOTAL	**49.3%**	**50.7%**	**49.32%**	**50.68%**	**49.22%**	**50.78%**	**168,856**	**39.06%**	**186,140**	**38.34%**

Population data and forecasted projections has been sourced from *forecast.id* for Geelong, Surf Coast, Golden Plains and Colac Otway Shires. Vic in Future population data and projections has been utilised for Queenscliffe. Population projections utilised throughout this report are based on available projections from March 2020. It should be noted that population data from these sources is updated on an annual or bi-annual basis and therefore the projections within this report are subject to change.

G21 PARTICIPATION FORECAST BY LGA

The tables below provides participation comparisons using registered winter season football and netball participants between 2015 and 2019 for AFL Barwon (by G21 LGA). Participation projections to 2025 and 2030 are provided by applying the five-year historical rate of change.

FORECASTED ADDITIONAL FOOTBALL PARTICIPANTS 2019-2030

LGA	Population		2019 Participation Rate (club participation / G21 population)	Total registered AFL players		Change in registered players 2015-2019	Rate of Change in Participation 2015-2019 (%)	Estimated Change (+/-) in Registered Players	
	2019	2025		2015	2019			2019-2025	2019-2030
Colac Otway	21,685	22,846	8.29%	1,527	1,797	+270	17.68%	+96	+187
Golden Plains*	23,384	26,356	3.52%	576	824	+248	43.06%	+105	+194
Greater Geelong	257,181	292,855	4.4%	8,365	11,509	+3,163	37.90%	+1,596	+3,003
Surf Coast Shire	32,654	37,193	6.2%	1,697	2,024	+327	19.27%	+281	+520
Queenscliffe	2,940	3,083	9.0%	230	266	+36	15.65%	+13	+17
TOTALS	**337,844**	**382,333**		**12,395**	**16,420**	**+4,044**		**+2,091**	**+3,921**

FORECASTED ADDITIONAL NETBALL PARTICIPANTS 2019-2030

LGA	Population		2019 Participation Rate (club participation / G21 population)	Total registered netball players		Change in registered players 2015-2019	Rate of Change in Participation 2015-2019 (%)	Estimated Change (+/-) in Registered Players	
	2019	2025		2015	2019			2019-2025	2019-2030
Colac Otway	21,685	22,846	3.84%	103	832	+729	707.77%	+45	+87
Golden Plains*	23,384	26,356	0.92%	200	216	+16	8.00%	+27	+51
Geelong	257,181	292,855	1.77%	3,078	4,555	+1,477	47.99%	+632	+1,189
Surf Coast Shire	32,654	37,193	3.00%	337	980	+643	190.8%	+136	+252
Queenscliffe	2,940	3,083	5.71%	179	168	-11	-6.15%	+8	+11
TOTALS	**337,844**	**382,333**		**3,897**	**6,751**	**+2,854**		**+848**	**+1,590**

*participation includes those within AFL Barwon only, does not include Golden Plains Shire participants competing within the AFL Goldfields region

G21 LGA FOOTBALL - NETBALL FACILITY CONDITION RATINGS



St Albans Football Netball Club – St Albans Recreation Reserve

CURRENT FACILITY CONDITION RATINGS

Criteria for Rating Facility Infrastructure and Amenities

Indicates **core provision** strongly aligns with all requirements

Indicates **core provision** does not meet or is below requirements

A '-' in the table indicates that there is **no facility present**

AFL CLUB FACILITIES	
MAIN PAVILION (out of 10)	
Excellent condition (as new)	10
Good condition (some wear)	8
Moderate condition (considerable wear but still comfortable for users)	6
Poor (multiple quality issues identified)	4
Very poor (multiple quality issues identified, and immediate intervention required)	2
CHANGE ROOMS (out of 10 for each change facility)	
Excellent condition (as new)	10
Good condition (some wear)	8
Moderate condition (considerable wear but still comfortable for users)	6
Poor (multiple quality issues identified)	4
Very poor (multiple quality issues identified, and immediate intervention required)	2
GENDER NEUTRAL/FEMALE FRIENDLY – score for Change Room 1 and Change Room 2	
Yes – Gender Neutral compliance (including pan toilets, cubicle showers and a safe, modern environment)	2
No – Gender Neutral compliance (facility does not meet above standards)	0
UMPIRE FACILITIES (out of 10)	
Excellent condition (as new)	10
Good condition (some wear)	8
Moderate condition (considerable wear but still comfortable for users)	6
Poor (multiple quality issues identified)	4
Very poor (multiple quality issues identified, and immediate intervention required)	2
GENDER NEUTRAL/FEMALE FRIENDLY – Umpire Facilities	
Yes – Gender Neutral compliance (including pan toilets, cubicle showers and a safe, modern environment)	2
No – Gender Neutral compliance (facility does not meet above standards)	0

AFL PLAYING FIELD	
OVAL SURFACE CONDITION (out of 10)	
Excellent condition (as new)	10
Good condition (some wear)	8
Moderate condition (considerable wear but still playable)	6
Poor (multiple quality issues identified)	4
Very poor (multiple quality issues identified, and immediate intervention required)	2

CENTRE WICKET PROFILE	
No pitch or drop in wicket	6
Turf wicket well maintained	5
Synthetic pitch	4
Turf wicket with some coverage and hardness issues	0
IRRIGATION (out of 2)	
Automatic Irrigation	2
Hose / manual watering	1
No irrigation	0
Unable to make accurate assessment	0
OVAL FENCING (out of 2)	
Yes	2
No	0
PLAYING FIELD LIGHTING (out of 15)	
150-300 lux	15
50-99 lux	10
Less than 50 lux	5
Lighting not provided but is required	0
Lighting not provided and not required (i.e. overflow or junior only venue)	0

NETBALL FACILITIES	
NETBALL CHANGE FACILITY (out of 10)	
Excellent condition (as new)	10
Good condition (some wear)	8
Moderate condition (considerable wear but still comfortable for users)	6
Poor (multiple quality issues identified)	4
Very poor (multiple quality issues identified, and immediate intervention required)	2
OVERALL NETBALL COURT CONDITION (out of 10)	
Excellent condition (as new)	10
Good condition (some wear)	8
Moderate condition (considerable wear but still playable)	6
Poor (multiple quality issues identified)	4
Very poor (multiple quality issues identified, and immediate intervention required)	2
NETBALL COURT LIGHTING (out of 15)	
100-200 lux	15
50– lux	10
No lighting	0
Unable to provide accurate assessment	0
COURT RUN OFF COMPLIANCE	
Meets minimum requirements	2
Does not meet minimum requirements	0

Facility	Main pavilion / social room out of 10	Change Room 1 (Home) out of 10	Change Room 1 Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Change Room 2 (Away) out of 10	Change Room 2 Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Umpire Facilities out of 10	Umpire Facilities Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Total AFL Club Facilities Score out of 46	Oval Surface Condition out of 10	Centre Wicket Profile out of 6
CITY OF GREATER GEELONG										
Anakie Reserve	6	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	42	8	4
Armstrong Creek East	10	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	46	8	4
Bakers Oval	6	6	NO	-	-	6	NO	18	8	4
Belmont Common	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	4
Breakwater Reserve	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	8	4
Burdoo Reserve	10	8	NO	8	YES	6	YES	36	8	5
Christian College	-	6	YES	6	NO	-	-	14	6	6
Collendina Reserve**	6	8	YES	8	YES	4	NO	30	6	4
Deakin University	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	6
Drysdale Primary**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	4
Drysdale Reserve	6	4	NO	4	NO	4	NO	18	8	4
Drysdale Sport Precinct		8	YES	8	YES	8	YES	30	8	6
Elderslie Reserve	10	8	NO	8	NO	8	YES	36	8	4
Ervin Reserve	6	6	NO	6	NO	-	-	18	6	4
Estuary Boulevard	-	6	NO	-	-	-	-	6	6	4
Frier Reserve**	6	6	NO	6	NO	-	-	18	8	5
Grinter Reserve	6	4	NO	6	NO	2	NO	18	8	5
Hamlyn Park	6	6	NO	6	NO	8	YES	28	8	5
Herne Hill Reserve*	6	6	NO	6	NO	4	NO	22	8	4
Highton Reserve	8	6	YES	8	YES	-	-	26	8	5
Howard Harmer	8	6	YES	6	YES	2	YES	28	6	6
Hurst Reserve	6	6	NO	6	NO	-	-	18	4	0
Kardinia Park West*	6*	6	YES	6	YES	6	YES	30	6	5
Lara Reserve	8	8	YES	2	NO	8	YES	30	8	5
Leopold Memorial	8	10	YES	10	YES	8	NO	40	8	0
McDonald Reserve	8	8	YES	6	NO	8	YES	34	8	5
Myers Reserve	6	8	YES	6	YES	8	YES	34	4	5
Oakdene Estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	6
Ocean Grove Memorial	6	4	NO	4	NO	2	NO	16	6	4
Osborne Park	6	10	YES	10	YES	6	YES	38	8	5
Portarlington Reserve	8	6	NO	4	NO	6	NO	24	8	4
Queens Park	8	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	44	8	5
Richmond Oval	8	8	YES	8	YES	2	NO	30	8	5
Shell Reserve	8	2	NO	2	NO	2	NO	14	6	5
Shell Road Reserve	10	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	46	8	4

*indicates facility redevelopment currently underway
**indicates junior only venue
indicates overflow venue i.e. no tenant club

Facility	Irrigation Automatic = 2 Manual = 1 None = 0	Oval Fencing Yes = 2 No = 0	Playing Field Lighting out of 15	Total AFL Playing Field Score out of 35	Netball Change Facility Score out of 10	Overall Netball Court Condition out of 10	Netball Court Lighting out of 15	Court run off Meets requirement = 2 Does Not Meet = 0	Total Netball Facilities Score out of 37	Overall Facility Score out of 118
CITY OF GREATER GEELONG										
Anakie Reserve	2	2	10	26	10	8	15	2	35	103
Armstrong Creek East	2	2	10	26	10	10	15	2	37	109
Bakers Oval	2	2	10	26	-	-	-	-	-	44
Belmont Common	0	0	0	12	-	-	-	-	-	16
Breakwater Reserve	2	0	0	14	-	-	-	-	-	20
Burdoo Reserve	2	2	15	32	8	2	0	0	10	78
Christian College	0	0	0	12	-	-	-	-	-	26
Collendina Reserve**	2	2	5*	19	-	-	-	-	-	49
Deakin University	2	2	15	35	-	-	-	-	-	35
Drysdale Primary**	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	-	-	10
Drysdale Reserve	2	2	5	21	6	8	15	2	31	70
Drysdale Sport Precinct	2	2	15	33	-	-	-	-	-	63
Elderslie Reserve	2	2	10	26	6	8	-	2	16	78
Ervin Reserve	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	-	-	28
Estuary Boulevard	2	2	0	14	-	-	-	-	-	20
Frier Reserve**	2	2	0	17	-	-	-	-	-	35
Grinter Reserve	2	2	10*	27	10	8	15	2	35	80
Hamlyn Park	2	2	5*	22	6	8	15	0	29	79
Herne Hill Reserve*	2	2	10	26	10	10	15	2	37	85
Highton Reserve	2	2	15	32	-	-	-	-	-	58
Howard Harmer	0	2	10	24	10	10	10	2	32	84
Hurst Reserve	0	2	0	6	-	10	-	0	10	34
Kardinia Park West*	2	2	15	30	4	10	15	2	31	91
Lara Reserve	2	2	10	27	2	4	5	0	11	68
Leopold Memorial	2	2	10	22	10	10	15	2	37	99
McDonald Reserve	2	2	10	27	10	10	15	2	37	98
Myers Reserve	2	2	10	23	10	6	-	2	18	75
Oakdene Estate	2	2	0	20	-	-	-	-	-	20
Ocean Grove Memorial	2	2	5	19	6	-	-	-	6	41
Osborne Park	2	2	15	32	8	10	-	2	20	90
Portarlington Reserve	2	2	5*	21	10	10	-	2	22	67
Queens Park	2	0	10	25	8	8	15	0	31	100
Richmond Oval	2	2	10	27	6	8	15	2	31	88
Shell Reserve	2	2	10	25	6	6	10	0	22	61
Shell Road Reserve	2	2	15	31	8	10	15	2	35	112

*indicates facility redevelopment currently underway
**indicates junior only venue
indicates overflow venue i.e. no tenant club

Facility	Main pavilion / social room out of 10	Change Room 1 (Home) out of 10	Change Room 1 Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Change Room 2 (Away) out of 10	Change Room 2 Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Umpire Facilities out of 10	Umpire Facilities Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Total AFL Club Facilities Score out of 46	Oval Surface Condition out of 10	Centre Wicket Profile out of 6
CITY OF GREATER GEELONG										
South Barwon Common**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	4
Sovereign Drive	-	10	NO	-	-	-	-	10	10	4
St Albans Reserve	10	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	46	10	5
St Joseph's College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	4
Thomson Reserve*	10	8	NO	8	NO	8	NO	34	8	5
West Oval*	8	6	NO	8	NO	8	YES	32	8	5
Windsor Park	6	8	YES	6	YES	8	YES	34	8	4
Winter Reserve	10	10	YES	10	YES	8	YES	44	6	5
SURF COAST SHIRE										
Banyul-Warri Fields	10	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	46	8	4
Bellbrae Reserve**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	4
Bob Pettit Reserve	6	8	YES	8	YES	8	YES	36	4	4
Connewarre Reserve**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0
Eastern Reserve	10	8	NO	6	NO	2	NO	26	8	4
Ellimatta Reserve	10	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	46	8	4
Mt Moriac Reserve	10	10	YES	8	YES	8	YES	42	6	4
Quay Reserve	8	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	44	6	4
Spring Creek Reserve	8	6	NO	6	NO	10	YES	32	8	0
Stribling Reserve*	8	8	NO	8	NO	8	YES	34	8	4
COLAC OTWAY SHIRE										
Alvie Reserve	10	6	NO	6	NO	6	NO	28	6	4
Apollo Bay Reserve	6	4	YES	2	YES	6	YES	24	6	4
Birregurra Reserve	4	2	NO	2	NO	4	NO	12	6	4
Central Reserve	10	10	YES	10	YES	10	YES	46	10	6
Colac Lake Oval	6	2	NO	2	NO	-	-	10	8	4
Colac Secondary**	10	8	YES	8	YES	8	YES	40	6	4
Forrest Reserve	2	4	NO	4	NO	6	NO	16	6	4
Gellibrand Reserve	6	4	NO	4	NO	2	NO	16	4	6
Irrewillipe Reserve	2	2	NO	2	NO	2	NO	8	8	4
Elliminyt Reserve	6	6	NO	6	NO	4	NO	22	6	4
Warrowie Reserve	6	6	NO	6	NO	4	NO	22	4	4
Western Reserve	6	6	NO	6	NO	4	NO	22	10	4

*indicates facility redevelopment currently underway or due to commence
**indicates junior only venue
indicates overflow venue i.e. no tenant club

indicates umpire training venue

Facility	Irrigation Automatic = 2 Manual = 1 None = 0	Oval Fencing Yes = 2 No = 0	Playing Field Lighting out of 15	Total AFL Playing Field Score out of 35	Netball Change Facility Score out of 10	Overall Netball Court Condition out of 10	Netball Court Lighting out of 15	Court run off Meets requirement = 2 Does Not Meet = 0	Total Netball Facilities Score out of 37	Overall Facility Score out of 118
CITY OF GREATER GEELONG										
South Barwon Common**	0	0	10	20	-	-	-	-	-	20
Sovereign Drive	2	2	10	28	-	4	0	2	6	44
St Albans Reserve	2	2	5	24	8	10	15	2	35	105
St Joseph's College	1	2	0	13	-	-	-	-	-	13
Thomson Reserve*	2	2	15	32	8	8	15	0	31	97
West Oval*	2	2	15	32	8	8	15	2	33	97
Windsor Park	2	2	5	21	4	6	-	2	12	67
Winter Reserve	2	2	10	25	2	10	15	2	29	98
SURF COAST SHIRE										
Banyul-Warri Fields	1	2	15	30	-	8	15	2	25	101
Bellbrae Reserve**	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	-	0	10
Bob Pettit Reserve	0	2	10	20	-	-	-	-	0	56
Connewarre Reserve**	0	0	0	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Eastern Reserve	2	2	15	31	10	8	0	2	20	77
Ellimatta Reserve	1	2	15	30	6	6	15	2	29	105
Mt Moriac Reserve	2	2	5	19	10	8	15	2	35	96
Quay Reserve	0	0	15	25	-	-	-	-	-	69
Spring Creek Reserve	2	2	15	27	10	10	15	2	37	96
Stribling Reserve	2	2	15	31	10	10	0	2	22	87
COLAC OTWAY SHIRE										
Alvie Reserve	0	2	5	17	8	6	0	0	14	59
Apollo Bay Reserve	0	2	10	22	4	8	0	0	12	58
Birregurra Reserve	1	2	5	18	8	10	15	2	29	59
Central Reserve	2	2	15	35	10	10	15	2	35	116
Colac Lake Oval	2	2	0	16	-	-	-	-	-	26
Colac Secondary**	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	-	-	50
Forrest Reserve	0	2	5	17	6	10	15	2	33	66
Gellibrand Reserve	0	2	5	17	8	10	15	2	35	68
Irrewillipe Reserve	0	2	5	19	4	10	15	2	35	62
Elliminyt Reserve	1	2	5	18	8	8	10	0	26	66
Warrowie Reserve	1	2	5	16	6	10	15	2	33	71
Western Reserve	2	2	10	28	4	6	10	0	20	70

*indicates facility redevelopment currently underway
**indicates junior only venue
indicates overflow venue i.e. no tenant club

indicates umpire training venue

Facility	Main pavilion / social room out of 10	Change Room 1 (Home) out of 10	Change Room 1 Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Change Room 2 (Away) out of 10	Change Room 2 Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Umpire Facilities out of 10	Umpire Facilities Gender Neutral Yes = 2 No = 0	Total AFL Club Facilities Score out of 46	Oval Surface Condition out of 10	Centre Wicket Profile out of 6
GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE										
Don Wallace Reserve	6	4	NO	4	NO	-	-	14	6	4
Inverleigh Reserve*	6	4	NO	4	NO	4	NO	18	10	4
Lethbridge Reserve**	6	6	NO	6	NO	4	NO	22	8	4
Linton Reserve	6	6	YES	6	YES	8	NO	30	8	4
Meredith Reserve	6	8	YES	8	YES	8	YES	36	6	4
Rokewood Reserve	6	4	NO	4	NO	4	NO	18	8	4
Victoria Park	8	8	YES	8	YES	8	YES	38	10	4
Woady Yaloak Reserve	8	6	NO	6	NO	8	YES	30	8	4
BOROUGH OF QUEENSCLIFFE										
Queenscliffe Reserve	10	8	YES	8	NO	10	YES	40	8	4
Royal Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4

*indicates facility redevelopment currently underway
**indicates junior only venue

Note: The oval at Bannockburn P-12 College (Golden Plains Shire) is not included within facility audit data as it is presently not used for AFL Barwon club competition. The oval has been included in the provision ratios for Golden Plains Shire on page 31.

Facility	Irrigation Automatic = 2 Manual = 1 None = 0	Oval Fencing Yes = 2 No = 0	Playing Field Lighting out of 15	Total AFL Playing Field Score out of 35	Netball Change Facility Score out of 10	Overall Netball Court Condition out of 10	Netball Court Lighting out of 15	Court run off Meets requirement = 2 Does Not Meet = 0	Total Netball Facilities Score out of 37	Overall Facility Score out of 118
GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE										
Don Wallace Reserve	2	2	5	19	-	-	-	-	-	33
Inverleigh Reserve	2	2	15	33	8	10	15	2	35	86
Lethbridge Reserve	2	2	0	16	-	-		-	-	38
Linton Reserve	2	2	15	31	2	8	10	2	22	83
Meredith Reserve	1	2	10	23	-	4	15	0	19	78
Rokewood Reserve	2	2	15	31	8	8	15	2	33	82
Victoria Park	2	2	15	33	8	10	15	2	35	106
Woady Yaloak Reserve	2	2	10	26	-	8	10	0	18	74
BOROUGH OF QUEENSCLIFFE										
Queenscliffe Reserve	2	2	10	26	10	10	15	2	37	103
Royal Park	0	2	0	14	-	-	-	-	-	14

*indicates facility redevelopment currently underway
**indicates junior only venue

Note: The oval at Bannockburn P-12 College (Golden Plains Shire) is not included within facility audit data as it is presently not used for AFL Barwon club competition. The oval has been included in the provision ratios for Golden Plains Shire on page 31.



G21 LGA FOOTBALL - NETBALL FACILITY PROVISION FORECASTS

Armstrong Creek Sharks Football Netball Club – Armstrong Creek East Sporting Precinct

LGA	2019 population	2025 population	2030 population	2019 AFL Barwon Club Players	Participation rate (2019)	2025 Projected Players	2030 Projected Players	Additional AFL teams in 2025	Additional AFL teams in 2030	Total additional AFL teams	Recommended Population Provision Ratio	Additional oval access 2025 by population	Additional oval access 2030 by population	Total additional oval access by population	AFL Recommended Oval Player Provision Ratio	Additional Ovals Required 2025 Team	Additional Ovals Required by 2030 Team	Total additional oval access by Team
Colac-Otway	21,685	22,846	23,943	1,797	8.29%	1,893	1,984	4	4	8	1 : 5,000	0.2	0.2	0.4	1 : 7 teams	0.6	0.6	1.2
Golden Plains*	23,384	26,356	28,939	824	3.52%	929	1,020	4	4	8	1 : 5,000	0.6	0.5	1.1	1 : 7 teams	0.6	0.6	1.2
Greater Geelong	257,181	292,855	324,289	11,509	4.48%	13,105	14,512	64	56	120	1 : 5,000	7.1	6.3	13.4	1 : 7 teams	6.4	5.6	17.3
Surf Coast	32,654	37,193	41,051	2,024	6.20%	2,305	2,544	11	10	21	1 : 5,000	0.9	0.8	1.7	1 : 7 teams	1.1	1	3
Queenscliffe	2,940	3,083	3,127	266	9.05%	279	283	1	0	1	1 : 5,000	0.03	0.008	0.04	1 : 7 teams	0.1	0	0.1
TOTAL	**337,844**	**382,333**	**421,349**	**16,420**		**18,511**	**20,343**	**84**	**74**	**158**		**8.8**	**7.8**	**16.6**		**8.4**	**7.4**	**22.8**

LGA	2019 Netball Players	Participation Rate (2019)	2025 Projected Players	2030 Projected Players	Additional Netball Players in 2025	Additional Netball Players in 2030	Total additional Netball Players	Netball Court Provision Ratio	Additional Courts Required by 2025 Players	Additional Courts Required by 2030 Players	Total additional courts by Players
Colac-Otway	832	3.84%	877	919	45	42	87	1 : 60 players	0.8	0.7	1.5
Golden Plains*	216	0.92%	243	267	27	24	51	1 : 60 players	0.5	0.4	0.9
Greater Geelong	4,555	1.77%	5,187	5,744	632	557	1,189	1 : 60 players	10	9.3	19.3
Surf Coast	980	3.00%	1,116	1,232	136	116	252	1 : 60 players	2.2	1.8	4
Queenscliffe	168	5.71%	176	179	8	3	11	1 : 60 players	0.1	0.05	0.15
TOTAL	**6.751**		**7,599**	**8,341**	**848**	**742**	**1,590**		**13.6**	**12.25**	**25.85**

COLAC OTWAY

FACILITY PROVISION PROJECTIONS – 2019 TO 2030

AFL	
2019 population	21,685
2025 population	22,846
2030 population	23,943
2019 AFL Barwon Club Players	1,797
2019 participation rate	8.29%
2025 total projected players	1,893
2030 total projected players	1,984
Additional AFL teams in 2025	**4**
Additional AFL teams in 2030	**4**
Recommended oval provision ratio	1 : 5,000
Additional oval access 2025 by population	0.2
Additional oval access 2030 by population	0.2
Total additional oval access by population	**0.4**
AFL recommended team to oval provision ratio	1 oval : 7 teams
Additional oval access by 2025 by additional teams	0.6
Additional oval access by 2030 by additional teams	0.6
Total additional oval access by additional teams	**1.2**
Current provision ratio of AFL ovals in LGA	1 : 1,971

NETBALL	
2019 Netball Players	832
2019 participation rate	3.84%
2025 total projected players	877
2030 total projected players	919
Additional Netball Players to 2025	45
Additional Netball Players to 2030	42
Netball Court Provision Ratio	1 : 60 players
Additional netball court access 2025 by players	0.8
Additional netball court access 2030 by players	0.7
Total additional netball court access by players	**1.5**
Current provision of Netball Courts in LGA	1 : 52

GOLDEN PLAINS*

FACILITY PROVISION PROJECTIONS – 2019 TO 2030

AFL	
2019 population	23,384
2025 population	26,356
2030 population	28,939
2019 AFL Barwon Club Players	824
2019 participation rate	3.52%
2025 total projected players	929
2030 total projected players	1,020
Additional AFL teams in 2025	**4**
Additional AFL teams in 2030	**4**
Recommended oval provision ratio	1 : 5,000
Additional oval access 2025 by population	0.6
Additional oval access 2030 by population	0.5
Total additional oval access by population	**1.1**
AFL recommended team to oval provision ratio	1 oval : 7 teams
Additional oval access by 2025 by additional teams	0.6
Additional oval access by 2030 by additional teams	0.6
Total additional oval access by additional teams	**1.2**
Current provision ratio of AFL ovals in LGA	1 : 2,126

NETBALL	
2019 Netball Players	216
2019 participation rate	0.92%
2025 total projected players	243
2030 total projected players	267
Additional Netball Players to 2025	27
Additional Netball Players to 2030	24
Netball Court Provision Ratio	1 : 60 players
Additional netball court access 2025 by players	0.5
Additional netball court access 2030 by players	0.4
Total additional netball court access by players	0.9
Current provision of Netball Courts in LGA	1 : 20 players

*participation projections for Golden Plains Shire is for those competing within the AFL Barwon competition. It does not include forecasts for other AFL regions operating within the municipality including AFL Goldfields

GREATER GEELONG

FACILITY PROVISION PROJECTIONS – 2019 TO 2030

AFL	
2019 population	257,181
2025 population	292,855
2030 population	324,289
2019 AFL Barwon Club Players	11,509
2019 participation rate	4.48%
2025 total projected players	13,105
2030 total projected players	14,512
Additional AFL teams in 2025	**65**
Additional AFL teams in 2030	**56**
Recommended oval provision ratio	1 : 5,000
Additional oval access 2025 by population	7.1
Additional oval access 2030 by population	6.3
Total additional oval access by population	**13.4**
AFL recommended team to oval provision ratio	1 oval : 7 teams
Additional oval access by 2025 by additional teams	9.3
Additional oval access by 2030 by additional teams	8
Total additional oval access by additional teams	**17.3**
Current provision ratio of AFL ovals in LGA	1 : 3,839

NETBALL	
2019 Netball Players	4,555
2019 participation rate	1.77%
2025 total projected players	5,187
2030 total projected players	5,744
Additional Netball Players to 2025	632
Additional Netball Players to 2030	557
Netball Court Provision Ratio	1 : 60 players
Additional netball court access 2025 by players	10
Additional netball court access 2030 by players	9.3
Total additional netball court access by players	19.3
Current provision of Netball Courts in LGA	1 : 70 players

Planning Area – City of Greater Geelong	Planning Area #	2019 population	2025 population	2030 population	2019 AFL Players	Penetration Rate (2019)	2025 Projected Players	2030 Projected Players	Additional Players 2025	Additional Players in 2030	Additional Teams in 2025	Additional Teams in 2030
Armstrong Creek, Marshall - Charlemont	1	10973	21078	30234	492	4.48%	945	1356	453	411	18	35
Barwon Heads - Connewarre - Breamlea, Ocean Grove, Rural Bellarine Peninsula	2	24108	27606	29477	1537	6.38%	1760	1879	223	119	9	14
Clifton Springs, Curlewis, Drysdale - Bellarine	3	16120	19494	22599	608	3.77%	735	852	127	117	5	10
Portarlington, St Leonards - Indented Head	4	7877	9031	10062	245	3.11%	281	313	36	32	1	3
Leopold	5	13354	13836	15217	596	4.46%	618	679	22	62	1	3
Newcomb - Moolap, St Albans Park, Thomson - Breakwater, Whittington	6	18088	18960	19395	699	3.86%	733	750	34	17	1	2
Grovedale, Mount Duneed, Waurn Ponds	7	23221	29242	34022	1105	4.76%	1392	1619	287	227	11	21
Belmont, Highton - Wandana Heights - Ceres	8	37776	41168	42231	1848	4.89%	2014	2066	166	52	7	9
East Geelong, Geelong - South Geelong - Drumcondra	9	11778	13009	14122	585	4.97%	646	701	61	55	2	5
Geelong West - Manifold Heights, Newtown	10	20879	21477	22031	1251	5.99%	1287	1320	36	33	1	3
Bell Park, Bell Post Hill, North Geelong - Rippleside	11	15055	15953	18011	381	2.53%	404	456	23	52	1	3
Hamlyn Heights, Herne Hill - Fyansford	12	10713	11871	13219	457	4.27%	506	564	49	58	2	4
Corio, Norlane - North Shore	13	25023	26121	26699	621	2.48%	648	663	27	14	1	2
Lara	14	17550	19122	20552	841	4.79%	916	985	75	69	3	6
Lovely Banks - Batesford - Moorabool, Rural North	15	4665	4888	6422	303	6.50%	317	417	14	100	1	5
Total		**257,181**	**292,855**	**324,289**	**11,569**	**4.5%**	**13,202**	**14,620**	**1,633**	**1,417**	**18**	**35**

Planning Area – City of Greater Geelong	Planning Area #	Additional ovals 2025 by population*	Additional ovals 2030 by population*	Total additional oval access by population 2019-2030*	Access to additional ovals 2025 by teams**	Access to additional ovals 2030 by teams**	Total additional oval access by teams 2019-2030**
Armstrong Creek, Marshall - Charlemont	**1**	2.0	1.8	**3.8**	**2.6**	2.4	**3.5**
Barwon Heads - Connewarre - Breamlea, Ocean Grove, Rural Bellarine Peninsula	**2**	0.7	0.4	**1.1**	**1.3**	0.7	**1.4**
Clifton Springs, Curlewis, Drysdale - Bellarine	**3**	0.7	0.6	**1.3**	**0.7**	0.7	**1.0**
Portarlington, St Leonards - Indented Head	**4**	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3
Leopold	**5**	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3
Newcomb - Moolap, St Albans Park, Thomson - Breakwater, Whittington	**6**	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Grovedale, Mount Duneed, Waurn Ponds	**7**	1.2	1.0	**2.2**	**1.6**	1.4	**2.1**
Belmont, Highton - Wandana Heights - Ceres	**8**	0.7	0.2	**0.9**	1.0	0.3	**0.9**
East Geelong, Geelong - South Geelong - Drumcondra	**9**	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5
Geelong West - Manifold Heights, Newtown	**10**	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Bell Park, Bell Post Hill, North Geelong - Rippleside	**11**	0.2	0.4	**0.6**	0.1	0.3	0.3
Hamlyn Heights, Herne Hill - Fyansford	**12**	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4
Corio, Norlane - North Shore	**13**	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Lara	**14**	0.3	0.3	**0.6**	0.4	0.4	**0.6**
Lovely Banks - Batesford - Moorabool, Rural North	**15**	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.5
Total		**7.1**	**6.3**	**13.4**	**8.9**	**8.6**	**17.5**

*using the 1 oval : 5000 population ratio **using the AFL's recommended ratio of 1 oval : 7 teams

SURF COAST

FACILITY PROVISION PROJECTIONS – 2019 TO 2030

AFL	
2019 population	32,654
2025 population	37,193
2030 population	41,051
2019 AFL Barwon Club Players	2,024
2019 participation rate	6.20%
2025 total projected players	2,305
2030 total projected players	2,544
Additional AFL teams in 2025	**11**
Additional AFL teams in 2030	**10**
Recommended oval provision ratio	1 : 5,000
Additional oval access 2025 by population	0.9
Additional oval access 2030 by population	0.8
Total additional oval access by population	**1.7**
AFL recommended team to oval provision ratio	1 oval : 7 teams
Additional oval access by 2025 by additional teams	1.6
Additional oval access by 2030 by additional teams	1.4
Total additional oval access by additional teams	**3.0**
Current provision ratio of AFL ovals in LGA	1 : 2,969

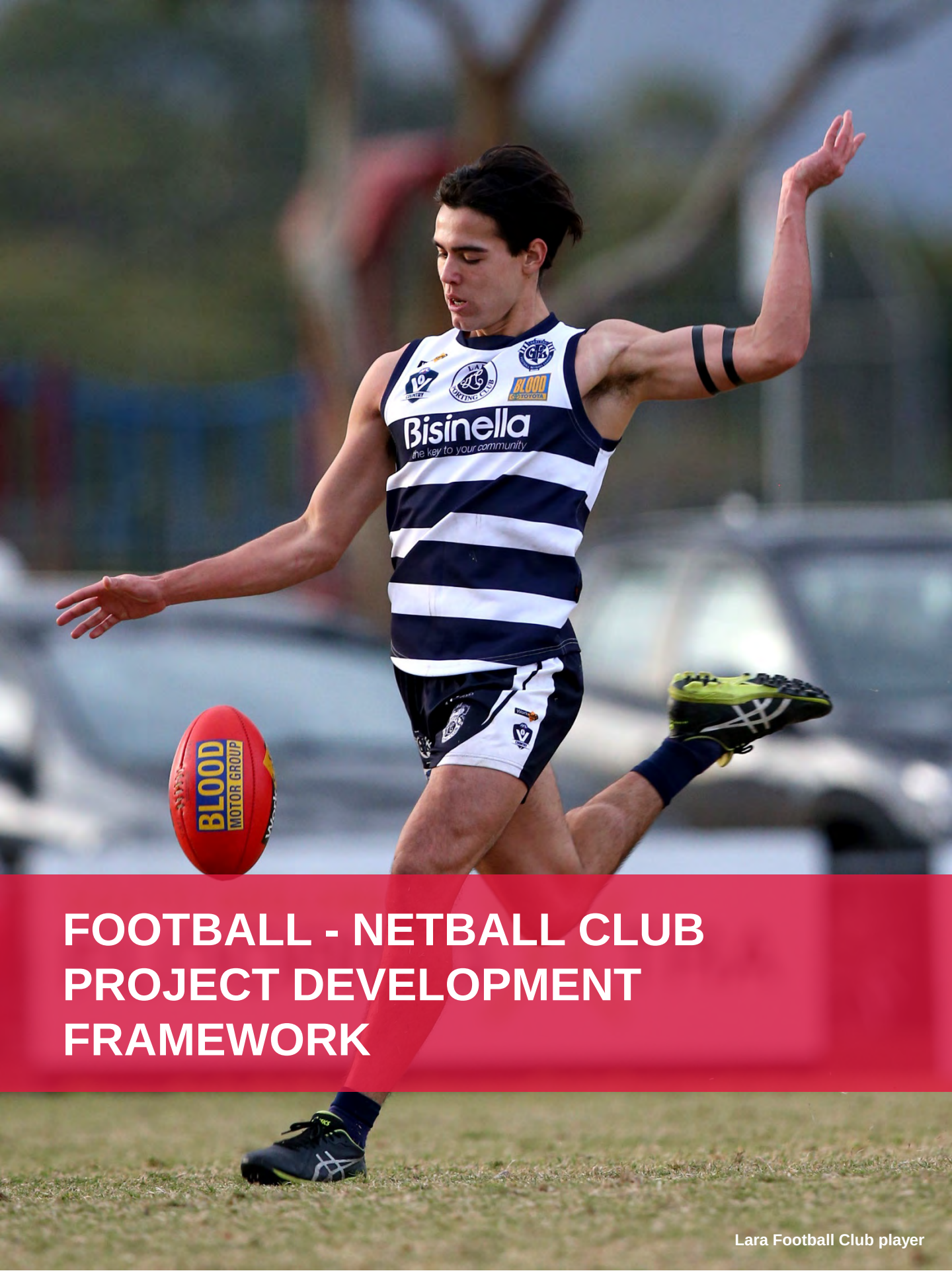
NETBALL	
2019 Netball Players	980
2019 participation rate	3.00%
2025 total projected players	1,116
2030 total projected players	1,232
Additional Netball Players to 2025	136
Additional Netball Players to 2030	116
Netball Court Provision Ratio	1 : 60 players
Additional netball court access 2025 by players	2.2
Additional netball court access 2030 by players	1.8
Total additional netball court access by players	4
Current provision of Netball Courts in LGA	1 : 70 players

QUEENSCLIFFE

FACILITY PROVISION PROJECTIONS – 2019 TO 2030

AFL	
2019 population	2,940
2025 population	3,083
2030 population	3,127
2019 AFL Barwon Club Players	266
2019 participation rate	9.05%
2025 total projected players	279
2030 total projected players	283
Additional AFL teams in 2025	**1**
Additional AFL teams in 2030	**0**
Recommended oval provision ratio	1 : 5,000
Additional oval access 2025 by population	0.03
Additional oval access 2030 by population	0.008
Total additional oval access by population	**0.04**
AFL recommended team to oval provision ratio	1 oval : 7 teams
Additional oval access by 2025 by additional teams	0.1
Additional oval access by 2030 by additional teams	0
Total additional oval access by additional teams	**0.1**
Current provision ratio of AFL ovals in LGA	1 : 1,470

NETBALL	
2019 Netball Players	168
2019 participation rate	5.71%
2025 total projected players	176
2030 total projected players	179
Additional Netball Players to 2025	8
Additional Netball Players to 2030	3
Netball Court Provision Ratio	1 : 60 players
Additional netball court access 2025 by players	0.1
Additional netball court access 2030 by players	0.05
Total additional netball court access by players	0.15
Current provision of Netball Courts in LGA	1 : 84 players



FOOTBALL - NETBALL CLUB PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Lara Football Club player

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (FOR USE BY CLUBS)

COMPONENT / CAPABILITY	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENT
Club has a detailed five year strategic plan				
Club produces and operates to an annual budget				
Club actively participates in annual AFLB Club Health Checks when required and implements Action Plans				
Club has implemented the required policies and procedures as set by AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria and LGAs				
Club supports a youth / female football team				
Club supports junior teams				
Club supports Auskick program				
Club supports an access all abilities team (football or netball)				
Club actively participates in AFLB training and club development				
Club is financially up to date with relevant council and AFL Barwon accounts				
Club has position descriptions for key club volunteers				
Club has identified links to local schools				
Proposed infrastructure plans have been developed in conjunction with AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria and relevant Local Government Authority?				
Proposed infrastructure plans have been developed utilising the AFL's Preferred Facility Guidelines and/or Netball Victoria's Facilities Manual?				
The delivery of proposed infrastructure project can demonstrate positive impacts on participation and specifically increasing use by junior, female, all-abilities, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), Indigenous and other unrepresented groups.				
Club has the ability to financially co-contribute and/or provide in-kind contributions to identified infrastructure upgrade				
A detailed cost estimate of proposed infrastructure plans has been undertaken in conjunction with AFL Barwon, AFL Victoria, Netball Victoria and relevant Local Government Authority?				
Total				

CASE STUDIES



Grovedale and St Albans Netball Club Players

City of Ballarat (Victoria)



A SUCCESSFUL LONG TERM STRATEGY FOR PLAYING FIELD REDEVELOPMENT THAT HAS RESULTED IN 60% MORE WEEKLY HOURS OF USE



CLUBS
Multiple

CLUB COUNCIL
Ballarat City Council (Victoria)

FACILITY PARTNERS
AFL Victoria
AFL Goldfields
State Government

In 2013 Ballarat City Council identified a number of infrastructure improvements for AFL facilities through the development of a Recreation Strategy.

During this process and through the development of AFL Victoria's Growing the Heartland, Football Facilities Development Strategy 2017-2022 it was identified that there was deficient levels of facilities meeting the current playing standards and needs for football. To address these issues council developed a rolling seven year capital works program to improve the facilities currently provided.

