

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 25 March 2025
6:00 pm

City Hall
57 Little Malop Street, Geelong 3220

LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE:

www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings

COUNCIL:

Cr S Kontelj (Kardinia Ward) - Mayor
Cr R Nelson (Barrabool Hills Ward) - Deputy Mayor
Cr E Sinclair (Charlemont Ward)
Cr M Cadwell (Cheetham Ward)
Cr E Wilkinson (Connewarre Ward)
Cr A Aitken (Corio Ward)
Cr A Katos (Deakin Ward)
Cr E Kontelj (Hamlyn Heights Ward)
Cr T Sullivan (Leopold Ward)
Cr R Story (Murradoc Ward)
Cr C Burson (You Yangs Ward)

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Present: Cr S Kontelj
Cr R Nelson
Cr T Sullivan
Cr A Aitken
Cr E Wilkinson
Cr E Sinclair
Cr A Katos
Cr E Kontelj
Cr M Cadwell
Cr R Story
Cr C Burson

Also Present: A Wastie (Chief Executive Officer), T Edwards (Executive Director, Corporate Services), T Bradley (Executive Director, Placemaking), J Stirton (Executive Director, City Infrastructure), A Higgs (Acting Executive Director City Life), A Martin (Chief Governance and Risk Officer) J Douglas (Manager Council & Corporate Governance) E Ryan (Senior Governance Advisor – Council Business) D Pangrazio (Governance Advisor – Council Business).

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

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Council acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

1.2. Apologies

Nil

1.3. Leaves of Absence

RESOLUTION - Item 1.3.1

Cr A Katos moved, Cr E Kontelj seconded -

That Leave of Absence be granted to Cr A Aitken from 5 July 2025 to 15 July 2025, inclusive.

Carried

1.4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Nil

1.5. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION - Item 1.5.1

Cr E Kontelj moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 February 2025 be confirmed.

Carried

1.6. Public Question and Submission Time

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

The following persons submitted questions prior to the Council Meeting and presented them at the Council Meeting, on the following subjects:

- Marg Burke - Meetings with First Nations Leaders & RAP
- Gary Oraniuk - Consultation & Council Efficiencies
- Barry M - Lara Swimming Pool Signage
- Clare Johnstone - Sale of Public Housing
- Sarah Hathway - Sale of Public Housing
- Irith Williams - First Nations
- Bruce Mccoll - Talbot St & Paringa Lane, Barwon Heads
- Claire Mccoll - Talbot St & Paringa Lane, Barwon Heads
- Michael Robertson - Paringa Lane, Barwon Heads

The following persons submitted questions prior to the Council Meeting but were not in attendance to present them at the Council Meeting, on the following subjects:

- Jaimie Jeffrey – Avalon Airshow

SUBMITTER 1. MARG BURKE**Subject: MEETINGS WITH FIRST NATIONS LEADERS & RAP Relevant City Department: City Life****Question 1:**

In response to the question submitted by One Fire to Council in February 2025 we were informed that the City welcomes ongoing dialogue with First Nations Groups and Leaders and that the Mayor had met with First Nations Leaders. Can you please inform us of the outcome of this meeting? Did the meeting occur before or after a vote of no confidence in the Council was issued by Traditional Owners and First Nations Organizations? Has the Council done anything further, or are you planning anything, to respectfully build trusting and effective ongoing dialogue with First Nations groups and leaders.

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question Marg.

It is acknowledged that the observance of Australia Day remains a subject of ongoing public discussion within the Australian and the Geelong community. All existing commitments, aside from the decision made on January 28, 2025 regarding the naming of Australia Day, remain firmly in place. The organisation continues to make meaningful progress in collaboration with the First Nations Community across a range of areas such as cultural heritage, family services, arts and culture, and employment pathways.

Question 2:

The City of Greater Geelong has a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan that was developed to change the way the CoGG do things to better support reconciliation within our organization and within our community. Since elected in October 2024 what action has this Council taken to ensure it is to meeting the commitments outlined in this Reconciliation Action Plan?

Question 2 Response:

Council acknowledges that the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) was thoughtfully developed and implemented by the Council of its time. The progression and redevelopment of the RAP responsibility is at an operational level, and Council will actively contribute input at the appropriate stage of the process.

SUBMITTER 2. JAIMIE JEFFREY**Subject: AVALON AIRSHOW****Relevant City Department: Placemaking / City Life****Question 1:**

Please provide the names and titles of all City of Greater Geelong staff and Councillors who have or will attend the following Avalon Airshow events:

- The Avalon 2025 Defence and Industry dinner on Monday 24th March
- The Distinguished Visitor Welcome to Avalon 2025 on Tuesday 25th March
- The Avalon 2025 Official VIP Lunch on Tuesday 25th March, Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th, Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and/or Sunday 30th March
- The Victorian State Reception on Wednesday 26th March
- The GE Aerospace VIP Cocktail Reception on Wednesday 26th March
- The Nova Systems 25-year Anniversary Stakeholder Event on Wednesday 26th March
- The Avalon 2025 All Nations Networking Function on Thursday 27th March
- The Manufacturing Excellence Celebration and Awards Dinner on Thursday 27th March, sponsored by City of Greater Geelong and others
- The Avalon 2025 Night Aflight VIP Dinner on Friday 28th March

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question, Jamie,

The Avalon International Airshow is a major economic driver, delivering significant investment, job creation, and business opportunities for Greater Geelong. The City's support aligns with our strategic priorities to foster growth, innovation, and industry engagement.

The City is not able to provide the names and titles of individuals who may be attending these events due to its compliance obligations with the Privacy & Data Protection Act 2014.

Additionally, due to security concerns, the release of such information could pose potential risks to the safety and privacy of our staff and Councillors.

Question 2:

The Avalon Airshow generates significant noise, especially at the Friday Night Aflight event where the noise replicates that of bombs exploding. This is triggering for many refugees in our community. What steps has council taken to provide appropriate supports to our refugee communities?

Thank you for your second question Jamie,

The City works closely with event organisers to support responsible planning and address community concerns. The Avalon International Airshow is widely promoted to keep the community informed.

With support from Cultura, a Geelong-based organisation supporting multicultural communities, the City has directly communicated flying demonstration schedules to the refugee community to raise awareness of the event.

SUBMITTER 3. GARY ORANIUK

Subject: CONSULTATION & COUNCIL EFFICIENCIES

Relevant City Department: City Life

Question 1:

Councils meetings severely limit the ability of constituents to query council as to matters of concern to them. In order for the town's people get adequate time to query their councillors I am calling for a town hall meeting to be conducted every second week in between regular council meetings, with the question of such an event to be put to the people via some sort of consultation process, as per an online survey. I am asking CEO Wastie and the councillors to undertake such a consultation.

Gary, thank you for your question. This evening, the Council trialed a "Meet Your Councillor" session at Wurriki Nyal, running for 45 minutes before the formal Council meeting. Several councillors attended to connect with the community in an informal setting, allowing for open questions and discussions. The format and its timing will be reviewed ahead of the next Council meeting.

Looking ahead, there are various other opportunities for community engagement with councillors. In April and May, councillors will host pop-up sessions across Greater Geelong to gather feedback on the draft budget and the Council Plan for 2025–29, with specific dates to be announced in April. Additionally, Neighbourhood Conversations will begin in May, involving councillors, Youth Council members, and City officers. These conversations aim to strengthen ties with the community and gather input on ongoing engagement projects.

Alongside these events, some councillors are also organizing their own face-to-face engagements within their respective wards to also connect directly with residents.

Question 2:

Given the inordinate timeframe for dealing with issues such as the Balyang Golf Club and the East Geelong Local cafe parklet issue, serious questions arise as to the efficacy of council consideration of such deliberations. To have such matters taking a year or more to conclude is extraordinary, given that council has a huge number of staff, which should be sufficient to conclude consultations with the aforementioned people involved in planning application decision making. When is council going to ensure, and actually undertake to cease extending such matters interminably?

Question 2 Response:

Thank you for your second question Gary. I note your views regarding the Balyang Golf Club and East Geelong Local Cafe parklet issues.