AFL Victoria and AFL Goldfields also undertook detailed audits of all facilities in the City of Ballarat and through that identified which facilities were in most need of upgrade. This process assisted in refining the seven year capital works program for Council and ensured that there was alignment of strategic priorities between Council, AFL Victoria and AFL Goldfields.

The Ballarat City Council, AFL Victoria and AFL Goldfields established that the highest priority in Ballarat was to improve the condition and usability of playing surfaces and lighting to provide for current and future demands. The delivery of safe, high standard playing environments was identified as critical to the growth of local clubs.

Since implementing their ground renewal strategy, grounds in Ballarat are now providing 60% more usage hours for participation and servicing an additional 1,180 football participants.

The commitment from Council is to provide a rolling annual improvement program to ensure that clubs and participants are regularly seeing improvements to the playing conditions of their facilities.

Heath Scotland - former Ballarat Football Netball League Club Coach and AFL player (Collingwood FC and Carlton FC)

"Providing high quality training and playing conditions is more important than some realise to increasing both the standard of competitions and enabling players to reach their full potential. In Ballarat we now have the right conditions to achieve high levels of performance for clubs and players. I've played on a lot of grounds in my career and I can honestly say that these grounds are among the best I have competed on."

EXAMPLE OF PROJECTS DELIVERED SINCE 2013

VENUE	VALUE	PROJECT	CAPACITY GROWTH
Marty Busch Recreation Reserve	$1.9M	Oval, lighting and power supply upgrades	175% increase in hours used and new events. Winner of AFL Victoria's Best Community Football Facility Project2017
CE Brown Recreation Reserve	$1.4M	Oval and lighting upgrades	15% increase in winter bookings
Northern Oval 2	$1.2M	Oval and lighting upgrades	96% increase in hours used
MARS Stadium	$2.55M	Oval and lighting upgrades	Increase in major events including AFL matches
City Oval	$1.9M	Oval, lighting, power and parking upgrades	8% increase in winter hours used

Keith Dunne Oval (Queensland)





STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION TO DELIVER LED LIGHTING THAT BENEFITS A RANGE OF USERS

CLUBS
Bay Power Amateur Football Club (AFC)

CLUB COUNCIL
Fraser Coast Regional Council (Queensland)

FACILITY PARTNERS
Fraser Coast Regional Council
Bay Power AFC
AFL Queensland
Cricket Queensland
Queensland Government
Federal Government

PROJECT VALUE
$440,000

Lighting upgrades at Keith Dunne Oval saw a range of stakeholders collaborate to deliver a $440,000 project to cater for participation growth in football and cricket and support night competition options.

Night-time cricket and football finals will now be regular features at the Oval following the successful installation of LED lighting at the Hervey Bay ground.

Lighting provision at Keith Dunne Oval had been a community concern for well over a decade, with existing lighting provision limiting the ability of football to expand training and competition structures.

The upgrade means that players can safely train after dark, especially in winter, which was also a concern raised by football club users.

The LED lighting now allows the scheduling of night games for both junior and senior competition structures. It also facilitates growth in female participation and capacity to extend training options to new teams and match formats such as AFL 9s.

LED lighting is providing a range of benefits for the club, making it more attractive for new players and giving club sponsors better value for money.

Collaboration on the project was key to meeting investment deliverables with stakeholders including the Federal Government, Queensland State Government, Fraser Coast Regional Council Cricket Queensland, AFL Queensland and Bay Power Australian Football Club, all of which are thrilled with the project outcomes.

The partnership with cricket in the project resulted in the lux level being raised to 350 lux which is also suitable for AFL State League training and possible AFL club preseason camps in the bayside city.

The provision of match standard lights has had a direct benefit for female football locally, allowing scheduling of club matches at the same venue and on the same day as the senior men's teams. This permits all of a club's senior teams to travel and play as one group, with the single day schedule greatly relieving the load on club volunteers.

The LED lighting also provides longer use times at the venue, enabling the cross over of games with teams from adjoining Leagues, providing variety in playing fixtures and competitive games throughout the season.

The investment will ultimately improve lifestyles and build stronger community links in Hervey Bay, with the upgrade set to increase participation in sport and enhance the sustainability of the football and cricket clubs and their respective leagues.

PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS

- Collaboration between local council, state government, AFL, cricket and the community
- Capacity for the venue to cater for a diverse range of users and sports and support club growth
- Support player attraction and club financial sustainability with reduced electrical costs



Queenscliff v Ocean Grove Football Club

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PROJECT PARTNERS

This project has been a collaborative effort of several partner organisations and the five local government authorities comprising the G21 Geelong Region Alliance with AFL Barwon acting as Project Manager.

This project has been funded by AFL Barwon in partnership with Buckley's Entertainment Centre.

Input and advice from AFL Victoria, AFL Barwon, Netball Victoria and the G21 regional football and netball communities has also assisted the development of this document.

PROJECT CONSULTANTS

insideEDGE **Sport and Leisure Planning**

Whitten Oval | 417 Barkly Street

Footscray West | VIC 3012 | Australia

Telephone	+61 3 9680 6370
Email	info@ieslp.com.au
Web	www.ieslp.com.au

PO Box 4078
131 Myers Street
Geelong Victoria 3220

TEL +61 3 5227 4000
FAX +61 3 5224 2594
EMAIL G21info@g21.com.au

www.g21.com.au

9. POSITIVE AGEING STRATEGY 2021-47 – DRAFT REPORT

Source: **Community Life – Healthy Communities**
Director: **Robyn Stevens**

Purpose

1. To endorse the release of the Respected, connected and thriving - Draft Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47 for public exhibition.

Background

2. In June 2016, the Chief Executive Officer signed the Statement of Support to the Age-friendly Victoria Declaration – Victorian Government and MAV. The Age-friendly Victoria initiative aims to 'promote the inclusion of older people and support services, business and community leaders to better plan for the needs of seniors and enhance the quality of life for people as they age' (DHHS, State Government of Victoria, 2018).

3. Respected, connected and thriving – Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47 will aim to protect, improve and promote public health for older members of our community, by creating environments that enable healthier ageing (**Attachment 2**).

4. Incite Information consultants conducted research and developed the strategy and background paper including executive summary (**Attachment 3**).

Key Matters

5. The population of Greater Geelong is ageing, with the number of people aged 55 and over expected to increase by 68 per cent from approximately 72,000 (ABS, 2016) to 120,000 (ABS, 2041).

6. The findings from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety and other policy directions have formed the strategic context for developing the strategy.

7. At present, we provide direct community care services to less than 10 per cent of the over 65 population, and until now, have not identified how we can better support the remaining 90 percent.

8. This strategy:

   8.1 provides us with a strategic direction informed by the community that will become the basis for our future role in support to older people; and

   8.2 represents the opportunity for innovation and extending our role beyond 'business as usual' and is an expression of our evolving relationship with local communities, other local organisations and other levels of government.

9. The strategy has been drafted with a long-term view, to align with the timeline for the Clever and Creative community vision. The key priorities of the strategy will be reviewed every five years.

Cr Mansfield moved, Cr Moloney seconded -

10. That Council:

10.1 endorse the release of the Respected, connected and thriving – Draft Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47 for public exhibition for a period of four weeks from 26 May 2021; and

10.2 receive a further report and the final strategy following the consultation period.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. Any financial implications will be drawn from within existing budget.

Community Engagement

2. The project was guided by a Project Control Group comprising membership from the Healthy Communities, Connected Communities and Community Care departments.

3. The demographic profile, strategic context, stakeholder and community consultation and drafting of the strategy was undertaken by consultants Incite Information.

4. Consultation involved interviews with 12 key local stakeholder organisations during November 2020, and focus groups with older members of the Greater Geelong community in February 2021. These were significantly impacted by a snap five-day lockdown due to COVID-19. One focus group was held face to face in Drysdale and the other was held online via Zoom. Some members of the City's Ageing Well Advisory Committee were also involved. The results of the Have Your Say survey for the Community Plan 2021-25 were also considered.

5. Representatives were interviewed from: Barwon South West Homelessness Network, Neighbourhood Houses Barwon, Barwon Health, Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation, Gen U, Barwon Community Legal Service, G21 Regional Alliance, Bellarine Community Health, Diversitat Aged Support, Red Cross and Department of Transport.

6. The consultation process identified a range of concerns for older people **(Attachment 3)**. Key concerns included:

    6.1 feeling isolated and segregated from the rest of the community;

    6.2 responding to neighbourhood specific desires and concerns (i.e. particular to a specific geographic location or community);

    6.3 improving access and availability of information on available services and support;

    6.4 promoting online/digital literacy and access, including connectivity and training in the use of computers, the internet and social media;

    6.5 addressing negative stereotypes of older people and ageism including workplace discrimination;

    6.6 addressing concerns about safety (both real and perceived) to promote more social participation, noting that safety has several aspects: physical safety (i.e. in relation to falling) and crime and unsociable behaviour; and

    6.7 promoting better collaboration between organisations to meet all the needs and provide holistic support for older people.

Social Equity Considerations

7. This strategy is based on principles of social and health equity and provides an equity lens to the Clever and Creative community vision.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

8. This strategy will contribute to the City's role in promoting the rights of older people.

Alignment to Council Plan

9. This strategy aligns with the *Council Plan 2018-22*, Strategic Priority 3: A more inclusive and diverse community.

Conflict of Interest

10. No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest either general or material, regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

11. Adopting this strategy has the potential to mitigate against risks associated with not considering our older population in the planning and implementation of services, facilities and infrastructure.

12. In developing the Positive Ageing Action Plan with stakeholders and the community, clear communication of local government's role will be important. Working in partnership to achieve the long-term outcomes identified in the strategy will be essential following its adoption.

Environmental Implications

13. There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

Attachment 2

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

RESPECTED, CONNECTED AND THRIVING

DRAFT

POSITIVE AGEING STRATEGY 2021-2047

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

Acknowledgements 3

Introduction.....4

About Age-friendly Cities 7

Engagement themes 8

Our role 9

Respected, connecting and thriving – Draft Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47 10

Measuring Progress 13

Acknowledgements

The City of Greater Geelong recognises the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the land. We pay respect to their elders, past, present and future. We also acknowledge all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

Incite Information Consultants conducted research and developed the background paper and strategy.

This strategy has been shaped by the honest, thoughtful and insightful contributions of residents, community organisations, governments and employees and we would like to thank all those who contributed.

.

Introduction

In 2016, we joined 44 other Victorian councils by signing a Statement of Support and Partner Endorsement to the World Health Organisation's Age Friendly Declaration. This was a significant step for our organisation as it demonstrated our commitment to helping Greater Geelong become an even better place for older people to live and where older people feel included, supported and valued.

Globally, the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021-30 provides a renewed focus on improving the lives of older people, their families and the communities in which they live. It is therefore an opportune time to express our commitment to the health and wellbeing of our older community, especially in light of the recently released findings from the Aged Care Royal Commission and the disproportionate impacts experienced by the older community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

People aged 55 years and over make up approximately 30 per cent of our region's population. Over the next 20 years, it is projected the total number of people in this age group will grow from approximately 72,000 (ABS, 2016) to 120,000 (ABS, 2041). It is important that we are well placed to plan for, and respond to, this growth – particularly in areas like the Bellarine, where a large proportion of older people live.

Older people are an important and vital part of our community. Being "older" simply means one thing: having lived longer. It does not define who someone is, nor what they are capable of. We want to do more to respect and celebrate the diversity of older people who live, work in and visit Greater Geelong, while respecting and supporting their individual experiences, preferences and backgrounds.

UNDERSTANDING AGEING

Ageing is relevant to everyone. Not only are we all ageing, increasing numbers of people who live, work or visit Greater Geelong are older people. As such, many of us know, care for and interact with older people regularly.

When thinking about what it means to be an age-friendly city, we need to consider the following:

- Ageing impacts everyone differently and this can either hinder or support active and healthy ageing, access, security, inclusiveness and participation.
- Biological processes increase the likely need for specialised services and support for people as they age, while their functional capabilities, needs and preferences will vary. The amount and type of support and the age it is needed (if at all) varies significantly between individuals.
- Key transitional events that frequently occur later in life can have an impact on health and wellbeing, such as retirement, loss of a driver's licence, becoming an informal carer, loss of a spouse, or dealing with end of life.
- Older people are an incredible resource in the community. They possess great knowledge, skills and experience, so it is important for society to value and support older people to express them.

Age-friendly is friendly for all ages: designing and implementing activities and initiatives to promote access and participation by older people will be beneficial for everyone.

OUR COMMUNITY PROFILE

Population growth and geographic distribution

In 2016, people aged 55 years and over comprised approximately 30 per cent of the population of Greater Geelong. The number of people aged 55 and over is expected to increase by 68 per cent between 2016 and 2041 (from approximately 72,000 to 120,000)[1].

Growth in the number of older residents reflects the wider, rapid growth in Greater Geelong's population which is projected to increase by 64 per cent between 2016 and 2041 (from approximately 240,000 in 2016 to 393,000 in 2041).

Older people may face additional challenges related to the significant increase in the overall number of people living, working and visiting Greater Geelong. Higher volumes of people and traffic may increase risks in relation to safety, falling and reduced enjoyment, while significant changes to buildings and streetscapes may result in confusion and a reduced sense of connection.

[1] The source for all population data including projections for 2041 is the id Community website www. www.forecast.id.com.au/Geelong accessed on 26 February 2021.

Community contribution

Older people make a significant contribution to the community socially and economically: they contribute to the local economy and promote economic sustainability; they provide assistance and care through volunteering and as informal carers; and contribute to civic life and community strengthening through ongoing participation in their local communities.

- *Workforce participation*: 28.7 per cent of residents aged 55 and over in the municipality are still engaged in the labour force, with 33.7 per cent of the workforce aged 55 and over employed in professional and managerial positions indicating a proportion of the population are educated and affluent.
- *Volunteering*: 20.5 per cent of the population in Greater Geelong reported doing some form of volunteer work in 2016. Of the total population that volunteer, 37 per cent are aged 55 and over.
- *Caring responsibilities*: Older people play an important role as informal carers with 15.1 per cent of people aged 55 and over providing unpaid assistance to others. Of the total carers in Greater Geelong, 45.5 per cent were aged 55 and over.

The Geelong city centre attracts older people that reside outside the municipality for retail, arts & cultural activities, medical services, business opportunities and other services and activities. In addition, the region's natural environment and major events attracts large numbers of older people for tourism and recreation.

Diversity

The diversity of older people living, working and visiting Greater Geelong adds to the vibrancy and cultural fabric of the community. It is important to recognise and celebrate the variety of individual experiences and preferences. Older people are not a single, uniform group, they have diverse backgrounds in terms of culture, gender and sexuality.

- *Gender:* 45.7 per cent of the population aged 55 years and over are male, however females live longer than their male counterparts and females account for 71.4 per cent of all centenarians in the municipality.
- *Country of birth*: 16.3 per cent of the City's residents were born overseas with 10.1 per cent of residents born in countries where English is not the main language. The top countries of birth for residents aged over 55 years include England, Italy, Netherlands, Germany and Croatia.
- *Main language*: 10.6 per cent of all residents speak a language other than English at home with the most commonly spoken non-English languages including Italian, Croatian, Mandarin, Macedonian, Greek, German and Serbian and some emerging languages include Punjabi, Vietnamese, Arabic and Hindi. It is particularly important to note the main languages of older, lone persons with limited English fluency which are Croatian, Italian, Macedonian, Greek, Polish, Spanish, Russian, Serbian, Ukrainian and Bosnian.
- *Indigenous*: For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons, the ageing process is considered to commence earlier at 45 years of age. 0.53 per cent of the population aged 45 and over identify as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or both. 1 in 7 Indigenous Australians aged 50 and over were removed from their families.
- *LGBTI*: Current estimates put LGBTI people as representing 11 per cent of the population. LGBTI people are likely to be represented by at least the same proportion in older populations.

Social and economic disadvantage

It is also important to note that many older people in Greater Geelong face disadvantage and other barriers that affect their health and wellbeing and opportunities for social and economic engagement in their communities.

- *Need for assistance*: Approximately 12.6 per cent of the population aged over 55 years requires assistance with core activities and not surprisingly the requirement for assistance increases with age, with approximately 45.4 per cent of individuals over 85 years requiring assistance.
- *Income*: In 2016, almost 57.6 per cent of the population aged 55 and over were receiving a personal income at the modest level ($499) or below. Just over 5.1 per cent were receiving no or negative income. In June

2020, around 64.7 per cent of the total population aged 65 and over was receiving an age pension allowance[2].

- *Geography*: There are pockets of advantage and disadvantage which will require different supports and programming depending on location - the areas with the highest level of socio-economic disadvantage include Norlane – Northshore, Whittington, Corio and South Geelong.
- *Living alone*: 24.5 per cent of the population aged 55 and over lives in a lone person household.

[2] PHIDU, 2021, Social Health Atlas of Australia, Victoria, Data by Local Government Area, February 2021.

About Age-friendly Cities

The World Health Organisation's (WHO) Age-friendly Cities Framework is an internationally recognised guide for governments and communities. Since 2002, it has been promoting healthy and active ageing in urban environments by informing public discussion and action.

The framework provides a holistic, multi-dimensional approach across a range of domains that are grouped into three environments:

Environments	Age-friendly domains
Physical environment	Outdoor spaces and buildings
	Transportation
	Housing
Social environment	Social participation
	Respect and social inclusion
	Employment
	Civic engagement
Services and support	Community and health services
	Communication and information

We used this framework as a guide during the engagement process.

Engagement themes

Using the Age-friendly framework as a guide, we talked with older residents, other government and community organisations. These discussions helped us better understand the future aspirations and current barriers for older people.

Living in welcoming and connected local communities
Older people …

- want to feel welcomed, known, valued and respected by other people within their local community
- want to have intergenerational connections, including interactions with young children, school children, young adults and families
- do not want to feel isolated or segregated from the rest of the community
- require Commonwealth, State and local government to be responsive to local desires and concerns and recognise that there may be significant variation in needs and preferences by geographic location and community of interest.

Being valued and respected for their achievements and contributions
Older people…

- want to feel respected for what they have done in the past, and recognised and valued as people that are still capable of offering much more
- want negative stereotypes of older people and ageism, including workplace discrimination, to be addressed.

Having equitable access to places, spaces and services
Older people…

- need additional effort to address age specific barriers to ensure that they have the same level of access to services and facilities and opportunity to participate in their communities
- need accessible information on available services and support; particularly access to, and training on, digital and social media
- need places, spaces and services to be responsive to diversity and the specific needs of vulnerable groups, including responsiveness to the variety of older peoples' cultures, gender, socio-economic status.

The Strategy identifies priority areas for action for each of these three themes.

Our role

As the closest level of government to the community, we are best placed to understand, plan and advocate for local and diverse community needs. However, we recognise that collaboration with local communities and organisations and other levels of government is required to effectively influence the breadth and complexity of factors impacting the health and wellbeing of older people.

Our various roles in supporting Greater Geelong to become an age-friendly place include:

- **Planner –** participating in service coordination, networking, policy development, stakeholder consultation, data collection and research.
- **Resource provider –** providing and maintaining buildings and infrastructure and delivering community grants and education and training.
- **Service provider** – delivering services and supports.
- **Partner and broker –** working with others to provide services and facilities.
- **Advocate –** supporting important issues on behalf of the community.
- **Community capacity builder –** coordinating, engaging and encouraging inclusive practices.

Respected, connecting and thriving – Draft Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47

Our clever and creative vision		
By 2047, Greater Geelong will be internationally recognised as a clever and creative city-region that is forward looking, enterprising and adaptive and cares for its people and environment.		
Strategic Objective		
Greater Geelong is an age-friendly place where: • older people are valued and thrive; • people, as they age, are respected, supported and participate in strong, local communities; • older people have equitable access to social, economic and civic activities; and • people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities are welcomed and enjoy interacting with each other.		
Guiding Principles		
• Engagement and participation - encouraging and supporting older people from different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives to share their views and shape their future • Local community responsiveness - planning and working to meet local needs and aspirations, and building on existing community assets • Connection and collaboration - embracing a whole of organisation approach and promoting partnerships with, and between, local communities and other organisations		
Theme 1	**Theme 2**	**Theme 3**
Older people live in welcoming and strongly connected local communities	**Older people are valued and respected**	**Older people have equitable access to places, spaces and services**
Priorities		
a) Our places, activities and events are intergenerational and welcome older people	a) Older people are valued and acknowledged for their past, present and future contributions	a) A range of health and support services is available to promote, maintain and restore health; and support independent living
b) Activities and events that appeal to the diverse needs and preferences of older people are held in variety of local neighbourhoods	b) The diverse experiences and views of older people are actively sought and supported to inform the development, implementation and monitoring of Council's activities	b) Barriers impeding access to health and community support services are minimised and outreach is provided to vulnerable or disadvantaged people
c) Services and supports are available to enable older people to create and maintain informal networks and social connections	c) Older people are depicted positively and without stereotyping in communications and media	c) There is timely, accurate and relevant information available about services, activities and events, including details about costs, accessibility of facilities and transport options

d) Housing (including residential aged care) is appropriately located in areas that are safe, close to services and the rest of the community	d) A range of flexible opportunities for older people to use and share their skills and expertise is promoted (e.g. mentoring, volunteering and learning opportunities)	d) There is wide public access, training and support to use the internet, social media and digital technologies
e) Older people feel safe in the community	e) The value of older employees is embraced and celebrated	e) Public transport is reliable and frequent, including at night and on weekends and holidays. It is safe and affordable with full coverage across the municipality.
f) The amenity & safety of local neighbourhoods is promoted by appropriate footpaths, ramps and pedestrian crossings, good street lighting, public seating and toilets		f) Parks and open spaces are designed with the needs of older people in mind
		g) Older people have access to facilities, infrastructure and opportunities to support healthy lifestyles

Implementation

We recognise the important civic leadership role that community engagement can play in achieving real outcomes for communities, and we strive to have a collaborative partnership with the community to deliver positive changes across our region.

Authentic community engagement promotes greater trust and confidence in local democracy, builds stronger relationships and leads to better outcomes for all of us. That's why it is critical that the decisions which support the health and well-being for people as they age are informed and influenced by the people who live, work, visit or do business in the region.

A **Positive Ageing Action Plan** will be developed and implemented in partnership with older residents, local communities, service providers and other stakeholders. The participation of everyone in our community is encouraged, welcomed, and valued because it helps us make better decisions and achieve better outcomes. We will check in with you to make sure your views are heard.

The **Positive Ageing Action Plan** will outline the activities, timelines, responsibilities and measures of progress for each priority area.

Actions may be led by communities (with the support of Council); led by us and/or led by partnerships with organisations such as the G21 Regional Alliance.

Our roles, responsibilities and activities identified in the Action Plan will be embedded in our operational plans and reporting frameworks to support effective implementation and accountability.

Measuring Progress

A comprehensive framework to measure progress towards the desired outcomes for older people will be developed with the Positive Ageing Action Plan.

The measurement framework will 'tell the story' of the Strategy by indicating how particular actions and initiatives will achieve strategic objectives: i.e. what we would like to achieve in key outcome areas and what is required to achieve those outcomes.

The Measurement Framework will provide a range of perspectives including:

- longer-term outcomes and more specific measures for shorter term activities and initiatives
- progress towards achieving different strategic objectives
- considering both process (i.e. guiding principles) and results

The Measurement Framework will ensure that the Positive Ageing Strategy is integrated with risk management, monitoring and evaluation activities. The Framework will therefore also be an invaluable tool to evaluate the effectiveness of different activities and to guide continuous improvement and the development of new, innovative approaches. As a result, the community, stakeholders and decision-makers will be provided with appropriate information regarding progress towards, or risks in relation to, achieving strategic objectives.

Progress against the action plan will be monitored annually and population level indicators will be reviewed at five yearly intervals.

Progress reports will be made available to the community on an annual basis.

Attachment 3

Positive Ageing Strategy

City of Greater Geelong

Background Paper

April 2021

INCITE information

Citation: *INCITE information,* City of Greater Geelong Positive Ageing Strategy Background Paper, April 2021

Version: 11 April 2021

Table of Contents

STRATEGY ON A PAGE	**3**
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	**5**
BACKGROUND	**9**
STRATEGY PURPOSE AND COMPONENTS	**11**
STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	**13**
COMMUNITY AND SECTOR CONSULTATION	**16**
NEXT STEPS	**21**

deliberately blank

STRATEGY ON A PAGE

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE		
Greater Geelong is an age-friendly place where older people are valued and thrive: where people as they age are respected, supported and participate in strong, local communities; where they have equitable access to social, economic and civic activities; and where people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities are welcomed and enjoy interacting with each other.		
GUIDING PRINCIPLES		
• Engagement and participation: encouraging and supporting older people from different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives to share their views and shape their future • Local community responsiveness: planning and working to meet local needs and aspirations, and building on existing community assets • Connection and collaboration: embracing a whole of organisation approach and promoting partnerships with, and between, local communities and other organisations		
KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES		
Older people live in welcoming and strongly connected local communities	**Older people are valued and respected**	**Older people have equitable access to places, spaces and services**
Our places, activities and events are intergenerational and welcome older people	Older people are valued and acknowledged for their past, present and future contributions	A range of health and support services is available to promote, maintain and restore health; and support independent living
Activities and events that appeal to the diverse needs and preferences of older people are held in variety of local neighbourhoods	The diverse experiences and views of older people are actively sought and supported to inform the development, implementation and monitoring of Council's activities	Barriers impeding access to health and community support services are minimised and outreach is provided to vulnerable or disadvantaged people
Services and supports are available to enable older people to create and maintain informal networks and social connections	Older people are depicted positively and without stereotyping in communications and media	There is timely, accurate and relevant information available about services, activities and events, including details about costs, accessibility of facilities and transport options
Housing (including residential aged care) is appropriately located in areas that are safe, close to services and the rest of the community	A range of flexible opportunities for older people to use and share their skills and expertise is promoted (e.g. mentoring, volunteering and learning opportunities)	There is wide public access, training and support to use the internet, social media and digital technologies
Older people feel safe in the community	The value of older employees is embraced and celebrated	Public transport is reliable and frequent, including at night and on weekends and holidays. It is safe and affordable with full coverage across the municipality.
The amenity & safety of local neighbourhoods is promoted by appropriate footpaths, ramps and pedestrian crossings, good street lighting, public seating and toilets		Parks and open spaces are designed with the needs of older people in mind
		Older people have access to facilities, infrastructure and opportunities to support healthy lifestyles

NOTE: A comprehensive framework to measure progress towards the desired outcomes for older people will be developed in conjunction with a Positive Ageing Action Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

1. The aim of the City of Greater Geelong's (CoGG) Positive Ageing Strategy is to promote and support healthy and happy ageing for people in the City of Greater Geelong. The Strategy is intended to fundamentally express Council's understanding of its role, and its objectives & priorities for older people. It is important to recognise the 'strategic' dimensions of the Strategy:

    - it has long-term aims: The Strategy is for the period 2021-2047. It is intended to be reviewed at 5 year intervals, with the first review in 2026
    - it is holistic and embraces all factors that contribute to healthy and happy ageing; it is not restricted to Councils' service delivery role, particularly not just to the delivery of community based aged care
    - it is aimed at people aged 55 and over, and is not restricted by eligibility for Commonwealth services or access to superannuation funds
    - it includes the entire municipality and does not exclude or prioritise any geographic area

Approach

2. The Strategy was developed through an iterative process that involved multiple elements including reviewing key City of Greater Geelong strategic plans, data analysis, community consultation, interviews with key local sector stakeholders and staff workshops.

3. The World Health Organisation's (WHO) Age-friendly Cities Framework was used as a guide to develop the Strategy. The Age-friendly Cities Framework is the key internationally recognised guide for governments and communities to promote health and well-being for the growing ageing population. The Age Friendly Framework involves a holistic, multi-dimensional approach across a range of domains to promote healthy, active and positive ageing.

    The domains can be grouped into three 'environments' which generally reflect areas of interest & concern for older people and focus areas for Council action:

    - physical environment
    - social environment
    - services and support

Issues

4. In 2016 (the most recent Census), people aged 55 + years comprised approximately 30 per cent of the population of the City of Greater Geelong. The number of people aged 55 and over is expected to increase by 68% between 2016 and 2041 (from approximately 72,000 to 120,000).

5. It is important to recognise that older people are not a single, uniform group: they have diverse backgrounds (i.e. culture, gender and sexuality), different preferences & needs, and changing requirements over time. Additionally, people's self-perception of their own 'old age' is likely to reflect their positive or negative interpretations of their experience of ageing.

6. Additionally, many older people in the City of Greater Geelong face disadvantage and other barriers that affect their health and wellbeing and opportunities for social and economic engagement in their communities. There are pockets of advantage and disadvantage which will require different supports and programming depending on location - the areas with the highest

level of socio-economic disadvantage include Norlane – Northshore, Whittington, Corio and South Geelong.

7. The consultation process identified a range of concerns for older people, key concerns included:
    - not feeling feel isolated and segregated from the rest of the community
    - responding to neighbourhood specific desires and concerns (i.e. particular to a specific geographic location or community)
    - improving access and availability of information on available services and support
    - promoting online / digital literacy and access, including connectivity and training in the use of computers, the internet and social media
    - addressing negative stereotypes of older people and ageism including workplace discrimination
    - addressing concerns about safety (both real and perceived) to promote more social participation. Safety has several aspects: physical safety (i.e. relation to falling) and crime and unsociable behaviour
    - promoting better collaboration between organisations to meet all the needs and provide holistic support for older people

8. Key goals identified through the consultation process were in relation to:

    - <u>Living in friendly and connected neighbourhoods and communities</u>
      Older people want to feel welcomed, known, wanted and respected by other people within the neighbourhood they live. They also want to have intergenerational connections, for example, interactions with young children, school children, young adults and families.

    - <u>Older people's achievements and contribution are valued</u>
      Older people make a significant contribution to the community socially and economically and the diversity of older people living, working and visiting the municipality adds to the vibrancy and cultural fabric of the community.

      It is important that older people are respected for what they have done in the past, and that they are recognised and valued as people that are still capable of offering much more.

    - <u>Safe & equitable access to public facilities, infrastructure and services</u>
      Older people are likely to require targeted interventions to address age specific barriers to have the same level of access to services & facilities and equal participation in their communities, for example, existing footpaths need to be even, wide and have curb ramps to allow safe use by people with walkers and mobility scooters.

      The critical principle is that some additional effort is required to ensure equitable access to community amenity by older people

Next Steps

9. <u>Public exhibition:</u> Following Council approval, the draft Strategy will be designed and formatted for public release and then made available for public exhibition. Public exhibition is expected to be conducted from 26 May to 7 July 2021. Following public exhibition, the final strategy is scheduled to be presented for Council approval on 28 September 2021.

10. In addition to general public release, it is recommended that consultation on the draft strategy specifically includes targeted & structured engagement with the following key stakeholder groups

who were involved in its development and will be important to engage as 'champions' and participants in the implementation of the final strategy:

i. residents who participated in focus groups to develop the draft strategy
ii. representatives of key local service provider organisations
iii. members of the CoGG Ageing Well Community Advisory Committee

11. Positive Ageing Action Plan and Measurement Framework: The Action Plan will outline the activities, timelines and responsibilities for each priority area. The Measurement Framework specifies measures targets for key outcome areas & priorities and more specific measures for shorter term activities and initiatives required to achieve those outcomes.

12. A fundamental premise on the need for any strategy is that it articulates a substantive change from current arrangements to a more desired future state. It is implicit that continuing the current 'business as usual' will not be sufficient to achieve desired objectives. It is therefore likely that Council will have to undertake new initiatives to achieve its new strategic objectives and priorities and change the ways it has previously conducted activities.

13. It is also important to note the opportunity to trial a new approach to action planning and implementation for the Positive Ageing Strategy, which could be applied more widely to Council's role in other sectors (e.g. economic development, infrastructure, community development etc).

14. It is proposed that a new approach that reflects and embodies the Principles of the Strategy is used in both (i) developing the Action Plan to implement the strategy; and (ii) conducting identified activities. Planning and implementation of the Action Plan would therefore involve:
    - Engagement and participation: encouraging and supporting older people from different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives to share their views and shape their future
    - Local community responsiveness: planning and working to meet local needs and aspirations, and building on existing community assets
    - Connection and collaboration: embracing a whole of organisation approach and promoting partnerships with, and between, local communities and other organisations

15. In practice the new approach could involve the following:
    a. During the public exhibition phase: consulting with the three key stakeholder groups identified above (i.e. focus group participants, key local service provider organisations and the Ageing Well Community Advisory Committee) to (i) confirm and promote their support for the Strategy; and (ii) to test and refine the strategy by conducting preliminary work for inform the development of a measurement framework and action plan

    b. After Council adoption of the strategy:
        i. continuing to work with the three key stakeholder groups identified above to develop a multi-year action plan and measurement framework that identifies the various roles and responsibilities of community, Council and partner organisations

        ii. facilitating collaborative workshops between residents, service providers and the City to conduct place-based action planning and to promote local community participation in implementing agreed activities

16. Finally, it is important to note that a persistent finding of the value of Age Friendly Cities activities is that initiatives that specifically benefit older people have benefits for the population generally, i.e.: age friendly is people friendly. The Strategy should therefore be an important expression of

Council's evolving relationship with local communities, other local organisations and other levels of government.

BACKGROUND

Live Well Positive Ageing Strategy 2006

In 2006 Council adopted the Live Well Positive Ageing Strategy as a guide for positive ageing in Geelong. This strategy was in response to the significant projected change in population demographics between 2006-2014, particularly in relation to the number of people aged 55+.

The Strategy informed changes to CoGG's delivery of Aged and Disability services and built on Council's partnerships with the Primary Care Partnership, G21, Barwon Health, government and community-based agencies on health promotion, community building and prevention strategies. However, the 2006 strategy did not embrace holistic and widespread action in relation to all older people (i.e. not limited to clients of CoGG's care and support services) nor across all areas that contribute to health and well-being.

Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47: Scope

The Strategy has the following scope and strategic dimensions:

a. it has long-term aims: The Strategy is for the period 2021-2047. It is intended to be reviewed at 5 year intervals, with the first review in 2026
b. it is holistic and embraces all factors that contribute to healthy and happy ageing; it is not restricted to the delivery of Councils' service delivery role, particularly not just to the delivery of community based aged care
c. it is aimed at people aged 55 and over, and is not restricted by eligibility for Commonwealth services or access to superannuation funds
d. it includes the entire municipality and does not exclude or prioritise any geographic area

The WHO's Age Friendly Cities Framework was used to guide the development of the Strategy. Age-friendly Cities Framework is the key internationally recognised guide for governments and communities to develop a better world for the growing ageing population. The Age Friendly Cities Framework involves a holistic, multi-dimensional approach across a range of domains to promote healthy, active and positive ageing. The WHO groups the Age Friendly domains into three 'environments' which easily translate into information to guide consideration of local government responsibilities.

Table 1: WHO Age Friendly Cities Framework

	Age Friendly Domain
Physical Environment	– Outdoor spaces & buildings – Transportation – Housing
Social Environment	– Social participation – Respect and social inclusion – Employment – Civic engagement
Services & Support	– Community and health services – Communication and information

Project Approach

Project Governance

INCITE information was selected through a competitive process to conduct the project. *INCITE* has previously conducted a range of strategic reviews of community aged care and other community services for both metropolitan and regional local governments to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of services and assets. All work was conducted by *INCITE*'s partners: Paul Robertson and Wendy Malkiewicz.

A Project Control Group (PCG) met regularly through the project although membership changed due to staff movements and availability. PCG's members were:

- Kylie Riley, Acting Coordinator Health Equity and Planning
- Chantal Chauvet-Allen, (former) Coordinator, Health Equity and Planning
- Janice Lane, Manager Healthy Communities
- Leigh MacCallum, Manager Connected Communities
- Mary McGorry, Manager Community Care
- Geoff Barber, Coordinator Care Services
- Hinga Fletcher, Coordinator Community and Recreation

Ms Kylie Riley, Acting Coordinator Health Equity and Planning was the Project Manager.

Activities

The project commenced in February 2020 but work was suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions. The project recommenced in November 2020 with some changes in approach to manage COVID-19 risks.

The project was progressed in two stages that involved the following activities:

Stage 1: Mapping the local service system and understanding community needs

1. Project initiation
2. Review of key documents and data
3. Community consultation
4. Local service provider consultation: 1:1 interviews with representatives from 11 locally based organisations
5. Briefing Paper 1

Stage 2: Strategy development

6. Identify and confirm key priorities (workshop)
7. Strategy development (workshop)
8. Final (draft) Strategy

STRATEGY PURPOSE AND COMPONENTS

The Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-2047 is intended to develop, enhance and support the physical, social and service 'environments' to enable healthier ageing for people in the Geelong region. It is important to recognise that 'health' in this case is considered to be a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (consistent with Preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organisation (WHO)).

It is important to note that the Strategy is intended to fundamentally express Council's understanding of its role, and its objectives and priorities for older people. To achieve its new strategic objectives and priorities it is likely that Council will have to undertake new initiatives and change the ways it has previously conducted activities: i.e. the need for a Strategy is largely redundant if desired outcomes could be achieved through 'business-as-usual'; conversely, it is unlikely that desired objectives through continuing 'business as usual'

The Strategy is therefore an important expression of Council's evolving relationship with local communities, other local organisations and other levels of government.

Council can respond to the strategic priorities in the Strategy in a number of ways through its various roles as:

- Planner**:** by participating in service co-ordination, networking, policy development, stakeholder consultation, data collection and research
- Resource provider**:** through the provision and maintenance of buildings and infrastructure, delivery of community grants and education & training
- Service provider: through the delivery of services and supports
- Partner and broker**:** by working with others to provide services and facilities
- Advocate and supporter**:** of important issues on behalf of the community
- Community capacity builder**:** through coordination, engagement and encouragement of inclusive practices

Strategy components

The Strategy's components provide a framework to plan and manage activities to achieve desired outcomes:

- Strategic Objective**:** is an aspirational vision of desired outcomes for older people in the municipality which is intended to inspire people by appealing to the heart as well as the head.
- Principles: describe how things will be done. The set of guiding principles creates a desired pattern of decision making and action.
- Key Themes: emerged from community and stakeholder consultation. They are the foundation stones of the Strategy. They both expand the description of the Goal and create a structure to organise activities to achieve the Vision.
- Priorities: identified areas for action to execute strategy over short to medium term, to be reviewed every five years.

An Action Plan and Measurement Framework will be developed following Council's approval of the final Strategy. The Action Plan will outline the activities, timelines and responsibilities for

each priority area. The Measurement Framework specifies measures targets for key outcome areas & priorities and more specific measures for shorter term activities and initiatives required to achieve those outcomes.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

A review of CoGG's key strategic planning documents was used to ensure alignment of the Strategy with CoGG's strategic direction and goals and also informed the development of priorities for the Strategy.

Clever and Creative Future: Thirty Year Vision

The Positive Ageing Strategy could directly contribute to a number of community aspirations and values identified in the 30 year Vision particularly:

- An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community:
  - access to quality education, health services and affordable housing
  - a strong sense of community
  - support for vulnerable community members
  - a range of employment opportunities
- People feel safe wherever they are:
  - clean, safe and fun environments for everyone
  - feeling safe on the streets day and night
  - a safe, crime free and honest community
- A fast, reliable and connected transport network
  - sustainable, connected and networked walking, cycling and public transport services that allow all abilities access into and across the city-region
- A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities
  - business diversity, education and employment opportunities
  - people who are willing to create new business opportunities
  - training, research and education institutions that support economic participation and catering for all skill levels
- Creativity drives culture
  - the contribution of the arts to community vibrancy, diversity, and inclusiveness
  - involvement with local art, music, heritage, contemporary culture and Wadawurrung culture
- A leader in developing and adopting technology
  - a variety of affordable technologies providing digital access to information on demand
  - a community and workforce with the capacity to use digital technology
  - free connectivity throughout the public places

Council Plan 2018-22

The Positive Ageing Strategy directly contributes to Strategic Priority 3: A more inclusive and diverse community.

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2018-21

The Positive Ageing Strategy is particularly relevant to the following strategic themes in the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan:

- People Centred: To put people, families and communities at the centre of efforts to improve health and wellbeing.
- Place Based: To achieve healthy places where people live, learn, work and play
- Healthy and Sustainable Neighbourhoods: To reflect the connection between health and wellbeing and liveable neighbourhoods

The Strategy also builds on, and will inform future iterations of, **other Council plans and strategies** including:

- Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2018-2022
- Social Infrastructure Plan 2020-2023
- Social Housing Plan 2020-2041
- Sustainability Framework
- Community Engagement Policy
- Social Equity Principles
- Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan
- Multicultural Action Plan 2018-22
- Ba-gurrk Gender Equity Framework

Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2018-2022

The four priority areas for the Action Plan are consistent with Age Friendly domains and highlight that the creation of a fully accessible community benefits everyone. The four priority areas are:

- ACCESS: Improve access to the built environment
- INCLUSION: Provide alternative communication options
- EMPLOYMENT: Identify and reduce the barriers to employment
- INCLUSIVE ATTITUDES: Foster an inclusive culture

Our Community Places, Spaces and Services. A Social Infrastructure Plan for the City of Greater Geelong Generation One: 2020 – 2023

The plan highlights the importance of social infrastructure as the fabric of the community: i.e. the places and spaces that bring people together; where they make friends, stay active, learn new skills and access important services. Key aspects of the plan that are important to the development of the Positive Ageing Strategy include:

- Community consultation, quality representation and participation as a key focus going forward
- targeted and place-based planning because different places, communities and activities have different needs and unique challenges
- the role of infrastructure in addressing disadvantage
- creating communities for all
- ageing in place and supporting intergenerational places, spaces and activities for young and old to interact, learn from one another, honour what each has to offer and, at the same time, feel good about themselves
- 20 minute neighbourhood: creating a liveable city by giving people the ability to meet most of their everyday needs within a 20 minute walk, cycle or local public transport trip of their home

G21 Priorities and Pillars

G21 is the formal alliance of government, business and community organisations, working together to improve the lives of people within the Geelong region across five municipalities. The G21 Pillar Groups are at the heart of all the work G21 undertakes. The Priorities, Objectives and Projects of the Pillar Groups map to the WHO Age Friendly Framework and in turn to CoGG's Positive Ageing Strategy. It is

important to note that consideration of the G21 Pillars will be important in the next stage of developing an implementation plan for the Strategy.

The overarching priorities of the Health & Wellbeing Pillar are particularly relevant, they include:

- addressing disadvantage
- building stronger and safer communities
- encouraging healthy active lifestyles
- appreciating individual and community diversity
- improving access to community services – including health, education and housing.

COMMUNITY AND SECTOR CONSULTATION

Local Service System Mapping
A series of meetings were conducted with internal stakeholders (i.e. CoGG officers) to map the local service system and to identify problems & opportunities. Service system mapping identified key external stakeholders to consult in a later project activity and areas of focus for both community and sector consultation.

Community Consultation
Community perspectives and input was collected through several mechanisms:

Your Say' Community Survey
The Have Your Say Geelong online survey was conducted between December 2020 and February 2021 to support the development of the Community Plan 2021-2025. Analysis to inform the Positive Ageing Strategy particularly focused on responses from people aged 50+. Survey participants were asked 'Thinking about your lifestyle in your local community, which 5 do you value the most?'. Responses to this question were compared between the age cohorts of '<50 years' and '50+ years'[1].

The aspect chosen most frequently as one of the 5 most valued by respondents aged over 50 years of was 'Neighbours and a sense of community' – this aspect was nominated by 56% of respondents in that age cohort.

Aspects related to the outdoor environment were also nominated in the 5 most valued by a significant proportion of respondents aged 50+ years including:

- 'Parks and open space' (54%)
- 'The natural environment' (51%)
- 'A clean environment (free from rubbish and dirt)' (41%)

In addition, 'Access to health services' was nominated in the 5 most valued by 44% of respondents aged 50+ years.

(ii) two focus groups with community representatives were conducted in February 2021. The first workshop was held in Drysdale and the second was conducted online through Zoom. Additional focus groups in different geographic locations and at different times were planned to provide an opportunity for community members to participate however these sessions had to be cancelled due to insufficient numbers – likely due to COVID risk concerns (including the coinciding of scheduled sessions with a five day snap lockdown). One to one telephone interviews were conducted with people who expressed an interest in participating but could not attend either the Drysdale or the online sessions.

(iii) the Ageing Well Advisory Committee was provided with information about the project by the CoGG Project Manager. Advisory Committee members were also invited to participate in community focus groups (above) – the majority of participants in the online focus group were Advisory Committee members

[1] Ideally this analysis would also be undertaken with smaller 5- or 10-year age cohorts, however this was not possible due to the limitations of small sample sizes which impact data reliability.

Local Service Provider Consultation

Interviews with representatives from a cross section of local organisations were conducted through November 2020. Organisations were selected on the basis of advice from CoGG staff. Organisations consulted were:

- Barwon Community Legal Service
- Barwon Health
- Barwon South West Homelessness Network
- Bellarine Community Health
- Department of Transport
- Diversitat Aged Support
- G21 Regional Alliance
- Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation
- GenU
- Neighbourhood Houses Barwon
- Red Cross

Consultation findings

A number of key themes emerged as key focus areas from the community and sector consultation process. These focus areas also emerged as important to each of the three Age Friendly Framework environments. The identified focus areas were inter-related, mutually re-enforcing but distinct. In addition activities in the identified focus areas to promote better outcomes for older people should also result in improved outcomes for all residents: age Friendly benefits everyone.

The key focus areas were:

Friendly and Connected Neighbourhood and Communities

Generally as people age they have an increasing desire for a stronger sense of connection and 'belonging' in the neighbourhood they live in. This is understandable in the context of having more time in and around their homes due to changing work patterns and/or different lifestyle expectations following a 'tree-change' or 'sea-change'.

The desire for community connection may also reflect responses to life-cycle changes as people adjust their sense of identity following retirement or empty-nesting; or a similar vacuum in previous relationships with work colleagues and/or immediate family.

Aspects of positive / desired local community connection include:

- feeling welcomed, known, wanted and respected by other people within the neighbourhood they live
- having intergenerational connections, for example, interactions with young children, school children, young adults and families. Importantly, older people do not want to feel isolated and segregated from the rest of the community
- responsiveness to neighbourhood specific desires and concerns. This requires a recognition by governments, private sector and community sector organisations that there may be significant variation by geographic location and community of interest

Valuing Older People's Achievements and Contribution

Being 'older' simply means one thing: having more life experience than the majority of people. Being older does not define who someone is nor determine what they are capable of. Older people feel that it is important they are respected for what they have done in the past, and that they should be recognised and valued as people that are still capable of offering much more.

Acknowledging and celebrating the achievements, skills and experience of older people is both a critical contributor to their happiness & well-being AND a pragmatic & effective use of a valuable resource.

Older people make a significant contribution to the community socially and economically and the diversity of older people living, working and visiting the municipality adds to the vibrancy and cultural fabric of the community.

However, the dominant public discourse in Australia has positioned older people as a financial burden and a societal drain for many years. This continues to be the primary focus of the Commonwealth Government through its emphasis on the cost of service delivery for older people and the economic impact of demographic change. Additionally, Western societies have increasingly promoted the higher value of 'youth' at the expense of devaluing older people for example in relation to physical appearance, familiarity & ability to use digital media etc

In contrast to this negative stereotype, older people have a acquired many years of experience and expertise which could be drawn upon to assist individuals (eg mentoring and coaching) and governance bodies (e.g. community and NGO boards, government advisory groups etc). Additionally, older people are a valuable community resource because they are likely to:

- have a relatively larger amount of discretionary time to participate in community and civic activities
- look for opportunities to connect with others and feel that they are making a contribution to their local community
- want to continue to use, and be recognised for, skills and experience gathered over their lifetime

New arrangements and ways of working will be required to encourage and support older people's economic, social and civic participation, for example:

- addressing ageist language and communications
- addressing employment barriers and promoting more flexible employment options
- creating more opportunities to inform, influence and make civic and community decisions
- promoting & supporting older people's participation in public festivals and events
- promoting age specific events that celebrate the achievement and contribution of older people

<u>Safe & Equitable Access to Public Facilities, Infrastructure and Services</u>

Older people are likely to require targeted interventions to address age specific barriers so that they have the same level of access to services & facilities and have equitable opportunities to participate in their communities. For example:

- existing footpaths need to be even, wide and have curb ramps to allow safe use by people with walkers and mobility scooters
- paths and parks may need ramps, benches, shade and public toilets to support use by older people

- public transport may need to be modified, expanded or supplemented (e.g. by community buses or volunteer drivers) to support access to shopping, health services or community activities
- financial security e.g. older people may avoid participating in social activities due to cost barriers
- providing access to, and training on, digital and social media

Consultation identified an extensive number of possibilities to address access & equity barriers. Rather than list all possibilities it is important to note the critical principle that some additional effort is required to ensure equitable access to community amenity by older people.

Safety is an additional dimension to equity: if older people don't feel safe they will not access or use an available resource or service. Safety has several aspects:

- physical safety in relation to falling or being knocked over (e.g. older people may be avoid busy shopping precincts with a high number of pedestrians, shared pathways with bicycle traffic, steep steps or high curbs without rails)
- crime and unsociable behaviour (e.g. older people may avoid public transport, parks or the CBD due to concerns due to concerns about potential, not just actual, crime and unsociable behaviour)

<u>Effective Collaborative Networks</u>

Given the breadth and complexity of environmental, economic, social, cultural and behavioural factors impacting health and well-being, it is clear that no single organisation or sector can effectively meet the needs and support older people to optimise their health and well-being.

Collaboration between organisations, and between organisations and local communities, provides a platform to consider and develop efficient & effective responses across the full service spectrum including health promotion, disease prevention and primary & tertiary health services and community support services.

Collaborative networks provide benefits to:

- Individuals and local communities including:
  - improved health and wellbeing outcomes
  - improved access to services
  - lower rates of preventable illness
  - increased social participation/inclusion
  - services that are more responsive to diverse needs
  - an expanded range of services
- Participating organisations including:
  - increased contact and networking with other organisations
  - ability to share information between organisations
  - opportunities for shared utilisation of resources and workforce capacity
  - opportunity to collaboratively respond to funding opportunities (and potentially attract greater overall levels of funding)

- The local service system including:

- reduced fragmentation between services contributing to more seamless care
- longer term impact on demand through improved / targeted health promotion & illness prevention activities
- enhanced service capacity
- developing innovative service responses

NEXT STEPS

Public exhibition and Council approval

Following Council approval, the draft Strategy will be designed and formatted for public release and then made available for public exhibition. Public exhibition is expected to be conducted from 26 May to 7 July 2021.

Following public exhibition the final strategy is scheduled to be presented for Council approval on 28 September 2021.

In addition to general public release, it is recommended that consultation on the draft strategy specifically includes targeted / structured engagement with the following key stakeholder groups that were involved in its development and will be important to engage as 'champions' and participants in the implementation of the final strategy:

- residents who participated in focus groups to develop the draft strategy
- representatives of key local service provider organisations
- members of the CoGG Ageing Well Community Advisory Committee

Development and implementation of an Action Plan and Measurement Framework

Community and sector consultation also identified a range of current local system strengths & gaps that could be used as a basis to develop an action plan as a next step to implement CoGG's Positive Ageing Strategy.

Additionally, consultation with key local service providers highlighted the need to build on existing networks to develop more collaborative approaches to address service gaps and create more holistic service responses. Given the breadth and complexity of environmental, economic, social, cultural and behavioural factors impacting health and well-being, it is clear that no single organisation or sector can effectively meet the needs and support older people to optimise their health and well-being.

A comprehensive framework to measure progress towards the desired outcomes for older people will be developed along with the Positive Ageing Action Plan. The Measurement Framework will ensure that the Positive Ageing Strategy is integrated with CoGG's risk management, monitoring and reporting activities.

It is important that sufficient time and resources are committed to developing a robust, reliable and sophisticated Measurement Framework that is relevant to the areas/issues of focus, has a clear relationship to intervention actions and is based on available, reliable and timely data. A poorly designed Measurement Framework has a number of significant risks, in addition to being ineffective, including:

- alienating stakeholders if the measures do not relate to the key themes and priorities identified during the development of the Strategy
- causing confusion by introducing new concepts or areas of focus
- diverting resources away from activities that are more likely to impact priority areas (and/or maintaining status quo of resource allocation and the focus of attention of decision-makers)
- not providing suitable accountability nor useful information to guide evaluation and continuous improvement

It is proposed that a new approach that reflects and embodies the Principles of the Strategy is used in both (i) developing the Action Plan and Measurement Framework to implement the strategy; and (ii)

conducting identified activities. Planning and implementation of the Action Plan would therefore involve:

- Engagement and participation: encouraging and supporting older people from different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives to share their views and shape their future
- Local community responsiveness: planning and working to meet local needs and aspirations, and building on existing community assets
- Connection and collaboration: embracing a whole of organisation approach and promoting partnerships with, and between, local communities and other organisations

In practice the new approach could involve the following:

a. During the public exhibition phase: consulting with the three key stakeholder groups identified above (i.e. focus group participants, key local service provider organisations and the Ageing Well Community Advisory Committee) to:
    i. confirm & promote their support for the Strategy
    ii. test and refine the strategy by conducting preliminary work for inform the development of a measurement framework and action plan

b. After Council adoption of the strategy:
    i. continuing to work with the three key stakeholder groups identified above to develop a multi-year action plan and measurement framework that identifies the various roles and responsibilities of community, Council and partner organisations
    ii. facilitating collaborative workshops between residents, service providers and the City to conduct place-based action planning and to promote local community participation in implementing agreed activities

Relevance and application to other sectors and CoGG activities

A fundamental premise on the need for any strategy is that it articulates a substantive change from current arrangements to a more desired future state. It is implicit that continuing the current 'business as usual' will not be sufficient to achieve desired objectives. It is therefore likely that Council will have to undertake new initiatives to achieve its new strategic objectives and priorities and change the ways it has previously conducted activities.

It is important to note that a persistent finding of the value of Age Friendly Cities activities is that initiatives that specifically benefit older people have benefits for the population generally: i.e. age friendly is people friendly. In addition there is an opportunity to trial a new approach to action planning and implementation for the Positive Ageing Strategy that could be applied more widely to Council's role in other sectors (e.g. economic development, infrastructure, community development etc).

The Strategy could therefore be an important expression of Council's evolving relationship with local communities, other local organisations and other levels of government.

10. PROPOSED LEASE OF RETAIL AND OFFICE SPACES AT 137-149 MERCER STREET, GEELONG – CIVIC PRECINCT

Source:	**Customer & Corporate Services – Property Procurement & Assets**
Director:	**Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To give public notice of the City's intention to enter into leases for the lettable spaces at 137-149 Mercer Street, Geelong 3220 (Civic Precinct).

Background

2. There are three retail/commercial spaces (commercial spaces) and one café space (café space) to be constructed at the Civic Precinct as part of the project:

   2.1 Space 1 comprises 96m²;

   2.2 Space 2 comprises 53m²;

   2.3 Space 3 comprises 25m²; and

   2.4 Space 4 (Café) comprises 150m².

3. Within the City office building of the Civic Precinct, it is proposed that level 2 comprising 2,205m2, may be leased for office accommodation (Office Space) and that the State and Federal Government tenancies may complement the City's occupation.

4. The rental value of the spaces is not yet known, and market valuations would be undertaken for each space which would also consider any commercial terms relevant to a proposed lease

5. It is anticipated the Civic Precinct will be available for access in April / May 2022 to commence fitout, with the project scheduled for completion by 3 June 2022.

Key Matters

6. The City proposes to first test the market and invite submissions for the types of use and commercial terms to lease the commercial and café spaces in the Civic Precinct.

7. The City may choose to engage agents / brokers with a national / global market presence, to attract and field applications for the commercial spaces, café space and office space.

8. The commercial and café spaces are proposed to be offered as a vacant shell, which would enable a tenant to undertake the fitout.

9. It is anticipated long-term leases will be sought, to offset the capital contribution required by the Tenants and for security of tenure for the commercial and café spaces.

10. In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* the City is required to give public notice of its intention to offer leases for these spaces.

Cr Harwood moved, Cr Murrihy seconded -

11. That Council:

11.1 give notice in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the City's Community Engagement Policy of its intention to lease the land at 137-149 Mercer Street, Geelong 3220, Certificate of Title Volume 11160 Folio 008;

11.2 appoint a Submissions Review Panel to hear any submission if any person wishes to appear in person or be represented by a person specified in support of a submission; and

11.3 note that a further report will be presented to Council to consider the outcomes of the Submissions Review Panel and/or the proposed lease of the land.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. There are no financial implications of completing the submissions process for the lease of the land.

2. If the Council resolves to lease the land, the financial implications of any proposals for the lease of the land will be considered as part of their assessment.

Community Engagement

3. A public submissions process in accordance with s223 of *Local Government Act 1989* and the Community Engagement Policy is required to consider the proposed lease of the land. This provides an opportunity for the community to provide its feedback to Council on the proposal, to assist in further consideration.

4. Any person will have an opportunity to make a written submission on the proposed leases. A submitter is entitled to request in the submission, that the person wishes to appear or be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting to be heard in support of their submission.

5. If the Council resolves to lease the land, more extensive engagement will be undertaken to seek the community's feedback and submissions for uses that are complementary to the Civic Precinct.

Social Equity Considerations

6. There are no known social equity issues by the recommendation to give public notice and invite submissions for the proposed lease of the land.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

7. The City shall comply with its obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020*. The updated Local Government Act is being proclaimed in 4 stages, with some sections not yet proclaimed, hence the reference to the 1989 Act.

8. Council must comply with sections 189, 190 and 223, *Local Government Act 1989* by giving notice of the proposed lease of the land to inform decision making on whether to resolve to lease the land.

9. A person may make a submission under section 223 of *Local Government Act 1989* on the proposal and, also, request to be heard by a Submissions Review Panel in respect to their submission.

10. As at 1 July 2021, the *Local Government Act 2020* will impact the sections governing the proposed lease of land. To comply with this in the transitional period, the City will undertake engagement in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy.

Alignment to Council Plan

11. The proposal aligns with the objective of organisational leadership, strategy and governance where one of the key priorities is proactively managing assets, including land holdings.

Conflict of Interest

12. There is no identified conflict of interest, general or material for any officer involved in the preparation of the lease of land or the submissions process.

Risk Assessment

13. There are no other notable risks associated with the implementation of the recommendation to give public notice to lease the land.

14. The risk impact of potentially leasing the land has been assessed as part of the overall Civic Precinct project.

15. If the land is determined to be leased following completion of the statutory process, risk assessments will be included in the consideration of any proposals for the future of the Civic Precinct.

Environmental Implications

16. There are no environmental implications to this proposal.

11. PROPOSED ROAD DEVIATION 185-235 GEELONG RO AND PIGDON STREET, PORTARLINGTON

Source:	**Customer & Corporate Services – Property, Procurement and Assets**
Director:	**Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To recommend that Council initiate the statutory process for the proposed road deviation of Geelong Road and Pigdon Street, Portarlington intersection (refer **Attachment 2**) as required by the endorsed development plan for the site located at 185-235 Geelong Road, Portarlington.

Background

2. A development plan for the site located at 185-235 Geelong Road, Portarlington was endorsed by the Statutory Planning Authority of the Greater Geelong City Council on 31 December 2020.

3. As part of the endorsed plan, the intersection of Geelong Road and Pigdon Street, Portarlington is required to be deviated to provide for safe traffic and pedestrian flow.

Key Matters

4. Geelong Road, Portarlington is a VicRoads arterial road and Pigdon Street is an unsealed road on Crown land which intersects with Geelong Road, Portarlington.

5. A Concept Design Stage – Road Safety Audit conducted by Traffix Group for the developer, identified deficiencies with the layout of the Geelong Road and Pigdon Street intersection.

6. VicRoads require a resolution to the deficiencies and recommend a different location for the Pigdon Street intersection.

7. The development plan outlines an accepted road deviation to the intersection which is the subject of this report (refer **Attachment 2**). The discontinued portion of Pigdon Street will be transferred to the developer and will provide an open space waterway.

8. The statutory process to undertake the road deviation can be completed by discontinuing the section of road reserve which will be surplus and creating a new road reserve in the preferred alignment.

9. To commence the process of the deviation, the City must give public notice in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (LGA89) and its Community Engagement Policy, that it intends to deviate a road.

10. Ministerial consent is required where a road on Crown land is proposed to be deviated onto land which is not Crown land. Ministerial consent will be sought if, after public submissions have been invited and considered, Council resolves to deviate the road.

Cr Mason moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

11. That Council:

11.1 give notice in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the Community Engagement Policy of its intention to deviate the intersection of Geelong Road and Pigdon Street as shown in Attachment 2;

11.2 appoint the Submissions Review Panel to hear any submissions if any person wishes to appear in person or be represented by a person specified in support of a submission; and

11.3 note that a further report will be presented to Council to consider the outcomes of the Submissions Review Panel and/or the proposed deviation.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. There will be nominal costs associated with publishing a public notice in the newspapers and the Government Gazette.

2. There are no additional financial implications in the deviation and submissions process.

3. If the Council resolves to complete the road deviation, the new road will be constructed at the cost of the developer.

Community Engagement

4. A public submissions process in accordance with s223 of LGA89 and the Community Engagement Policy is required for the proposed deviation outlined in this report. This provides an opportunity for the community to provide its feedback to the Council on the proposed road deviation.

5. Any person will have an opportunity to make a written submission on the proposed deviation. A submitter is entitled to request in the submission that the person wishes to appear or be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting to be heard in support of their submission.

Social Equity Considerations

6. There are no adverse social equity impacts created as a result of this road deviation.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

7. Council has the power to deviate a road under Clause 2 of Schedule 10 of LGA89, by notice published in the Government Gazette, subject to obtaining the consent of the Minister for the deviation of a road on Crown land to land that is not Crown land.

8. A person may make a submission in accordance with section 223 of LGA89 and the Community Engagement Policy, on the proposed exercise of the power to deviate a road under Clause 2 of Schedule 10. If this matter is not resolved before 1 July 2021, the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* will apply and will be complied with.

Alignment to Council Plan

9. The development plan for the 185-235 Geelong Road, Portarlington aligns with the Planned Sustainable Development objective in the Council Plan 2018-22 by ensuring the impact of development maintains the unique character of the Portarlington township. The deviation of the Pigdon Street intersection in this development plan ensures the sustainable design for this new development.

Conflict of Interest

10. No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a general or material conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Risk Assessment

11. The Geelong Road Development Plan has been through an extensive risk assessment process with extensive referral to internal and external authorities.

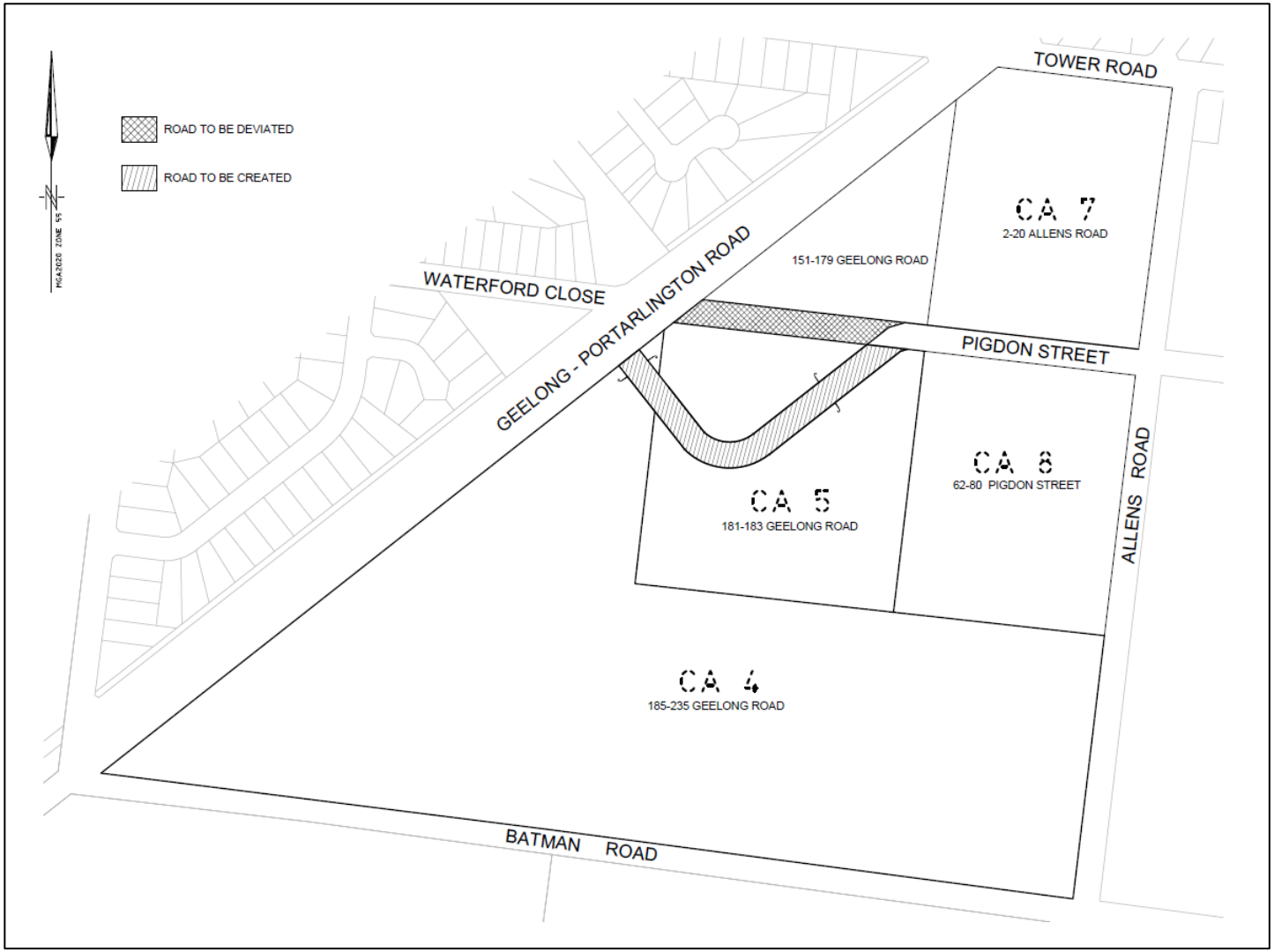
12. As part of the risk assessment VicRoads and the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP) have been consulted and the feedback from these authorities have informed the Development Plan.

Environmental Implications

13. The development plan includes predominantly indigenous and native landscape with the retention of significant vegetation in keeping with the existing size and scale of the streets. This deviated intersection will accommodate a wide landscape buffer along Geelong-Portarlington Road to soften the visual appearance of future development and the discontinued portion of Pigdon Street will provide land for open space in the form of waterways**.**

Attachment 2

Location Plan and Proposed Deviation



12. PROPOSED ROAD NAMING, UNNAMED LANEWAY TO INSPIRATION LANE, BELMONT

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services – Financial Services**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To seek approval to name an unnamed sealed laneway in Belmont to Inspiration Lane, Belmont.

Background

2. A request has been received from a member of the community to name an unnamed laneway in Belmont in honour of their deceased great aunt, who's property abutted the laneway.

3. There are 10 properties that have either rear or side access from this laneway.

4. A number of laneways in close proximity are named after historic Antarctic Explorers.

5. The name "Inspiration" has been chosen due to the historic Antarctic Explorers with their extraordinary accomplishment which inspired the community of the time.

6. The name "Inspiration" also recognises the submitter's great aunt who was an inspiration to her family, she lived alone in her property and remained independent until her passing at age 99.

Key Matters

7. Letters and surveys have been sent to affected property owners and residents advising them of the proposed name for the unnamed laneway.

8. Eleven survey responses were received from property owners and residents, with six in favour and five not in favour. These are summarised as follows:

   8.1 Six survey responses were in favour of naming the laneway "Inspiration Lane";

   8.2 One property owner preferred the name Ivy Lane. This name is unable to be used due to duplication with Ivy Street, Newcomb;

   8.3 Three responses preferred the name Bechervaise, after an Antarctic Explorer who resided on Roslyn Road, Belmont; and

   8.4 One preferred the name to be after an explorer, however no name was suggested.

9. An indigenous name was not chosen for this naming due to the theme of other road names in close proximity being after Antarctic Explorers.

10. A further proposal will be put forward to name an unnamed laneway in close proximity to Roslyn Road in honour of Mr Bechervaise an Antarctic Explorer.

11. Geographic Names Victoria require a formal proposal to name the unnamed laneway and be approved by council prior to gazettal and registration.

Cr Moloney moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

12. That Council:

12.1 approve the naming of the unnamed laneway to Inspiration Lane, Belmont; and

12.2 note that once approved the naming will be submitted to the Office of Geographical Names for official registration.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The approximate cost to the City is $640.00. This includes signage, notification to adjoining property owners and residents and notification to authorities.

Community Engagement

2. Correspondence including a survey were sent to affected and adjoining property owners and residents

3. An advertisement was placed in City News of the Geelong Advertiser on 28 November 2020.

4. Details were placed in the Have Your Say section of Geelong Australia Website open for a 30-day submission period.

Social Equity Considerations

5. The City has a responsibility to the community to ensure that all properties can be identified in a clear and logical manner for emergency services and visitors to the area.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

6. The *Local Government Act 1989*, *The Geographic Place Names Act 1998* and the *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria* have been followed and met.

7. The City is required to use the *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria* when naming roads, features and localities. The rules outline the consultation process for naming, renaming or changing the boundaries of roads, features and localities in Victoria. The naming rules allow for members of the community to develop and make a naming proposal to the City.

Alignment to Council Plan

8. The proposed renaming is consistent with the Council Plan strategic priority for improved health and safety of our community be enabling emergency services to locate properties on this roadway in a timely manner with minimal confusion.

Conflict of Interest

9. No Council officers involved in the consultation process or preparation of the report have a general or material interest in the issue to which this report relates.

Risk Assessment

10. In an emergency, the City's proposal to name this laneway will minimise the risk of emergency services being able to locate the emergency in a timely manner.

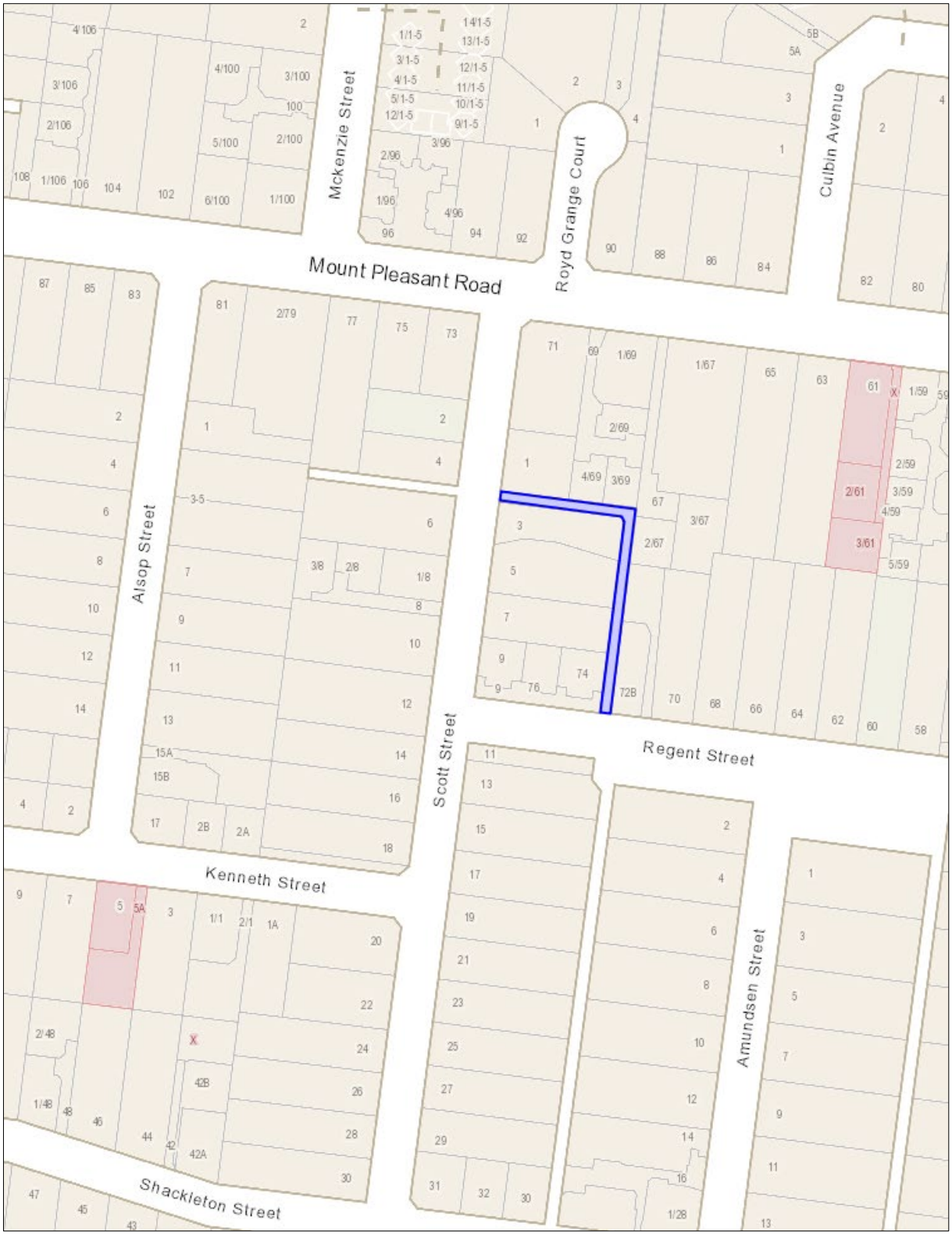
11. Failure to name this laneway may cause a risk to public safety.

Environmental Implications

12. There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Attachment 2

Locality Plan



Proposed laneway to be named Inspiration Lane

13. PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE – MINA PLACE, NORTH GEELONG

Source:	**Customer & Corporate Services – Property, Procurement and Assets**
Director:	**Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. To seek Council approval to initiate the statutory process for the proposed discontinuance of the road reserve named Mina Place, North Geelong and sale of the land currently within the road reserve as shown in **Attachment 2.**

Background

2. The City has been approached by Cotton On Clothing Investments Pty Ltd (Cotton On) as the adjoining neighbour for the opportunity to purchase Mina Place, North Geelong to support the growth and expansion of its operations.

Key Matters

3. Cotton On has its head office in Shepherd Court, North Geelong and owns all property abutting Mina Place, North Geelong,

4. Mina Place is a gravel road surrounded by a bitumen carpark owned by Cotton On and does not provide access to any other property. (See **Attachment 2).**

5. Council has the power under Clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (LGA89) to discontinue the road and sell the land.

6. To commence the process the City must give public notice in accordance with section 223 of LGA89 and its Community Engagement Policy, that it intends to discontinue the road and sell the land and invite submissions under section 207A of LGA89 on the proposed discontinuance.

7. If the proposed discontinuance is completed, the land will vest in Council under Section 207B (1B) of LGA89 and Council may sell the land to the abutting neighbour.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Aitken seconded -

8. That Council:

8.1 give notice in accordance with section 223 of *The Local Government Act 1989* and its Community Engagement Policy of its intention to discontinue the road reserve and sell the land, which is Mina Place, North Geelong and invite submissions on the road discontinuance and sale;

8.2 appoint a Submissions Review Panel to hear any submissions if any person wishes to appear in person or be represented by a person specified in support of a submission; and

8.3 note that a further report will be presented to Council to consider the outcomes of the Submissions Review Panel and/or the road discontinuance and sale of the land.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The sale of the land within the road will be sold at current market value. The area of the land is approximately 1,497m^2 in size.

2. The City will be reimbursed for all costs incurred for the road discontinuance and the sale of the land by the purchaser.

Community Engagement

3. A public submissions process in accordance with s223 of *Local Government Act 1989* (LGA89) and the Community Engagement Policy is required and provides an opportunity for the community to provide its feedback to Council on the proposed discontinuance and sale.

4. Any person will have an opportunity to make a written submission on the proposed discontinuance and sale. A submitter is entitled to request in the submission that the person wishes to appear or be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting to be heard in support of their submission.

Social Equity Considerations

5. There are no adverse social equity issues created as a result of this road discontinuance and sale.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

6. Council has the power to discontinue a road in accordance with Clause 3 of Schedule 10 of LGA89, by a notice published in the Government Gazette.

7. A person may make a submission in accordance with section 223 of LGA 1989 on the proposed exercise of the power to discontinue a road under Clause 3 of Schedule 10. A person may make a submission on the proposed sale of the land, in accordance with the Community Engagement Policy.

8. If this matter is not resolved before 1 July 2021, the provisions of section 114 *Local Government Act 2020, r*estriction on power to sell or exchange land will apply and will be complied with.

Alignment to Council Plan

9. The proposal aligns with the objective of organisational leadership, strategy and governance where one of the key priorities is proactively managing assets, including land holdings.

10. The proposal aligns with the objective of a thriving and sustainable economy where making land available to support local business is a key priority.

Conflict of Interest

11. There is no identified conflict of interest, general or material for any officer involved in the preparation of the road discontinuance and sale of the land.

Risk Assessment

12. Internal consultations with key stakeholder including Engineering - Infrastructure Planning and Engineering – Asset Management has been undertaken as part of the risk assessment process and feedback supports the proposed road discontinuance and sale.

13. External authorities such as Barwon Water, Telstra and Powercor have been consulted as part of the risk assessment process. Conditions required by external authorities will form conditions in a Contract of Sale should the discontinuance and sale proceed.

Environmental Implications

14. There are no environmental implications to this proposal.

Attachment 2

Location Plan



Location Plan (Aerial View)



14. PROCUREMENT POLICY UPDATE

Source:	**Customer & Corporate Services – Property, Procurement & Assets**
Director:	**Michael Dugina**

Purpose

1. For Council to adopt the Procurement Policy.

Background

2. The *Local Government Act 1989* (Act) requires the City to develop, approve and annually review its Procurement Policy.

Key Matters

3. The review of the policy is in line with the Council's obligations under the Act.

4. The Procurement Policy provides a framework for the purchase of goods, works and services that emphasises value-for-money while conducting business in a fair and equitable manner. The purpose of the policy is to:

   4.1 Provide guidance, consistency, and controls over procurement activities;

   4.2 Demonstrate accountability to rate payers;

   4.3 Provide guidance on ethical behaviour in public sector purchasing;

   4.4 Demonstrate best practice elements in purchasing; and

   4.5 Increase probity of obtaining the right outcome when purchasing goods, works and services.

5. This policy has been reviewed and there have been minor changes to the policy which was adopted by Council on 26 May 2020. The majority of the existing policy remains unchanged pending a full re-write by December 2021 to reflect the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

6. Through these procurement strategies, over a twelve-month period for calendar year 2020, 73.8% of the total Council procurement spend was made with businesses in the Geelong region (or $185,005,787).

7. In the previous calendar year, the total Council procurement spend made with businesses in the Geelong region was 61.1% (or $142,218,810).

8. Through a request for proposal planned for mid-year, officers are working with parts of the business to identify opportunities to target some of our other Local and Social Considerations, including minimising environmental impacts, engagement of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander businesses and employment from our disadvantaged communities.

9. Future changes to the policy will occur under the *Local Government Act 2020* and will be presented to Council for approval prior to 31 December 2021.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Kontelj seconded -

10. That Council adopt the Procurement Policy.

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. The City expends in excess of $240 million annually on procuring goods, works and services. Our commitment to local spend, job creation and value for money continues under this policy.

2. The City is committed to buying from local businesses on a value for money basis and supports the engagement of local suppliers, sub-contractors and apprentices.

3. The City continues to improve its local spend commitments through the application of relevant criteria being applied to tenders and quotations through social and sustainability outcomes, engagement of apprentices and trainees, engagement with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander enterprises and persons, and the ongoing commitment with the GROW initiative.

4. The criteria for local content and engagement is applied at 10% of the total weighted score for all procurement activity, and a further 5% applied to the other social criteria that is applied as applicable based on the category of the goods, works or services being procured.