Public decision-making within council often involves a detailed and thorough process to ensure that all required considerations are fully met. Each decision is unique and timelines can be influenced by a variety of factors including the need for ongoing engagement with stakeholders and additional community consultations.

There is not always a "one-size-fits-all" approach. Each case involves its own complexities that could extend the time required to reach a decision. We strive to ensure decisions are made in a timely manner. This process must account for the need for due diligence, administrative and legal requirements, and broader community interests.

SUBMITTER 4. BARRY M**Subject: LARA SWIMMING POOL SIGNAGE****Relevant City Department: City Life****Question 1:**

As we approach the end of another fantastic season at Lara Aquatic Center, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to the Council and all facility staff for their dedication and hard work. The efforts of Richard Hollins, Georgia Gordon, Rob Tregellas, and the entire management team, along with shift managers Cheyenne and Matt and all staff, have made this season another seamless success. Through strong collaboration, we were able to deliver multiple school and community swimming events, providing valuable opportunities for our members and the broader community. As we transition to indoor facilities next month, we look forward to continuing our partnership. However, we wanted to raise an opportunity for improvement that could help increase community awareness and engagement with the Lara Aquatic Center. Through conversations at various community events, we've noticed that many residents are unaware of the pool's location—with some even recognizing the Lara Pool car park only as the school bus stop on Forrest Road. The current signage presents some challenges: Northbound on Forrest Road: The sign is partially blocked by a tree and bus shelter, making it visible only within 75 meters before it disappears behind the bus shelter structure. Southbound on Forrest Road: The sign is severely sun-damaged and faded, limiting visibility.

We would like to ask if the installation of a new, more visible sign in an improved location could be prioritized before October 2025. Lara and the surrounding areas continue to grow, and we would love to work with City of Greater Geelong to better promote the Lara Aquatic Center and encourage more community members to visit and use the facility. Thank you for your time and consideration—we truly appreciate the ongoing support and look forward to another successful season ahead!

Hi Barry, thank you for your question and for highlighting your appreciation of the staff's hard work at the Lara Swimming Pool.

You have raised a couple of excellent suggestions. The Swim Sport and Leisure team will work with Council's Traffic Engineers with the aim to update our existing signage, and explore possibilities for new signage to better promote the Lara Pool.

SUBMITTER 5. CLARE JOHNSTONE**Subject: SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING****Relevant City Department: Placemaking****Question 1:**

Over the last two weekends, eleven publicly owned properties that were previously office of housing properties were sold off at private auction. There are multiple standing agreements with community organisations in the area to not sell off but rather engage with community to make the current housing stock available to those in need in the area. It has come to my attention, none of these groups were approached before these properties were sold at private auction. Homes Victoria has claimed that the sales are part of an ongoing program to refresh and renew the social housing portfolio to ensure it continues to meet the needs of renters and the communities however all we're seeing in our community is public assets being sold off. This is something I've seen play out before twice in Northern Queensland, leading to the cost of housing increasing and being priced out, the second time requiring me to relocate with my two children to Norlane, which was one of the few areas where we could afford to rent. Question 1: Is there any information sharing process between the Victorian State Government and City of Greater Geelong Council regarding the State Government selling off public land/assets in our local government area?

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question Clare,

The sale was conducted by the State Government. In instances where council land is impacted by proposed sales or the State Government requires information from the Council, Homes Victoria will contact the City.

Question 2:

Were any Council Officers or Councillors at the City of Greater Geelong Council aware of the Victorian State Government selling off multiple office of housing properties/vacant blocks at private auction across Norlane, Corio and North Geelong?

Thank you for your second question Clare,

Properties owned by the Office of Housing remain under the ownership, care and duty of State Government and its agencies, e.g. Homes Victoria.

The City has received no formal advice regarding the sale of eleven publicly owned properties and we are seeking confirmation of this information from the State Government.

SUBMITTER 6. SARAH HATHWAY**Subject: SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING****Relevant City Department: Placemaking****Question 1:**

Over the last couple of weeks I've been contacted by multiple residents in Norlane, who have noticed multiple office of housing properties being put up for sale at private auction. I spent Sunday afternoon driving around with residents documenting the properties that have just recently been sold in Norlane and Corio and whilst we were in the car, noted what seem to be multiple additional office of housing properties listed with another real estate agent also scheduled for private auction. This is generating a lot of anxiety in community from private renters and those currently in office of housing properties over concerns that private sale and development will price people out of the area who are currently renting privately and are one rent increase away from being forced out and those in office of housing property concerned it will be sold out from under them. Question 1: Are Council Officers and Councillors still committed to the City of Greater Geelong Council Social Housing Plan 2020-2041?

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question Sarah,

Sales were conducted by the State Government. The City remains committed to the Social Housing Plan 2021-2041. This commitment is demonstrated by Council considering a report at the 22 April Council Meeting regarding leasing Council land at 120 Purnell Rd, Corio for the purpose of social housing.

The City will also continue negotiations with landowners to provide voluntary social and affordable housing contributions are ongoing, with multiple successful agreements prepared for future developments.

Question 2:

In line with Council's Social Housing Plan 2020-2041 it was identified that Council has a leadership role, by advocating for an increase in social housing in public policy and in the local community. Given the recent sell off of multiple public housing properties across Norlane, Corio, and North Geelong and a number of other listings that appear to be further sale of public housing properties via private auction, will Council take this issue up with State Government as a matter of urgency, and advocate that this land be retained by the State Government and new social housing properties built.

Question 2 Response:

Thank you for your second question Sarah,

The City is committed to advocating to State and Federal Government for increased investment in social housing in order to address the significant unmet demand for social and affordable housing within our region.

SUBMITTER 7. IRITH WILLIAMS**Subject: FIRST NATIONS****Relevant City Department: City Life****Question 1:**

I originally asked this question 50 days ago, and have not received an answer, despite being promised 'a complete response within 7 days of the Council meeting'. So I am again reminding the Council that at the 10 December council meeting Geelong residents asked 18 questions addressing the Motion to abandon the council's 2023 adoption of recommendations by the 26 January community engagement report. This was done despite no such community engagement or any transparent or reliable evidence to support such a flagrant disregard for community engagement principles and practices. In response to these 18 questions, each resident was sent a on line response which stated "Thank you for your submission. Your statement has been noted by Officers." Given that our questions have been mislabelled as statements, and, given that Council policy is to answer residents' questions submitted to Council within 7 days. And given it has now been 105 days since those questions were submitted, can the council tell us when those questions will actually be answered?

Thank you, Irith, for your question. Full responses to the December Council meeting were provided after your follow up questions at the January Council meeting. Officers will resend responses to the December and January Council meetings as emailed on January 28 and January 30.

Question 2:

In a Council response to a question about the risks to the relationship between COGG and our First Nations community the council asserted the following: "The Greater Geelong Council had previously expressed its support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart via a letter to the Prime Minister in March 2021." Can the Council affirm it's continuing support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart?

Thank you, Irith, for your question. Full responses to the December Council meeting were provided after your follow up questions at the January Council meeting. Officers will resend responses to the December and January Council meetings as emailed on January 28 and January 30.

SUBMITTER 8. BRUCE MCCOLL**Subject: TALBOT ST & PARINGA LANE, BARWON HEADS****Relevant City Department: Placemaking****Question 1:**

The development occurring at 2A Talbot St and 4-8 Paringa Lane is located within an Increased Housing Diversity Area (IHDA) which seeks a "medium density" response. The planning department issued a planning permit for a reduction in density in an IHDA, ie 4 dwellings to one dwelling? Is this not an "underdevelopment" of the site? (note. there is existing case law on "underdevelopment". This is contrary to all VPP's relating to Urban Development in existing residential zones and IHDA areas under the the City of Greater Geelong Planning Scheme. Can Council explain how the planning department justifies the issuing of this permit?

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question Bruce,

The planning application for 2a Talbot Street and 4-8 Paringa Lane was for construction of a single dwelling in a General Residential Zone.