Community Engagement

5. There are no community engagement implications associated with updates to this policy, however, once approved the policy will be published and communicated via the Geelong Australia website.

Social Equity Considerations

6. The policy articulates the City's ongoing commitment to the principles of social equity in procurement and is strengthened through our partnership with the G21 Region Opportunities for Work Compact (GROW). The City has been a signatory to the G21 GROW Compact since November 2015 and continues to be an active supporter of the program.

7. The policy also encourages any social procurement initiatives put forward by a supplier and lists a number that the City supports through our strategies and policies.

8. The policy also considers the City's Sustainability Framework 2020 and the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

9. The procurement provisions of the 2020 Act commence from 1 July 2021 and councils have until 1 January 2022 to adopt their first Procurement Policy under those provisions. Until then, the provisions of the 1989 Act continue to apply. This review of the Policy is in accordance with section 186 of the 1989 Act.

Alignment to Council Plan

10. The policy is reviewed and updated to align with the 30-year vision, Greater Geelong Clever and Creative and community aspirations.

Conflict of Interest

11. No Council officers involved in the review or preparation of the report and policy have a general or material interest in the issue to which this report relates.

Risk Assessment

12. The Policy accords with the enterprise risk management framework and applies risk management strategies at all stages of the procurement process.

Environmental Implications

13. The Policy states that the City will consider the use of recycled materials in relation to goods or material being purchased, the policy specifies that the consideration of the environmental impacts is to include:

    13.1 reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

    13.2 Use of recycled materials;

    13.3 Recycling of used material;

    13.4 Reducing waste to landfill;

    13.5 Reducing water consumption;

    13.6 Encouraging improved environmental management;

    13.7 Select products/services that have minimal impact on natural resources and biodiversity; and

    13.8 Improving our ability to adapt to climate change.

14. Sustained value must be demonstrated, where applicable in the City's procurement, including the built and natural environment.

Attachment 2

Summary of Changes within Policy

6.1 Economic and Social Sustainability Considerations

The third paragraph and dot points have been amended to reflect the Sustainability Framework 2020 and key points of that framework in relation to procurement.

6.2 Other Local and Social Considerations

b. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

A paragraph has been added to reflect the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) as part of the decision making in procurement.

References

The Sustainability Framework 2020 and Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) have been added as references to the Procurement Policy.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

PROCUREMENT COUNCIL POLICY

VERSION: 08

Approval Date: DD Month YYYY of official approval

Approved by: Council

Review Date: 31 December 2021

Responsible Officer: Manager Property, Procurement & Assets

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Contents

Introduction **4**

Purpose 4

Scope 4

Compliance 4

Definitions **5**

Policy **6**

1.1 Treatment of GST 6

1.2 Role of Procurement 6

2 Effective Legislative and Policy Compliance and Control 6

2.1 Legislative Compliance 6

2.2 Conduct of Councillors and City Staff 6

2.3 Tender and Quotation Processes 6

2.4 Fair and Honest Dealing 6

2.5 Accountability and Transparency 7

2.6 Disclosure of Information 7

3 Governance 7

3.1 Structure 7

3.2 Methods 7

3.3 Responsible Financial Management 7

3.4 Probity Advisor/Auditor 7

4. Procurement Thresholds and Competition 8

4.1 Requirement 8

4.2 Tenders 8

4.3 Quotations 8

4.4 Evaluation of Tenders and Quotations 8

4.5 Purchasing Cards 8

4.6 Petty Cash 8

4.7 Agency 8

4.8 Emergencies 8

4.9 Variations 8

4.10 Ministerial Exemption 9

4.11 Request for Quote Exemptions 9

5 Risk Management 9

5.1 General 9
5.2 Supply by Contract 9
5.3 Supply by Purchase Order 9
5.4 OH&S and Other Mandatory Requirements 9
5.5 Disability Considerations 10
5.6 Dispute Resolution 10
5.7 Contract Management 10
6 Sustainable Value 10
6.1 Economic and Social Sustainability Considerations 10
6.2 Other Local and Social Considerations 10
Implementation of this Policy 12
Monitoring and reporting 12
Advice and assistance 12
Records 12
Review 12
References 13

Introduction

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to:

- provide policy and guidance to the City to allow consistency and control over procurement activities;
- demonstrate accountability to rate payers; provide guidance on ethical behaviour in public sector purchasing;
- demonstrate the application of elements of best practice in purchasing;
- increase the probability of obtaining the right outcome when purchasing goods and services; and
- minimise and manage risk in procurement.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all contracting and procurement activities at the City and is binding upon Councillors, City officers and temporary employees, contractors and consultants while engaged by the City.

This Procurement Policy is made under Section 186A of the *Local Government Act 1989.* This section of the Act requires the City to prepare, approve and comply with a procurement policy encompassing the principles, processes and procedures applied to all purchases of goods, services and works by the City.

This policy is supported by the Procurement and Contracts Management Manual.

COMPLIANCE

Any non-conformance to this policy must be reported to the relevant manager and the Manager Property Procurement and Assets.

Definitions

This section defines the key terms used in this policy.

ACT

The *Local Government Act 1989.*

CITY

The City of Greater Geelong organisation, led by the CEO.

COUNCIL

The City of Greater Geelong Council comprised of elected councillors and led by the Mayor.

ELT

The Executive Leadership Team of the City, as constituted from time to time.

Policy

1.1 Treatment of GST

All monetary values related to this policy **exclude GST** except where specifically stated otherwise.

1.2 Role of Procurement

The role of procurement is to carry out activities relating to procurement in such a way that the goods, services and works are procured of the right quality, from the right source, at the right cost and be delivered on time and within budget, to achieve a value for money outcome for the City.

The Procurement team will lead and oversee the process for all of the City's tender processes, acting as the council's independent representative between the City and its potential suppliers

2 EFFECTIVE LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMPLIANCE AND CONTROL

2.1 Legislative Compliance

The Local Government Act requires the City to publicly tender contractual procurements over certain thresholds.

The key legislative requirements for this Policy include:

- section 186 of the Act (power to enter into contracts)
- section 186A of the Act (Procurement Policy)
- section 3C of the Act (Objectives of Council)
- section 208B of the Act (Best Value Principals)
- sections 77A, 77B, 78, 78A to 78E, 79, 79B to 79D, 80, 80A to 80C, 81, 95 and 95AA of the Act (Conflict of Interest)
- section 98 of the Act (Delegations)
- section 140 of the Act (Accounts and Records)
- The relevant provisions of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth).

2.2 Conduct of Councillors and City Staff

Councillors and City Staff, in their carrying out of duties in relation to procurement, are to ensure they:

- Conduct themselves ethically and with integrity;
- Comply with the City's Gifts and Hospitality Policy;
- Declare and effectively manage real, perceived and potential conflicts of interest;
- Maintain confidentiality and security of information; and
- Comply with the relevant Codes of Conduct:
  - Councillor Code of Conduct;
  - Staff Code of Conduct.

2.3 Tender and Quotation Processes

All tender and quotation processes shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of this policy, the Procurement and Contracts Manual and any associated procedures, relevant legislation, relevant Australian Standards and the Act.

2.4 Fair and Honest Dealing

All prospective contractors and suppliers must be afforded an equal opportunity to tender or quote.

2.5 Accountability and Transparency

The City's instrument of delegation determines the seniority levels of staff authority, required for expenditure on each instance of procurement.

Measures which intentionally seek to avoid the requirement to give public notice, for example contract splitting, placing multiple orders, seeking multiple quotations with a single supplier or engaging in effect a single supplier under different guises, are considered to breach the requirement to call public tenders where threshold values would otherwise be reached.

2.6 Disclosure of Information

Information received by the City that is Commercial in Confidence must not be disclosed and is to be stored in a secure location.

Councillors and City staff are to protect, by refusing to release or discuss the following:

- information disclosed by organisations in tenders, quotations or during tender negotiations;
- all information that is Commercial in Confidence; and
- pre-contract information including but not limited to information provided in quotes and tenders or subsequently provided in pre-contract negotiations.

3 GOVERNANCE

3.1 Structure

The City shall:

- establish a procurement management responsibility structure and delegations ensuring accountability, traceability and auditable procurement decisions;
- ensure that the City's procurement structure:
  - is flexible enough to purchase in a timely manner the diverse range of goods, works and services required by the City;
  - ensures that prospective contractors and suppliers are afforded an equal opportunity to tender/quote;
  - ensures that all participating prospective contractors and suppliers are treated fairly and equitably;
  - encourages competition; and
  - ensures that policies that impinge on the purchasing policies and practices are communicated and implemented.

3.2 Methods

The City's standard methods for purchasing goods, services and works shall be by:

- purchasing card;
- purchase order following a quotation process;
- under contract following a tender or quotation process; or
- under purchasing schemes including collaborative purchasing arrangements with other councils and commercial schemes such as provided by Procurement Australia, Municipal Association of Victoria Procurement, Supply Clusters of Australia, State Purchase Contracts, Whole of Victorian Government Contracts and the Construction Suppliers Register.

3.3 Responsible Financial Management

The principle of responsible financial management shall be applied to all procurement activities. Where the tender sum exceeds budget allocation, the City will review scope of project or submit a report for expenditure variation to budget.

City staff must not authorise the expenditure of funds in excess of their financial delegations.

3.4 Probity Advisor/Auditor

The City may appoint a probity advisor or probity auditor for all tender processes with an expected spend of over $1m or any projects that are under $1m deemed as having a higher risk for reputational, political, or time constraints.

Exemptions to this can be granted in circumstances where officers feel there is minimal risk to council. The authority for the exemption sits with the relevant Director, Manager and Manager Property, Procurement & Assets. All three must agree for the exemption to be granted.

4. PROCUREMENT THRESHOLDS AND COMPETITION

4.1 Requirement

The City's procurement thresholds will be amended from time to time to alter minimum spend competition thresholds, but at all times clear guidelines will be provided. These will be decided based on the size and complexity of the proposed procurement activities.

In the event that a high-risk procurement activity is to be undertaken delegates are encouraged to seek process support from Procurement Services.

4.2 Tenders

Purchase of all goods, services and works for which the estimated expenditure exceeds the compulsory tender thresholds pursuant to Section 186 of the Act, must be undertaken by public tender unless approved exemptions are available. There is no specific time limit applicable to the length of a contract which is subject to the thresholds. The City will determine the optimum period for the contract, on the basis of value for money and the efficiency and effectiveness of the procurement and then assess the value of the contract.

4.3 Quotations

For purchases of goods, services and works having a total valuation of less than compulsory tender thresholds the City will maintain a formalised system of procurement guidelines.

4.4 Evaluation of Tenders and Quotations

All tenders and quotations are to be evaluated by an evaluation panel of no less than two persons, in a two staged process:

1. Quantitative assessment of a weighted score totalling 100%; and
2. Evaluation of price against weighted score
   - VFM[i] = Tendered Price ÷ Weighted Score

4.5 Purchasing Cards

A select number of purchasing cards are available for the low cost and of high-volume purchases of goods and services. They must be used in accordance with the City's Purchasing Card policy and are not to be used for personal use.

4.6 Petty Cash

A petty cash system operates to reimburse legitimate, urgent and operational business expenses incurred by City staff in the course of discharging their roles. The maximum claim for petty cash is $50 and must be authorised by the requesting officer's supervisor.

4.7 Agency

Council may use the services of a third-party agent to undertake a tender on its behalf.

4.8 Emergencies

The City may enter into a contract, the value of which reaches the threshold amounts, for the provision of goods, services or works without first putting that contract to public tender, if it is resolved by a manager or above that the contract must be entered into because of an emergency. An example of an emergency is floods, bushfires, natural disasters, risk to persons or property, etc.

4.9 Variations

Contract and Scope variations must be approved in accordance with the CEO to Staff Delegations – Power to Approve Contract Variations. Variations should not exceed the available budget, and where the budget is exceeded there may be a requirement to submit a report to Council.

Coordinators & Superintendent Representatives may approve variations to contracts up to the lesser of these two options; 10% of the original contract value or a maximum of $30,000. Where the aggregate of all variations exceeds 10% or is greater than $30,000 they must be referred to the Manager for authorisation.

Managers/Superintendents may approve variations to contracts up to the lesser of these two options; 20% of the original contract value or a maximum of $100,000. Where the aggregate of all variations exceeds 10% or is greater than $100,000 they must be referred to the Director for authorisation.

Directors may approve variations to contracts up to the lesser of these two options; 30% of the original contract value or a maximum of $200,000. Where the aggregate of all variations exceeds 30% or is greater than $200,000 they must be referred to the CEO for authorisation.

In the case of large projects, Directors could seek special CEO delegation to increase from the maximum variation limit of $200,000. Once delegate approval has been obtained the Superintendent will issue the approval letter to the Contractor.

4.10 Ministerial Exemption

The Minister for Local Government may exercise his or her discretionary power to approve an arrangement for the purposes of the Act, a contract that the City wishes to enter into without first exposing that contract to public tender. Ministerial exemptions will only be sought in exceptional circumstances.

4.11 Request for Quote Exemptions

In circumstances where three quotes cannot be sought, the CEO holds the relevant delegation to approve an exemption from quoting.

In the event that an exemption is sought, endorsement of the exemption must be obtained by both the Director Governance, Strategy and Performance and Manager Property, Procurement and Assets prior to seeking CEO approval.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 General

The City is to manage all aspects of its procurement processes in accordance with it adopted Risk Management Policy and in such a way that all risks, including Occupational Health and Safety, are identified, analysed, evaluated, treated, monitored and communicated to the standard required by the law, in accordance with Australian Standards.

Procurement risk is the potential for failures of a procurement process designed to purchase services, products or resources. Common types of procurement risk include fraud, cost, quality and delivery risks.

5.2 Supply by Contract

The provision of goods, services and works by contract potentially exposes the City to risk. The City will minimise its risk exposure by measures such as:

- standardising contracts to include current, relevant clauses;
- ensuring the contract or purchase order reflects the tender pricing;
- requiring security deposits where appropriate;
- referring specifications to relevant experts;
- requiring a correctly executed contractual agreement before commencement;
- use of or reference to relevant Australian Standards (or equivalent); and
- effectively managing the contract including monitoring and enforcing performance.

Only Contract templates approved by the City's Governance and Legal Teams are to be used or entered into by the City[1].

5.3 Supply by Purchase Order

Where procurements are arranged following a quotation process, a Purchase Order must be raised on Oracle and issued to the supplier/service provider prior to the goods, services or works required being provided.

5.4 OH&S and Other Mandatory Requirements

The City requires all contractors, service providers and volunteers to comply with all OH&S legislative requirements. These are mandatory requirements and non-compliance will disqualify prospective suppliers. Suppliers must provide

[1] Contract templates are listed on the reference page to this policy and detailed in the Procurement and Contract Management Manual.

evidence of certification or policy when providing goods, services or works, prior to the commencement of the delivery of these goods, services or works.

5.5 Disability Considerations

The legislative requirements of the Disability Act 2006 and Regulations 2007 and the City's Disability Action Plan, are to be considered by City staff to ensure that procurement processes and decisions do not directly and indirectly discriminate against people with a disability.

5.6 Dispute Resolution

All City contracts shall incorporate dispute management and alternative dispute resolution provisions to minimise the potential for legal action.

5.7 Contract Management

The purpose of contract management is to ensure that the City, and where applicable its customers, receive the goods, services or works provided to the required standards of quality and quantity as intended by the contract.

6 SUSTAINABLE VALUE

6.1 Economic and Social Sustainability Considerations

The City is committed to buying from local businesses where such purchases may be justified on value for money grounds, while remaining compliant with the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 and other fair-trading legislation requirements.

Where practicable, the City will fully examine the benefits available through purchasing goods, services or works from suppliers/contractors within the Geelong Region, by applying a weighted score component of 10% for local content of total weighted score in tenders and quotations.

The City is committed to procurement that supports local businesses and economic diversity and viability by:

- generating local employment;
- taking into account the life cycle of products purchased;
- building relationships and encouraging purchasing by contractors from local suppliers; and
- fostering innovation and emerging sectors.

6.2 Other Local and Social Considerations

Depending on the procurement type, there may be a necessity to apply additional criterion factors to quotations and tendering, including an appropriate weighting (i.e. 5%-10%) based on the following:

a. G21 (GROW)

- A part of social procurement is to include opportunities of employment for residents within the low socioeconomic regions of Geelong in the delivery of goods or services; and
- The City will identify opportunities to work with social enterprises and other not-for-profit businesses in the G21 Region which deliver social outcomes as part of doing business, either directly or as part of our supply chain.

b. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

- The City will identify opportunities to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders businesses or enterprises engaged as a contractor or sub-contractor or supplier; and/or
- The City will identify opportunity for an individual who identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander as a result of the provision of goods, services or works to the City of Greater Geelong.

c. Recycled Content and Environment Consideration

- The City will consider the use of recycled materials in relation to goods or material being purchased, including construction materials for the City's Works programs; and
- Consideration of the environmental impact are to include:
    - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

- Use of recycled materials;
- Recycling of used material;
- Reducing waste to landfill;
- Reducing water consumption;
- Encouraging improved environmental management;
- Select products/services that have minimal impact on natural resources and biodiversity; and
- Improving our ability to adapt to climate change.

d. Gender Equity Considerations

- The City commits to ensuring that everyone in the Geelong municipality, regardless of their gender identity have access to equal power, resources and opportunities, and are treated with dignity, respect and fairness.
- The City will seek to identify opportunities to address any perceived imbalances that can be impacted via our procurement activities

e. Other Social Outcomes

- The City is aware that individual suppliers may have their own social outcomes which they support. Prospective suppliers will be encouraged to provide details of what social outcome they support and how.

f. Clever and Creative

- The City of Greater Geelong is working toward being recognised regionally, nationally and internationally, as a clever and creative city-region. Delivering a clever and creative future will influence the City's connections and design, its prosperity and creativity, and increase its resilience through sustainable solutions.
- All tenders and quotations are to have a weighting of 5% of the total weighted score for Clever and Creative and scored relative to the innovation of the solution offered in responses

g. Small Business Charter

- The City has signed the VSBC's Small Business Friendly Charter, officially becoming a small business friendly council.
- As a small business friendly council, the City commits to:
  - Reducing payment times for small business suppliers;
  - Working with small businesses to manage the impacts of infrastructure projects;
  - Streamlining the approval process for starting a business; and
  - Helping set up and support local business networks.

Implementation of this Policy

MONITORING AND REPORTING

ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

The Responsible Officer for this policy manages the provision of advice to the organisation regarding this policy.

A person who is uncertain how to comply with this policy should seek advice from this person or from their Manager.

RECORDS

The City must retain records associated with this policy and its implementation for at least the period shown below.

Record	Retention / Disposal Authority	Retention Period	Location
Certified copies of records		As per PROV	DMS

REVIEW

Section 186A(7) of the Act requires that this policy must be reviewed at least one in each financial year, a Council must review the current procurement policy and may, in accordance with section 186A amend the procurement policy.

References

- Procurement and Contracts Manual
- Councillors - Code of Conduct Policy
- Community Engagement Principles
- Confidential Information Procedure
- Fraud Control Policy
- Gifts & Hospitality Policy
- Goods & Services Tax Policy
- Occupational Health & Safety Policy
- City Safe – Heat and UV Radiation Procedure
- Risk Management Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct Policy
- Council Purchasing Card Policy
- Environment Management Strategy
- Sustainable Water Use Plan
- Local Government Act 1989
- Competition and Consumer Act 2010
- Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006
- Disability Act 2006 & Regulations 2007
- G21 Region Opportunities for Work Strategic Plan
- Contract templates:
  - Major Works (AS 4000-1997)
  - Design & Construct Works (AS 4902-2000)
  - Supply of Equipment with Installation (AS 4910-2002)
  - Consultancy General Conditions – Single Assignment
  - Consultancy General Conditions – Ongoing Assignment
  - Services General Conditions
  - Ongoing Provision of Physical Services
  - General Conditions – Purchase of Goods
  - IT Products and Services

[i] VFM = Value for Money, where the lowest VFM will represent the lowest price resulting from the formulae, and would determine Preferred Tenderer based on this principle.

15. CLEVER AND CREATIVE – OUR PROGRESS 2020

Source: **Strategy, People & Performance – Strategy & Performance**
Director: **Kaarina Phyland**

Purpose

1. To present the Vision Annual Report – Our Progress 2020 for noting by Council.

Background

2. The Community-led 30-year vision, *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future,* was launched in August 2017.

3. A Council resolution at that time committed to reporting annually to the community on the progress and performance, against the milestones and measures contained in the report. Our Progress 2020 is the third update and honours that commitment.

Key Matters

4. The Our Progress 2020 report has been reviewed and endorsed by the Vision Partner Group. The report contains two key features:

   4.1 Highlight projects and activities completed by both the Vision Partner Group and community that align with community aspirations; and

   4.2 Review of the measures of success.

5. This year's report is a condensed version with a key focus on moving the reporting of vision's progress to the community to a more consistent and current online format.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Sullivan seconded -

6. That Council note the publication of the Vision Annual Report – Our Progress 2020.

Cr Aitken left the meeting room at 9.17pm
Cr Aitken re-entered the meeting room at 9.18pm

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

2. The Our Progress 2020 report has been prepared in consultation with the Vision Partner Group. The report will be made available to the community in hard copy at various Council sites, as well as online through the Council's website (www.geelongaustralia.com.au) after the Council Meeting on 26 May 2021.

Social Equity Considerations

3. The Our Progress 2020 report documents the work that council in collaboration with the community is undertaking in relation to the implementation of the 30-year vision. This update includes activities relating to the community aspiration for an inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

4. The Our Progress 2020 report has been developed to meet our commitment to update the community on the progress of the vision on an annual basis.

Alignment to Council Plan

5. The Council Plan has been guided by the 30-year community vision for the municipality. This report highlights the alignment between the Strategic Priorities within *Council Plan 2018-22*, and the community aspirations that form the foundation of the 30-year community-led vision.

Conflict of Interest

6. No officer in the preparation of this report has a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

7. Delivering the Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future vision has been identified as a strategic risk for the City.

8. The City is working in partnership with its 15 Vision Partner organisations to ensure that the community-led vision remains relevant, achievable and front-of-mind with the community and stakeholders.

Environmental Implications

9. The Our Progress 2020 report documents the work that Council, in collaboration with the community, is undertaking to help deliver the 30-year vision. This update includes activities relating to the community aspirations for sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment, and development and implementation of sustainable solutions.

GREATER GEELONG

A CLEVER and CREATIVE FUTURE

OUR PROGRESS
2020



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

CONTENTS

PARTNER MESSAGE 4

MAYOR AND CEO MESSAGE 5

UNESCO UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT 6

OUR COMMUNITY'S VISION 7

VISION IN ACTION 8

VISION MEASURES 10

The City of Greater Geelong acknowledges Wadawurrung Traditional Owners of this land and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.

Cover: First statewide road trauma memorial opened on the Geelong waterfront featuring Ocean Grove artist, Don Walters' sculpture *Solace*.

Opposite: *On Country*, Ammie Howell

PARTNER MESSAGE

It would be fair to say that 2020 was a year that genuinely tested the Greater Geelong community. As our region continues to adapt to its new normal, it's timely to reflect on how our community rose to the challenge.

Having spent so much of the year in lockdown, many of us were forced to change how we do things on multiple fronts, adapting in our own clever and creative ways.

The COVID Recovery Collective, led by six vision partner organisations, came together to expedite projects that would support the region's long-term economic and social recovery. This brought forward stage 1 of the Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct revamp, which includes an expanded berth marina surrounded by a 425-metre floating walkway and wave attenuator – named Wangim Walk by Wadawurrung Traditional Owners.

Events was another area where our community used innovations including moving many events online. Key examples included: livestreamed shows presented by the Geelong Arts Centre and the Piano Bar; online community events delivered for National Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week and Sustainable House Day; the Clever and Creative Deakin Lecture Series; and the Geelong Business Excellence Awards, which also included in-home catering.

Council approved an estimated $16.9 million to assist businesses, community groups and residents impacted by the pandemic. One of the more popular initiatives that came out of this was the Geelong Business Support Program, which gave local business access to free expert advice in a range of areas.

Of course, we remain mindful of those individuals and industries who were so profoundly impacted by last year that it may take some time to adapt and recover. The *Resilient Geelong Report*, commissioned by Committee for Geelong and Deakin University, is one way vision partners have come together to help address these significant challenges. However, we urge everyone to continue collaborating, innovating and supporting each other for what we hope will be a brighter future.

THE VISION PARTNER GROUP

City of Greater Geelong · Avalon Airport – Flying made easy · Barwon Health · Regional Partnerships Barwon · Committee for Geelong · Deakin University · G21 · geelong arts centre · geelong chamber of commerce – The Voice of Business · Tourism Greater Geelong & The Bellarine · Geelong Manufacturing Council – Advancing Regional Industry · Give Where You Live Foundation · Geelong Sustainability · the Gordon · Victoria State Government – Environment, Land, Water and Planning

MAYOR AND CEO MESSAGE

You'd be forgiven for thinking 2020 was the year we hit pause on our 30-year vision journey.

But, in fact, it was the year that the City of Greater Geelong flexed our clever and creative muscles more than ever before.

It was a year that tested our resilience, challenged our adaptability and forced us to clarify our priorities. Our community demonstrated a level of unity, strength and determination that we always knew was there, but perhaps had never relied on so heavily before.

There's no question that in many ways the COVID-19 pandemic hit us for six. It impacted many short-term plans, limited opportunities and left many businesses struggling. It left Council with an unforeseen budget deficit as we took action to support our community by alleviating individual hardships and helping local businesses to cope.

But it also opened up exciting new opportunities. It reinvigorated our community's appreciation for the beautiful place we live in and the wonderful local businesses that keep our economy thriving. It connected neighbours, shone light on issues that needed addressing and reminded us all of what's really important in life.

This progress report reflects on all of this, and many other clever and creative ways that our community has adapted and thrived over the past 12 months.

We are proud of how the City has forged ahead with some major areas of focus this year, including the adoption of two breakthrough strategies – the *Sustainability Framework* and the *Reconciliation Action Plan*. These two documents lay out a clear path that will make these parts of our 30-year clever and creative vision a reality.

It's been a roller-coaster ride but, despite the twists and turns of 2020, we are so proud of how our community has adapted and feel confident that Greater Geelong has a successful future ahead.



Cr Stephanie Asher
Mayor
City of Greater Geelong



Martin Cutter
CEO
City of Greater Geelong

UNESCO UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The City of Greater Geelong is the Secretariat for the UNESCO City of Design designation. Geelong is the first and only city in Australia with this designation, and one of just 40 in the world.

The following was achieved In 2020:

- The City of Design Working Group continued to provide input into our City of Design activities. Members have been appointed for an additional 12 months, until May 2022.
- The first ever Geelong Design Week was held from 19–29 March 2020. While only a small number of events went ahead due to the pandemic, the event is expected to feature more than 60 events in 2021.
- We continued as secretariat of the Victorian Creative Cities Network, which includes Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong, and established ties with the UNESCO National Commission.
- We worked to have the four Victorian UNESCO Creative Cities Network cities recognised in the Victorian Government's new *Creative State Strategy*.
- We attended a virtual Cities of Design sub-network meeting, hosted by Graz, Austria along with Saint-Etienne, France, in October 2020.
- We made a successful pitch to host the 2021 Cities of Design sub-network meeting in Geelong in October 2021.
- We established CODE Souvenir Geelong, a curated catalogue of products designed in Geelong to support local creative industries post COVID-19.
- We participated in a virtual international event hosted by the Creative Cities of Design sub-network, which showcased emergency design solutions from across the globe in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The visitor pod developed by Multicultural Aged Care Services Geelong was one of 10 design solutions featured in the event.
- We commenced a series of urban design excellence initiatives.
- We established the Geelong COVID-19 Arts Recovery Panel and Industry Commission Grants.
- We commenced work on Geelong Creative City of Design Guiding Principles.

GEELONG
UNESCO
CITY OF DESIGN

OUR COMMUNITY'S VISION

By 2047, Greater Geelong will be internationally recognised as a clever and creative city-region that is forward looking, enterprising and adaptive, and cares for its people and environment.

In 2017, over 16,000 Greater Geelong citizens contributed to the development of a 30-year vision for our city-region.

The community told us what they value about the region, how they rate it against the recognised elements of a successful community, and shared ideas about how to address challenges now and in the future.

Through the process, they listened to opinions, debated alternatives, analysed possible futures and compared ideas. Importantly, they deliberated and, in the process, learnt more about each other's aspirations, values and goals. The result was a community-led blueprint designed to achieve regional, national and international recognition for Greater Geelong as a clever and creative city-region.

To help achieve the vision, the following community aspirations were formulated:



Geelong's Word for Word Festival partnered with the nation's leading Indigenous publisher to present its inaugural 2020 schools program.

COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

- A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities
- A fast, reliable and connected transport network
- An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community
- A leader in developing and adopting technology
- A destination that attracts local and international visitors
- Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment
- Creativity drives culture
- People feel safe wherever they are
- Development and implementation of sustainable solutions

VISION IN ACTION

Following is a snapshot of what happened in 2020 to further the community's 30-year clever and creative vision.

For more detail about these and other initiatives, visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative.

A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY THAT SUPPORTS JOBS AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Seasons Cafés and Catering started a new home delivery service, which provided fresh food to local communities and maintained employment at genU Business Enterprises.
- The Geelong Small Business Festival gave businesses and business people across the country a chance to safely connect, support and learn from each other online.
- The Gordon launched free COVID-19 infection control training for Geelong employees in customer-facing roles.
- Committee for Geelong held the 2020 Future of Work Forum to examine ideas about the future economy, jobs and skills, the importance of diversity and ways to bring youth and careers together more effectively.

A LEADER IN DEVELOPING AND ADOPTING TECHNOLOGY

- A wireless smart system, developed by Deakin University to measure soil characteristics, was trialled at the Geelong Botanical Gardens.
- The City conducted road inspections throughout Geelong using laser profiling to guide its road renewal programs.
- Geelong palliative care patients benefited from a program using virtual reality technology as a form of diversion therapy.

CREATIVITY DRIVES CULTURE

- Consultation for a creative industries strategy started as part of a regional collaboration.
- Geelong's Word for Word Festival partnered with the nation's leading Indigenous publisher to present its inaugural 2020 schools program.
- Ngal-Ngal-La online exhibition was held as part of National Reconciliation Week.

A FAST, RELIABLE AND CONNECTED TRANSPORT NETWORK

- It was announced that Corio Quay would be the new home for the Spirit of Tasmania's Victorian port operations.
- It was announced the North Shore and Lara train station will be upgraded under the Victorian Government's $328.4 million public transport and roads investment.
- The Bellarine Peninsula's biggest road infrastructure project, the Drysdale Bypass, opened.
- The Victorian Government announced it will match the Australian Government's $2 billion funding commitment for stage one of Geelong Fast Rail.

A DESTINATION THAT ATTRACTS LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

- Several Geelong locations featured in the world premiere of local production *Paper Champions* at the Melbourne International Film Festivall.
- Tourism Greater Geelong and The Bellarine collaborated with local tourism operators to launch a new creative direction for the region.
- Avalon Airport announced Citilink would commence flights daily between Avalon Airport and Bali.



Free COVID-19 infection control training launched by the Gordon



Geelong Arts Centre launched its first live-stream performance for an at-home audience



Corio Quay announced as new home for the Spirit of Tasmania's Victorian port operations



Geelong palliative care patients benefited from a program using virtual reality technology



PlastiPhalt recycled asphalt materials used to build and renew roads

PEOPLE FEEL SAFE WHEREVER THEY ARE

- The City of Greater Geelong adopted a long-term plan to increase the amount of social housing across Greater Geelong.
- Young people led the City's '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence' campaign in November.
- Barwon Health North was officially opened and completed 55,000 COVID-19 tests.
- Pedestrian safety was improved in the Little Malop Street precinct when changes were introduced to prevent cars accessing the area during the day.

AN INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE, HEALTHY AND SOCIALLY CONNECTED COMMUNITY

- Multicultural Aged Care Services (MACS) in Geelong created an innovative 'Live Visitor Pod' so that relatives can visit their loved ones face-to-face.
- Western Heights College turned part of its campus into a kitchen garden that provides produce for families who are experiencing financial hardship.
- Diversitat's Reconnect Program assisted people to address barriers to employment.

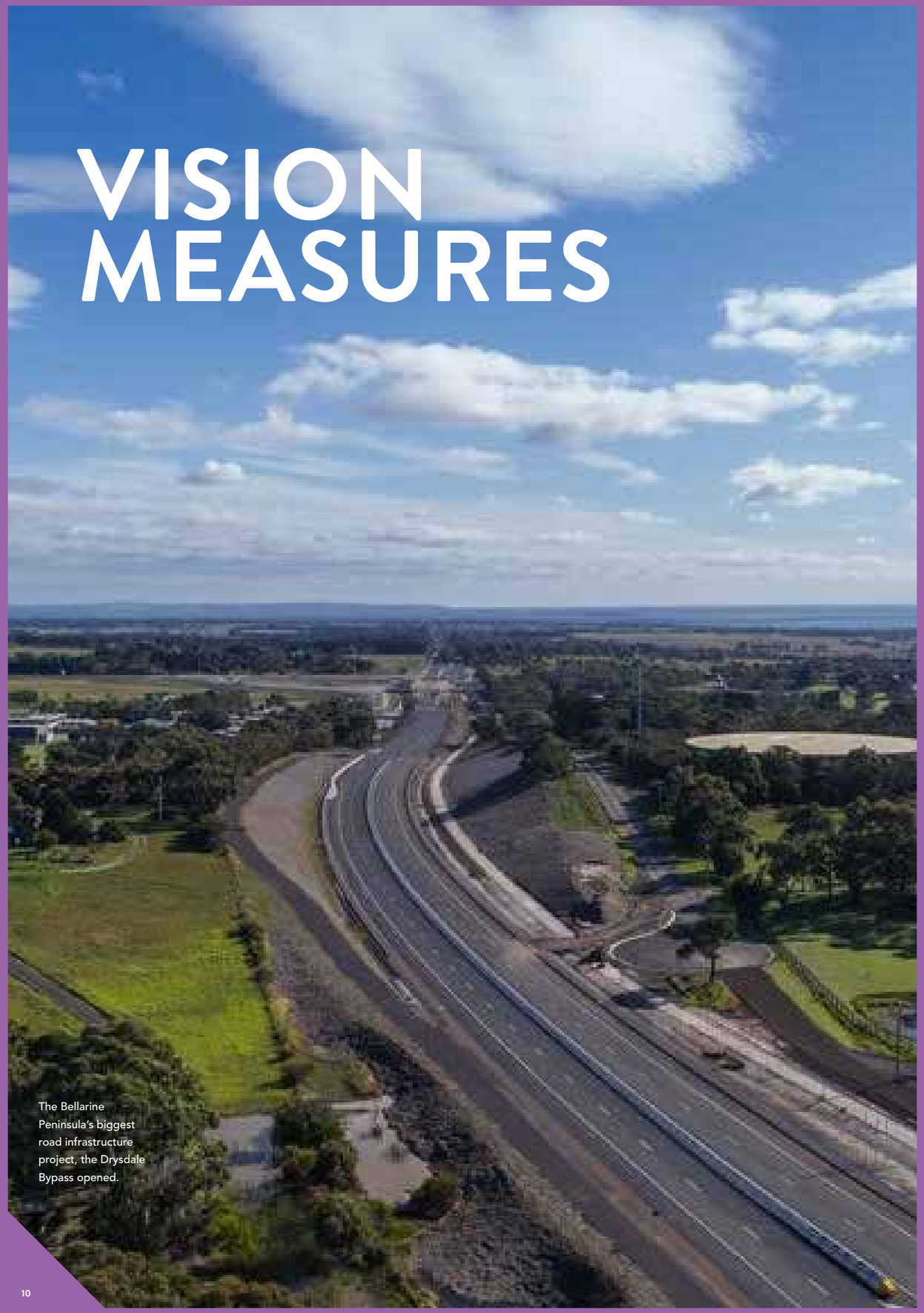
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THAT SUPPORTS POPULATION GROWTH AND PROTECTS THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- A degraded shellfish reef was restored using 500 square metres of recycled shells from restaurants and the seafood industry.
- Deakin University and CSIRO developed the Geelong Waurn Ponds Circular Economy Initiative.
- Capricorn Power, Deakin University, Focus and Geelong Sustainability Group started working on diverse clean technology projects.

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

- The City used 8,745 tonnes of recycled asphalt materials to build and renew roads and footpaths and recycled nearly 6,548 tonnes of concrete.
- Geelong Sustainability helped 16 low-income households protect their homes from weather extremes as part of the Climate Safe Rooms Project.
- The City committed to converting 25,000 streetlights to energy-efficient LED lighting with smart technology.

VISION MEASURES



The Bellarine Peninsula's biggest road infrastructure project, the Drysdale Bypass opened.

The data we've been tracking to measure our progress has been significantly impacted by the pandemic over the last 12 months.

Below is a summary of the key changes, both positive and negative, that happened during this time.

In the next 12–18 months, many of the longer term measures we're using to assess our progress will be updated for the first time since 2017. From this, we hope to gain a clearer picture of what is changing for the better, as well as those that will need our focused attention over the next five years.

To view the full set of data we're using to track the progress of our community's 30-year vision, please visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative.



Several Geelong locations featured in the world premiere of local production Paper Champions at the Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF).

A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
SCHOOL LEAVERS – The number of school leavers engaged in work or post-school study is higher than the Victorian average.		1.2% below the state average (2016).
EMPLOYMENT – Greater Geelong's workforce participation rate is higher than the Victorian average.		2.6% below the state average (2016).
BUSINESS DIVERSITY – An increase in the diversity of businesses.		Regional Development Victoria Index of 53 (2016).

A leader in developing and adopting technology

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
DIGITAL INCLUSION – Australian Digital Inclusive Index (ADII) score greater than 70.		ADII score of 61.7* – an increase of 1.7 points since 2017.

*Sample size <150, exercise caution in interpretation.

Only baseline data available · Trending towards success · No change · Trending away from success

^Figure amended from previously reported due to data adjustments and methodology changes.

Creativity drives culture

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
CREATIVE OCCUPATIONS – Increasing the percentage of the workforce employed in creative occupations.		4.75% of the workforce is employed in creative occupations (2016).
AN INNOVATION ECONOMY – Greater Geelong rated in the top 200 of the Global Innovation Cities Index.		Greater Geelong was rated 313 (2019) – up 21 places since 2017. There was no new report available at time of publication.

A fast, reliable and connected transport network

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK – 50% of journeys to work are made by public transport, walking or cycling.		8.75% of journeys to work are made by public transport, walking or cycling (2016).

A destination that attracts local and international visitors

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
NUMBER OF VISITORS – The total number of visitors to the city-region increases by 2.1% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		The city-region had a 35.7% decrease compared to the same period last year.
VISITOR EXPENDITURE – Expenditure by visitors to the city-region increases by 3.8% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		The city-region had a 31.1% decrease compared to the same period last year.
INTERNATIONAL VISITORS – International overnight visitors grow at a rate of 4.9% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		The city-region had a 54.3% decrease compared to the same period last year.
DOMESTIC VISITORS – Domestic overnight visitors grow at a rate of 1.9% per annum. Note: Tourism was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		The city-region had a 40.3% decrease compared to the same period last year.
TOURISM EMPLOYMENT – Tourism employment increases 1.6% per annum. Note: Tourism employment was adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.		The city-region had a 4.3% decrease compared to the same period last year.

People feel safe wherever they are

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY – 95% of residents agree that they feel safe in the area where they live.		54% residents feel safe in the area where they live (2017).
CRIME – Crime statistics are 20% below the state average.		4.41% above the state average – down from 12.57% above the state average (2017).

An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
SOCIAL EQUITY – No Greater Geelong suburbs in the bottom 20% of the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD).		13 Greater Geelong state suburbs are in the bottom 20% of the IRSD (2017).
EMPLOYMENT IN AREAS OF DISADVANTAGE – Workforce participation in the most vulnerable suburbs is higher than the state average.		All Victorian state suburbs in the bottom 20% of the IRSD have a lower workforce participation rate than Victoria (2017).
CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT – More than 80% of residents that feel they 'sometimes' or 'definitely' have opportunities to have a real say on important matters. Note: The most recent Victorian Population Health Survey with Local Government Area level data occurred in 2017. Unfortunately, this question is no longer part of this survey and therefore we are unable to provide an updated result. We are researching a replacement measure.		75.2% of residents 'sometimes' or 'definitely' have opportunities to have a real say (2014).
SOCIAL SUPPORT – More than 80% of residents feel they can 'sometimes' or 'definitely' get help from neighbours. Note: The most recent Victorian Population Health Survey with Local Government Area level data occurred in 2017. Unfortunately, this question is no longer part of this survey and therefore we are unable to provide an updated result. We are researching a replacement measure.		77.9% of residents feel they can 'sometimes' or 'definitely' get help (2014).
SELF-REPORTED HEALTH – Over 50% of residents reporting their health as very good or excellent.		59% residents report 'very good' or 'excellent' health (2017).

Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
SUBURBAN TREE CANOPY – Suburban tree canopy is greater than 25%.		14% (2019) – a positive result given increased urban development in the region.
NATURAL HABITAT – An increase in the quantity of protected natural habitat. Note: This refers to the protected natural habitat managed by the City of Greater Geelong.		41.95% increase in protected habitat since 2018 (baseline).
PUBLIC OPEN SPACES – In urban areas, 95% of dwellings are within 400 metres of public open space. Note: This refers to primary recreation, heritage and nature public open space managed by the City of Greater Geelong. It excludes all other open space classifications and aligns with our *Social Infrastructure Plan* open space provision standards.		76% urban dwellings within 400 metres (January 2021).
SUBURBAN OPEN SPACE – No net loss of open space by suburb. Note: We updated our methodology in the collection of this data during 2020, including the consolidation and reclassification of suburban open space land parcels, so caution should be applied when comparing results from January 2021 onwards with past results.		2021 data shows 495 sites with a total area of 2,146.79 hectares – a decrease of 35 sites and 0.84 hectares since 2017 (baseline).
CENTRAL GEELONG – 10,000 people living in Central Geelong.		1,566 people live in Central Geelong (2016).

Only baseline data available | Trending towards success | No change | Trending away from success

Only baseline data available | Trending towards success | No change | Trending away from success



Avalon Airport announced Citilink would commence flights daily between Avalon Airport and Bali.

Development and implementation of sustainable solutions

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR	CURRENT TREND	CURRENT DATA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT – 50% of new housing construction to be conducted within existing urban areas.		While our current construction portion is 25.8% (2019) up from 23% (2018), it is still below our baseline of 27% (2017). This is because the number of dwellings constructed in existing areas has remained constant, but this development is declining in proportion to overall development due to the rapid expansion of major greenfield growth fronts.
WASTE MANAGEMENT – Performing better than the Victorian average in solid and green waste diverted from landfill.		The Greater Geelong region diverted 55.73% in solid and green waste from landfill, compared with the Victorian average of 44.13% (2019–20).
CARBON EMISSIONS – Greater Geelong being a carbon neutral city-region.		Greater Geelong had a 0.47% decrease in production of CO_2 or equivalent compared to the baseline (January– December 2017).
WATER USE – 20% of all water provided to the municipality is recycled water.		11% of water provided to the municipality is recycled, up from 9.4% in 2016–17 (baseline).

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR A CLEVER AND CREATIVE FUTURE

Are you doing something clever and creative? If so, show your support for the Greater Geelong region's 30-year vision by displaying the 'We Support' logo on your website and publications.

To find out how to get on board, visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative

Seasons Cafés and Catering started a new home delivery service, which provided fresh food to local communities and maintained employment at genU Business Enterprises.

GREATER GEELONG

A CLEVER and CREATIVE FUTURE

www.geelongaustralia.com.au/clevercreative

—

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

PO Box 104
Geelong VIC 3220
P: 5272 5272
E: contactus@geelongcity.vic.gov.au
www.geelongaustralia.com.au

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE

100 Brougham Street
Geelong VIC 3220
8.00am – 5.00pm

© City of Greater Geelong 2020

LATEST NEWS:

@CityofGreaterGeelong
@GreaterGeelong
@CityofGreaterGeelong
CityofGreaterGeelong

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

16. GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL GENERAL ELECTION REPORT 2020

Source: **Chief Executive - Governance**
Chief Executive Officer: **Martin Cutter**

Purpose

1. To submit to Council the Victorian Electoral Commission's (the **VEC**) election report of the Greater Geelong City Council general election 2020.

Background

2. The Greater Geelong City Council general election was held on 24 October 2020 by postal voting.

3. The VEC is the statutory election services provider as per section 263(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the **Act)**.

4. Section 83 of the Act requires that:

   4.1 The VEC must prepare a report to the Chief Executive Officer on the conduct of the election within the period of 6 months after election day;

   4.2 The report must include a certified record of the number of ballot-papers and declarations printed, issued, used, spoiled and returned; and

   4.3 The Chief Executive Officer must ensure that the report is submitted to the Council at the earliest practicable meeting of the Council held after the report is received by the Chief Executive Officer.

5. The report was received by the Chief Executive Officer on 19 April 2021.

Key Matters

6. The report outlines the VEC's response to:

   6.1 the conduct of an election during a global pandemic; and

   6.2 compliance with changes in the legislation, such as the Act and *Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020* (the **Regulations**).

7. The report also details information about the role of the Election Manager, candidate services, enquiry services, issuing and return of ballot papers, the computer count and declaration of the results, voter participation, the communication campaign and complaints.

8. The overall participation rate in the Greater Geelong City Council election was 86.16%, higher than the State average of 84.12% (excluding Melbourne City Council) and higher than the 79.73% rate at the 2017 Greater Geelong City Council general election.

9. Informal voting rate was recorded at 4.76%, compared with the State average of 4.76%, which is lower than 6.09% recorded at the 2017 Greater Geelong City Council general election.

10. There were no applications to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal **(VCAT)** disputing the result of the Greater Geelong City Council general election.

Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

11. That Council note the Victorian Electoral Commission Greater Geelong City Council General Election 2020 Report (Attachment 2).

Carried.

Attachment 1

Financial Implications

1. There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

2. The VEC carried out a number of communication activities whilst conducting the election, including statutory advertising, media releases and advisories, SMS and email alerts and other voter engagement initiatives (refer Appendices 2 to 5 of the report).

Social Equity Considerations

3. Social equity was considered in the targeted communication programs outlined in Appendix 5 of the report.

Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications

4. Section 83 of the Act requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a report to Council following receipt of the VEC's Election Report.

Alignment to Council Plan

5. This report aligns to the Council Plan's strategic priority 'Organisational leadership, strategy and governance'.

Conflict of Interest

6. No officer declared a material or general conflict of interest in the preparation of this report.

Risk Assessment

7. There are no significant or high risks associated with the subject of this report.

Environmental Implications

8. There are no environmental implications arising from the subject of this report.

2020 Local government elections

Greater Geelong City Council

Election Report



Victorian Electoral Commission

© State of Victoria
(Victorian Electoral Commission)
April 2021

This work, the Greater Geelong City Council Election Report Local Government elections 2020 is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence [http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/]. You are free to share this work under that licence, on the condition that you do not change any content and you credit the State of Victoria (Victorian Electoral Commission) as author and comply with the other licence terms. The licence does not apply to any branding, including Government logos.

Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
T 131 832
info@vec.vic.gov.au
vec.vic.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country

The Victorian Electoral Commission pays respect to Victoria's traditional owners and their elders past and present who have been custodians of this country for many thousands of years. Their living culture and their role in the life of Victoria is acknowledged by the VEC.

Letter of Transmittal

19 April 2021

Mr Martin Cutter
Chief Executive Officer
Greater Geelong City Council
PO Box 104
GEELONG VIC 3220

Dear Mr Cutter

Pursuant to Regulation 83 of the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020, I submit this report to the Chief Executive Officer of Greater Geelong City Council on the general election held in October 2020.

Yours sincerely



Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commissioner

Contents

Introduction 1

Key changes 2

Election dates 4

About Greater Geelong City Council 5

Voters' roll 5

Advertising and communication campaign 5

Election Manager 7

Election office 8

Candidates 8

Voting 9

Results 10

Election statistics 11

Complaints 12

Post-election activities 12

Non-voter follow up 13

Evaluating the VEC's services 13

Schedule 1: Record of ballot papers and declaration envelopes 14

Schedule 2: Certification statement 18

Appendix 1: Breakdown of the voters' roll 19

Appendix 2: Statutory advertising 20

Appendix 3: Schedule of media releases and advisories 24

Appendix 4: VoterAlert advisories 25

Appendix 5: Voter engagement program and initiatives 29

Appendix 6: Daily telephone enquiries 30

Appendix 7: Final list of candidates in ballot paper order 31

Appendix 8: Daily breakdown of the general mail-out 46

Appendix 9: Result information 47

Appendix 10: Election participation statistics 51

Appendix 11: Complaints 53

Introduction

The Victorian local government general elections are held every four years as defined by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) (**LG Act**). In 2020, general elections were held for 76 of the 79 Victorian councils[1] with Saturday 24 October marking election day. In accordance with section 263(1) of the LG Act, the Victorian Electoral Commission (**VEC**) is the statutory election service provider for the conduct of local government elections in Victoria.

This report provides information on the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election including details of the end-to-end service delivery of electoral activities throughout the election timeline. This report also provides details of post-election items including compulsory voting enforcement.

About the Victorian Electoral Commission

The VEC is an independent statutory authority established under the *Electoral Act 2002* (Vic) (**the Electoral Act**). The VEC's principal functions are to conduct State elections, local government elections, certain statutory elections and polls, commercial and community elections, and to support electoral representation processes for local councils and the Electoral Boundaries Commission for State electoral boundaries. The VEC is also responsible for maintaining the Victorian register of electors and administering political funding and donation disclosure laws. The VEC has a mandated role to conduct electoral research, provide communication and education services, and inform and engage Victorians in the democratic process.

Warwick Gately AM is the appointed Electoral Commissioner and Liz Williams is the appointed Deputy Electoral Commissioner. The Electoral Commissioner and Deputy Electoral Commissioner report to the Victorian Parliament in relation to the VEC's operations and activities.

The Electoral Commissioner heads the VEC's Executive Management Group that comprises the Deputy Electoral Commissioner, the Executive Director, Corporate Services and seven Directors, each leading the main functional areas of the VEC. Each Director acts as subject matter experts within their legislative responsibilities under the LG Act and the Electoral Act.

The VEC has a dedicated local government election program which is managed by Katrina Collins and incorporates a range of programs, projects and activities that are supported through strategic planning, project management, and process mapping. The program is overseen by the VEC's Planning Group and has sponsorship from the Executive Management Group.

[1] The South Gippsland Shire Council was placed into administration in mid-2019. The Council's general election has been postponed until October 2021. Casey City Council and Whittlesea City Council were placed into administration in early 2020. The Councils' general elections have been postponed until October 2024.

Key changes

Changes in legislation

The new LG Act received royal assent on 24 March 2020 and introduced a number of changes, some requiring immediate implementation and others to be implemented progressively. Those requiring immediate implementation had a significant impact on the 2020 local government election program.

Following the LG Act completing its passage through Parliament, the VEC implemented the necessary changes to the 2020 local government election program in response to the reforms as they applied to the elections.

The key changes from the LG Act are as follows:	
Local government electoral structures	The default electoral structure for all local councils is single-councillor wards, although some regional and rural local councils may be unsubdivided or divided into wards with equal numbers of councillors in each ward. The VEC is no longer responsible for conducting electoral representation reviews of all local councils in Victoria. An independent Local Government Electoral Representation Advisory Panel will review council electoral structures. The panel includes the Electoral Commissioner and other members appointed by the Minister for Local Government.
Voting system	The voting system (attendance or postal) is set by the Minister for Local Government. All local council elections are conducted according to the same voting system.
Enrolment and voters' rolls	Non-resident property owners need to apply to be enrolled (this change will be implemented in stages leading up to the 2024 local government elections). Amendments to the voters' roll are completed by the VEC only (excluding Melbourne City Council).
Candidate qualifications	It is compulsory for local government candidates to complete mandatory training prior to nominating for local government elections.
Nominations/candidate statements	When nominating, candidates are required to declare they have completed the mandatory Local Government Candidate Training. The maximum number of words for a candidate statement was increased to 300 (350 for the Melbourne City Council Leadership Team and Councillor Groups).
Election staff	The term 'Election Manager' replaced 'Returning Officer' making the term consistent with the *Electoral Act 2002*.
Extraordinary vacancies	The VEC will fix the timeline for local council by-elections (previously fixed by the Minister). Changes to the countback process which now draws on a broader pool of ballot papers to determine the successful candidate at a countback.
Compulsory voting	From the 2024 local government general elections onwards, it will be compulsory for everyone enrolled on a voters' roll to vote.

The LG Act made other changes to the local government electoral landscape, including:

- operational and technical provisions for electoral matters are now prescribed in the Regulations rather than being contained in the LG Act.
- disputed election results are now heard by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (**VCAT**).

On 8 May 2020, the Minister determined[2] all of the 2020 general elections would be held by postal voting. As such, the VEC adjusted preparations in response to the Minister's determination.

In addition, new Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 (**the Regulations**) came into operation on 13 July 2020.

Response to public health crisis: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In response to the coronavirus (**COVID-19**) global pandemic, a State of Emergency was declared in Victoria on 16 March 2020. While the VEC was well advanced in planning for the elections, some uncertainty arose due to speculation that the elections could be rescheduled.

Following the Local Government Minister's confirmation on 15 May 2020 that the 2020 local government elections would proceed, the VEC's operating model was adjusted to deliver a compliant election while meeting health, safety, social distancing and hygiene obligations to voters, election staff, councils, candidates and all other stakeholders.

On Wednesday 1 September 2020, the Governor in Council made amendments to the regulations to allow certain provisions to be varied in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the amendments allowed the VEC to determine an appropriate method for eligible candidates to lodge their nomination form and pay their nomination fee electronically; and to allow the Election Manager to determine the maximum number of scrutineers that may be present for any activity at any one time. The amended regulations commenced the day after they were made and remain in place until 26 April 2021.

On 29 September 2020, the Governor in Council made further changes to the Regulations to provide greater clarity of mitigation options for any disruptions to the voting timeline, including delays across the postal network that could threaten the integrity of the elections. The changes allowed the Electoral Commissioner to alter the last day of voting and/or the extended postal vote receipt deadline if necessary, to maintain and protect election integrity.

The VEC developed a COVIDSafe Election Plan[3] in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services which complemented the VEC's Service Plan. The COVIDSafe Election Plan outlined the VEC's actions and strategies to deliver safe and compliant local government elections.

The plan considered all electoral operations and activities and included changes such as (but not limited to):

- acquiring larger election office spaces to accommodate social distancing practices
- moving operations from face-to-face to online (when legislation permitted), for example:
  - the VEC's briefing meetings with individual councils
  - the candidate information sessions
- modifying the timeline for ballot paper extraction and counting activities
- modifying scrutineer practices.

The VEC acknowledges the collaboration and contributions of council officers in navigating the changes required to the program due to COVID-19.

[2] The Minister published this decision in the Government Gazette on 18 May 2020

[3] 'VEC COVIDSafe election plan' - https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/about-us/publications/local-council-election-reports-and-plans

Election dates

The key timelines that applied to the 2020 local government elections were as follows.	
Deadline fixed by the VEC for council primary enrolment data	Monday 13 July 2020
Close of roll	4 pm Friday 28 August 2020
Opening of the election office to the public	Wednesday 16 September 2020
Certification of the voters' roll and opening of nominations	Thursday 17 September 2020
Close of nominations	12 noon Tuesday 22 September 2020
*Ballot draw	From 1 pm on Tuesday 22 September 2020
*Deadline for lodging candidate statements, photographs and questionnaires	12 noon Wednesday 23 September 2020
*General mail out of ballot packs to voters	Tuesday 6 October to Thursday 8 October 2020
*Close of voting	6 pm Friday 23 October 2020
Day prescribed as Election Day	Saturday 24 October 2020
*Close of extended postal vote receipt period	12 noon Friday 30 October 2020
Declaration of election results	No later than Friday 13 November 2020

*Dates with asterisks relate to contested elections only.

About Greater Geelong City Council

Greater Geelong City Council is comprised of 11 councillors elected from three three-councillor wards and one two-councillor ward.

The structure was last reviewed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* through an electoral representation review in 2015-2016.

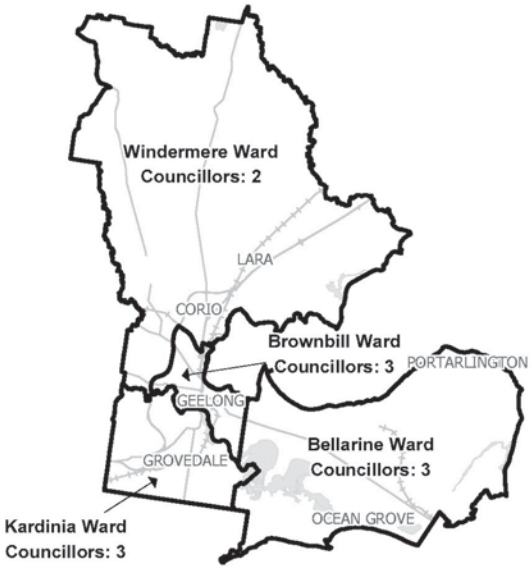


Figure 1: The electoral structure of Greater Geelong City Council at the general election held on 24 October 2020.

Voters' roll

The VEC prepared the voters' roll for the election under section 8(2)(c) of the Electoral Act and in accordance with section 249 of the LG Act. The close of roll for the election was 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020. Pursuant to section 249(4) of the LG Act, the VEC certified the voters' roll on Thursday 17 September 2020.

At certification, the voters' roll for the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election included 204,092 enrolled voters.

Composition of the voters' roll

The LG Act specifies that the voters' roll for a local government election is formed by combining two separate lists of voters.

1. The Electoral Commissioner's list (EC list) – List of State electors that are enrolled within that local government area.

2. The Chief Executive Officer's list (CEO list) – List of council-entitled voters.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for a breakdown of the Greater Geelong City Council general election voters' roll.

Amendments to the voters' roll

In accordance with section 250 of the LG Act, the VEC is able to amend any error or omission in the preparation, printing or copying of the voters' roll, or correct any misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, place or thing on the voters' roll. Following the passage of the LG Act, amendments to the voters' roll are to be certified by the VEC. All voters added to the roll were issued with a ballot pack. Where a voter was deleted from the roll after the mail-out of ballot material, the VEC had systems in place to ensure that returned ballot papers from the deleted voters could be identified and excluded from the extraction and count. Where roll amendments were required, the total number of voters on the roll was updated.

Following the close of roll, the VEC made three amendments to the voters' roll, one addition and two deletions.

Advertising and communication campaign

State-wide advertising

The VEC delivered a state-wide advertising campaign to maximise public awareness and participation amongst all eligible voters. Campaign activities and consistent messaging were delivered across two phases – enrolment and voting – and through multiple traditional and emerging mediums, including radio, digital and social media, and offline/outdoor advertising.

Statutory advertising

The VEC published a series of statutory notices throughout the election as required by the LG Act. The notices included critical information relevant to each milestone of the election timeline.

For the 2020 statutory notices, Greater Geelong City Council nominated the following newspapers for the statutory notices to appear in:

- Bellarine + Armstrong Creek Times
- Geelong Independent
- Geelong Advertiser

In 2020, the VEC established a new policy position for statutory advertising in alignment with the updated definition of 'publish' in the LG Act. The policy position included the following:

- all statutory and non-statutory election advertising would be published on the VEC website, and
- where available, all statutory and non-statutory election advertising would be published in local newspapers and/or other selected newspapers identified following consultation with the council.

Refer to **Appendix 2** for further information in relation to the statutory advertising.

VEC website

The VEC provided council specific information regarding the election on its website under the '2020 local council election' page. The VEC website went live for the local government elections in early August 2020. Whilst some council specific data remained static during the election, the website was regularly updated with content relevant to the election and at each key milestone such as close of roll, nominations, voting and results.

Media liaison

An online media webinar was held on Friday 21 August 2020. The webinar could be downloaded or accessed at a later time for those who were unable to participate live. The media briefing summarised the planning and timeline for the 2020 local government elections, and also provided a specific update in relation to the availability of election results in light of COVID-19.

Media outlets were provided with a media information booklet that outlined the election timeline and key messages, and provided the VEC's head office media contacts. The VEC's communication team supported each Election Manager as the primary media spokesperson in relation to each election.

The VEC's media liaison program principally featured staged media releases aimed to highlight key milestones during the election timeline, and capitalise on existing general news coverage. More information on the VEC's media release schedule is available at **Appendix 3**.

Social media campaign

As part of its state-wide advertising campaign, the VEC used paid promotions on social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat and WeChat, targeting voters through audience segmentation.

This advertising was supported by a defined timeline of organic social media posts on the VEC's channels, designed to cover each of the key messages of the communication campaign to further extend the reach to the community and promote conversation about the democratic process.

VEC VoterAlert advisories

Electors on the State enrolment register are able to sign up to the VEC's free SMS or email alert service VoterAlert, to receive reminder messages pertinent to elections that affect them. They can subscribe to receive SMS messages only, email only, or both SMS and email.

During the general election, the VEC used its VoterAlert service to send the following direct messages to those State-enrolled voters on the roll for the election.

The messages were rolled out in the following schedule:

Wednesday 19 August to Wednesday 26 August 2020 – 154,936 VoterAlert messages were sent by SMS and email reminding voters to enrol or update their details by the close of roll.

Friday 9 October to Friday 13 October 2020 – 158,087 VoterAlert messages were sent by SMS and email advising that the VEC had commenced posting ballot packs.

Monday 19 October 2020 – 157,258 VoterAlert messages were sent by SMS and email reminding voters that it was the last week to post their ballot material back to the VEC.

In mid-October, the VEC commenced sending its final VoterAlert – a reminder to post ballot packs by the voting deadline. Whilst approximately 900,000 of the 1.8 million voters scheduled to receive an alert were contacted it was identified that an unanticipated high volume of calls was received by both the VEC and councils as a result of the alert. Therefore, the VEC suspended the VoterAlert messages scheduled for the remaining 900,000 voters.

More information on the VEC's VoterAlert advisories is available at **Appendix 4**.

Voter engagement

The VEC delivered an extensive voter engagement program. The program sessions were implemented throughout Victoria and were specific to local demographics. Please refer to **Appendix 5** to view the full list of initiatives for the 2020 local government elections. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the VEC's programs traditionally offered through face-to-face education and engagement were redesigned to comply with health, safety, social distancing and hygiene obligations.

Blind and low vision services

Braille and large print ballot material was available to blind and low vision voters who had registered for these products by 5 pm on Tuesday 15 September 2020.

The VEC received and processed one request for braille ballot material and 11 large print ballot material for Greater Geelong City Council.

Interpreting services

The VEC engaged the Victorian Interpreting and Language Services' Language Link to provide a telephone interpreting service for telephone enquiries from voters who had a first language other than English. The VEC advertised direct lines for 20 languages other than English and a general line for all other languages.

Telephone enquiry service

A local telephone enquiry service was provided at the election office from Wednesday 16 September 2020 until the close of voting, for enquiries regarding the election.

The local telephone enquiry service was supplemented by an overflow call centre at the VEC's head office. The overflow call centre received calls made directly to the VEC's head office line (131 VEC, 131 832 or +61 3 8620 1100 for callers outside of Australia) and diverted calls from the election office when the election office lines were at capacity. Additionally, email enquiries were received and processed through info@vec.vic.gov.au.

The types of calls that are typical during an election relate to:

- voting entitlements and compulsory voting obligations
- enrolment questions
- ballot pack had not been received
- ballot material was spoilt or destroyed, so replacement ballot material was required
- a voter advising that they were overseas or interstate
- queries regarding the content of the ballot pack.

A breakdown of the daily number of calls received by the telephone enquiry service and the overflow call centre in respect to the election is available at **Appendix 6**.

Election Manager

The VEC maintains a pool of trained senior election officials located across the state to fill election management roles for State and local government elections. Election-specific training is provided to senior election officials prior to each election management appointment.

The size of the election management team appointed for the conduct of an election is based on the size of the council. As required under the LG Act an Election Manager is appointed to conduct the election and is supported by one or more Assistant Election Managers for larger councils, or a senior election official for smaller councils.

In accordance with section 3 of the LG Act, the Electoral Commissioner appointed Brian Cullen as the Election Manager for the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election.

The appointed Assistant Election Managers were Jan Kealey, Colleen Kopelke and Amanda Jennings.

Election office

The Election Manager was responsible for the establishment and management of the election office located at the Geelong West Town Hall, 153 Pakington Street, Geelong West. The election office was provided by council.

In accordance with the VEC's COVIDSafe election plan, the election office was open to the public by appointment only. The election office was available for appointments from Wednesday 16 September until Friday 23 October 2020 between 9 am and 5 pm. Opening hours were extended on Thursday 22 October (9 am to 8 pm) and Friday 23 October (9 am to 6 pm) to allow for final enquiries and the hand-delivery of ballots prior to the close of voting. Enquiries regarding the election were also managed by phone.

Candidates

Nominations for the election opened at 9 am on Thursday 17 September and closed at 12 noon on Tuesday 22 September 2020. Candidates were required to lodge their nomination forms in person at the election office. A $250 nomination fee applied.

On Wednesday 9 September 2020, the Electoral Commissioner published a determination[4] establishing a framework for prospective candidates who were prevented from attending the election office due to health directions regarding COVID-19 under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. The determination outlined provisions for electronic lodgement of the nomination form and nomination fee for affected candidates.

Candidate information

The VEC developed a suite of resources that were accessible to prospective candidates prior to the nomination period. From early September, candidates were able to access the VEC's information about the process of nominating and becoming a candidate for the election. The VEC's online *Candidate Helper*, accessible via the VEC website, went live on Thursday 3 September 2020. The *Candidate Helper* enabled candidates to pre-complete their nomination form and other forms online before lodging them with the Election Manager.

For the 2020 elections, the VEC's candidate information session was recorded and available for online streaming from the VEC website. The session was complemented by three state-wide interactive seminars consisting of a panel from the VEC's leadership and executive teams.

Nominations

At the close of nominations, 39 candidates had nominated for election to council.

The following is a breakdown of candidate nominations per ward:

- Bellarine Ward - 10 nominations
- Brownbill Ward - 12 nominations
- Kardinia Ward - 12 nominations
- Windermere Ward - five nominations

Ballot draws to determine the order in which the names would appear on the ballot paper were held at the election office following the close of nominations using the VEC's computerised ballot draw application.

See **Appendix 7** for the list of candidates in ballot draw order.

[4] VEC 2020 Determination No.1 - Nominations from candidates impacted by COVID-19 Public Health Directions in respect to local government elections - https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/about-us/legislation/determinations

Candidate statements and photos

In accordance with Regulation 39 of the Regulations, candidates were able to lodge a 300 word statement and submit a recent photograph for inclusion in the ballot packs sent to voters. The deadline for the submission of candidate statements and photographs was 12 noon on Wednesday 23 September 2020.

See **Appendix 7.1** for a breakdown of submitted statements and photos, and **7.2** for the sample website version product.

Candidate questionnaires

In accordance with Regulation 43 of the Regulations, candidates were able to complete and lodge their answers to a set of prescribed questions in addition to a statement and photograph. The Election Manager accepted questionnaire submissions lodged by 37 of the 39 candidates at the election.

The completed questionnaires were accessible to voters on the VEC website or by contacting the election office.

Voting

Redirection of ballot packs

The Regulations provide that a voter may – no later than the day the roll is certified (or a later date if specified by the Election Manager under Regulation 22(2)(f) of the Regulations) – make a request in writing to the Election Manager to have their postal ballot envelope redirected to another address. For the 2020 elections voters had until Thursday 17 September to submit requests for redirection.

The Election Manager received 33 requests for redirection of ballot packs for the election.

Early votes

A voter may request an early postal ballot envelope (early vote) prior to the general mail out of ballot packs. The Election Manager processes the request and issues the early vote if the request is assessed as reasonable. Requests for early votes could be processed from Wednesday 23 September 2020, the day after nominations closed, until the commencement of the general mail out of ballot packs on Tuesday 6 October 2020. Due to the timing of early votes, some early voters may not have had access to the candidate statements, photographs or questionnaires.

Due to the impact that COVID-19 restrictions had on election services for the 2020 elections, requests for early votes were managed by appointment.

The Election Manager issued 49 early votes for the election.

Mail-out of ballot packs

The VEC mailed 204,086 ballot packs between Tuesday 6 October and Thursday 8 October 2020. See **Appendix 8** for a breakdown of the packs mailed out on each day during the general mail-out, noting that ballot packs were not mailed to any voters that had passed away between the close of the roll and generation of the mail-out file.

This included 33 ballot packs that were redirected to alternative addresses for voters that had applied to redirect their ballot pack by Thursday 17 September 2020.

In accordance with Regulation 49(3) of the Regulations, no more than 35% of ballot packs were mailed or delivered to voters on any one day during the mail out period. All ballot packs were lodged with Australia Post under the priority paid delivery timetable.

The VEC liaised closely with Australia Post during the mail out period to confirm that ballot packs had been delivered to voters. The VEC received confirmation that all ballot packs had been delivered to delivery addresses by Wednesday 14 October 2020.

During the voting period, 3,850 ballot packs were returned to the election office by Australia Post as return-to-sender mail. Most of this mail was due to the addressee not residing at the address.

Election office counter services

In order to safeguard the health and wellbeing of voters and VEC personnel in the COVID-19 environment, the VEC did not provide an over-the-counter replacement or unenrolled vote service at election offices in the Metropolitan Melbourne region (including Mitchell Shire Council) for the elections. Similar restrictions were initially imposed on election offices in Regional

Victoria and were relaxed in the final weeks of voting. Voters were advised to request replacement or unenrolled ballot material by phone, which was sent to them by post.

Unenrolled votes

Unenrolled votes are issued to people whose name cannot be found on the voters' roll but who claim they are entitled to vote at the election. The unenrolled ballot pack includes a declaration that is signed by the applicant and assessed by the Election Manager prior to either admitting or disallowing the vote.

The Election Manager issued 32 unenrolled votes and following relevant checks, five were admitted to the count.

Replacement ballot packs

Following the general mail-out of ballot packs, a voter who claimed that their ballot pack had not been received, or had been lost, spoilt or destroyed, could apply to the Election Manager for a replacement ballot pack. Requests for replacement ballot packs within metropolitan councils were processed and fulfilled at the election office then lodged at the local postal facility. In order to assist in the mail turnaround time for regional councils, the VEC established a centralised postal vote issuing service at head office. Replacement vote requests were processed at the election office and fulfilled and lodged with Australia Post from the VEC in Melbourne.

The Election Manager issued 4,628 replacement ballot packs across all wards during the voting period. Please refer to **Schedule 1** for further information on replacement ballot packs issued.

Return of ballot paper envelopes

Voters were provided with a priority reply-paid envelope for the return of their ballot paper envelope containing their completed ballot paper. The return mail was delivered to the election office from local postal facilities or mail distribution centres. Voters who chose to hand-deliver their vote to the election office were able to do so by placing their ballot paper envelope containing their completed ballot paper into ballot boxes located at the election office. The ballot boxes allowed voters to drop off their ballot envelopes without interaction with staff, therefore remaining compliant with a COVIDSafe election[5].

As ballot paper envelopes were returned, they were progressively checked by the election management team to ensure they had been signed by the voter. Additionally, processes were in place to ensure that only one returned ballot from any one voter could proceed to the extraction and count.

The Election Manager received a total of 137,342 returned ballot paper envelopes across all wards by the close of voting at 6 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.

The Regulations provide that the Election Manager can accept returned ballot paper envelopes up until 12 noon on the Friday following the close of voting, if satisfied that the ballot paper envelope was completed by the voter prior to the close of voting. The Election Manager accepted 39,099 ballot paper envelopes across all wards during the extended postal vote receipt period.

The total returned ballot paper envelopes for Greater Geelong City Council was 176,441.

The Election Manager set aside 3,970 returned ballot paper envelopes that were not admitted to the extraction and counting process due to the voter not having signed the declaration envelope or, in the case of unenrolled declaration votes, an entitlement was not found for the person, or the declaration envelope was not returned with the vote.

Refer to **Schedule 1** for the total certified record of ballot papers and declaration envelopes across all wards.

Results

Extraction

A total of 172,471 ballot paper envelopes were admitted to the extraction process.

The extraction of ballot papers occurred at the election office commencing on Saturday 24 October. The extraction of all admitted ballot paper envelopes was completed on Saturday 31

[5] 'VEC COVIDSafe election plan' - https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/about-us/publications/local-council-election-reports-and-plans

October, following the close of the extended postal vote receipt period.

The extraction process involved separating the declaration flaps containing voters' details from each admitted ballot paper envelope, and then extracting the ballot papers from the envelopes. This two-stage process maintains anonymity and ensures the number of envelopes is tracked for ongoing reconciliation.

Any returned ballot paper envelopes found not to contain a ballot paper, or that contained more than one ballot paper, were required to be rejected and could not be counted. There were 275 returned ballot paper envelopes rejected during the extraction activity.

Following the extraction of ballot papers from the ballot paper envelopes, a total of 172,196 ballot papers proceeded to the count.

Computer count

Following the extraction of ballot papers admitted to the count for Greater Geelong City Council, preferences on ballot papers were data entered into the VEC's computer counting application at the Geelong Showgrounds, 79 Breakwater Road, East Geelong. The application distributes preferences using the proportional representation method once data entry of ballot paper preferences is complete. The computer count information session explaining the process was recorded and available for online streaming from the VEC website from Monday 19 October 2020. Results were calculated at the election office on Wednesday 4 November 2020.

The provisional results were published to the VEC website as they became available. Results were updated as finalised[6] once declarations had taken place.

For a breakdown of the first preference results by ward, refer to **Appendix 9**.

Recounts

At any time before a candidate is declared as elected, a recount may be initiated by the Election Manager or requested in writing by a candidate stating the reasons for their request. Such requests are assessed by the Election Manager supported by the VEC and either accepted or declined.

The Election Manager received one request for a recount for Kardinia Ward and two requests for Windemere Ward. As there was no critical margin for Kardinia Ward, and the candidates were advised to wait for provisional results for Windemere Ward, they did not proceed to the recount process.

Declaration of results

The declaration of results was scheduled later than at previous elections, due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on extraction and counting timelines. As per the Service Plan, the latest date for all results declarations to have been completed was Friday 13 November 2020.

The results of the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election were declared at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 4 November 2020 at the City of Greater Geelong City Hall, 30 Gheringhap Street, Geelong.

The VEC website was updated following the declaration to reflect the elected candidates from the election.

Election statistics

Participation

Participation is measured by the number of marks on the roll as a percentage of the total enrolment and can vary from turnout. The overall participation rate in the Greater Geelong City Council election was 86.16%, which is higher than the State average of 84.12% (excluding Melbourne City Council) and higher than the 79.73% rate at the 2017 Greater Geelong City Council general election.

Analysis of voter participation for the different enrolment categories shows that participation is higher for voters who are enrolled on the EC's List (87.92%) compared to voters enrolled on the CEO's List (66.71%).

[6] A preference distribution report can be found at 2020 council election results | Victorian Electoral Commission (vec.vic.gov.au).

Refer to **Appendix 10** for further information on participation, including a breakdown by enrolment category.

Turnout

Voter turnout is measured by the number of formal and informal ballot papers counted in the election as a percentage of voters on the voters' roll for the election.

The overall voter turnout for the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election was 81.43%. This is compared to the State average turnout of 81.47% (excluding Melbourne City Council). The voter turnout at the 2017 general election for council was 73.90%.

Informality

The overall informal voting rate recorded at the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election was 4.76%, compared with the State average of 4.76%. An informality rate of 6.09% was recorded at the Greater Geelong City Council general election held in October 2017.

Complaints

Type of complaints

At local government elections, complaints generally fall into two broad categories:

1. **The conduct of participants in the election.** Complaints about the conduct of candidates and other participants in the election, at times alleging a breach of the LG Act or local laws.

2. **The administration of the election.** Complaints about the conduct of the election and services to voters.

The majority of complaints at the 2020 local government elections related to category one, often where the complainant alleged inappropriate or illegal action by another person or group associated with the election.

Complaints process

The VEC operates a streamlined complaints process during elections, developed in consultation with local councils and enforcement agencies. The process requires complaints to be lodged in writing, and they are then processed through the VEC's head office. For the 2020 local government elections, customers were able to provide feedback and complaints through an online submission form on the VEC's website.

Each complaint is evaluated, and an appropriate course of action is determined. Complaints alleging a breach of the LG Act, for example, are forwarded to the Local Government Inspectorate (LGI). Complaints relating to local laws are referred to council. Complaints about the VEC's services or the behaviour or actions of VEC staff and election officials are the responsibility of the VEC. In these cases, the VEC investigates the matter and determines the most appropriate response. The VEC committed to responding to each complaint within five working days, however due to the unanticipated high volume of complaints received this extended in some instances.

Complaints received

The VEC received 40 written complaints relating to the election for Greater Geelong City Council. Please see **Appendix 11** for a description of complaints received by the VEC.

Post-election activities

Storage of election material

All records from the election will be kept by the VEC safely and secretly in accordance with Regulation 79 of the Regulations.

Refund of nomination fees

Nomination fees were refunded to eligible candidates on Thursday 10 December 2020. Eligible candidates included elected candidates or those who received at least 4% of the first preference vote. Any forfeited nomination fees were remitted to Council on 10 December 2020.

Courts and tribunals

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) is responsible for hearing disputes on the validity of an election under section 311 of the LG Act.

Applications for a review of the declaration of the results of an election must be lodged within 14 days of the election and can be made by a candidate in the election, 10 persons who were entitled to vote at the election, or the VEC.

There were no applications to the VCAT disputing the result of the Greater Geelong City Council general election.

Non-voter follow up

In accordance with section 267 of the LG Act, the VEC has commenced its compulsory voting enforcement program. Any person who was required to vote at the election and failed to vote will be issued with an Apparent Failure to Vote Notice. Apparent non-voters have 28 days in which to respond.

People who do not respond to that notice, or do not provide a satisfactory response to the notice, may be issued with an Infringement Notice that will incur a penalty. Further follow-up by way of a Penalty Reminder Notice may also take place – this stage includes the original penalty and a Penalty Reminder Notice fee. Penalties collected on behalf of council will be reimbursed at the end of the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages.

Additionally, during the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages, non-voters may request for their matter to proceed directly to the Magistrates' Court.

Any such requests will be actioned at the conclusion of the Infringement and Penalty Reminder Notice stages. The VEC will lodge the file of any remaining non-voters with Fines Victoria at the conclusion of the Penalty Reminder Notice stage.

Evaluating the VEC's services

The VEC is committed to providing high quality election services to its local government clients. Through the VEC's formal feedback and debriefing program, the VEC is able to gauge its performance and seek advice for future local government election projects.

Feedback from councils

The VEC invited feedback from councils on its services in December 2020. Additional feedback can be provided to the Program Manager for Local Government elections by emailing LGProgram2020@vec.vic.gov.au.

Internal debriefing program

After every electoral event, the VEC conducts an internal debriefing program which includes input from all areas across the VEC's workforce. Internal debriefing following the local government elections commenced in December 2020. In due course, the VEC will publish a consolidated report on its performance and key statistics from the elections. This report will be tabled in Parliament and available on the VEC website.