Firstly, it is relevant to note that a single dwelling is an as-of-right use in the General Residential Zone. A planning permit was only required under the provisions of the planning overlays (relating to flood, design and development).

Therefore, the City was not in a position to consider whether or not the proposal was an underdevelopment of the site.

Question 2:

2A Talbot St and 4-8 Paringa Lane, represents an unprecedented residential development in terms of size, bulk and environmental impact within Barwon Heads. It has been characterised by a deliberate strategy of creeping amendments that has stifled community input, generating widespread mistrust of the planning process. To restore community trust, will the council agree to undertake an independent review of this project to identify proposed actions that will help prevent these tactics being employed on future projects?

Question 2 Response:

Thank you for your second question Bruce,

The City acknowledges that the planning permit process provides that applicants can apply for amendments to a planning permit. These are statewide requirements and officers can only consider the application submitted before them.

The current amendment is for a third storey to the approved two storey development and is currently on public notice. There is no commitment for a review, officers must have regard to the applicable policies in the Planning Scheme.

SUBMITTER 9. CLAIRE MCCOLL

Subject: TALBOT ST & PARINGA LANE, BARWON HEADS

Relevant City Department: Placemaking

Question 1:

With regard to the development at 2A Talbot St and 4-8 Paringa Lane, can the Council explain how a single dwelling can contain 3 kitchens on 3 self contained floors?

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question Claire,

We note as part of the submission the permit applicant only applied for a single dwelling.

In terms of the definition of a dwelling in accordance with the Planning Scheme, a dwelling includes a building with a kitchen sink.

This definition does not include nor preclude multiple kitchens nor does the definition preclude multiple floors in order to meet the definition.

The plans include one vehicle accessway for three vehicles, a single street entry for the building and internal connectivity to each level via a lift or stairs.

Based on the details of the development, the proposal is considered to be a single dwelling.

SUBMITTER 10. MICHAEL ROBERTSON**Subject: PARINGA LANE, BARWON HEADS****Relevant City Department: Placemaking****Question 1:**

Further to the email sent by Michael Robertson on Monday, 24 March 2025, titled "RE: URGENT - ATT ENGINEERING - FW: 4 Paringa Lane Barwon Heads," could the City of Greater Geelong (COGG) please outline what actions it is taking in relation to the ongoing nuisances and serious health and safety concerns raised? These concerns, which include traffic management, dust and mud control on the construction site, road management, and noise and vibration, are issues we believe fall directly within Council's jurisdiction. Can Council provide clarity on the steps being taken to address these matters?

Question 1 Response:

Thank you for your question Michael,

The private building surveyor ("PBS") is appointed under the provisions of the Building Act and is responsible for ensuring the building complies with the regulatory requirements.

Council Officers have contacted the PBS and relayed the residents' concerns. The PBS has raised the issues with the builder who is undertaking the building project in accordance with the EPA, Workcover and regulatory requirements.

The Builder has an internal Project Safety & Environmental Management Plan, Construction Management Plan and relevant Risk Assessments in place and continues to update these as the nature of the works on site change throughout the construction period.

These measures endeavour to minimise disruptions to residents during construction whilst ensuring the project is completed within the required timeframes.

Question 2:

Can Council explain why it believes that many, if not most, of the issues raised fall outside its responsibility, and provide a position on its duty of care and regulatory obligations regarding these concerns? This question is asked in the context that the complaints, inspections, and correspondence we've received thus far suggest a lack of understanding of the project's complexity, and more importantly, Council's role in overseeing and managing these matters.

Question 2 Response:

Thank you for your second question Michael,

Council is not the Responsible Authority for the building permit. This responsibility falls on the Private Building Surveyor appointed under State Government legislation (Building Act 1993).

Other regulatory agencies such as EPA and Workcover set guidelines for construction activity. Council may enforce these matters when breaches are identified, or the EPA can take direct enforcement action if required.

Should residents continue to have concerns with the construction, we encourage direct contact with the Builder and/or the Building Surveyor to work through matters in a collaborative way. Alternatively the Victorian Building Authority can be contacted if necessary.

1.7. Petitions

1. Closure of the Breamlea Post Office & General Store

Cr E Wilkinson presented the petition on behalf the residents of Breamlea and Connewarre. The petition *seeks the following commitments from the* City of Greater Geelong regarding the announced closure by the Barwon Coast of the Breamlea General Store and LPO on 5 May 2025:

- That Council calls on the Barwon Coast to defer its decision to close the Breamlea General Store and LPO for a minimum period of six months.
- That Council requests Australia Post maintain existing services over the same period.
- That Council agrees to participate in and co-lead a co-design process to determine a viable business model for the General Store and LPO, including support in consultancy fees and any other associated costs.
- That Council advocates to the Federal and State Members of Parliaments and their Governments seeking their support for the public investment in the General Store and LPO serving the Breamlea and Connewarre communities.
- In the interests of transparency, that Council releases its agreement with Barwon Coast and transfer crown land in Breamlea including the Breamlea caravan park, general store, and post office in 2022. This should include all related council reports and data leading up to the supporting this decision.

The petition included approximately 182 signatures.

2. REPORTS

2.1. Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2025

Source: City Life
Executive Director: Anthony Basford

Through a statement made by the CEO, this item was removed from the agenda and will return to Council in the coming months.

2.2. Amendment C444ggee - Southeast Lara Residential Growth Area and Amendment C453ggee - Lara Business Park

Source: Placemaking
Executive Director: Tennille Bradley

Purpose

1. To seek a Council resolution to prepare and exhibit Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendments C444ggee and C453ggee.

Background

2. Between 2022 and 2023, Tract Consultants submitted two applications on behalf of the proponent 'Lara Farms' to amend the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme and rezone land in Lara.
3. Amendment C444ggee – Southeast Lara Residential Growth Area applies to land at 76-156 Canterbury Road East, 705-765 Princes Highway, 775 Princes Highway and 785-805 Princes Highway, Lara. The land area for Amendment C444ggee is shown in dark blue at **Attachment 1**.
4. Amendment C453ggee – Lara Business Park applies to land at 705-765 Princes Highway, 785-805 Princes Highway, 76-156 Canterbury Road East and 610 Rennie Street, Lara. The land area for Amendment C453ggee is shown in yellow at **Attachment 1**.
5. The sites are located within the Farming Zone and combined, total 114 hectares. The sites are boarded by Canterbury Road East to the north, Princes Highway to the south and east and Melbourne to Geelong rail corridor to the west.
6. The sites are located to the immediate south of Lara Town Centre which supports a variety of higher order land uses including Lara Village Shopping Centre, Lara Train Station, open space, education centres and health facilities and is proximate to the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct, Avalon Airport, Geelong – Melbourne rail corridor, Princes Highway, Hovell Creek and Limeburners Bay.
7. The *G21 Regional Growth Plan 2013* and the *City of Greater Geelong Settlement Strategy 2021* identifies Lara as a 'District Town' and as being in an 'Established Urban Area' capable of facilitating infill housing.
8. The *Lara Structure Plan 2011* identifies the land impacted by Amendment C444ggee as being appropriate for residential development provided it is outside the 100-year flood extent and land impacted by Amendment C453ggee as being suitable for a business park and potential sporting facility.
9. The Lara Outdoor Recreation Facilities Study (December 2008) identified a significant demand for the development of a dedicated 6 hectare (ha) soccer facility. The *Social Infrastructure Plan 2020* adopted a desired sport open space provision rate of 2ha/1,000 people and establishes a district sporting reserve target size of 8ha – 15ha, servicing a catchment of 3,000-5,000 people within a 1km radius.