Schedule 1: Record of ballot papers and declaration envelopes

Greater Geelong City Council Bellarine Ward election	
BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED	
Victorian Electoral Commission	67,000
Election Manager	12
Total	**67,012**
BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED	
General mail out	59,137
Early and replacement votes	1,137
Unenrolled declaration votes	8
Spoilt	0
Sub total	**60,282**
Unused	6,730
Total	**67,012**
DECLARATIONS RETURNED	
General mail out admitted to the extraction	49,736
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	780
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	0
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	1,039
Declarations returned to sender	1,046
Sub total	**52,601**
Declarations not returned	7,681
Total	**60,282**

Greater Geelong City Council Brownbill Ward election	
BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED	
Victorian Electoral Commission	64,000
Election Manager	9
Total	**64,009**
BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED	
General mail out	56,393
Early and replacement votes	1,469
Unenrolled declaration votes	11
Spoilt	0
Sub total	**57,873**
Unused	6,136
Total	**64,009**
DECLARATIONS RETURNED	
General mail out admitted to the extraction	46,414
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	999
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	2
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	1,191
Declarations returned to sender	1,187
Sub total	**49,793**
Declarations not returned	8,080
Total	**57,873**

Greater Geelong City Council Kardinia Ward election	
BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED	
Victorian Electoral Commission	61,000
Election Manager	12
Total	**61,012**
BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED	
General mail out	54,051
Early and replacement votes	1,472
Unenrolled declaration votes	9
Spoilt	0
Sub total	**55,532**
Unused	5,480
Total	**61,012**
DECLARATIONS RETURNED	
General mail out admitted to the extraction	45,539
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	976
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	1
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	945
Declarations returned to sender	1,037
Sub total	**48,498**
Declarations not returned	7,034
Total	**55,532**

Greater Geelong City Council Windermere Ward election	
BALLOT PAPERS PRINTED	
Victorian Electoral Commission	38,500
Election Manager	9
Total	**38,509**
BALLOT PAPERS ISSUED	
General mail out	34,505
Early and replacement votes	599
Unenrolled declaration votes	5
Spoilt	0
Sub total	**35,109**
Unused	3,400
Total	**38,509**
DECLARATIONS RETURNED	
General mail out admitted to the extraction	27,617
Early and replacement votes admitted to the extraction	405
Unenrolled declaration votes admitted to the extraction	2
Returned declarations unable to admit to extraction	795
Declarations returned to sender	580
Sub total	**29,399**
Declarations not returned	5,710
Total	**35,109**

Schedule 2: Certification statement

In accordance with Regulation 77, I certify that Schedule 1 of this report on the conduct of the 2020 Greater Geelong City Council local government election is a true and correct account of the number of ballot papers issued, returned and not used in this election and declarations not returned.



Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commissioner

Appendix 1: Breakdown of the voters' roll

Greater Geelong City Council	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	187,147
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	16,945
Total	**204,092**

Bellarine Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	49,983
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	9,157
Bellarine Ward election total	**59,140**

Brownbill Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	53,470
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	2,923
Brownbill Ward election total	**56,393**

Kardinia Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	51,210
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	2,844
Kardinia Ward election total	**54,054**

Windermere Ward election	
Voters enrolled through an entitlement under section 241 of the LG Act	32,484
Voters enrolled through entitlements under sections 242 – 245 of the LG Act	2,021
Windermere Ward election total	**34,505**

Appendix 2: Statutory advertising

Greater Geelong City Council election schedule of public notices

Close of roll notice (see Appendix 2.1 for example)	
VEC Website	8 August 2020
Bellarine + Armstrong Creek Times	13 August 2020
Geelong Independent	14 August 2020
Geelong Advertiser	13 August 2020

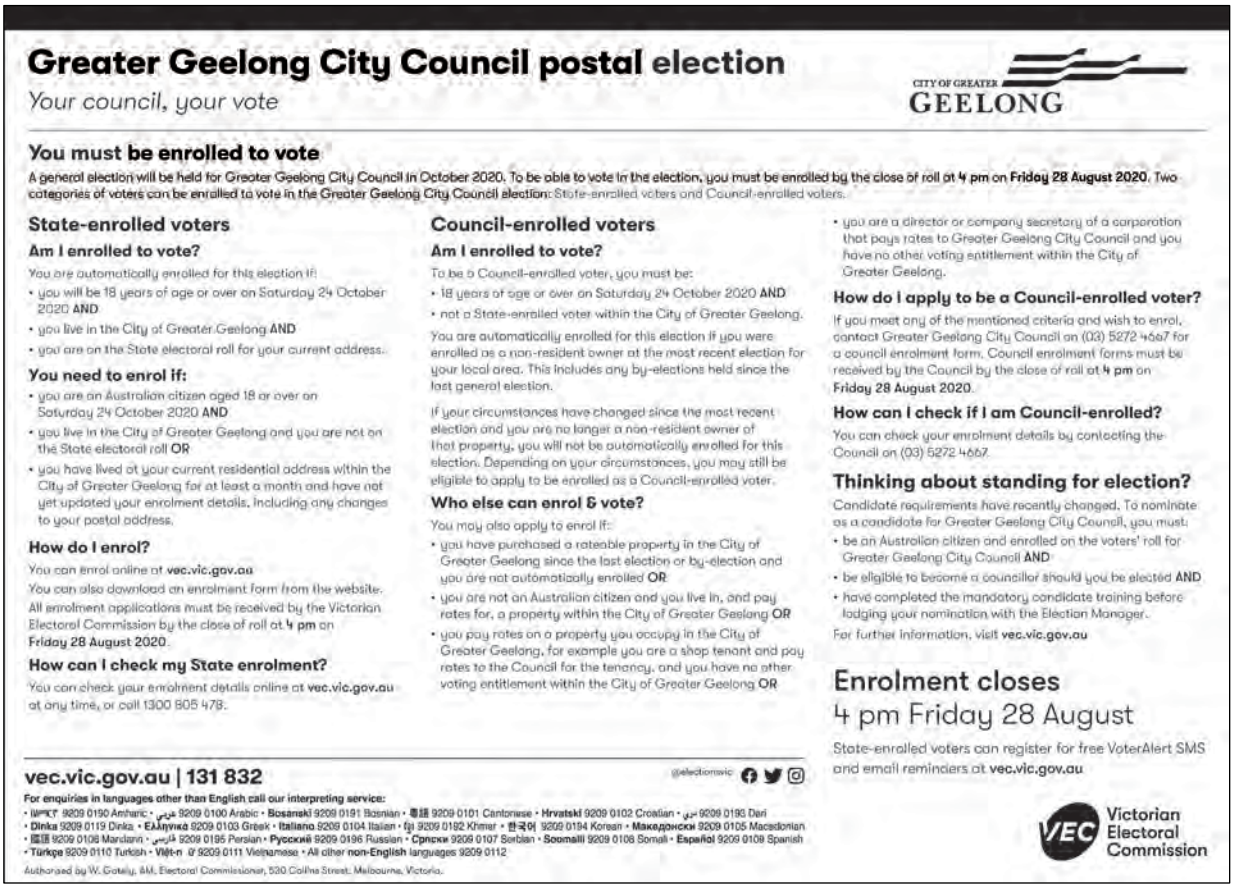
Notice of election (see Appendix 2.2 for example)	
VEC Website	31 August 2020
Bellarine + Armstrong Creek Times	3 September 2020
Geelong Independent	4 September 2020
Geelong Advertiser	3 September 2020

Voting details notice (see Appendix 2.3 for example)	
VEC Website	28 September 2020
Bellarine + Armstrong Creek Times	1 October 2020
Geelong Independent	2 October 2020
Geelong Advertiser	1 October 2020

Reminder notice (see Appendix 2.4 for example)	
VEC Website	12 October 2020
Bellarine + Armstrong Creek Times	15 October 2020
Geelong Independent	16 October 2020
Geelong Advertiser	15 October 2020

Notice of result (see Appendix 2.5 for example)	
VEC Website	23 November 2020
Bellarine + Armstrong Creek Times	26 November 2020
Geelong Independent	27 November 2020
Geelong Advertiser	26 November 2020

Appendix 2.1: Close of roll notice for Greater Geelong City Council



Greater Geelong City Council postal election

Your council, your vote

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

You must be enrolled to vote

A general election will be held for Greater Geelong City Council in October 2020. To be able to vote in the election, you must be enrolled by the close of roll at **4 pm** on **Friday 28 August 2020**. Two categories of voters can be enrolled to vote in the Greater Geelong City Council election: State-enrolled voters and Council-enrolled voters.

State-enrolled voters

Am I enrolled to vote?

You are automatically enrolled for this election if:

- you will be 18 years of age or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 **AND**
- you live in the City of Greater Geelong **AND**
- you are on the State electoral roll for your current address.

You need to enrol if:

- you are an Australian citizen aged 18 or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 **AND**
- you live in the City of Greater Geelong and you are not on the State electoral roll **OR**
- you have lived at your current residential address within the City of Greater Geelong for at least a month and have not yet updated your enrolment details, including any changes to your postal address.

How do I enrol?

You can enrol online at **vec.vic.gov.au**

You can also download an enrolment form from the website.

All enrolment applications must be received by the Victorian Electoral Commission by the close of roll at **4 pm** on **Friday 28 August 2020**.

How can I check my State enrolment?

You can check your enrolment details online at **vec.vic.gov.au** at any time, or call 1300 805 478.

Council-enrolled voters

Am I enrolled to vote?

To be a Council-enrolled voter, you must be:

- 18 years of age or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 **AND**
- not a State-enrolled voter within the City of Greater Geelong.

You are automatically enrolled for this election if you were enrolled as a non-resident owner at the most recent election for your local area. This includes any by-elections held since the last general election.

If your circumstances have changed since the most recent election and you are no longer a non-resident owner of that property, you will not be automatically enrolled for this election. Depending on your circumstances, you may still be eligible to apply to be enrolled as a Council-enrolled voter.

Who else can enrol & vote?

You may also apply to enrol if:

- you have purchased a rateable property in the City of Greater Geelong since the last election or by-election and you are not automatically enrolled **OR**
- you are not an Australian citizen and you live in, and pay rates for, a property within the City of Greater Geelong **OR**
- you pay rates on a property you occupy in the City of Greater Geelong, for example you are a shop tenant and pay rates to the Council for the tenancy, and you have no other voting entitlement within the City of Greater Geelong **OR**
- you are a director or company secretary of a corporation that pays rates to Greater Geelong City Council and you have no other voting entitlement within the City of Greater Geelong.

How do I apply to be a Council-enrolled voter?

If you meet any of the mentioned criteria and wish to enrol, contact Greater Geelong City Council on (03) 5272 4667 for a council enrolment form. Council enrolment forms must be received by the Council by the close of roll at **4 pm** on **Friday 28 August 2020**.

How can I check if I am Council-enrolled?

You can check your enrolment details by contacting the Council on (03) 5272 4667.

Thinking about standing for election?

Candidate requirements have recently changed. To nominate as a candidate for Greater Geelong City Council, you must:

- be an Australian citizen and enrolled on the voters' roll for Greater Geelong City Council **AND**
- be eligible to become a councillor should you be elected **AND**
- have completed the mandatory candidate training before lodging your nomination with the Election Manager.

For further information, visit **vec.vic.gov.au**

Enrolment closes
4 pm Friday 28 August

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at **vec.vic.gov.au**

vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832

@electionsvic

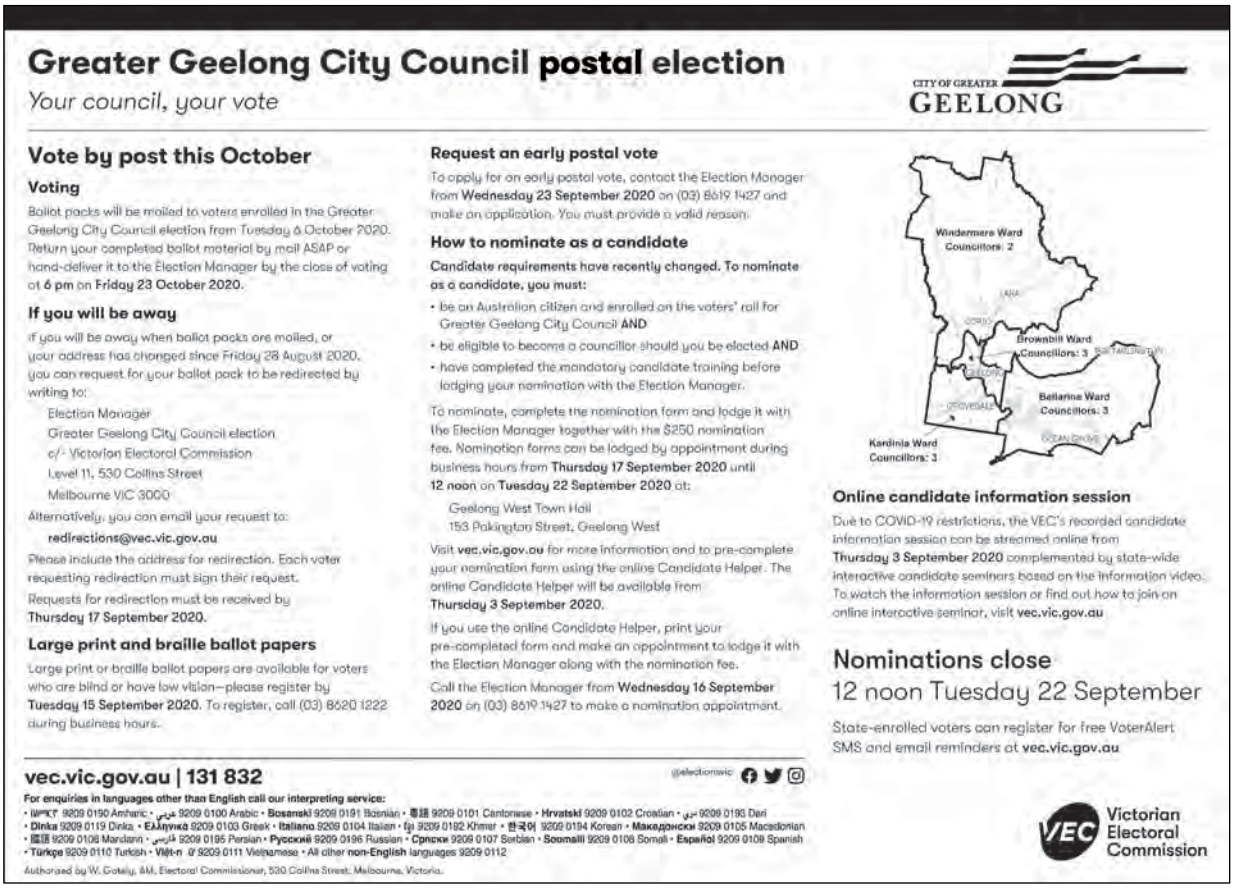
For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• ዐማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • دری 9209 0196 Dari • **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Khmer • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean • **Македонски** 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • **Русский** 9209 0196 Russian • **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Soomaali** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish • **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Việt-n** ữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other **non-English** languages 9209 0112

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 2.2: Notice of election for Greater Geelong City Council



Greater Geelong City Council **postal** election

Your council, your vote

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Vote by post this October

Voting

Ballot packs will be mailed to voters enrolled in the Greater Geelong City Council election from Tuesday 6 October 2020. Return your completed ballot material by mail ASAP or hand-deliver it to the Election Manager by the close of voting at **6 pm** on **Friday 23 October 2020**.

If you will be away

If you will be away when ballot packs are mailed, or your address has changed since Friday 28 August 2020, you can request for your ballot pack to be redirected by writing to:

Election Manager
Greater Geelong City Council election
c/- Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Alternatively, you can email your request to:

redirections@vec.vic.gov.au

Please include the address for redirection. Each voter requesting redirection must sign their request.

Requests for redirection must be received by **Thursday 17 September 2020.**

Large print and braille ballot papers

Large print or braille ballot papers are available for voters who are blind or have low vision—please register by **Tuesday 15 September 2020**. To register, call (03) 8620 1222 during business hours.

Request an early postal vote

To apply for an early postal vote, contact the Election Manager from **Wednesday 23 September 2020** on (03) 8619 1427 and make an application. You must provide a valid reason.

How to nominate as a candidate

Candidate requirements have recently changed. To nominate as a candidate, you must:

- be an Australian citizen and enrolled on the voters' roll for Greater Geelong City Council **AND**
- be eligible to become a councillor should you be elected **AND**
- have completed the mandatory candidate training before lodging your nomination with the Election Manager.

To nominate, complete the nomination form and lodge it with the Election Manager together with the $250 nomination fee. Nomination forms can be lodged by appointment during business hours from **Thursday 17 September 2020** until **12 noon** on **Tuesday 22 September 2020** at:

Geelong West Town Hall
153 Pakington Street, Geelong West

Visit **vec.vic.gov.au** for more information and to pre-complete your nomination form using the online Candidate Helper. The online Candidate Helper will be available from **Thursday 3 September 2020.**

If you use the online Candidate Helper, print your pre-completed form and make an appointment to lodge it with the Election Manager along with the nomination fee.

Call the Election Manager from **Wednesday 16 September 2020** on (03) 8619 1427 to make a nomination appointment.

Online candidate information session

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the VEC's recorded candidate information session can be streamed online from **Thursday 3 September 2020** complemented by state-wide interactive candidate seminars based on the information video. To watch the information session or find out how to join an online interactive seminar, visit **vec.vic.gov.au**

Nominations close
12 noon Tuesday 22 September

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at **vec.vic.gov.au**

vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832

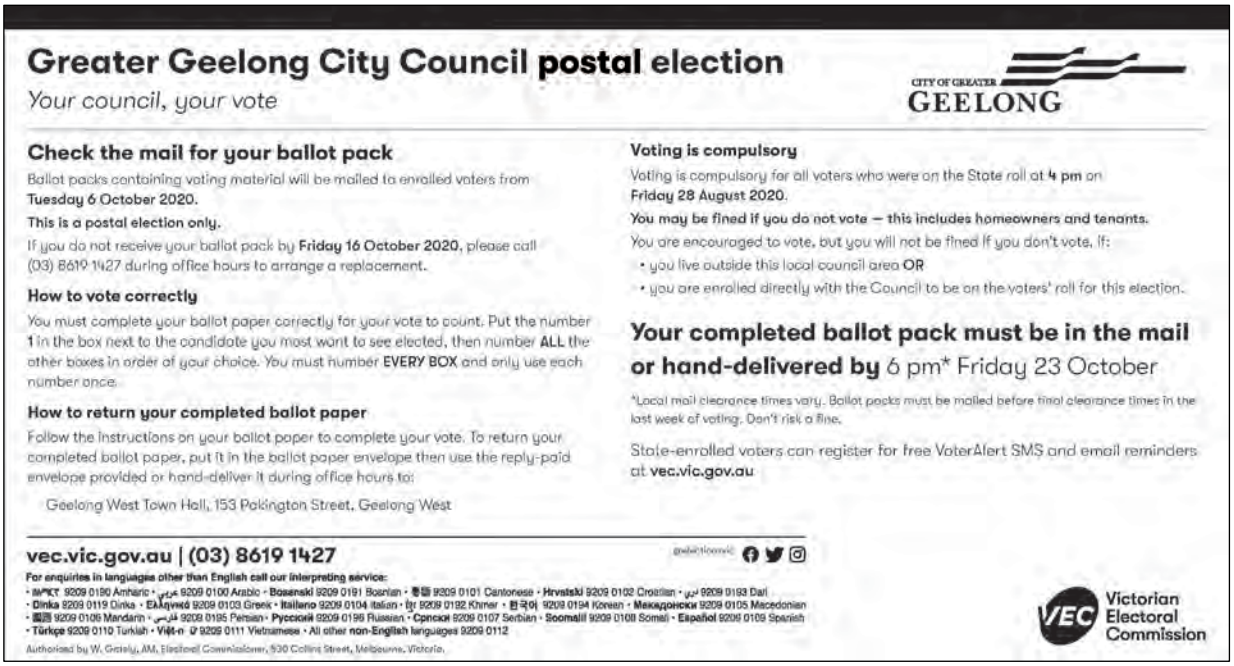
@electionsvic

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
• አማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • دری 9209 0193 Dari • **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Khmer • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean • **Македонски** 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • **Русский** 9209 0196 Russian • **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Soomaali** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish • **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Việt-n** 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other **non-English** languages 9209 0112

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 2.3: Voting details notice for Greater Geelong City Council



Greater Geelong City Council **postal** election

Your council, your vote

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material will be mailed to enrolled voters from **Tuesday 6 October 2020.**

This is a postal election only.

If you do not receive your ballot pack by **Friday 16 October 2020**, please call (03) 8619 1427 during office hours to arrange a replacement.

How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number **1** in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your choice. You must number **EVERY BOX** and only use each number once.

How to return your completed ballot paper

Follow the instructions on your ballot paper to complete your vote. To return your completed ballot paper, put it in the ballot paper envelope then use the reply-paid envelope provided or hand-deliver it during office hours to:

Geelong West Town Hall, 153 Pakington Street, Geelong West

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for all voters who were on the State roll at **4 pm** on **Friday 28 August 2020.**

You may be fined if you do not vote – this includes homeowners and tenants.

You are encouraged to vote, but you will not be fined if you don't vote, if:

- you live outside this local council area **OR**
- you are enrolled directly with the Council to be on the voters' roll for this election.

Your completed ballot pack must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6 pm* Friday 23 October

*Local mail clearance times vary. Ballot packs must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Don't risk a fine.

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at **vec.vic.gov.au**

vec.vic.gov.au | (03) 8619 1427

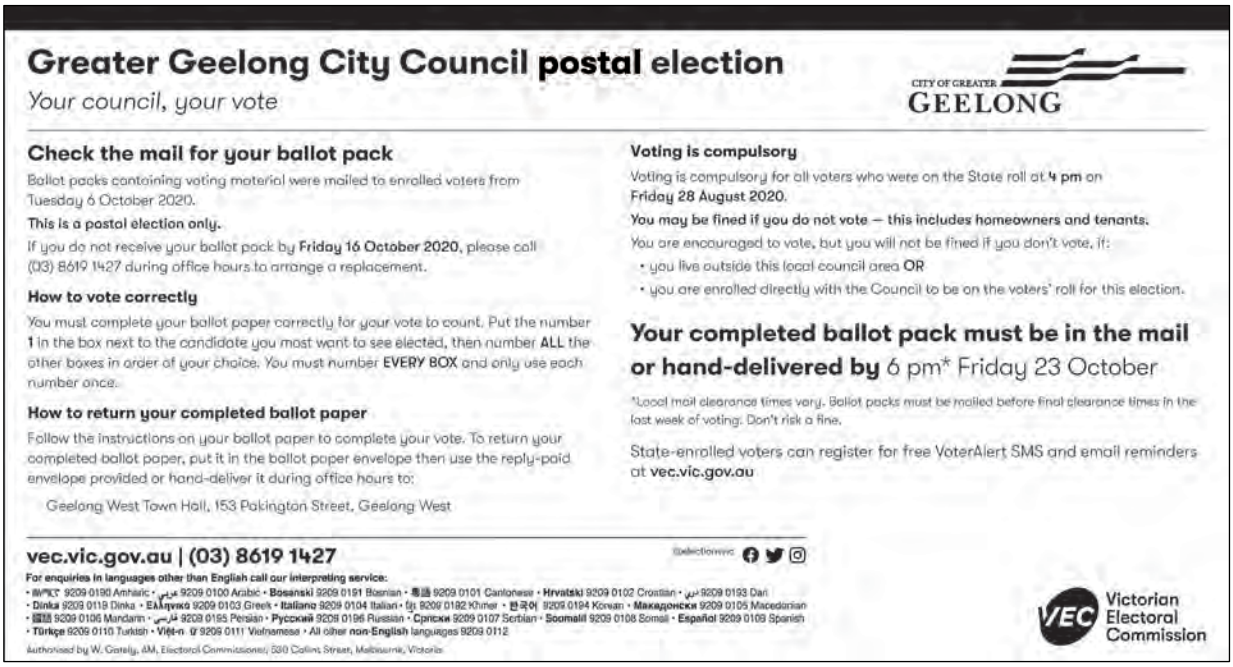
@electionsvic

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
• አማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • دری 9209 0193 Dari • **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Khmer • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean • **Македонски** 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • **Русский** 9209 0196 Russian • **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Soomaali** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish • **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Việt-n** 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other **non-English** languages 9209 0112

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 2.4: Reminder notice for Greater Geelong City Council



Greater Geelong City Council postal election

Your council, your vote

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material were mailed to enrolled voters from Tuesday 6 October 2020.

This is a postal election only.

If you do not receive your ballot pack by **Friday 16 October 2020**, please call (03) 8619 1427 during office hours to arrange a replacement.

How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number **1** in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your choice. You must number **EVERY BOX** and only use each number once.

How to return your completed ballot paper

Follow the instructions on your ballot paper to complete your vote. To return your completed ballot paper, put it in the ballot paper envelope then use the reply-paid envelope provided or hand-deliver it during office hours to:

Geelong West Town Hall, 153 Pakington Street, Geelong West

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for all voters who were on the State roll at **4 pm** on **Friday 28 August 2020.**

You may be fined if you do not vote – this includes homeowners and tenants.

You are encouraged to vote, but you will not be fined if you don't vote, if:

- you live outside this local council area **OR**
- you are enrolled directly with the Council to be on the voters' roll for this election.

Your completed ballot pack must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6 pm* Friday 23 October

*Local mail clearance times vary. Ballot packs must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Don't risk a fine.

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at **vec.vic.gov.au**

vec.vic.gov.au | (03) 8619 1427

@electionsvic

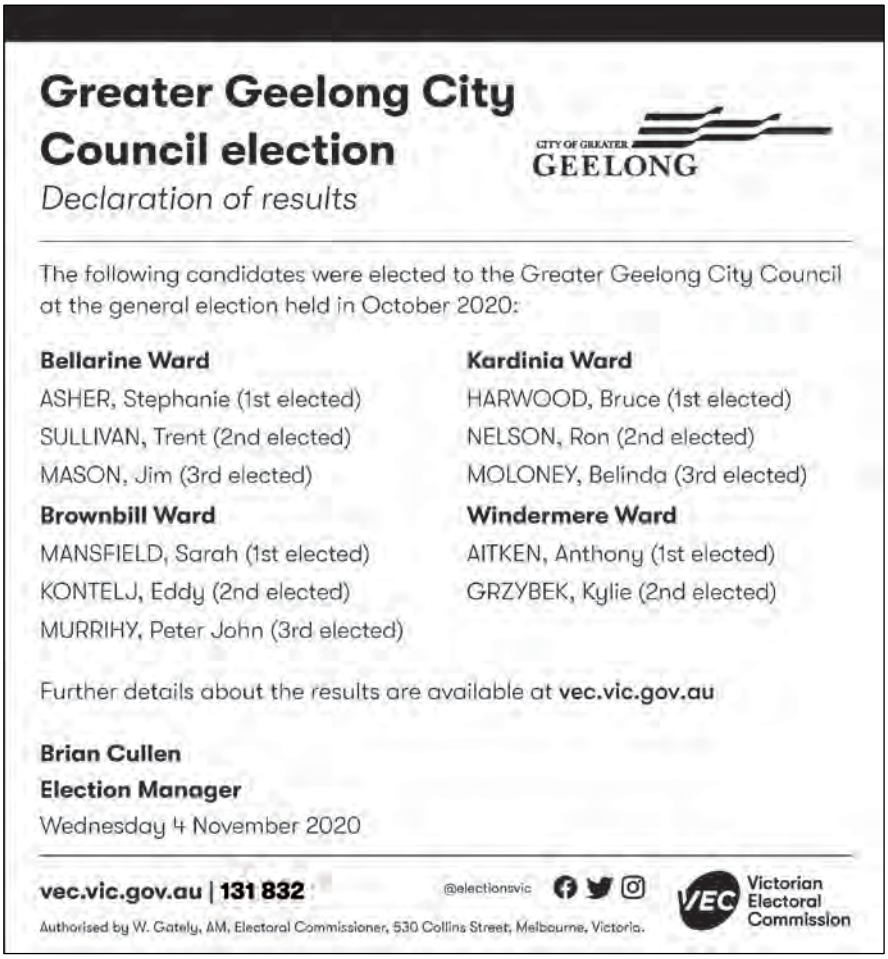
For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• ዐማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • دری 9209 0193 Dari • **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0182 Khmer • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean • **Македонски** 9209 0105 Macedonian • 普通话 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • **Русский** 9209 0196 Russian • **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Soomalii** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish • **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Việt-n** ữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other **non-English** languages 9209 0112

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 2.5: Notice of results for Greater Geelong City Council



Greater Geelong City Council election

Declaration of results

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

The following candidates were elected to the Greater Geelong City Council at the general election held in October 2020:

Bellarine Ward

ASHER, Stephanie (1st elected)
SULLIVAN, Trent (2nd elected)
MASON, Jim (3rd elected)

Brownbill Ward

MANSFIELD, Sarah (1st elected)
KONTELJ, Eddy (2nd elected)
MURRIHY, Peter John (3rd elected)

Kardinia Ward

HARWOOD, Bruce (1st elected)
NELSON, Ron (2nd elected)
MOLONEY, Belinda (3rd elected)

Windermere Ward

AITKEN, Anthony (1st elected)
GRZYBEK, Kylie (2nd elected)

Further details about the results are available at **vec.vic.gov.au**

Brian Cullen
Election Manager
Wednesday 4 November 2020

vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832

@electionsvic

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix 3: Schedule of media releases and advisories

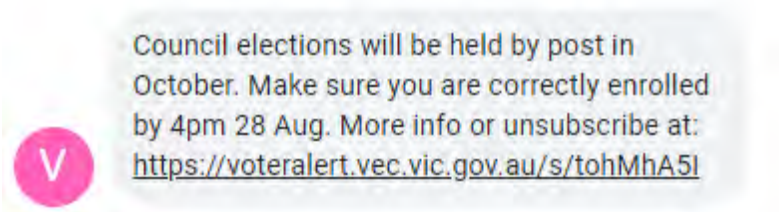
Greater Geelong City Council Council-specific media releases and advisories	
Enrol now for the Greater Geelong City Council election	7 August 2020
Call for candidates for the upcoming Greater Geelong City Council election	24 August 2020
Candidates announced for the Greater Geelong City Council election	23 September 2020
Ballot packs mailed this week for Greater Geelong City Council election	5 October 2020
Voting closes soon for the Greater Geelong City Council election	12 October 2020
New councillors for Greater Geelong City Council	4 November 2020

Statewide media releases and advisories	
Victorians urged to enrol for upcoming council elections	7 August 2020
October local council elections to proceed under COVIDSafe election plan	19 August 2020
Last chance to enrol for Victorian council elections	21 August 2020
Enrolment closes tomorrow for October's council elections	26 August 2020
Nominations open soon for Victorian local council elections	31 August 2020
Council election information one click away on VEC website	4 September 2020
Accessing candidate information for the 2020 Victorian local council elections	14 September 2020
Victorian voters encouraged to sign up for free election reminders	16 September 2020
Nominations are in for the October council elections	23 September 2020
Authority granted for postal vote contingency	30 September 2020
Voting underway for Victoria's local council elections	5 October 2020
Mobile numbers not from VEC	12 October 2020
Local council elections voting deadline looms	19 October 2020
Strong voter response to local council elections	20 October 2020
Results timeline for Victorian local council elections (media advisory, not for publication)	21 October 2020
Final day of voting shows high voter turnout for council elections	23 October 2020
VEC won't risk public health for quick results in record turnout	28 October 2020
A win for democracy in a challenging year	13 November 2020
Didn't vote in the election? Please explain.	8 February 2021

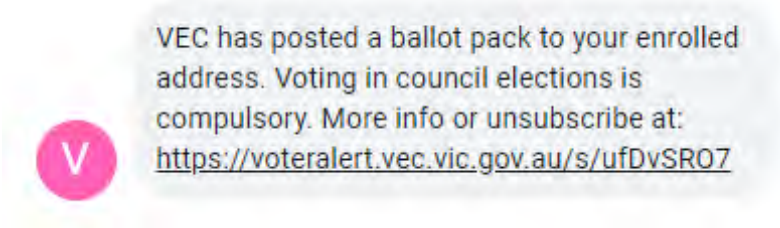
Appendix 4: VoterAlert advisories

Appendix 4.1: SMS alerts

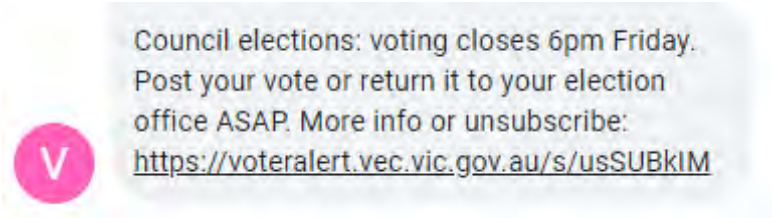
4.1.1 close of roll – sent from Wednesday 19 August to Wednesday 26 August 2020



4.1.2 mail out of ballot pack Friday 9 October to Friday 13 October 2020

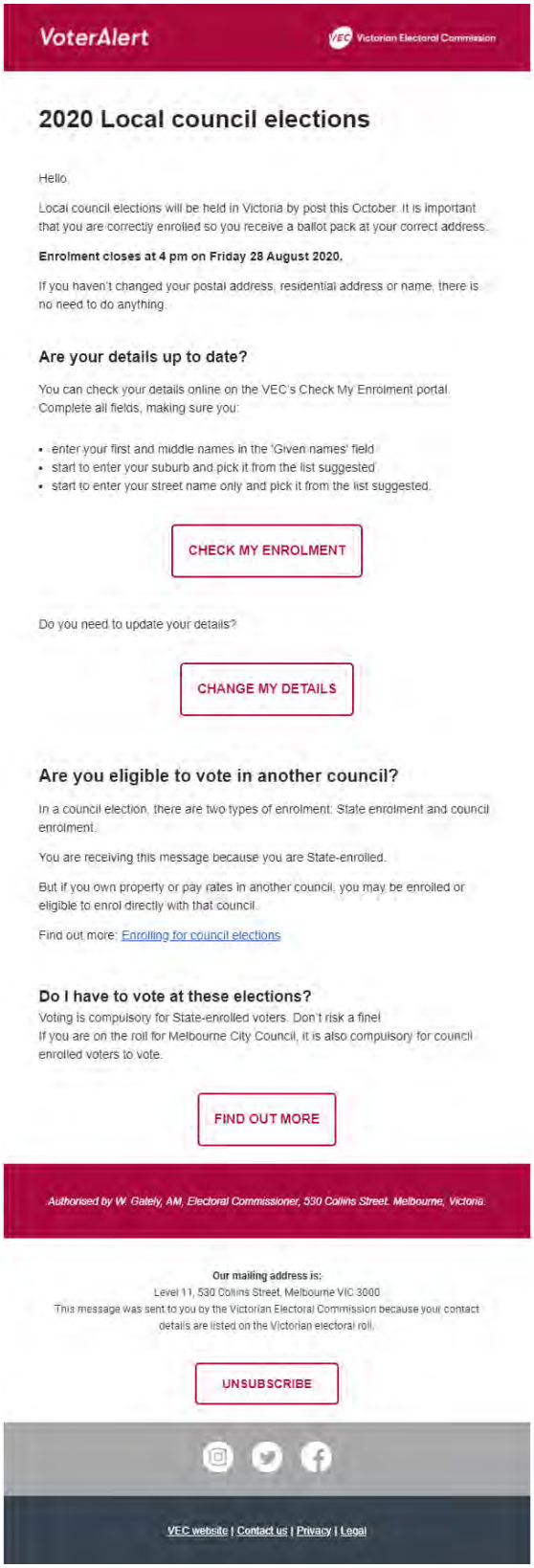


4.1.3 reminder close of voting - Monday 19 October 2020



Appendix 4.2: Email alerts

4.2.1 Close of roll email



VoterAlert

Victorian Electoral Commission

2020 Local council elections

Hello.

Local council elections will be held in Victoria by post this October. It is important that you are correctly enrolled so you receive a ballot pack at your correct address.

Enrolment closes at 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020.

If you haven't changed your postal address, residential address or name, there is no need to do anything.

Are your details up to date?

You can check your details online on the VEC's Check My Enrolment portal. Complete all fields, making sure you:

- enter your first and middle names in the 'Given names' field
- start to enter your suburb and pick it from the list suggested
- start to enter your street name only and pick it from the list suggested.

CHECK MY ENROLMENT

Do you need to update your details?

CHANGE MY DETAILS

Are you eligible to vote in another council?

In a council election, there are two types of enrolment: State enrolment and council enrolment.

You are receiving this message because you are State-enrolled.

But if you own property or pay rates in another council, you may be enrolled or eligible to enrol directly with that council.

Find out more: Enrolling for council elections

Do I have to vote at these elections?

Voting is compulsory for State-enrolled voters. Don't risk a fine!
If you are on the roll for Melbourne City Council, it is also compulsory for council enrolled voters to vote.

FIND OUT MORE

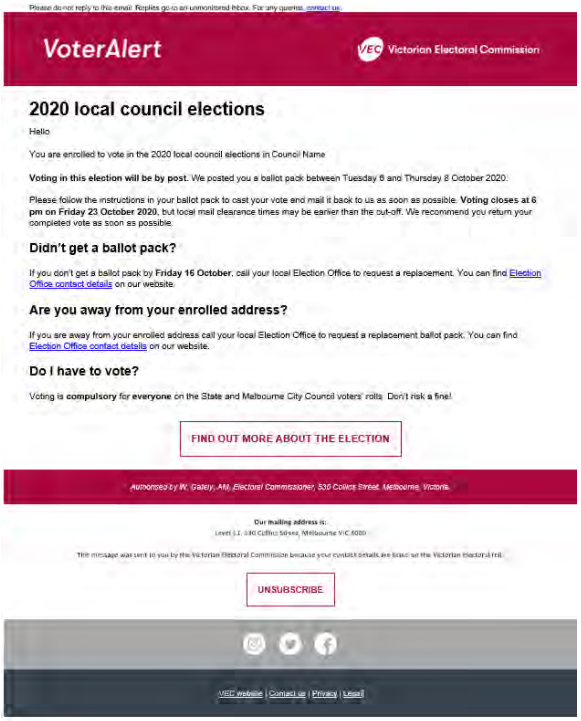
Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Our mailing address is:
Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
This message was sent to you by the Victorian Electoral Commission because your contact details are listed on the Victorian electoral roll.

UNSUBSCRIBE

VEC website | Contact us | Privacy | Legal

4.2.2 Ballot Pack mailout email



Please do not reply to this email. Replies go to an unmonitored inbox. For any queries, contact us.

VoterAlert

Victorian Electoral Commission

2020 local council elections

Hello

You are enrolled to vote in the 2020 local council elections in Council Name

Voting in this election will be by post. We posted you a ballot pack between Tuesday 6 and Thursday 8 October 2020.

Please follow the instructions in your ballot pack to cast your vote and mail it back to us as soon as possible. **Voting closes at 6 pm on Friday 23 October 2020**, but local mail clearance times may be earlier than the cut-off. We recommend you return your completed vote as soon as possible.

Didn't get a ballot pack?

If you don't get a ballot pack by **Friday 16 October**, call your local Election Office to request a replacement. You can find Election Office contact details on our website.

Are you away from your enrolled address?

If you are away from your enrolled address call your local Election Office to request a replacement ballot pack. You can find Election Office contact details on our website.

Do I have to vote?

Voting is **compulsory** for **everyone** on the State and Melbourne City Council voters' rolls. Don't risk a fine!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ELECTION

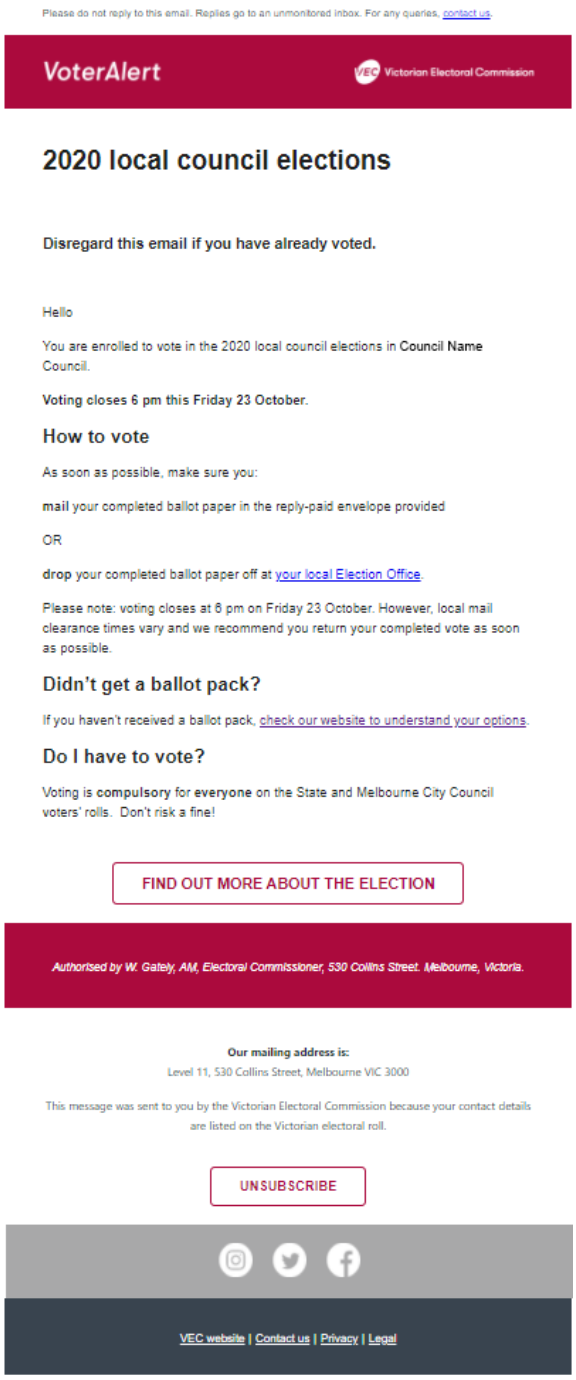
Authorised by W. Gately, Vic. Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Our mailing address is:

UNSUBSCRIBE

VEC website | Contact us | Privacy | Legal

4.2.3 Last week to vote email



Please do not reply to this email. Replies go to an unmonitored inbox. For any queries, contact us.

VoterAlert — Victorian Electoral Commission

2020 local council elections

Disregard this email if you have already voted.

Hello

You are enrolled to vote in the 2020 local council elections in **Council Name** Council.

Voting closes 6 pm this Friday 23 October.

How to vote

As soon as possible, make sure you:

mail your completed ballot paper in the reply-paid envelope provided

OR

drop your completed ballot paper off at your local Election Office.

Please note: voting closes at 6 pm on Friday 23 October. However, local mail clearance times vary and we recommend you return your completed vote as soon as possible.

Didn't get a ballot pack?

If you haven't received a ballot pack, check our website to understand your options.

Do I have to vote?

Voting is **compulsory** for **everyone** on the State and Melbourne City Council voters' rolls. Don't risk a fine!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ELECTION

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street. Melbourne, Victoria.

Our mailing address is:
Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

This message was sent to you by the Victorian Electoral Commission because your contact details are listed on the Victorian electoral roll.

UNSUBSCRIBE

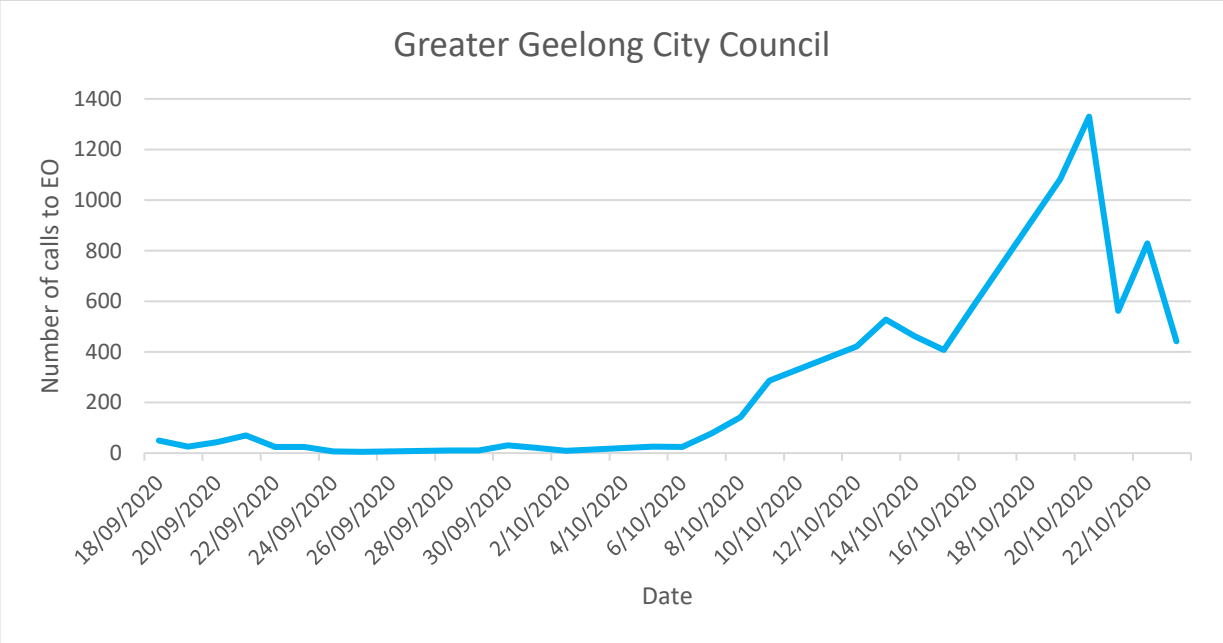
VEC website | Contact us | Privacy | Legal

Appendix 5: Voter engagement program and initiatives

Program	Program Details
Be Heard Democracy Ambassador program	This program normally provides face-to-face electoral education sessions and was adapted to an online delivery model, providing peer-led electoral education to residents in specialist disability services and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. A total of 47 sessions were provided to people with disabilities and a total of 80 sessions were provided to CALD communities through councils and community organisations hosting online sessions.
Myth busting campaign.	This offline campaign addressed myths around enrolling and voting for those experiencing homelessness or with unstable housing. Four myths were dispelled and displayed on billboards and street posters, in metropolitan Melbourne areas with high populations of people experiencing homelessness. During the enrolment period, no-fixed-address enrolment forms were distributed with 4,500 meals to those suffering financial hardship, through a sponsorship with StreetSmart. This partnership included social media and Electronic Direct Mail distribution to StreetSmart's database of homeless services and community partners. A 1800 freecall number was also established to support those with financial hardship to provide support for enrolling and voting. This phone number was advertised on posters distributed through homelessness agencies, drug and alcohol services and services providing COVID-19 testing in hotels.
CALD in-language social media videos.	This project produced a series of three videos in 10-12 different languages which provided electoral information on how to enrol, how to vote by post, and how to respond to an Apparent Failure to Vote Notice. These were widely distributed and shared through the VEC's social media platforms and community networks.
Aboriginal short videos.	This project produced five videos in collaboration with Reconciliation Victoria. Two videos featured Aboriginal Elders and other leading Aboriginal community members discussing the value and ways to engage with local council elections. A further three videos, using culturally relevant animation, explained what services councils are responsible for, how to vote and the role of a councillor. These were shared through Aboriginal community channels and organisations.
DemGraphics young people co-designed social media project.	This project involved conducting research to identify barriers to enrolling and voting with a diverse group of young people. This information was then used to pilot a social media campaign in selected councils to encourage engagement in the elections for those aged 18-29.
Easy English tutor guide and worksheets.	These were produced for people with low English proficiency and designed as a co-read product where a person supports the learner through the worksheets. The tutor guide and worksheets were based on the VEC's Easy English guides for local council elections and were available for download from the VEC's website in PDF and Word formats.

Appendix 6: Daily telephone enquiries

The following graph shows the number of telephone calls recorded by the election office telephone enquiry service including those received by the VEC's overflow call centre and tagged as relating to Greater Geelong City Council during the 2020 local government elections.



Appendix 7: Final list of candidates in ballot paper order

Greater Geelong City Council election

The candidates, in ballot paper order, were as follows:

Bellarine Ward election
O'CONNOR, Tom
WILKINSON, Elise
ASHER, Stephanie
SULLIVAN, Trent
ADAMS, Naomi
MASON, Jim
FAIRWEATHER, Michael
WOLVERTON, Cory
HARRISON, Tom
SIMMONDS, Stephen John

Brownbill Ward election
DWYER, Sandi
FRANKE, Bernie
CSAR, Alex
MURRIHY, Peter John
KONTELJ, Stretch
MANSFIELD, Sarah
KONTELJ, Eddy
WENYIKA, Gabriel
HOPE, Dean Frederick
HEHIR, Louis
RODRIGUEZ, Jose
CADWELL, Melissa

Kardinia Ward election
WILLIAMS, Jack
NELSON, Ron
RICHARDS, Andy
MURNANE, Pat
SINGH, Atamjit
MOLONEY, Belinda
HAMILTON-SMITH, Anthony
HARWOOD, Bruce
ALEXANDER, Andrew
BRUNGER, Mark
GAMBLE, Jen
STANGEL, Michael

Windermere Ward election
HAQUE, Enamul
GRZYBEK, Kylie
CONNELL, Monique
AITKEN, Anthony
HATHWAY, Sarah

Appendix 7.1: Candidate statements and photographs

Greater Geelong City Council election

Bellarine Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.1 for candidate statement leaflet)		
Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
10	9	10

Brownbill Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.2 for candidate statement leaflet)		
Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
12	12	11

Kardinia Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.3 for candidate statement leaflet)		
Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
12	12	12

Windermere Ward election (see Appendix 7.2.4 for candidate statement leaflet)		
Total number of candidates at close of nominations	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate statement	Number of candidates that lodged a candidate photograph
5	5	5

Appendix 7.2: Candidate statement leaflets

Appendix 7.2.1: Candidate statement leaflet for Bellarine Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.
Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:

Geelong West Town Hall
153 Pakington Street
Geelong West

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY

You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2020 Council Election

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM
Friday 23 October 2020



Bellarine Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1427 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

Printed on 100% Australian made recycled stock

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



O'CONNOR, Tom

In 2017 the Greater Geelong Clever and Creative Future long-term community vision, its purpose and values, were developed with over 16,000 people identifying and articulating community aspirations and outcomes such that by 2047 Greater Geelong would be internationally recognised as a clever and creative city-region forward looking, enterprising, adaptive, and caring for its people and environment. The singular purpose of the Vision was working together for a thriving community with four supporting values being to respect and encourage each other; to create a healthy and safe environment for all; to embrace new ideas and better ways to work; and to make people the centre of our business. Following on from this vision and as co-founder of the Bellarine Community Council, in 2018 I initiated and co-ordinated the Plan Bellarine project, with the aim of more effectively engaging our community, both individuals and organisations, towards the development and improved understanding of our local issues by both local and State government bodies. Prior to and since, I have continued working with community leaders, investor groups, Geelong Council management and staff, and the relevant State Government Ministerial groups and staff, on projects ranging from repurposing of the Drysdale Waste facility, availability of recycled water for our rural community, the protection of our coastline and marine flora and fauna through offshore reefs, the increase of employment opportunities within our tourism industry, facilitation of and support for the needs of those less fortunate, and many more community focussed activities. I look forward to your support in this upcoming election and, should I be succesful, your further support to ensure Council's Clever and Creative vision becomes a reality such that as a community we will all share the rewards today and far into the future. Yours sincerely. Tom O'Connor / Candidate for the Bellarine Ward

1

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



WILKINSON, Elise

Australia has one of the highest greenhouse gas emissions per capita in the world; and Geelong Council is the biggest regional council in Victoria. This means every decision we make here will either increase global warming or reduce it. We have enormous responsibility and power, when we put climate first. Our Council needs change. We acted immediately with COVID, and we must do the same with climate. It is an emergency. We also need to support each other and work together. We need our Council to adapt, invest and lead. We can reach our goals to reverse global warming in Geelong and everywhere when enough of us make the shift to put climate first in every decision: roads, rubbish and rates; the arts, heritage and culture; economic development; education and training; health and wellbeing; environmental planning and services; sport and recreation; and transport. In responding to an emergency, the wellbeing of all citizens and the whole environment is essential. I will hold Council to account to put climate first. This means saying no to behaviours, projects, industries and business as usual that make things worse and yes to smart urban and rural design, for buildings, businesses and communities, focused on water, energy, food, transport, waste and consumption, that creates jobs, regenerates nature and enriches lives. We can all participate in building solutions. We can be the first Council that truly mobilises, speeding up our climate response on a regional scale, to create an organisation that inspires others to follow. I want to become involved at a local level to make our Council accountable and transparent to all communities in Geelong, now and in the future. Working together we can build a safe, prosperous future for all.

2

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



ASHER, Stephanie

I was honoured to be elected to council in 2017 by the Bellarine community and by my fellow councillors as Mayor of Greater Geelong in 2019. As Mayor, I have led an exceptionally well-functioning council through the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the first time a Geelong Mayor has been from the Bellarine and hopefully not the last. If re-elected to represent my community, I will continue to ensure Bellarine Ward voices are heard and that our rates go towards much-needed facilities like shared trails, swimming pools, libraries, arts venues, decent roads and local streetscapes. I am also determined that our beautiful peninsula is protected, respected and not over-developed. I led the creation of both policy and real action on sustainability to make sure all council activities are looked at and managed in terms of environmental, social and financial impacts and opportunities. As Mayor and Councillor, I have been particularly well supported by my Portarlington-based colleague Trent Sullivan, on this and also in making the federally-funded North Bellarine pool a reality. We have also successfully driven development of the Drysdale Sporting Precinct and delivered a 10-year shared trails master plan, starting with a separate path along 13th Beach Road in 2021. Critically for the Bellarine, we endorsed the Settlement Strategy in 2020 which limits new residential developments outside defined town boundaries. The 2021 focus must be on supporting businesses crippled by the pandemic response, and helping create employment opportunities. We must ensure City of Greater Geelong activities are transparent and accessible, that performance is measured and publicly reported, and that Geelongs reputation appeals to tourists, investors and employers. I love helping people with council issues and, with three teenagers, multiple pets and a family-owned management consultancy, I want see to our beautiful Bellarine region continue to thrive. Professional details at stephanieasher.com.au

3

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



SULLIVAN, Trent

Bellarine residents deserve more services and infrastructure. As your representative Ive delivered funding for a new Pool, Childcare centres, Sporting reserves, Community Hubs, School Safety upgrades, Senior Citizen Centres, New playgrounds, Streetscapes and I will keep fighting for more! I Locked in our Town Boundaries to preserve our Green Breaks to stop suburb sprawl and keep the Bellarine beautiful! Bellarine Ratepayers deserve as much return on their hard-earned dollars as inner-city Geelong residents receive. If re-elected I promise to fight for a greater share of funding for the Bellarine, we need better roads and more footpaths, I will advocate strongly for safer road shoulders and maintenance. Post COVID our community needs more support than ever, I have secured funding for our local events and tourism industry which is vital to our beautiful region, fee relief and support for small businesses, increased grant money to community groups, Arts Culture & Heritage funding for employment skills and opportunities. We need to be Clever & Creative about our Future, we all live in the Bellarine for what it has to offer, we can increase opportunities and support right here without sacrificing what we already have. I will protect our environment and bring sustainability to all of councils decision making. The community must always come first in council decision making and if I have the honour of being re-elected I will continue to always fight for community consultation on the big issues before council! I am a proud member of the Liberal Party. I respectfully ask for your Vote, 1 - Sullivan,Trent

4

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



ADAMS, Naomi

No Statement Submitted

5

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



MASON, Jim

Since my election in 2017 as a Bellarine Ward Councilor, I have worked energetically for the Municipality, engaging enthusiastically in many, varied council activities. I support COVID-19 Recovery Packages which will enable an early return to the 30-Year Vision and Council Plan 2018-22 in 2021. This includes fostering an inclusive, safe and healthy community, effective environmental management and planned, sustainable development. I have advocated vigorously for the wide ranging needs of the Bellarine. These include protecting rural and coastal environments, maintaining the unique character of our townships and developing connected shared pathways. Improving sporting facilities, social, cultural and lifestyle amenities and providing better opportunities for our youth are high on my priorities. I maintained high attendance and resilience at Council meetings and the 18 portfolios and committees which I served on. This has effectively been my full-time job. Raised on The Bellarine, I completed my Tertiary Studies in Civil Engineering and International Relations in Geelong. I have rich and diverse leadership experience, in Australia and overseas. Since re-settling on the Bellarine in 1999 I have been an active member of the community. I always work in an independent and consultative way. I believe in team work and only support ethical practices. I will apply social, business and scientific data to decision making. My skills were developed and refined through my international humanitarian work, where I led large disaster recovery programs. It is vital for Council to continue with a programme that ensures local and global climate action integrated with environmentally sustainable housing, business and recreational development. It must continue to encourage best practice in agriculture. If re-elected I will consult, consider and act for what is best for the Bellarine. No town or district will be left out. Please visit my website for more information. www.jimmason.com.au

6

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



FAIRWEATHER, Michael

If elected I will focus on listening to and representing everyone on the Bellarine fairly. Working for local business to recover and grow and improve sporting and social contact with council. Help resolve public transport issues as well as assist tourism to grow, and especially work for more fairer rates and fees for residents.

7

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



WOLVERTON, Cory

A social worker, father of two young children and local resident for the past decade, I am proud to be a Greens-Endorsed Candidate for Bellarine Ward in the Greater Geelong City Council election. The Bellarine continues to grow in population, as more people are drawn to this beautiful part of the world. My vision is to keep our community a desirable place to live, but with an appropriate strategic vision for town boundaries, community facilities, public transport, walking and bike paths and improved public spaces for leisure activities. I am also keen to see Council take on green, renewable ideas and make them a pillar within Council, while incentivising businesses to do the same. I stand with the Greens because I am concerned about environmental degradation and the dire need to create a sustainable future. If elected, my priorities will be: 1) Adequate access to community health programs, particularly youth support programs to help young people overcome challenges relating to mental health, education, family and peer relationships. 2) Environmental sustainability through renewable energy projects and careful land management that protects biodiversity in our coastal areas, wetlands and reserves. 3) Innovative urban design to increase walking and bike paths and improve public spaces. I recognise that we live in Wadda Wurrung country and believe that by listening to local Indigenous people, more can be done in understanding how to care for the land and people. Please contact me at cory.wolverton@vic.greens.org.au. Vote [1] Cory Wolverton for a strong voice for community wellbeing and our environment.

8

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HARRISON, Tom

G'day everyone. My name is Tom Harrison. I'm 22 years old and a proud Bellarine resident. I have decided to run as a candidate because I am keen to make a positive contribution to our community. I have a passion for sport, particularly golf, and grew up playing golf at the many wonderful golf courses the Bellarine offers. Through this time on the golf course, I've had the opportunity to develop friendships with many local members. I have been a youth leader in the Geelong region since 2017. I am a people person and have had extensive experience interacting with people of all ages and walks of life. I am hoping to implement these skills within the council to be a well connected councillor who focuses on listening and engaging with the community, and making decisions that act in the best interests of the people on the Bellarine. As your local representative, I will seek to be a strong voice that represents the ward. I believe the immediate focus for council should be on a post COVID recovery. I think this should include extra support for local businesses, improved and new infrastructure and supporting the local tourism industry. I will also promote sustainable development, ensuring appropriate infrastructure within the region while protecting our natural environment. I will be active and energetic in enhancing the Bellarine way of life for all residents. Vote 1 Tom Harrison, for an even greater Geelong.

9

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



SIMMONDS, Stephen John

I am 51 years old, married with one daughter and I want to do everything I can to make Geelong great again! Great for families, great for visitors and business. We need change! Have the current and previous councils actually worked for you? Do you feel Geelong is a better place than it was 5 years ago, 10 years ago? Are we going in the right direction? Same old decision makers making the same old decisions. Stop council waste, return to free parking everywhere, free hard waste collection, More libraries and library services not less, more and improved parks for families to enjoy and more support for families that need it, when they need it. Keep boat ramps free and value, celebrate and promote our glorious waterways. We need new saleyard facilities for poultry and large livestock, more bike lanes but not at the loss of traffic lanes or parking and a program for removal of traffic lights and build roundabouts throughout the region. We need better planning and development to give more weight to future needs. We need to slow down development until adequate provision of infrastructure is made. The current system is clearly failing with ever increasing traffic problems throughout the region and the only solution seems to be a speed hump here, a traffic light there, parking meters everywhere. I want accountability returned to public office! We need a better broadband network and need a council to make this happen. We need more off leash dog areas, we need dedicated motocross tracks to return after the closure of existing facilities over the years followed by endless promises to relocate. I am a member of RGYC, and have worked in both the public and private sectors and established and ran a successful small business based in Geelong.

10

Appendix 7.2.2: Candidate statement leaflet for Brownbill Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.
Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:

Geelong West Town Hall
153 Pakington Street
Geelong West

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY

You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2020 Council Election

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM Friday 23 October 2020



Brownbill Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1427 during business hours.

Victorian Electoral Commission

Printed on 100% Australian made recycled stock

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



DWYER, Sandi

Put Climate First! The situation regarding Climate Change on Earth now requires immediate action. Over time, big business with their headquarters outside our city have had too much influence over decision making here while many sectors of the community feel their needs and the needs of the environment have gone unheard. It doesn't have to be a competition for the Earth's resources. I will contribute to a presence in local government that hears the concerns of every level of humanity and works to provide practical solutions to free ourselves and change course. Scientists tell us that the solutions to regenerate and restore the planet's atmosphere are already available and there are people already offering solutions. We just need people in Council with the humility to listen to them, and the courage to act on their advice. New and exciting employment opportunities and business development will flow naturally from this as we localise infrastructure for water, energy, food, transport, waste and consumption. Known innovative agricultural practices that will supply an abundance of affordable, organic, and biodynamic foods can be initiated. We've got this! It's time for us to step up and take responsibility for creating the best possible future.

1

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.

No Photo Submitted

FRANKE, Bernie

Sick of the same old and want someone to ask some hard questions every once in a while? Questions such as what has happened to core council functions like orderly planning? Recently council tried to put the cart before the horse in wanting to close city streets and lose even more parking in order to turn Geelong business areas into pedestrian and cycling nirvana. Without resolving the crucial east to west traffic issue first. The growing council corporation builds itself a new palace in the sky with your ever-growing rates but the aged and disabled now wait long months to get some council home care to help keep them at home. Rates for no service? Tip fees keep going up and up and councillors scratch their heads wondering why dumping is now epidemic. Perhaps it time to ask what sort of local democracy we have when the full council can pass a resolution on the future of the Fyansford tip, but it is somehow never implemented. Council said the tip was nearly full and engaged the local community in a series of meetings for the site rehabilitation but now it seems to both old and new Fyansford residents that the tip can never be closed. With local planning like this, will your suburb be next? At best, the key local government function of orderly planning seems to be out to lunch. I am an ordinary wage and salary earner with two kids in school, a general nurse working in the community with real people. I can see both sides as I also work in our small family business.

2

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



CSAR, Alex

I am a husband, father and passionate cyclist, happily living in Herne Hill. My family and I have lived in Herne Hill, and we have lived within Brownbill ward and its predecessor for nine years. Our daughters attend school locally, and our family have established firm roots in this community through various activities. I believe that Greater Geelong should do more for those in our community. Council should care for more than just the centre of Geelong, expanding its vision beyond Latrobe Terrace and Garden Street. Brownbill is a bigger place than this: from Fyansford to Newcomb, from Bell Post Hill to St Albans Park, and its councillors should reflect and represent the entirety of the ward. I will be that councillor. I want Council to pay more than lip service to active transport, with a strong network of protected cycling routes to encourage more people within the ward out of their cars. I believe that Council should do more for pet owners with a clear strategy of services and infrastructure. It should also make it easier for pet owners to register their animals by extending concession rates beyond just pensioners to all concession cardholders. Central Geelong should continue to be a destination for all people of Geelong. I want buses to continue to be useful for all people by keeping them in Moorabool Street, and I want the Green Spine to not only survive but thrive and extend across the CBD. I want Council to abide by its commitments to partnerships with State Government to ensure the investment we need can be made with confidence. I want a Greater Geelong council that truly looks after the people because it is the people who truly make Geelong greater.

3

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



MURRIHY, Peter John

A former Police Prosecutor, I left the force to help raise our family. With my daughters now adults, I have the time, focus and energy to continue to become more involved in the COGG community. My community involvement already includes St Marys Sporting Club (Life Member), Newtown and Chilwell Football Netball Club (former Senior Football Coach and Junior Netball Coach), Geelong Amateurs (former Senior Coach), current President of the Geelong Racing Club, former President and current active Patrol member of the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club and a member of the Geelong Environment Council. I am a proud participant of The Mans Walk and a founding committee member of Right Mate, which both provide support for and focus on Mens Mental Health. I am an independent candidate with no political affiliations which I think is so important at the grass roots level of local government. I have and will continue to offer a totally independent voice on Council and work tirelessly by using a common-sense approach to how I believe the community sees issues. There has never been a more important time to be a Councillor representing all Residents and Ratepayers as we attempt to recover from the Covid-19 Pandemic. With the huge impact on our lives, I will strive to seek ways to support businesses and all residents of our Region in all aspects of life. There is real excitement about our future with public and private sectors showing confidence in Geelong through expansion and investment particularly with health, education and technology leading the way. I am committed to enhancing Geelong as a place in which to live, work and invest. So if you want a Councillor who is independent, authentic, experienced, community focused with a can-do attitude then Vote 1 Peter Murrihy, Brownbill.

4

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



KONTELJ, Stretch

I have worked as a lawyer, university professor, accountant and ADF reservist over the past 25 years, in Australia, the UK and Europe. This extensive experience will enable me to bring a unique skill set and knowledge to Geelongs Council. Prior to my overseas appointment in 2015, I served as a Geelong Councillor for seventeen years, including Mayor in 2001/2002. I was born and raised in Bell Park and educated in North Geelong and together with my wife Paula, raised a family in Brownbill and have a genuine interest in the well-being of the Ward. If elected, I pledge to represent residents with honesty and integrity. I have a long history of community service and have always represented my community without fear or favour. The Covid crisis has reinforced the value of family and community. I will be a strong advocate for the advancement of family, seniors, veterans and childcare services. Our environment, parks and gardens have been our sanctuary. I will fight for increased funding for public open space, dog friendly parks and bike lanes where appropriate. Protecting our environment is a priority. I will be a champion for a sustainable economy for the region. Sporting Clubs and cultural Associations will need support to emerge from hibernation. I look forward to reengaging with Clubs and Associations and will strongly advocate for increased funding for sporting grounds, clubrooms, cultural programs and the arts. Cost of living is challenging all residents and businesses. I will work to cap rates at or below inflation, fight to protect heritage and neighbourhood character and lobby for increased footpath and road maintenance funding. I will be tough on hoons and graffiti. I appreciate the havoc wreaked by the current economic crisis and will champion support for businesses and jobs. I respectfully ask for your vote.

5

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



MANSFIELD, Sarah

I am a current City of Greater Geelong Councillor, a general practitioner and a Senior Lecturer at Deakin University. My vision is to continue building a vibrant, healthy, safe, environmentally sustainable and inclusive Geelong. I stand with the Greens because I believe that local government should put caring for people and the environment at the heart of its decisions. I am proud of what I have been able to achieve with the community in my first term, including pushing for stronger action on climate change, increased social and affordable housing, providing safer cycling infrastructure, fighting for the Green Spine, preventing harm from poker machines, and reducing waste going to landfill including single use plastics. I have been an advocate for gender equity, better recognition of First Nations people, and more inclusive council services for all ages and abilities. However, there is much more to be done. COVID-19 has had a major impact on our community, and I want to ensure we support those most in need. If re-elected, my priorities will be: 1) Continuing to fight for stronger action on climate change; 2) Improving public transport, cycling and walking options for a safer and better-connected Geelong; 3) Increasing the availability of affordable and social housing; 4) Increasing local employment opportunities and providing greater support for local business and arts to rebuild a vibrant Geelong; 5) Supporting improved community sports facilities to grow female participation. Please contact me on 0491963245 or email: sarah.mansfield@vic.greens.org.au to learn more. Vote [1] Sarah Mansfield to see Geelong grow and flourish as a sustainable city that leaves no-one behind.

6

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



KONTELJ, Eddy

Free CBD parking, particularly around city hospitals, and the continuation of hard waste collection are two initiatives I will be advocating to implement permanently if elected. I will also focus on navigating Geelong, including small business, through COVID-19 and beyond. In order to create employment opportunities, I will push for capital investment in drainage, footpaths, roads, playgrounds, community and sporting facility upgrades and much needed transport and fishing infrastructure. I will fight for the delivery of efficient and effective services to minimise rate increases and financial burden. I will urge council to provide subsidies to support child care and aged care programs. In addition, ensuring our community has appropriate all abilities / disability access in all council facilities and more broadly will be imperative. I will lobby for better public transport and increased police presence to improve safety and security, and to reduce violence, theft, graffiti, vandalism and hoon driving. This will include identifying high security risk areas that will benefit from the installation of CCTV cameras. I will actively help and support valuable organisations that represent the best interest of our community, youth, families, our precious elderly, sporting clubs and our respected military veterans. I will champion environment protection initiatives such as the use of recycled materials, including glass, plastics, rubber and recycled concrete in roads, footpaths, playgrounds and outdoor furniture. Passionately supporting and advocating for our live music, entertainment and arts industry will also be a priority. Reforming and simplifying council planning, building and engineering processes and practices to encourage appropriate employment generating developments will be of high importance. As a husband and father of three daughters I have a genuine interest in community and our environment and pledge to work extremely hard to ensure your concerns are heard and represented. I respectfully ask for your vote.

7

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



WENYIKA, Gabriel

Gabriel moved to Geelong from Zimbabwe in 2006 to study Law and International Relations at Deakin University and 14 years later he is proud to call Geelong home. He is now married and expecting his first child later this year, and has built deep roots in the community. He serves and volunteers for a number of community organisations and is a board member for a non-for-profit Geelong based community organisation. As a Councillor Gabriel wants to: 1. Work to achieve unity on the council in encouraging a multicultural viewpoint as well as ensuring that young voices are heard. 2. Increase the awareness of and expand Hard Waste collection services so as to reduce the dumping of white goods and other hard waste. 3. Consider all issues before the council upon their merits and in line with the Geelong City Councils Strategic Plan and for good of the Geelong community as a whole. 4. Increased support for the Arts and 5. Continue to support the whole of the Geelong community through COVID-19 so that we make it to the other side

8

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HOPE, Dean Frederick

My name is Dean Hope. I am a long-term Geelong resident and have lived in Geelong West for the past 15 years. Currently I work as a manager at the Australia Post Customer Contact Centre in Melbourne although for most of my working life I have worked in Human Resources type roles in Melbourne and Geelong. I am also a Justice of The Peace. I believe we need to take immediate action to reduce unemployment and improve employment opportunities, reduce crime, and enhance economic development. We must support and protect our neighbourhoods and businesses. We can no longer tolerate a divided council, we need fresh eyes, new ideas, with better communication and collaboration between council, our neighbourhoods and businesses. My style in working to solve problems through a respectful, collaborative effort with a common-sense approach has been the key to my success in life. I will be a leader who understands and is willing to reach out and form partnerships with our residents and our businesses to find solutions. We need to find ways to bring more business and job opportunities back to Geelong. I would be honoured to have your support and your vote.

9

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HEHIR, Louis

My name is Louie Hehir, and I am a 20 year old kidney transplant recipient who is passionate about Geelong. It is time for a fresh voice on Greater Geelong Council. Having grown up in Geelong West, I now live in in Herne Hill and study International Studies at Deakin University. I strongly believe the Greater Geelong region should be more accessible and inclusive. For too long the Council has not listened to people outside the 3220 postcode. It is time for Council to do more to make Geelong a truly better place to live. The citys lack of action on climate change deeply concerns me. The citys Sustainability Framework is tokenistic and lacks any real action. The Greater Geelong region should aim for 0 Carbon Emissions by 2030. Furthermore, Council has not provided safe passage for bike riders into the CBD. I have seen the impact of youth suicide on our community and I have experienced my own battles with mental health. This year, the Greater Geelong region has seen 8-10 youths take their own lives this year I want to stop this happening. Those unfortunate young people who have committed suicide felt that there was no other way out of their troubles. This should never be the case and these problems have been compounded by isolation due to COVID-19. From these experiences, I am passionate about Council doing more to prevent youth suicide and provide more effective mental health services. If elected, I will rewrite the Councils mental health strategy and expand peer-led support programs across the city. I have the enthusiasm and drive to make these changes happen. Geelong can do better.

10

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



RODRIGUEZ, Jose

Hi. Im Jose, and I would like to say thank you for your part in making Geelong, a Greater Geelong. This past year has been severely challenging for our region. It would be easy to overlook the hard work it has taken to endure the uncertainty, and to remain composed in the face of it. We know that Geelong is no stranger to adversity, but time and time again we have witnessed the city's resilience to overcome. Geelong has been my home for over 30 years. Like many others, I arrived with my family who fled a war-torn country in pursuit of a new life. Geelong was, and remains a remarkably welcoming and supportive place, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have grown up here. Today, I am an Architect, Small-Business Owner, Husband, Father, Man-of-Faith and Bell Park Resident. Over the past decade, I have been vocal about my support for a design-led city. I have proposed plans to overhaul the CBDs ailing mall, advocated for a Geelong City Library design competition, and petitioned to save a manufacturing icon, the Geelong Cement Silos. Why? Because I believe these efforts would make best use of our resources, and strengthen our cultural, social and economic capital. As a Councillor, I would support the existing Council Plan in its objective to create a Clever and Creative region, and diligently serve to delivery over 150+ basic services. But how do we make the most of Geelongs industrious heritage and enviable position, for the benefit of everyone? If elected, I would strengthen Geelong's Cultural & Creative Capital and its position as an Innovation Leader, harness the UNESCO City of Design Designation, and improve existing Park & Playground Infrastructure. Geelong has an exciting future; I hope you think so too. Vote Jose. www.votejose.com.au

11

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



CADWELL, Melissa

I'm a resident and ratepayer in St Albans Park where I grew up. I've lived here all my life. I want to see our area get a fair go and a fair share from Council. I'm tired of politicians coming into our communities, asking for our vote and promising the world, and when they're elected we never see them again. I'm tired of only having bad choices to vote for. Council should look after the needs of everyone in Geelong. But outer suburbs of Brownbill Ward are constantly neglected and left behind. The money and focus is always on Geelong CBD. This will only change when we elect someone who'll stick up for our area. If I'm elected, I'll be the same person who asked for your vote, living on the same street. I might not always win, you might not always agree with me, but I can promise you - I'll always have a go on behalf of our community. I'll never vote to cut, privatize or contract out council jobs, or the services they provide. I'll oppose any increase in costs for critical services like kindergarten and childcare, leisure centres and libraries, homecare and meals on wheels. I'll support projects that provide good, secure local jobs and deliver real benefits for our community, like facilities upgrades for local sporting clubs. I want council to invest in our neighborhoods by building, maintaining and upgrading children's facilities, local parks, streets and footpaths. I'll fight to deliver safety lighting across all of Geelong, not just the CBD or the fashionable bits. I will bring my experience working for community groups and representative bodies to work for our community. If you think its time for one of us for a change on Council, vote 1 Melissa Cadwell for Brownbill Ward.

12

Appendix 7.2.3: Candidate statement leaflet for Kardinia Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet. Complete and return as soon as possible.

See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.

Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:

Geelong West Town Hall
153 Pakington Street
Geelong West

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY

You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2020 Council Election

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM Friday 23 October 2020



Kardinia Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1427 during business hours.

Victorian Electoral Commission

Printed on 100% Australian made recycled stock

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



WILLIAMS, Jack

I am a young and passionate individual hoping to become a fresh voice for the community. I have been raised and educated in Geelong, now living in Mount Duneed, part of the Armstrong Creek growth area. You may recognise me working at Marshall Railway Station where I interact with members of our community daily. I am standing for council because I believe young people are underrepresented in government and I want to change that. Our youth are our future and I want to advocate and be a voice for them, supporting and developing them in our community. I would like to see a Geelong where everybody is included and able to participate no matter their cultural background, income, sexual orientation or whether they are living with a disability. I want to be a part of change that sees a sustainable future socially, economically and environmentally. Acknowledging and acting on the climate emergency will ensure security for our future generations. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we live and the road back to normal is something I would initially like to focus on if elected. Making sure local businesses and organisations are supported to get back on their feet and promote tourism coming back to our region and with it bringing economic stimulus and employment. If elected I will push for more transparency in council, ensuring you know what is happening and how you can have your say. For you, the community, I will always be open to listen and act in the way that best represents you, and advocate for the things you care about. For a future we can count on vote 1 Jack Williams.

1

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



NELSON, Ron

As your local Councillor, I have delivered for our community and kept my election promises. I have permanently saved and improved local libraries, delivered free hard rubbish collections, doubled the budget to combat graffiti and delivered free CBD parking. I am a frontline worker helping people with disabilities, and if re-elected I promise to continue listening to you, standing with our community, and ensuring your essential needs are delivered. As your Councillor, I have consistently stood with the community on planning issues and developments. I have delivered and budgeted for Changerooms for Grovedale FNC, Barwon SC, South Barwon FNC, Belmont Lions FNC, East Belmont CC, Ammos, Marshall CC Practice facility; Playgrounds: Grantham Drive, Cedmar Park and Waurn Ponds; Burvilles Road safety; Belmont Dog Park; Better roads and footpaths; Ceres Signage; Highton Village upgrades and CCTV; Highton Pedestrian Bridge; Childrens Centres; Queens Park Golf Club irrigation; Tim Hill Reserve upgrade; Waurn Ponds SkatePark, BMX Track; Pool hours extended; Friends of Buckley Falls and Geelong Sustainability Group; Highton Bowls and Tennis Club Carpark; Naming parks after treasured residents; And much more! Planning has begun for Armstrong Creek Library and Sports Pavilion! I believe this infrastructure is invaluable to build our communities, and provide a heartbeat in our neighbourhoods. For Geelong to be a safe and prosperous city we must navigate through COVID-19, with relief to recovery measures including low rates, incentives and hardship policies for ratepayers. I am proud our community supports each other and our local economy. It is time Council undertake core responsibilities sustainably through planned smart lighting, planting one million trees, using recycled materials in our roads, and reintroducing the container deposit scheme, and more! Vote 1 Ron Nelson for a trusted and experienced local who works tirelessly and delivers for our community. Mb0492838700 vote1@ronnelson.com.au www.ronnelson.com.au /vote1ronnelson

2

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



RICHARDS, Andy

It's time our community in southern Geelong got a fair go, and some real representation back on Geelong council. The current council seem only interested in Geelong CBD, while suburbs like Armstrong Creek, Charlemont and Mt Duneed are growing quickly, putting pressure right across the south on existing council services and assets. This means that suburbs like Highton, Grovedale, Waurn Ponds, Belmont and Marshall, are under pressure too. Key council projects have been delayed or dropped entirely from council budgets, meaning council run services and assets that we all use are falling away. Like you, I'm tired of hearing about council building great projects somewhere else, while the southern suburbs miss out, and of council services declining. As your local councillor from 2008 to 2016, I made sure projects like Grovedale Children's Hub, Waurn Ponds Library and several sporting club upgrades were funded and built. My focus was on real action and delivery to make our community a better place to work, live and raise a family. If I'm elected, I will take action to bring council's focus back to our local community in southern Geelong, delivering projects and services that are planned and funded, as quickly as possible. I'll oppose any outsourcing, privatising or contracting out of essential council services, because that means less service to residents at a higher cost to council. I'll oppose fee increases for council services, like childcare, meals on wheels, pet registration, homecare and leisure facilities because residents cannot afford to pay more. I'll work with you to bring our community in southern Geelong back up to standard. I'll take action and deliver for our community. Let's get southern Geelong back in front. Let's get Geelong Council back working for you. If you would like to get in touch, please contact andykardinia2020@gmail.com or 0400967537.