Key Matters

10. Amendment C444ggee seeks to facilitate the development of approximately 600 dwellings by rezoning land to the General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1) supported by planning controls to manage subdivision, development and potentially contaminated land.
11. Amendment C453ggee seeks to facilitate the development of an industrial and commercial business park. It does this by rezoning land closest to the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct to Industrial 1 Zone (IN1Z) to provide for manufacturing industry, the storage and distribution of goods and associated uses. It rezones land between the proposed residential area (GRZ1) and the IN1Z to Industrial 3 Zone (IN3Z) to provide a buffer between the IN1Z and future residents.
12. **Attachment 2** shows the proposed zones and overlays relevant to Amendment C444ggee and Amendment C453ggee.
13. Council officers have identified a future need within the southeast area of Lara for a District Outdoor Sports Facility. Land south of Canterbury Road East is the recommended location as shown at **Attachment 1**. The purchase of land to facilitate the development of the Facility would be included as part of a business case and incorporated into a future budget.
14. Numerous technical reports have been provided informing the proposed Development Plan Overlay for Amendment C444ggee and the proposed Design and Development Overlay for Amendment C453ggee. Refer to **Attachment 3** for discussion.
15. The proponent has agreed to enter into legal agreements to contribute to community infrastructure and affordable housing in Lara as part of the planning scheme amendment process.
16. The proposal is recommended for public exhibition subject to Ministerial authorisation.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.3

Cr C Burson moved, Cr A Katos seconded –

That Council:

- 1. Support the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C444ggee and Amendment C453ggee to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to:**

Amendment C444ggee

- 1.1. Rezone land at 76-156 Canterbury Road East (part), 775 Princes Highway (part) and 785-805 Princes Highway (part), all in Lara, from Farming Zone to General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (as shown in Attachment 2);**
- 1.2. Insert a new Schedule to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay (DPO) and apply to 76-156 Canterbury Road East (part), 705-765 Princes Highway (part), 775 Princes Highway and 785-805 Princes Highway (part), all in Lara (as shown in Attachment 2);**
- 1.3. Apply the Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO) to 76-156 Canterbury Road East (part), Lara; and**
- 1.4. Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.03 to include maps 19EAO and 19DPO.**

Amendment C453ggee

- 1.5. Rezone land at 785-805 Princes Highway (part) and 705-765 Princes Highway (part), all in Lara, from Farming Zone to Industrial 3 Zone (as shown in Attachment 2);**
 - 1.6. Rezone land at 705-765 Princes Highway (part) and 610 Rennie Street, all in Lara, from Farming Zone to Industrial 1 Zone (as shown in Attachment 2); and**
 - 1.7. Insert a new Schedule to Clause 43.02 Design and Development Overlay and apply to 705-765 Princes Highway (part), 785-805 Princes Highway (part), 76-156 Canterbury Road East (part) and 610 Rennie Street, all in Lara (as shown in Attachment 2).**
- 2. Request the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C444ggee and Amendment C453ggee.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

17. There are no significant financial implications to Council beyond what are usually associated with the planning scheme amendment process. Costs associated with a planning panel hearing, should one be required, will be paid by the proponent.
18. Consistent with the State Government's infrastructure contributions framework, a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will be secured by a Section 173 Agreement to go toward social infrastructure in Planning Area 14 (Lara) of Greater Geelong's *Social Infrastructure Plan 2020-2023*. The section 173 agreement for CIL will be prepared and exhibited with the amendment (i.e. Amendment C444ggee residential rezoning).
19. Lara Farms Pty Ltd have also agreed to enter into negotiations with Council for an Affordable Housing Agreement. Negotiations will continue throughout the planning scheme amendment process with a section 173 agreement signed by the proponent prior to Council adopting Amendment C444ggee.

Community Engagement

20. The applicant 'Lara Farms' of the proposed Amendments has been consulting with Council officers in reaching the position to recommend preparation and exhibition of the Amendments. The landowner of 775 Princes Highway, who is not affiliated with the proponent, supports the rezoning proceeding.
21. Internal and external agencies including the APA Group (Australia's energy infrastructure partner), Barwon Water, Country Fire Authority, VicTrack, Department of Transport and Planning, Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action, Viva Energy, Environmental Protection Authority, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners were consulted.
22. If Council resolves to support exhibition, nearby landowners and occupiers, prescribed Ministers and other relevant agencies will be directly notified during the exhibition period. The broader community will be notified through notices in the local newspaper and the City of Greater Geelong website.
23. Interested parties will be able to make written submissions which are intended to be considered under Council delegation.

Social Equity and Sustainability

24. The amendments have appropriately considered social equity principles.
25. Amendment C444ggee will provide social benefits by facilitating residential development and affordable housing within the settlement boundary of Lara Township in proximity to a broad range of services including public transport, employment, education and open space.
26. Amendment C444ggee will contribute to community infrastructure through a levy on residential development that will service and benefit the township of Lara.
27. Amendment C453ggee will positively address social effects by providing development opportunities that will facilitate a range of employment generating activities and the possible future development of a District Outdoor Sports Facility that services the locals needs.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

28. There is policy support for Amendments C444ggee and C453ggee in the Planning Scheme's Planning Policy Framework. At Clause 11.01-1L-03 *Lara* the subject land is identified for conventional residential, with a potential business park and open space opportunity to the south of the Lara settlement boundary. The proposed residential rezone land is located within the settlement boundary and has long been designated for urban growth.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

29. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Strong local economy.
Sustainable growth and environment.
30. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, "Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future" community aspiration:
A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.
Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

31. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

32. Keys risks associated with the proposed Amendments include environmental impacts to the Bellarine Peninsular Ramsar Site and Hovell Creek, impacts to high pressure gas transmission lines and pipeline corridors, land use compatibility between the industrial and residential areas and potentially contaminated land associated with current land use.
33. The proponent provided several technical reports and Council engaged external agencies to assist with the management of the identified key risks.
34. The Stormwater Management Plan and Limeburners Bay Wetland Impact Assessment confirms that stormwater quantity and quality measures can be successfully implemented via drainage reserve on the Site in accordance with appropriate best practice standards to ensure there will be no adverse impacts generated on the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site.
35. Preliminary advice from APA Group (Australia's energy infrastructure partner) and Viva Energy in relation to the pipeline corridors and associated assets confirmed several information requirements and permit conditions that will be statutorily dealt with at the future planning permit stage for subdivision following the gazettal of these amendments.
36. Council officers have considered the context of the Site and whether any land use conflicts may result from the proposed zone changes. The land proposed to be rezoned to residential is outside the buffer to the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GRREP) and the proposed Industrial 3 Zone will provide a buffer to the heavy industry uses within the GRREP.

37. An Environmental Audit Overlay is proposed for any potentially contaminated land within Amendment C444ggee to ensure sensitive land uses are compatible with the land.

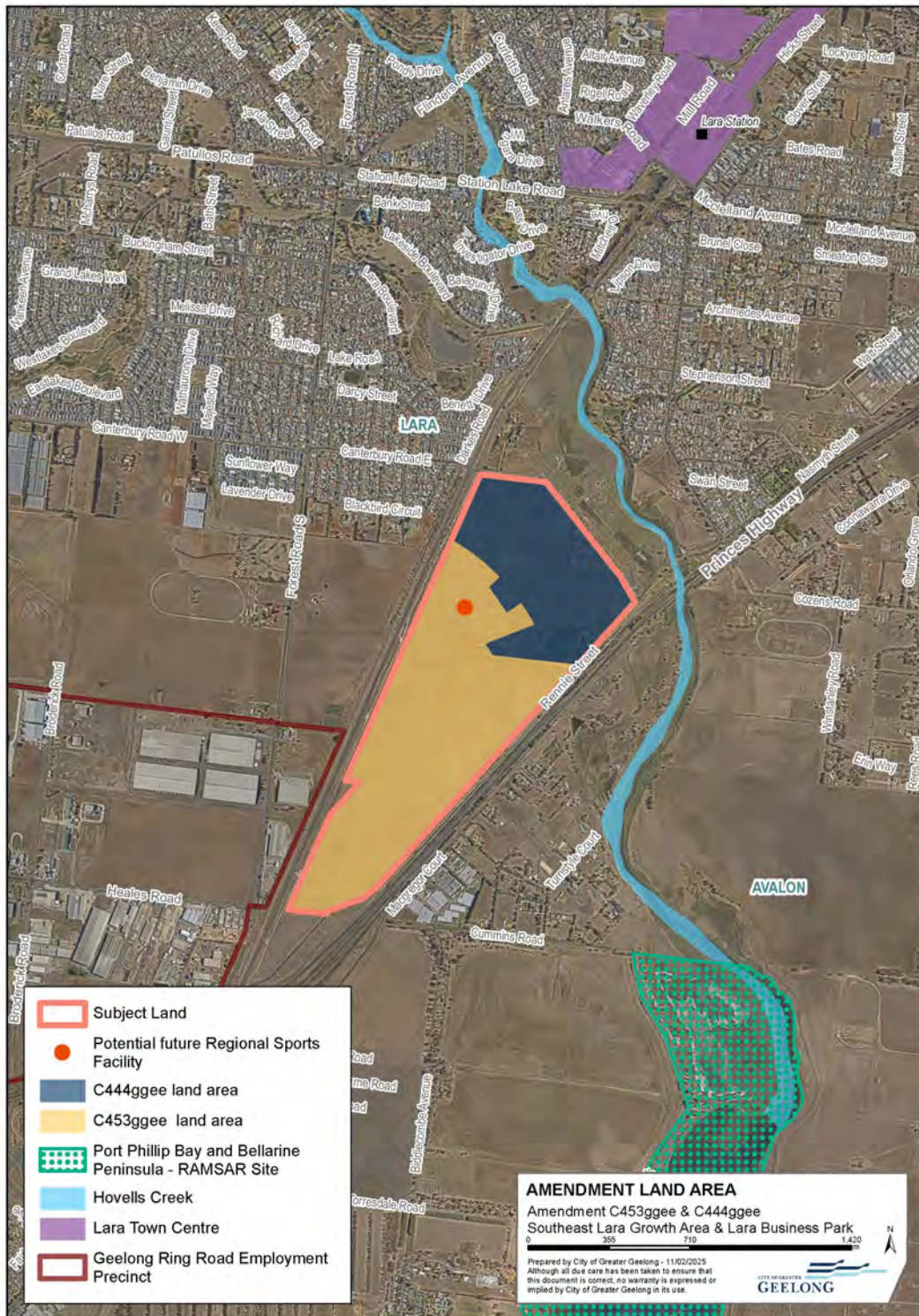
Environmental Sustainability

38. The amendments will be supported by technical assessments and planning controls to provide for sustainable subdivision design, stormwater and traffic management and the public realm. This information will inform the future development plan which is discussed in **Attachment 3**.

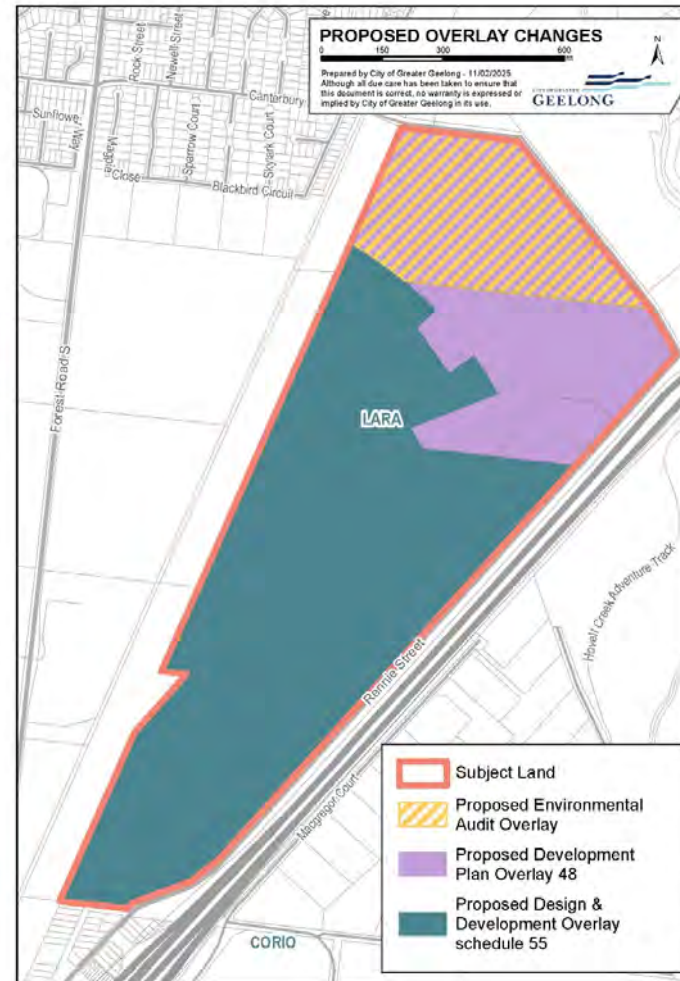
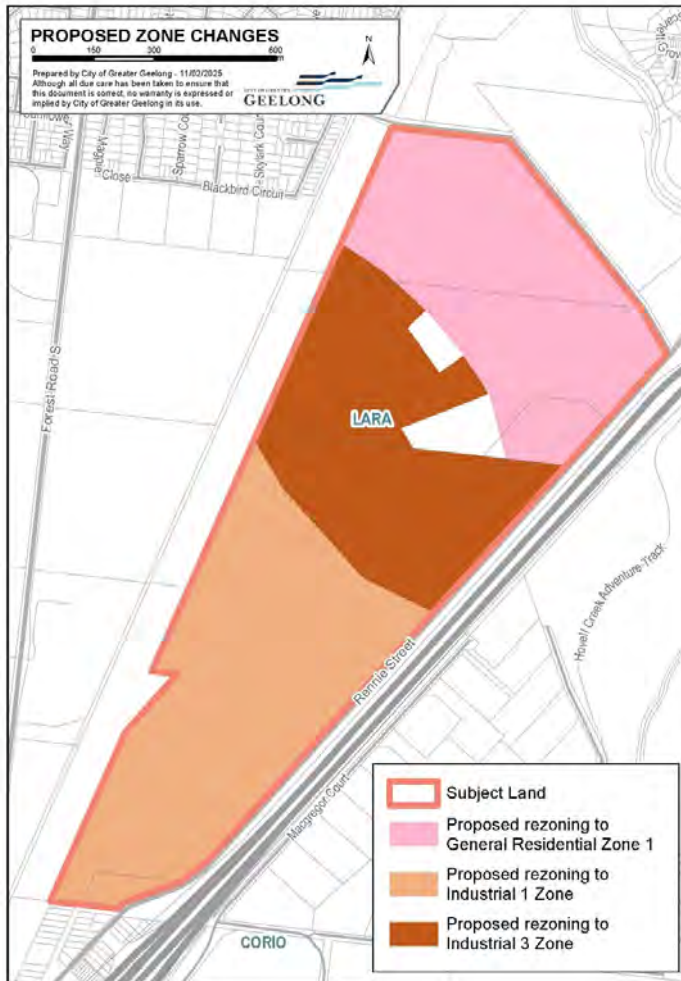
Attachments

1. Aerial map Amendment land area and surrounding area [**2.2.1** - 1 page]
2. Proposed Zones and Overlays Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee [**2.2.2** - 1 page]
3. Discussion Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee [**2.2.3** - 17 pages]

ATTACHMENT 1; Aerial Map – Amendment land area and surrounding area



ATTACHMENT 2; Proposed Zones and Overlays – Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee



ATTACHMENT 3; Discussion – Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee

Site Context

1. Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee was requested by Tract on behalf of Lara Farms Pty Ltd and impacts the land at 76-156 Canterbury Road East, Lara, 705-765, 775 & 785-805 Princes Highway, Lara and 610 Rennie Street, Lara. See Figure 1 below.



Figure 1; Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee

2. The subject land is currently located within the Farming Zone (FZ) and is not affected by any overlay controls. The land north of Canterbury Road East is subject to the Flood Overlay, however, is not included in the proposed Amendments C444ggee or C453ggee.
3. The subject land is comprised of approximately 114 hectares and is located 1.5km south of the Lara Town Centre and Lara Train Station.
4. It is boarded by Canterbury Road East to the North, Princes Highway to the east and south and Melbourne to Geelong rail corridor to the west.
5. The subject land is in proximity to the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GRREP), Avalon Airport, Hovells Creek Reserve, Port Phillip Bay and the Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar Site. See Figure 2 below.