3

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



MURNANE, Pat

Over my first three years in Council, I have made it my mission to be an independent, respected and fearless voice at City hall with no political affiliations. My last act as a sitting Councillor was to request a report on the impact of COVID-19 on social equity in the region and to consider alternatives to restore community prosperity and wellbeing. Council's leadership in this recovery program will be critical, as well as collaborative partnerships Council can form with philanthropic organisations, the State and Federal Governments. A distinguished career in the finance industry has allowed me to chair Council's Finance Portfolio, and to help Council deliver plans for its new Administrative Offices and Civic Precinct at no additional cost to ratepayers. I have also used my extensive commercial expertise to ensure balanced decision-making in the vast array of matters that come before council. Now, more than ever, we need Councillors with this skill set. Notwithstanding my commercial background, I am probably equally recognised for my work in the Geelong community over the past 25 years, having helped to establish 11 community organisations across the region and served on the boards of not-for-profit organisations. My work in the community was recognised with an 'Outstanding Community Leadership Award' by the Committee for Geelong in 2016. I continue to champion and plan projects around Emergency Food Relief, Homelessness and Social Housing. I have also been a strong advocate for the environment in all Council matters, including saving the Malop Street 'Green Strip' and acknowledging climate change, as well as endorsing a new sustainability policy and single-use plastics policy. I am an advocate for alternative transport options and improved public transport to protect the future viability and liveability of our City's CBD area and the importance of sporting and community facilities. Contacts 0419 104 246 pat@murnanecommunityconsulting.com.au

4

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



SINGH, Atamjit

I love Australia, and Ive loved Geelong ever since I moved here in 2006. My family and I are so grateful for the opportunities that this city has given us, and I take every opportunity to give back to it. I am standing in the upcoming City of Greater Geelong Council election, as I would like to see a council that works for the benefit of the community. I am currently self-employed, managing education Consultancy Company for university students and have been working with young people to provide career counselling. I am an active member of the Geelong Sikh Community, a represented ethnic communities at various platforms across Victoria and I barrack for the Geelong Cats. I believe in hard work and better opportunities for the benefit and improvement of the individual, their family and the community at large. I would like to see a progressive, decisive and diverse Council with the vision for Geelong as most liveable city in the world. After many conversations with residents, it is important that our community continues to have access to services and facilities that strength our community wellbeing. This includes continual upgrades of sporting and recreations facilities in Kardinia and maintaining of our roads and planning for our future needs, such as a new library for Armstrong Creek and modernise existing library. I am a strong believer in productive and viable economic planning, which is currently lacking in Council decisions, ensuring that the rates you pay benefit you and your community. It will bring more financial stability, cut down waste, and create jobs in our region. I stand for a sensible and transparent Council that creates opportunities for the people of Geelong. I'm ready to get started and make sure your voice is heard. Please Vote 1 Atamjit. Signed off Atamjit

5

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



MOLONEY, Belinda

These are some unprecedented times, folks. Since the last elections, we've seen the devastating impact of climate change and coronavirus threatening our economy and livelihoods. Council should lead the way with initiatives to tackle these issues, and while we're overdue for Councils emergency recovery plan, we need to fix a broken system. How? Getting behind our local businesses as a priority, establishing food security, reinvigorating our parks, libraries, and investing in our arts sector, childcare and disability services. We can rebuild our economy through sustainable industry investments, our manufacturing precinct can build renewable energy sources, creating jobs and lowering household bills. The leadership needed to successfully emerge out of a pandemic needs to be strategic, holistic, and caretaking of our most vulnerable, with a focus on keeping communities connected to improve our mental health and wellbeing. With decades of experience within leadership roles and adopting sustainable practices successfully in our community, I have the knowledge and gumption to put our council to work, repairing our economy by changing the way we do business and care for our environment. Geelong is very unique, in its climate, tourism, industries and its resilient people and with my expertise in technology and experience with massive transformation projects, I will make good choices for the community of Geelong by establishing a true peoples democracy, using technology to keep Council accountable and transparent, so our voices are heard. In my vision for a post-COVID recovery, Geelong will be a front-runner in bringing jobs and environmental benefits to the region, using innovative technology to develop sustainable energy solutions, waste management and education. I'm committed to being the change I want to see in the world and I hope you can join me in making a difference. Together, let's strive for a better, more inclusive future for Geelong.

6

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HAMILTON-SMITH, Anthony

As a self-employed interior designer and builder with a passion for sustainable building practices, I am proud to be a Greens-Endorsed Candidate for Kardinia Ward in the City of Greater Geelong Council election. I want to be the everyday person who makes a difference to ordinary people in our electorate. My vision is to see a successful, prosperous community that doesnt come at the expense of the natural environment. I have lived in Geelong for over eight years, and operating my small business here has given me the opportunity to get to know the great resources we have here as well as some insight into what improvements could be made. I have two beautiful children and believe in education and childcare equity. All children should have the equal opportunity to grow, learn and thrive, regardless of financial background. I am standing with the Greens because I want to give a voice to health, employment, education, the environment and diverse communities in Kardinia. If elected, I will prioritise: 1) Achieving a sustainable, inclusive and liveable future for Geelong by creating secure, meaningful work in sustainable local industry. 2) Always placing the environment, community wellbeing and health at the forefront of all Council decisions. 3) Promoting community engagement and transparency in Council decision making. To be able to represent my community and make that difference would be an incredible honour. I look forward to making connections and advocating for positive change in our community. Please call me on 0425 754 317 to learn more. Vote [1] Anthony Hamilton-Smith for innovative, sustainable solutions to support our wonderful city.

7

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HARWOOD, Bruce

The next four years of council are going to hold many unknowns. Particularly as we navigate our way out of COVID and work through the financial and social fallout we have experienced. All the while focusing on our environment and future infrastructure we need for our region. This is what I bring to council - Experience - I was a policeman for nearly 30 years and now a local Geelong businessman for the past 10 years. I have been on council for 16 years including over 4 years as Mayor and 5 years as Deputy Mayor. I have been President , Secretary and coach of local sporting organisations and also on the Belmont Primary School Council. Local - I think it is very advantageous to live in Kardinia Ward and understand Geelong. I was born , raised and educated in Geelong and am very involved in a number of local sporting and community organisations. I am a member of the local libraries, environmental groups and the Bloodbank. I understand the critical infrastructure our ward needs to prosper and importantly the process to get it done. Independent - I have no political alliance. Independence as a local councillor is invaluable. At the grass roots level of local government making decisions for our community is much more important than for political parties. Our Environment - I voted for the council to declare a climate change emergency - simply because I believe there is. My experience in creating environmental start up companies has been invaluable. Use of organic waste water treatment solution as opposed to traditional chemical solutions and eliminating wood waste from landfill are two practical examples of my environmental interests. I am a Director on the Barwon South West Waste & Resource Recovery Group. Contact details - Facebook -Bruce.KardiniaWard or direct 0409512544

8

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



ALEXANDER, Andrew

Your New Voice on Council - Vote 1 Andrew Alexander. As a first-time candidate, I believe Kardinia Ward needs a new voice on Council who will bring fresh ideas and cooperative leadership. I am committed to a vision for Greater Geelong as a smart, sustainable, and creative city. If elected, I will take action to ensure that Council delivers: (1) Projects that attract young people to live, study, work and invest in our community which will boost our local economy and stimulate new job opportunities; (2) Improved parking, traffic management and integrated and accessible public transport infrastructure; (3) Sustainable rubbish and recycling services that minimise our waste production; and, (4) Better planning outcomes that help position Geelong as a major Australian tourist destination. I am 41 and a father of two primary school children. I am a small business owner and lawyer with qualifications in management, public policy, law, philosophy, political science, and education. I have been a secondary school teacher in local schools, a commercial and family lawyer in Melbourne, and now manage a local law firm. My volunteer community involvement includes: multicultural ambassador with the AFL; community representative with the Victorian Multicultural Commission; and, currently a board member of The Geelong Swimming Club Foundation. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to obtain up-to-date information. I moderate "Geelong/Victoria/Australia COVID-19 Network", a Facebook Group keeping our community informed. Our Council will be responsible for addressing many important issues after the COVID-19 pandemic, and the right decisions need to be made for the benefit of everyone in our community. There has never been a more important time to have a new voice on Council to represent you. You are most welcome to contact me on 0400 808 461 or andrew@andrewalexander.com.au. For further information, please go to: www.andrewalexander.com.au or search #vote1andrewalexander on social media.

9

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



BRUNGER, Mark

I am a lifelong Geelong resident and I am standing for Kardinia Ward as a new and fresh voice for the South of Geelong, to work hard to ensure that we have a strong presence in the decisions that are important to our community and the Greater Geelong Community. I have a long history of involvement in the Geelong community, including 25 years volunteering for the Geelong Supercats/Basketball Geelong, the Geelong Cricket Association through the GCA Media Team and for the last 2 years, I have served as a community representative on the COGG Heritage Advisory Committee, in its inaugaral stages, including 12 months as Deputy Chair of the Committee. I value the Heritage of the Greater Geelong area and we need to do more to preserve the past, however, we also need to balance that with supporting positive, tasteful development of the Region to grow for the future. Geelong has a strong future ahead of it and I'm ready to be a part of that, by making sure the Kardinia Ward doesn't miss our opportunities to benefit from that for the betterment of our community. I look forward to hearing from you or your community/sporting groups in the Kardinia Ward and most importantly, I look forward to serving you at Town Hall. I will be a strong and active voice for the Kardinia Ward, I will work hard for infrastructure, jobs, health and services for residents in the South of Geelong, I will provide strong Support for the rebuild of our local economy post-COVID, I will champion the improvement of Civic pride for locals, tourists and new residents both through services and beautification and above all, I promise to bring a fresh and independent perspective to the current and future needs of Kardinia residents and Geelong.

10

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



GAMBLE, Jen

My vision for the City of Greater Geelong is one where everyone is safe. I am currently a registered nurse working in the operating theatre at the local hospital. By nature, I am a compassionate person who has always committed my time to helping others. Outside of my full-time work, I care for my two rescue cats and dogs, foster care for a local rescue group and volunteer as a wildlife rescuer across the Greater Geelong area. Grounded by my belief that all lives have value, I have a strong sense of justice and I care deeply for both the animals and people that make up our community. In addition to my professional experience, I work with the Victorian Perioperative Nurses Group organising conferences and education programs across Victoria. I am committed to all the organisations I represent and continuously work hard to serve my community through these roles. Through my experience in wildlife rescue, I have witnessed the decline of wildlife habitat in our region. If elected, I will support initiatives that protect our biodiversity and provide practical solutions for co-existence with local wildlife. I will also advocate for increased Council support for the Geelong Animal Welfare Service (GAWS) and their staff who provide a critical service to our community and work towards preventing any animal from losing their life unnecessarily. I believe that with a broader, connected vision for our community, a more kind, compassionate and healthier Geelong can be realised. I am proud to be endorsed by the Animal Justice Party whose core values are kindness, equality, rationality and non-violence. If you place your trust in me, I promise to act in accordance with these values and advocate for a better life for all, here in the City of Greater Geelong.

11

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



STANGEL, Michael

I'm a father of three, a cancer survivor and have been in small business since 1992. I look forward to being a voice for Geelong. I'm passionate about my hometown and its future. Through my locally-based artist management company, I currently guide the careers of elite national artists and continue to perform myself as a musician. I manage the careers of a roster which includes Justice Crew, Nathaniel Willemse, Merril Bainbridge and Armstrong Creek local Taylor Henderson. It requires trust, skill, care, knowledge, but most importantly, the responsibility to create and the ability to deliver results. My achievements in small business, particularly in, but not exclusive to, the music and arts have given me an excellent perspective on how to generate growth in these and other areas. Tourism is crucial to the prosperity of our region, and I intend to utilize my local, national and international network to bring new and exciting opportunities to the City of Greater Geelong. I am not politically aligned, nor beholden to special interest groups which allows me to make decisions based on fact, evidence and best practice. I will listen to and give active, real consideration to the views of our community to achieve better outcomes for all of Geelong. My unique career and life experiences have led me to rare and wide-ranging opportunities. I have been instrumental in various charity work, had the pleasure of being the ambassador for The Australian Terminal Cancer Foundation. My experience has led me to National TV, as a finalist on The Voice in 2013. I'm also the mentor for The Talent College, which focuses on opportunities for youth in the arts. With your vote, I will put my leadership, experience and expertise to work to make us even prouder to call Geelong our home.

12

Appendix 7.2.4: Candidate statement leaflet for Windermere Ward election

Don't Risk a Fine

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM Friday 23 October 2020

Your ballot paper is attached to this leaflet.
Complete and return as soon as possible.
See the ballot paper envelope for voting instructions.

VOTING IN THIS ELECTION IS BY POST ONLY

Your completed ballot material must be posted or in the hands of the Election Manager on or before 6.00 pm on Friday 23 October 2020.
Local mail clearance times may vary. Ballot material must be mailed before final clearance times in the last week of voting. Late votes cannot be included in the count. Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your envelope during business hours to:

Geelong West Town Hall
153 Pakington Street
Geelong West

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

Completed candidate questionnaires are available at vec.vic.gov.au or alternatively from the Election Manager.

COMPULSORY VOTING PROVISIONS APPLY

You have received this ballot pack because you are enrolled for this election. Voting is compulsory if you were on the Victorian State electoral roll for this council on Friday 28 August 2020.

Further information on voting entitlements can be found at vec.vic.gov.au

You may receive an Apparent Failure To Vote Notice if you complete and return your ballot material after the close of voting.

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

2020 Council Election

VOTING CLOSES 6.00 PM Friday 23 October 2020



Windermere Ward

THIS IS A POSTAL ELECTION ONLY.

Voting is compulsory for residents.

For further information visit vec.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 8619 1427 during business hours.

VEC Victorian Electoral Commission

Printed on 100% Australian made recycled stock

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HAQUE, Enamul

Dr. Enamul Haque (Research Officer / CEO): I am a proud resident of Corio, living with my wife (a medical doctor at Geelong Hospital) and my four year old son. Due to my vast experience in professional and educational fields, I believe I am the perfect candidate to help improve the Windermere Ward in the Greater Geelong City Council. I hold a PhD in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering (University of Sydney), contributing to research nation-wide as a Research Fellow at Deakin University, RMIT University and UNSW among many others. Diverse community and commercial relationships are crucial to me. I am involved with many community networks, including Geelong Chamber of Commerce, SPMC, IChemE and Editorial Board Member of Scientific Journals. I also possess leadership experience as the President of Sydney Press and Media Council and the CEO of Australia24 News. This experience would help greatly in my contribution to the Windermere Ward. Sectors I strive to improve include enhancing post-pandemic support for all residents; providing scientific and technological support to struggling local farmers; introducing new and more frequent bus routes; expanding and improving railway station carparks in Lara, Corio and Little River; boosting the economy through the promotion of local businesses; creating new community hubs and leisure centres to help unify the area; establishing new health centres and early childhood learning services for the growing population; encouraging sustainable development to reduce our carbon footprint and promote a clean environment. With my professional experiences and educational background, I am the perfect candidate for our community. I strive to make the Windermere Ward a beautiful, liveable and resourceful area for all residents, establishing it as one of the best residential areas in Greater Geelong. I listen to the community and I care about your voice. Support me and I will represent you.

1

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



GRZYBEK, Kylie

Currently as the Deputy Mayor and Councillor for the Windermere Ward, I will continue to represent the community views at all times. If re-elected, I promised to continue to work hard for a fair share for the north and a safer community. I promise to continue to listen to the community, as I did with the Goat Farm decision and many planning application decisions. Im really proud to be part of a community that cares for each other. Our community has shown its support of local business during COVID and we should continue to shop local. During my term I have been part of a Council who has delivered and budgeted for a $1m Goldsworthy Athletics Track Corio, Stead Park Skate Park, Lara Recreation Reserve Masterplan, Lara Netball and Tennis Facility, Lara United FC Soccer Facility and Lights, North Geelong Soccer Club Lighting, Hoffman Walk ongoing budget yearly, Corio Sports Club Netball courts and cricket nets, community centre upgrades at Rosewall Cloverdale and Norlane, Anakie Football and Netball change room upgrade, North Shore Football lighting upgrade, Geelong softball and baseball pavilion, Corio synthetic soccer pitch, extended hours for Lara Pool plus many more things. I believe we owe our children a safer and healthier future with better sporting facilities and improved utilisation of public open space. We are hardworking people and deserve value for our rates and improved facilities. As a proud union member, Im passionate about creating job opportunities in Geelong. As there is only 2 councillors in this ward we need great skills in negotiating, compromising and getting our views heard. For more information see my social media pages below. I have formed a strong and united voice with Anthony Aitken. Vote 1 Kylie Grzybek. 0418889619. kyliegrzybek@gmail.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/KylieGrzybekWindermereWard Twitter: @kyliegrzybek

2

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



CONNELL, Monique

Put climate first and together we can save everyone money, create jobs, support local businesses, and create a stronger community. Climate activism is not just about saving coral reefs. It is about food and water security, job security, reducing living costs, and building better, stronger, and more connected communities. A vote for me is a vote for your own future and a future for our kids. I am running for council to inject fresh ideas with the following goals: I want Geelong to be a world leader in recycling. Harnessing the amazing resources and talent at the Deakin University Technology precinct, and working with local business, industry, and the community to create a recycling program to make recycling as easy and painless as throwing your rubbish in the red bin. The federal government has created a $600 million Recycling Modernisation Fund to help build infrastructure to handle all that recycling that we cannot ship to China anymore. Geelong needs to get in now and lead the way, which would create jobs, build industry, and strengthen the community. I want Geelong to embrace technology and have a public transport system that is inexpensive, efficient, safe, and reliable. We need a park and ride for the north and the west, and to invest in driverless technology as well as electric vehicle options. I want every Geelong person to have access to community gardens, as well as education and resources to enable us all to grow our own fruit and vegetables, saving money, and the environment. Covid19 has brought many challenges and many of us either have lost our jobs or are on Jobkeeper. By supporting local businesses, shopping locally, and buying locally made produce and products, we help each other out. I want Geelong council to support this. Vote 1 Monique Connell

3

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



AITKEN, Anthony

3 years ago you elected me to be your Councillor. I promised to be a Strong and Authentic Voice, Fight for a Fair Share for Corio, Norlane, North Shore, Lara, Anakie and the Rural North and try to get Geelong Council to care for more than just the CBD. I am passionate about the North, my community where I was born, educated and continue to live in. I have worked tirelessly to represent you and am proud of many achievements: Barwon Health North; Moving the Spirit of Tasmania from Melbourne to Geelong; $100 million to clean up Broderick road waste dump and winning the battle against the industrial Goat Farm in Lara. I am extremely proud of new community projects and services: Free Hard Waste Collection; Youth Council; $4 million local road safety improvements in Corio, Norlane and Lara; $1 million Corio Goldsworthy Athletics Track; Female friendly change rooms at Anakie, Stead Park, Lara United and Bell Park Sports Club; $2 million synthetic soccer pitch Leisure-time Centre; Stead Park Skate Park; Investment in Neighbourhood Centres in Cloverdale, Rosewall and Norlane Community Initiatives in Spruhan Ave; New lighting at North Shore Football Club, Lara Football Club, North Geelong Warriors, Geelong Soccer Club, Corio Soccer Club, Osborne Park and Evans Reserve Norlane, and $50,000 annual funding to Hoffman Walk. If re-elected I will continue to fight for: jobs; lower rates; better services; appropriate development; our environment and safety in our community. Support: $1 billion Barwon Jail expansion and future 650 jobs; $1.7 million towards Geelong Emergency Food Centre in Norlane; Lara Sports Precinct Master Plan; Upgrades to netball and cricket at Shell Reserve and Windsor Park and advocate for Northern ARC and Lara Basketball Stadium. I have formed a strong united voice with Kylie Grzybek on Council. Vote 1 Aitken. E:voteaitken@gmail.com P:0417528810

4

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



HATHWAY, Sarah

I live in Norlane with my partner and 2 year old daughter. I grew up in Geelong where I attended school and TAFE. Areas like Norlane and Corio are underserviced and ignored. Local Councillors claim they do a lot but little seems to change. It was disappointing to see some of our councillors vote down a climate emergency declaration along with Liberal Party-aligned councillors just before Australia's devastating bushfires. Later they voted to rip up part of the $8 million green spine in Malop Street and did little to help Council employees who were stood down during the pandemic. I want to see a council that listens to the community, that provides services and jobs. Why can't our council join with other councils to demand more funding from State and Federal Governments? We need public housing, mental health services, free childcare and an expansion of community health services. Councils used to provide many aspects of these services, now there is too much reliance on the private sector and we've seen how well that's worked during the pandemic. As a union organiser in the health industry and a member of Socialist Alliance, I know how to build campaigns and fight back. I don't want to be a career politician and I'm sick of being represented by careerists, developers and those who don't put community need first. If elected, I want to work with local residents to improve the amenities in the Northern suburbs. Not having basics like footpaths, tree cover or playgrounds maintained by council employed workers is not good enough. I believe the only way to achieve this is by working people getting organised, supporting and representing each other. If you want someone on council who will put our needs first, then put a 1 next to my name.

5

Appendix 8: Daily breakdown of the general mail-out

Greater Geelong City Council election			
6 October 2020	**7 October 2020**	**8 October 2020**	**Total**
69,390	69,390	65,306	204,086

Bellarine Ward election			
6 October 2020	**7 October 2020**	**8 October 2020**	**Total**
20,107	20,107	18,923	59,137

Brownbill Ward election			
6 October 2020	**7 October 2020**	**8 October 2020**	**Total**
19,174	19,174	18,045	56,393

Kardinia Ward election			
6 October 2020	**7 October 2020**	**8 October 2020**	**Total**
18,377	18,377	17,297	54,051

Windermere Ward election			
6 October 2020	**7 October 2020**	**8 October 2020**	**Total**
11,732	11,732	11,041	34,505

Appendix 9: Result information

Greater Geelong City Council election

Bellarine Ward Count summary	
Enrolment:	59,140
Formal votes:	48,089
Informal votes:	2,324 (4.61% of the total votes)
Voter turnout:	50,413 (85.24% of the total enrolment)

Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
O'CONNOR, Tom	3,881	8.07%
WILKINSON, Elise	3,397	7.06%
ASHER, Stephanie	17,149	35.66%
SULLIVAN, Trent	5,580	11.60%
ADAMS, Naomi	868	1.80%
MASON, Jim	5,486	11.41%
FAIRWEATHER, Michael	674	1.40%
WOLVERTON, Cory	4,388	9.12%
HARRISON, Tom	3,051	6.34%
SIMMONDS, Stephen John	3,615	7.52%

Successful candidates
ASHER, Stephanie (1st elected candidate)
SULLIVAN, Trent (2nd elected candidate)
MASON, Jim (3rd elected candidate)

Brownbill Ward Count summary	
Enrolment:	56,393
Formal votes:	45,031
Informal votes:	2,309 (4.88% of the total votes)
Voter turnout:	47,340 (83.95%% of the total enrolment)

Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
DWYER, Sandi	1,917	4.26%
FRANKE, Bernie	1,021	2.27%
CSAR, Alex	642	1.43%
MURRIHY, Peter John	6,914	15.35%
KONTELJ, Stretch	6,593	14.64%
MANSFIELD, Sarah	10,412	23.12%
KONTELJ, Eddy	6,809	15.12%
WENYIKA, Gabriel	1,212	2.69%
HOPE, Dean Frederick	1,167	2.59%
HEHIR, Louis	984	2.19%
RODRIGUEZ, Jose	2,000	4.44%
CADWELL, Melissa	5,360	11.90%

Successful candidates
MANSFIELD, Sarah (1st elected candidate)
KONTELJ, Eddy (2nd elected candidate)
MURRIHY, Peter (3rd elected candidate)

Kardinia Ward Count summary	
Enrolment:	54,054
Formal votes:	44,449
Informal votes:	2,008 (4.32% of the total votes)
Voter turnout:	46,457 (85.95% of the total enrolment)

Candidates (in ballot paper order)	First preference votes	Percentage
WILLIAMS, Jack	4,113	9.25%
NELSON, Ron	7,132	16.05%
RICHARDS, Andy	2,916	6.56%
MURNANE, Pat	3,856	8.68%
SINGH, Atamjit	2,084	4.69%
MOLONEY, Belinda	4,069	9.15%
HAMILTON-SMITH, Anthony	2,281	5.13%
HARWOOD, Bruce	8,781	19.76%
ALEXANDER, Andrew	4,063	9.14%
BRUNGER, Mark	684	1.54%
GAMBLE, Jen	2,540	5.71%
STANGEL, Michael	1,930	4.34%

Successful candidates
HARWOOD, Bruce (1st elected candidate)
NELSON, Ron (2nd elected candidate)
MOLONEY, Belinda (3rd elected candidate)

Windermere Ward Count summary			
Enrolment:	34,505		
Formal votes:	27,154		
Informal votes:	833 (2.98% of the total votes)		
Voter turnout:	27,987 (81.11% of the total enrolment)		
Candidates (in ballot paper order)		**First preference votes**	**Percentage**
HAQUE, Enamul		3,099	11.41%
GRZYBEK, Kylie		6,103	22.48%
CONNELL, Monique		3,135	11.55%
AITKEN, Anthony		10,525	38.76%
HATHWAY, Sarah		4,292	15.81%
Successful candidates			
AITKEN, Anthony (1st elected candidate)			
GRZYBEK, Kylie (2nd elected candidate)			

Appendix 10: Election participation statistics

Note: Participation is measured by the number of marks on the roll as a percentage of total enrolment and can vary from turnout (total ballot papers counted as a percentage of total enrolment).

Greater Geelong City Council election			
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election	Comparator for 2017 Greater Geelong City Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	87.92%	82.16%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	87.20%	81.97%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	91.10%	83.20%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	66.71%	60.61%	60.96%
Council total	**86.16%**	**79.73%**	**84.12%**

Bellarine Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	89.59%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	88.78%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	92.38%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	72.46%	60.96%
Ward total	**86.94%**	**84.12%**

Brownbill Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	87.18%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	86.41%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	90.72%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	61.48%	60.96%
Ward total	**85.85%**	**84.12%**

Kardinia Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	89.00%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	88.55%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	91.19%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	61.44%	60.96%
Ward total	**87.55%**	**84.12%**

Windermere Ward election		
Enrolment category	Participation as a percentage of voters enrolled in each category for 2020 Greater Geelong City Council general election	Statewide postal election comparator for 2020 LG elections (excl. Melbourne City Council)
Voters enrolled through section 241 of the LG Act	84.84%	86.27%
aged 18 to 69 years old on election day	84.13%	85.48%
aged 70 years and over on election day	88.80%	90.14%
Voters enrolled through sections 243 - 245 of the LG Act	55.62%	60.96%
Ward total	**83.13%**	**84.12%**

Appendix 11: Complaints

Written complaints received by the VEC

Date	Nature of the complaint	Action taken by the VEC
16 July 2020	Criticism - Enrolment (Incorrect or not updated enrolment details)	Response provided
20 August 2020	Suggestion - VEC Administration (Website)	Improvement recommendation made
14 September 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Candidates and Parties (Candidates)	Response provided
15 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Authorisation)	Referred to LGI
17 September 2020	General Question - VEC Administration (Nominations)	Action taken and responded
21 September 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Location of Signs)	Referred to Council
22 September 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Candidates and Parties (Candidate Training)	Action taken and responded
4 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Alleged intimidation, harassment or assault)	Referred to Victoria Police
4 October 2020	Suggestion - VEC Administration (Voter Alert)	Response provided
4 October 2020	General Question - Enrolment (Overseas Voting)	Response provided
7 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Advertising or Election Material (Conduct of Candidate or Party)	Response provided
9 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Advertising or Election Material (Location of Signs)	Response provided
10 October 2020	Clarification of Process, Procedure or Legislation - Voting (Postal Voting Process)	Action taken and responded
10 October 2020	Criticism - Voting (Postal Voting Process)	Response provided
12 October 2020	Criticism - Voting (Ballot Papers)	Action taken and responded
13 October 2020	General Question - Voting (Ballot Papers)	Action taken and responded
14 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Candidates and Parties (Conduct of Candidate or Party)	Response provided
14 October 2020	Criticism - A Voting Centre or Election Office (Wait Times)	Action taken and responded
14 October 2020	Sensitive / Complex Complaint	Response provided
19 October 2020	Complex Complaint - Candidates and Parties (Conduct of Candidate or Party)	Escalated for investigation and action
19 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Enrolment (Ballot Papers)	Action taken and responded

20 October 2020	Criticism - Voting (Postal Voting Process)	Response provided
20 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Ballot Papers)	Action taken and responded
21 October 2020	Compliment - VEC Administration	Compliment shared
21 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Ballot Papers)	Action taken and responded
22 October 2020	Sensitive / Complex Complaint	Action taken and responded
22 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Voting Process)	Response provided
22 October 2020	Complex Complaint - A Voting Centre or Election Office (Conduct of Staff Member)	Response provided
22 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Ballot Papers)	Response provided
23 October 2020	Suggestion - Employment Conditions (Decision of Staff Member)	Action taken and responded
23 October 2020	Criticism - A Voting Centre or Election Office (COVID-19)	Action taken and responded
26 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Vote Never Received)	Response provided
26 October 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Vote Never Received)	Response provided
27 October 2020	Complex Complaint - Enrolment (Entitlements)	Response provided
29 October 2020	Allegation of potential breach of the law - External Agency as Regulator - Advertising or Election Material (Location of Signs)	Action taken and responded
29 October 2020	Complex Complaint - A Voting Centre or Election Office (Scrutineers)	Action taken and responded
30 October 2020	Complex Complaint - A Voting Centre or Election Office (Scrutineers)	Action taken and responded
31 October 2020	Criticism - Voting (Results)	Response provided
5 November 2020	Simple Complaint - Voting (Postal Vote Arrived Late)	Response provided
9 November 2020	Criticism - Voting (Postal Vote Arrived Late)	Response provided

This page has been intentionally left blank


VEC
Victorian
Electoral
Commission

17. REGIONAL RENEWABLE ORGANICS NETWORK – HEADS OF AGREEMENT

Source: **City Services – Environment and Waste Services**
Director: **Guy Wilson-Browne**

Confidential

Cr Moloney moved, Cr Mansfield seconded -

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer for the purposes of section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. This ground applies because commercial negotiations are ongoing.

Carried.

18. CIVIC PRECINCT STATUS REPORT

Source: **Customer & Corporate Services – Civic Accommodation**
Director: **Michael Dugina**

Confidential

Cr Harwood moved, Cr Murrihy seconded -

That Council consider this report at the conclusion of the meeting as it is designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer for the purposes of section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. This ground applies because there is potential for future commercial negotiations.

Carried.

URGENT BUSINESS – Cr Aitken

Note: Introduction of Urgent Business requires two-thirds majority of Councillors present.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council consider as Urgent Business a notice of motion concerning funding for the Northern Aquatic and Community Hub.

Carried.

Cr Aitken moved, Cr Grzybek seconded -

That Council:

1. **Approve $21.84M funding for the Northern Aquatic and Community Hub (NACH) to satisfy the Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) eligibility criterion of committed funds for the total cost of the project and enable the commencement of procurement for the project;**
2. **Undertake a seven-day community engagement on the inclusion of this funding in the City's 2021-22 to 2024-25 budget, the feedback from which is to be considered prior to Council's consideration for adoption of the 2021-22 to 2024-25 budget;**
3. **Note that the project build is planned to be completed in the 2023-24 year, whilst funding will cover a four-year period through to 2024-25;**
4. **Note that funding will be sourced from any of, or a combination of, cash reserves, borrowings, prioritisation and re-phasing of projects in the draft 2021-22 to 2024-25 budget or possible additional funding from the Victorian and/or Australian Governments;**
5. **Request the Chief Executive Officer provide formal advice to the BBRF that Council has approved this funding for inclusion in the 2021-22 to 2024-25 budget;**
6. **Note that should the BBRF application be successful, Council's commitment would reduce to $11.84M;**
7. **Note that the $21.84M is contingent on approval of the allocation to NACH to Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund (LRCIF) phase two with a two year extension and acknowledge and thank the Australian Government for their allocation to the City under this fund;**
8. **Acknowledge and thank the Victorian Government for the recent allocation of $8.5M in the 2021-22 Victorian Government Budget for the NACH; and**
9. **Continue to seek further sources of funding from the Victorian and Australian Governments to reduce Council's further commitment of $21.84M to the project.**

Carried.

INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

Source: **Governance**
Chief Executive Officer: **Martin Cutter**

Summary

1. The Governance Rules of the City of Greater Geelong require the tabling of records of informal meetings of Councillors at the next convenient Council meeting and that their record be included in the minutes of that Council meeting.

2. A summary of the informal meetings of Councillors is attached as an Appendix to this report.

Cr Mason moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

3. That Council receive the summary of the Informal Meetings of Councillors for the period to 25 May 2021.

Carried.

INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS
(Council Meeting 25 May 2021)

Informal Meeting Details	Councillors	Officer Attendees	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Council Briefing **11 May 2021**	Crs Asher, Aitken, Grzybek, Harwood, Kontelj, Mansfield, Mason, Moloney, Murrihy, Nelson, Sullivan	M Cutter (CEO G Smith (DIR) R Stevens (DIR) M Dugina (DIR) G Wilson-Browne (DIR) B Ince (EXEC DIR TOURISM) S McKew (MGR) J Daly (MGR) V Lee-Laurie (CO ORD) D Leeson-Rabie (MGR) J Malone (CO ORD) S Beck (PROJ MGR) K Ivens (Senior Advisor - Mayor & CEO) J Brown (CO-ORD) M Macgugan (SNR COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR) R Scott (OFF) P Anderson (PROJ DIR)	• Barwon Heads Transport and Parking Strategy • Municipal Road Management Plan Review • Dog Orders on Highton Waterpipe Pathway • Declaration of Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing • Tender T2100013 – Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor – Stage 1 • Quarterly Financial Management Report – March 2021 • Procurement Policy Update • 2021-22 Grant Guidelines • Proposed Lease of Retail and Office Spaces at 137-149 Mercer Street, Geelong – Civic Precinct • Proposed Road Deviation – 185-235 Geelong Road and Pigdon Street, Portarlington • Proposed Road Naming – Unnamed Laneway to Inspiration Lane, Belmont • Proposed Road Discontinuance and Sale – Mina Place, North Geelong • G21 and AFL Barwon 'Towards 2030 Strategy – Draft • Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-47 – Draft Report • Clever and Creative – Our Progress 2020 • Greater Geelong City Council General Election Report 2020 • Civic Precinct Status Report *(Confidential)* • Regional Renewable Organics Network Heads of Agreement *(Confidential)*	• Cr Kontelj declared a Conflict of Interest in the *'Declaration of Special Rate for Central Geelong Marketing'* and left the meeting prior to discussion of the item. • Cr Grzybek declared a Conflict of Interest in *'Tender T2100013 – Building Better Bike Connections Project – Southern Corridor – Stage 1'* and left the meeting room prior to discussion of the item.

PLANNING DELEGATIONS

Source: **Planning, Design & Development – City Development**
Director: **Gareth Smith**

Purpose

1. To provide the schedule of planning permit applications determined under delegation since the last report.

Background

2. 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.

3. Sections 86 and 87 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* allow Council to establish special committees with delegated powers to determine planning permit applications.

4. At its meeting on 21 September 2020, Council:

   4.1 Amended the Council to staff instrument of delegation to allow staff delegates to determine planning permit applications where there are less than 6 objections lodged; and

   4.2 Amended the Planning Committee's terms of reference to provide for its determination, if required, of planning permit applications where there are 6 or more objections lodged.

5. The City is required by Council to provide information on planning permit applications determined under delegation.

Key Matters

6. The Schedule attached to this report provides information on the planning permit applications determined under delegation since the last report.

Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Harwood seconded -

7. That Council receive the information in the Schedule entitled Planning Decisions Report – April 2021.

Carried.

Planning Decisions Report - April 2021

App Number	Location	Application Type	Decision Date	Description	Authority Description/ No of Objectors
PP-153-2019	5-11 Dalton Street, SOUTH GEELONG VIC 3220	Use and Development of the Land for Materials Recycling (asphalt and rock recycling) and Construction of an Outbuilding	15/4/2021	Permit Issued - VCAT	VCAT
PP-21-2016/A	3 Bridge Road, BARWON HEADS VIC 3227	Development of a Retail Premise (Supermarket), Development of Four (4) Dwellings, Associated Carparking, Display of Business Identification Signage including Internally Illuminated Signage and Reduction in Car Parking, Waiver of Bicycle Facilities and Alteration to the Existing Packaged Liquor Licence Area	22/4/2021		VCAT
PP-273-2018	345-365 Barwon Heads Road, CHARLEMONT VIC 3217	Use and development of a Service Station, works associated with an existing dwelling (driveway), Creation of Access to a Road Zone Category 1, Removal of Native Vegetation and Display of Internally Illuminated Business Identification and Pylon Signage.	16/4/2021	Permit Issued - VCAT	VCAT
PP-503-2010/B	10 Marmion Circuit, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Subdivision of Land in Stages, Creation of Access to a Road Zone Category 1, Removal of Native Vegetation and Removal of Sewer Easement (E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5 AND E-6) from LP 62165 and LP 68598.	30/4/2021	DMC Refusal	Decision Making Committee
	2 Cerberus Drive, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Subdivision of Land in Stages, Creation of Access to a Road Zone Category 1, Removal of Native Vegetation and Removal of Sewer Easement (E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5 AND E-6) from LP 62165 and LP 68598.		DMC Refusal	Decision Making Committee
PP-534-2020	2 Cerberus Drive, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Multi-Lot Subdivision (47 Lots) of Four Existing Lots.	30/4/2021	DMC Refusal	Decision Making Committee

PP-905-2015	155 Staughton Vale Road, STAUGHTON VALE VIC 3340	Use and Development of a School in Association with Agriculture and Outdoor Education and Use and Development of a Caretakers Residence	23/4/2021	Extended Planning Permit	Delegated Authority
PP-112-2021	16 Station Lake Road, LARA VIC 3212	Use and Development of the Land for a Medical Centre (Osteopath Clinic)	22-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1123-2020	264 Roslyn Road, HIGHTON VIC 3216	Construction of Three (3) Dwellings and Three (3) Lot Subdivision	9-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1178-2020	5-5A Lookout Road, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Construction of a Dwelling Greater than 7.5 metres High	23-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-12-2021	152 Shannon Avenue, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Extension to Existing Building, Canopy Over Footpath, Business Identification Signage, Reduction of Car Parking and a General Liquor Licence	23-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	4
PP-1230-2020	141-149 Scotchmans Road, BELLARINE VIC 3223	Buildings and Works for Construction of an Outbuilding	9-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	2
PP-1231-2019	3/4-6 Driftwood Street, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Building and Works Associated with an Extension to a Deck of Existing Dwelling on a Lot Less than 300sqm	20-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	2
PP-1317-2020	20 Wyuna Parade, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	13-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1349-2020	34 Breadalbane Street, NEWCOMB VIC 3219	Construction of Two Additional Dwellings and Three Lot Subdivision	27-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	3
PP-1361-2020	5 Clifford Parade, BARWON HEADS VIC 3227	Use and Development of the Land for a Place of Assembly (Arts Hub)	12-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	4
PP-1368-2020	168-170 Pakington Street, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Buildings and Works Associated with Alterations to an Existing Building and Signage, The Use of the Land for the Sale and Consumption of Liquor and the Reduction in Car Parking	23-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-1516-2020	31 Chaucer Street, HAMLYN HEIGHTS VIC 3215	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	8-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	2

PP-162-2021	17 Cambra Road, BELMONT VIC 3216	Construction of Two (2) Dwellings and a Two (2) Lot Subdivision	8-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	1
PP-287-2020	3 Robb Avenue, HAMLYN HEIGHTS VIC 3215	Construction of Two Dwellings	15-Apr-2021	NOD - Delegate	1

TIME LIMIT:

As per the Governance Rules (3.37.2) a meeting may not continue after 10pm unless a majority of members present vote in favour of its continuance.

Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Mason seconded –

That the meeting continue to proceed as per the Governance Rules (3.37.2).

Carried.

Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Nelson seconded -

That the meeting be closed to the public.

Carried.

The meeting was closed to the public at 10.02pm

Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Nelson seconded -

That the meeting be opened to the public.

Carried.

The meeting was opened to the public at 10.08pm

A record of the proceedings of this section of the meeting is contained in a Confidential Minute Book.

CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 10.08pm Tuesday, 25 May 2021.

Signed: _____

Cr Stephanie Asher (Mayor)

Date: _____