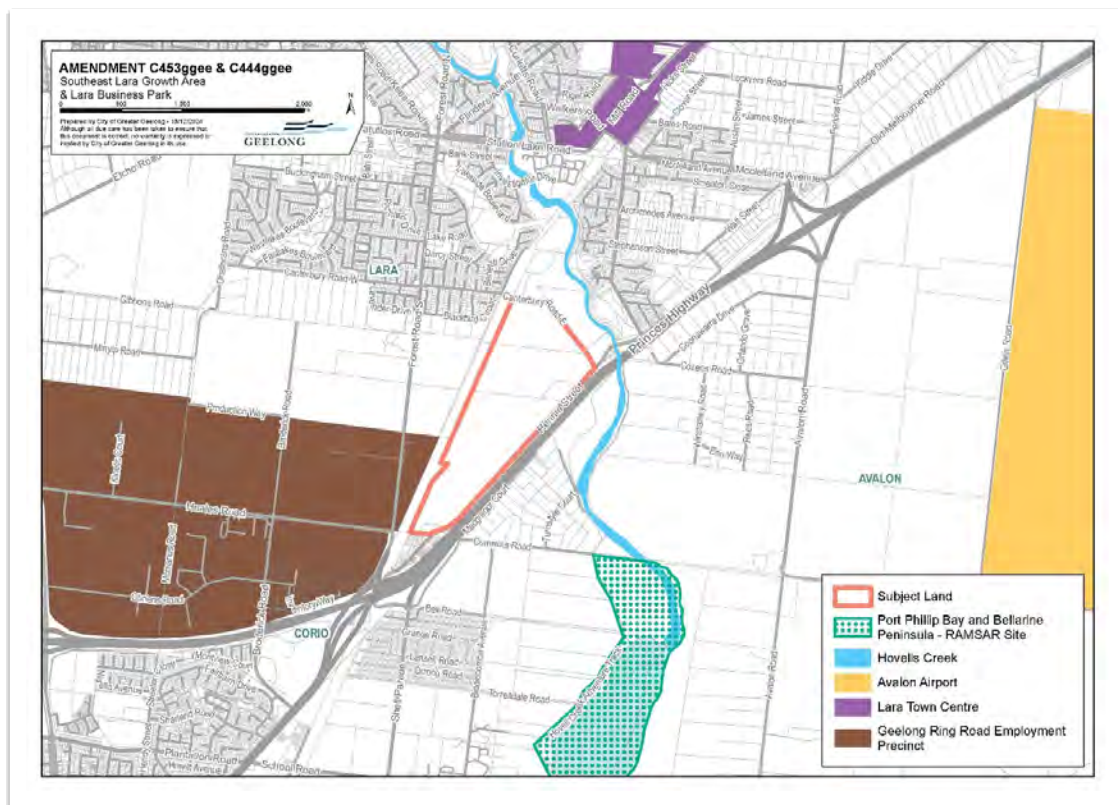


Figure 2; Subject land and its surrounding context



Figure 4; Amendment C444ggee proposed Design and Development Overlay (DPO48)



Figure 5; Amendment C444ggee proposed Environmental Audit Overlay (EAO)

Amendment C453ggee

10. On 22 December 2023, Tract Consultants on behalf of the applicants, Lara Farms, lodged a request for a planning scheme amendment (Amendment C453ggee) to rezone land to facilitate the development of a business park.
11. Amendment C453ggee proposes to rezone land at 705-765 (part) and 785-805 (part) Princes Highway, 76-156 (part) Canterbury Road East and 610 Rennie Street, Lara from the FZ to Industrial 1 Zone (IN1Z) and Industrial 3 Zone (IN3Z) subject to a Design and Development Overlay (DDO55). See Figure 6 and 7 below.
12. Council officers referred the amendment to internal and external agencies.
13. Internal departments identified a need for a District Outdoor Sports Facility in accordance with the *Lara Outdoor Recreation Facilities Study 2008* and *The Social Infrastructure Plan 2020*.
14. To bridge the sporting infrastructure demand gap, eleven hectares is proposed to accommodate 3 x Soccer fields, 1 x Lacrosse field & 6 (+2 (future expansion) x Netball courts, overlaid with AFL/Cricket ovals (for greater flexibility) and associated parking, pavilion, play/informal recreation, and circulation space.
15. Land within Amendment C453 is the recommended strategic site to enable delivery of the sporting quantum standards for Lara.
16. The development of the sports facility would be included as part of a business case and incorporated into a future budget separate to this Amendment process.
17. Council officers provided a formal response to the applicants on 2 April 2024 with a request for further information. The applicants provided a response to Council with additional technical reports supporting their application on 26 July 2024.
18. While the two Amendments were lodged separately and the applicants wish to continue the amendment process as two separate amendments, consideration needs to be given to how they interact.
19. Subject to Council resolution and Ministerial Authorisation, the Amendments will be exhibited concurrently for public comment mid 2025.



Figure 6; C453ggee proposed zones



Figure 7; Amendment C453ggee proposed Design and Development Overlay (DDO55)

Relevant Strategies and Policy

G21 Regional Growth Plan 2013

20. The *G21 Regional Growth Plan 2013* identifies Lara as a District Town and the land subject to Amendment C444ggee is considered as a growth area where development of underutilised sites and urban infill is actively recommended to ensure a range of housing choice.
21. Greater Geelong updated a set of reports on the status of land supply for the G21 region for both residential and industrial land. *The Industrial Land Supply Report 2018* identifies Lara as having 13 hectares of industrial land with the bulk zoned Industrial 3. Lara has less than 1 hectare of land available (0.55 hectares), and there may be a need to provide additional land for local service requirements.

Settlement Strategy 2021

22. *City of Greater Geelong Settlement Strategy 2021* identifies the subject land as being in an 'Established Urban Area' capable of facilitating modest infill housing.

Lara Structure Plan 2011

23. The *Lara Structure Plan 2011* specifically identifies the northern portion of the site as land that offers good opportunities for residential development provided such development is located outside the 100-year flood event.
24. The southwest corner of the site is located within the 1000 metre buffer zone required for the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct (GRREP) and provides an opportunity to investigate uses such as a sporting facility or a potential Business Park. See Figure 8 below.

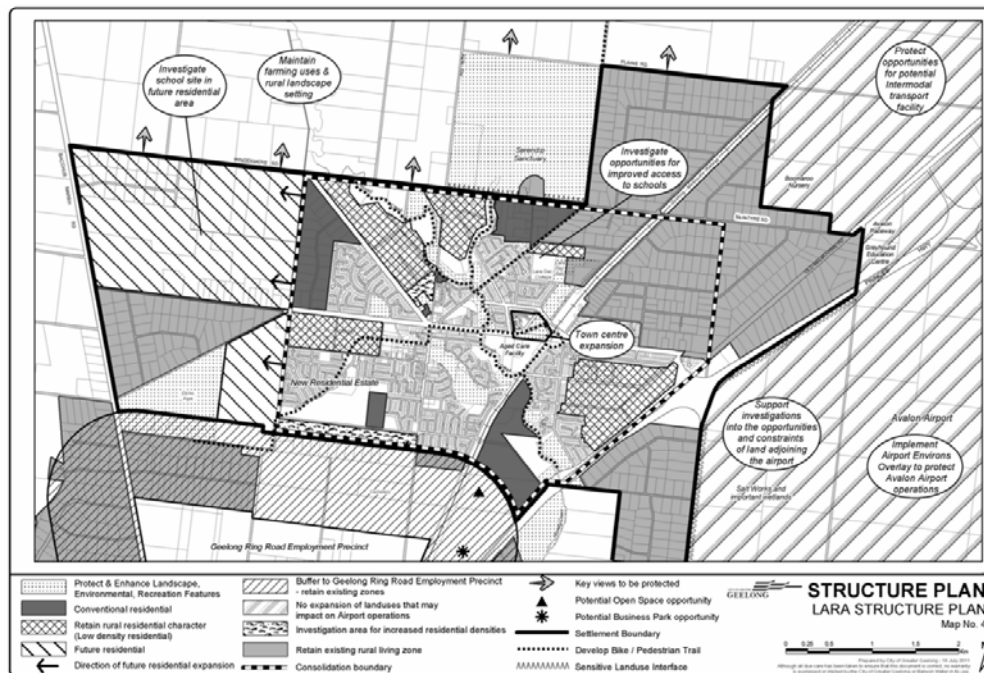


Figure 8; Lara Structure Plan Map

Strategic Considerations

25. Key considerations and constraints to Amendment C444ggee and Amendment C453ggee include potential impacts to downstream internationally recognised Limeburner’s Bay Ramsar wetlands, drainage and stormwater management, infrastructure upgrades, any impacts to Nationally listed species, potential contamination associated with past land uses, land use compatibility, APA high pressure gas pipeline and impacts on the rail corridor and Princes Highway.
26. Both Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee have undergone substantial consideration and is informed by several technical reports including:
 - a. Acoustic Report
 - b. Affordable and Social Housing Assessment
 - c. Bushfire Risk Assessment
 - d. Cultural Heritage Assessment
 - e. Fauna Assessment Report including two targeted surveys for Golden Sun Moth and Growling Grass Frog
 - f. Infrastructure Servicing Assessment
 - g. Limeburner’s Bay Ramsar Wetlands Impact Assessment
 - h. Preliminary Risk Screen Assessment
 - i. Site History Review

- j. Stormwater Management Strategy
- k. Traffic Impact Assessments
- l. Vegetation Assessment

Potentially Contaminated Land

27. A Site History Review (dated 16 May 2022) was completed for Amendment C444ggee to gain an understanding of historical activities and uses of the site, and their associated potential for contamination.
28. The Site History Review identified potential sources of contamination being associated with its past agricultural use.
29. A Preliminary Risk Screen Assessment (PRSA) was prepared for land in Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee by an appointed Environmental Auditor under the Environmental Protection Act 2017 and in accordance with the direction of Planning Practice Note 30 (PPN30).
30. The Auditor concluded that:
- a. an Environmental Audit is required for land at 76-156 Canterbury Road East, Lara, Victoria with the Environmental Audit focused on the eastern paddock area, which was the subject of the suspected poultry farming operations.
 - b. 705-775 & 785-805 Princes Highway, Lara, Victoria (the remainder of the site outside the potential poultry site use area) is unlikely that contaminated land is present, and no environmental audit is required.

Conclusion

31. The Environmental Audit Overlay is proposed for land identified as potentially contaminated within Amendment C444ggee to ensure it is suitable for the proposed land use.

Flood Impacts and Stormwater Management

32. The City of Greater Geelong commissioned a flood study within the Lara catchment in 2018 and this was finalised in 2020. The results of this flood study were proposed to be incorporated into the local planning scheme via planning scheme amendment C399ggee. However, following extensive community consultation, the proposed amendment was abandoned.
33. The *Lara Flood Study 2020* identified areas of flooding on the site. However, the Loetis – Stormwater Management Strategy (SWMS) conducted for Amendment C444 and C453 concluded that the identified flooding is a result of flows generated

from rainfall falling directly on the site and not from flows external to the site. It is not considered as required to undertake further flood modelling of the site and reference should be made to the catchment analysis in the Loetis – Stormwater Management Strategy (SWMS), the Venant Solutions – Preliminary Retarding Basin Requirements, and the Venant Solutions – Flood Impact Report.

34. The SWMS has identified two catchments for the site, a northern and southern catchment separated by a natural ridgeline that runs east to west across the site. Additionally, there is a gas transmission pipeline owned and managed by APA that transects the site west to east, generally along the alignment of the 705-765 Princes Highway northern boundary. This gas transmission line has stringent requirements around clearance to services crossing the line and to maintenance of existing cover to new roads and or surfaces. This line therefor limits the ability to convey stormwater flows across the gas line in the developed conditions.
35. The developed site catchment concept plan (Figure 9 below) proposes three wetland and detention basins that will ultimately discharge from the northern basin via a combined piped and swale outlet to Hovells Creek. This area has several constraints including a significant number of existing authority services and some sensitive vegetation. The area and proposed alignment are also subject to an approved Cultural Heritage Management Plan covering the proposed outfall works. See Figure 9 below.

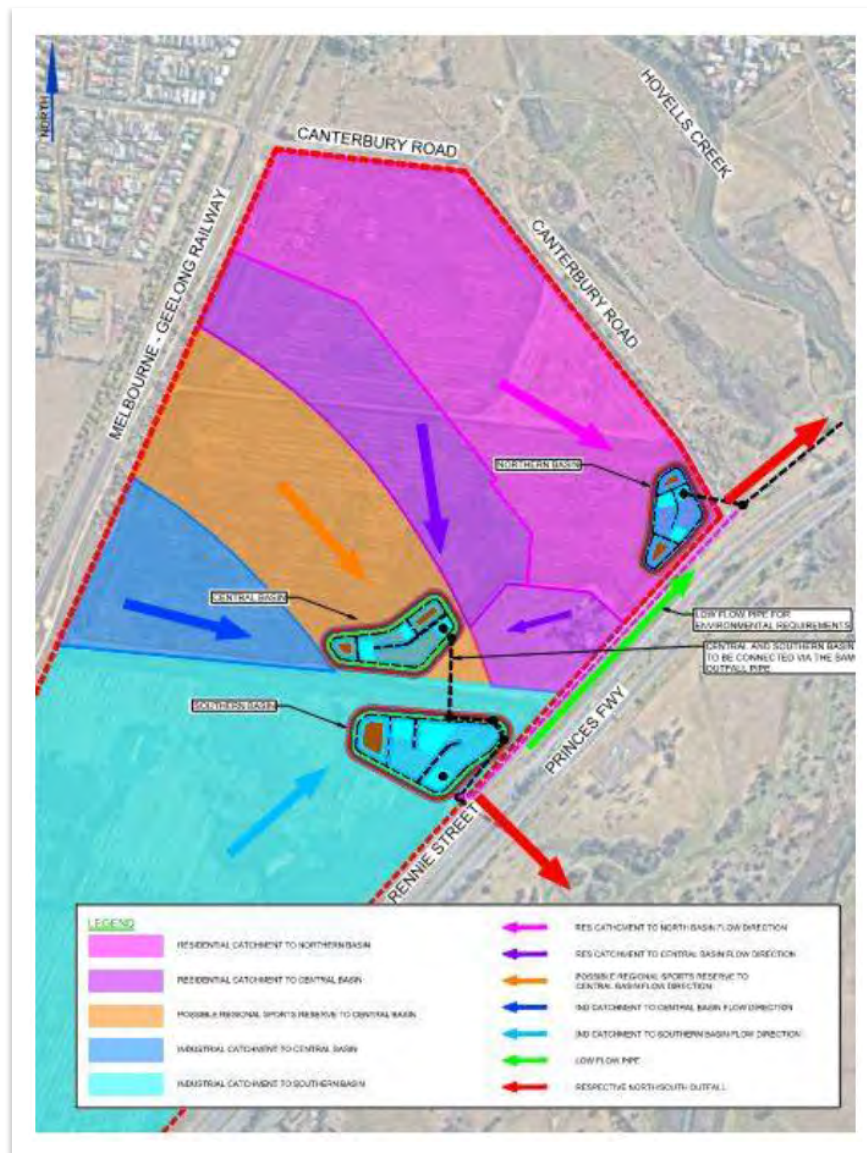


Figure 9; Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee SWMS Concept design for wetland and detention basin drainage outfall

36. It is considered that the basin designs will be optimised and evolved as additional levels of detail for both the basins and the surrounding development are progressed through the detail design phase and planning permit stage.

Conclusion

37. The proposed Development Plan Overlay (DPO48) requires an Integrated Water Management Plan that includes a drainage strategy that identifies land to be set aside for drainage purposes and addresses drainage feasibility, stormwater quality and peak discharge management.

Impact on Limeburners Bay Ramsar Wetland and Hovells Creek

38. The subject land impacted by Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee drains into Hovells Creek which in turn flows into Limeburners Bay.
39. Limeburners Bay forms part of the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site, which means it is a wetland of international importance. Therefore, any impacts from future development need to be assessed against the Matters of National Environmental Significance test under the EPBC Act (1999) as well as against impacts on species listed under the Victorian FFG Act (1988).
40. Venant Solutions assessed the potential environmental impact of increased runoff volume into Hovells Creek as well as increased flow rates into the floodplain wetland as a result of future development.
41. Venant Solutions – *Limeburners Bay Ramsar Wetland Impact Assessment Report, 6 November 2024* found that the development of the site would result in an unacceptable increase in the volume of water flowing into the floodplain wetland downstream of the southern outlet.
42. To mitigate this impact a piped flow diversion is proposed to take the increased runoff above existing conditions from the southern outlet to the northern outlet and then onto Hovells Creek. The general design intent is to approximately maintain the existing flow regime into the floodplain wetland. See Figure 9 above.

Conclusion

43. Council officers are satisfied that the discussed analyses and assessments of the *Limeburners Bay Ramsar Wetland Impact Assessment Report, 6 November 2024* indicate that the anticipated impacts of future development on natural values, including aquatic ecosystems, flora, and fauna, are generally minimal when mitigated with proper engineering solutions and environmental management measures.
44. The proposed Development Plan Overlay (DPO48) requires an Integrated Water Management Plan that has regard to the *Limeburner's Bay Ramsar Wetland Impact Assessment Report, 6 November 2024* and ensures no adverse impacts to any surrounding area, upstream or downstream, including the saline dependant floodplain values of Hovells Creek, the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site.

Flora and Fauna Impacts

Fauna Assessment

45. The subject site falls within the EPBC Act modelled distribution of the following Nationally Listed species:
- a. Striped Legless Lizard
 - b. Grassland Earless Dragon
 - c. Growling Grass Frog
 - d. Golden Sun Moth
 - e. Spiny Rice Flower
 - f. Victorian Grassland Earless Dragon
46. A fauna habitat assessment was conducted by Austral Research in November 2024 for land within both Amendment C444ggee and C453ggee to determine the likelihood of occurrence for nationally listed species occurring in the study area.
47. *The Fauna Assessment 2024* concluded that:
- a. Habitat for golden sun moth was present within both the Rennie Street and Canterbury Road East Road reserves.
 - b. Habitat suitable for supporting growling grass frog was present within Hovells Creek.
 - c. Key habitat characteristics associated with other listed species including Victorian grassland earless dragon were absent from the unploughed areas within the development site; and,
 - d. No other listed species are likely to be impacted by the proposal however an Environmental Management Plan should be prepared to ensure impacts to fauna, including Australasian bittern are minimised and/or avoided.
48. Targeted surveys were undertaken for the Golden Sun Moth and Growling Grass Frog. No species were detected.

Conclusion

49. Council offices are satisfied that there will be no negative impacts to Nationally Listed Fauna species and the subject land is suitable for rezone and development.
50. The proposed overlay controls (DPO48 and DDO55) require an Environmental Management Plan to ensure impacts to fauna including the Australasian bittern are minimised and/or avoided.

Vegetation Assessment

51. A vegetation assessment was conducted by Mark Trengove Ecological Services.

52. The vegetation of the study area is overwhelmingly degraded and is dominated by exotic pasture grasses and weeds. No natural surface basalt rock was recorded.
53. Non-patch (degraded) native vegetation exists at 705-765 Princes Highway consisting of areas of native Slender Wallaby-grass that occur amongst otherwise degraded exotic vegetation.
54. Two areas of patch native vegetation were recorded, both within the northern drainage outfall area adjacent to Hovells Creek. These patches are proposed to be partially impacted to create a northern drainage outfall. Consequently, there would be implications for the removal of these areas of native vegetation under the Regulations.
55. Six locally significant native vascular plant species were recorded from the study area. No State, National or Regionally significant plant species were recorded within the study area.
56. Five threatened ecological communities potentially occur in the vicinity of the study area. Two of these communities (Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain and Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain) were recorded for the study area. One of these communities (Western (Basalt) Plains Grasslands Community) is listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*.
57. Due to the small size and degraded nature of the recorded occurrences of these communities, it is assessed that there are no implications for the Commonwealth EPBC Act or the State FFG Act.
58. The study area is assessed to provide no habitat for the 15 listed threatened plant species that potentially occur within the study area. It is assessed that for two of the listed species suitable habitat does not exist and that for 13 of the listed species the existing conditions are too degraded to support the species.

Conclusion

59. Council officers are satisfied that there will be minimal impacts to existing vegetation and the removal of any native vegetation would be addressed at the planning permit stage through Clause 52.17 (Native Vegetation).

Traffic and Infrastructure upgrades

60. Two Traffic Impact Assessments were conducted for the subject site.
61. *Traffic Impact Assessment – Ratio* was conducted for land associated with Amendment C453ggee at 705-765 Princes Highway, 710 Rennie Street and 76-156 Canterbury Road East, Lara.
62. Based on the analysis presented in this report, the following conclusions were made:

- a. The site is expected to generate up to 982 vehicle movements in the AM and PM peak hours, with approx. 10% of these movements expected to be heavy vehicles consisting of light to medium rigid trucks.
 - b. Access to the site is proposed to include two entry roads off Rennie Street and the Industrial Business Park and possible District Outdoor Sports Facility can operate safely and efficiently with intersections performing to acceptable levels.
 - c. The anticipated site generated traffic is expected to have a minimal impact on the operation of the Rennie Street/Princes Freeway On-Ramp intersection.
 - d. While car parking, bicycle parking and loading provisions will be considered at the Planning Permit stages, it is expected that these components will be provided in accordance with the statutory requirements, unless there is empirical evidence to support otherwise.
63. *Traffic Impact Assessment – Traffix Group* was conducted for land associated with Amendment C444ggee at 76-156 Canterbury Road East and 85-805 Princes Highway, Lara.
64. Based on the analysis presented in this report, the following conclusions were made:
- a. The following mitigation works are required:
 - Upgrade of the existing Canterbury Road East level crossing to include an active gated control to facilitate safe pedestrian and dismounted cyclist movements across the rail line.
 - The provision of a short channelised right turn lane and a basic left turn treatment to be provided on Rennie Street at the Canterbury Road East/Rennie Street Intersection.
 - Upgrade Canterbury Road East to a connector style road, consistent with the balance of Canterbury Road East to the west of the rail line.

Conclusion

65. The proposed Development Plan Overlay (DPO48) requires a Road Network and Traffic Management Plan that includes details of all necessary upgrades to the surrounding road network including any required upgraded intersection treatments or level crossings informed by a Traffic Impact Assessment.

District Outdoor Sports Facility

66. The *Lara Outdoor Recreation Facilities Study (December 2008)* identified a significant demand for the development of a dedicated 6ha soccer facility.

67. The *Lara Structure Plan 2011* indicates land south of Canterbury Road East within the GRREP buffer as being the preferred location for a sporting field as it provides an opportunity for non-sensitive land uses that will not compromise the buffer.
68. The *Social Infrastructure Plan 2020* adopted a desired sport open space provision rate of 2ha/1,000 people and establishes a district sporting reserve target size of 8Ha – 15Ha, servicing a catchment of 3000-5000 people within a 1km radius.
69. To bridge the sporting infrastructure demand gap, eleven hectares is proposed to accommodate 3 x Soccer fields, 1 x Lacrosse field & 6 (+2 (future expansion) x Netball courts, overlaid with AFL/Cricket ovals (for greater flexibility) and associated parking, pavilion, play/informal recreation, and circulation space. See Figure 10 below.
70. With an additional 11ha of sporting open space, the Lara sport open space provision will increase to 1.6ha/1,000 people.
71. The Canterbury Road East site is the recommended strategic site to enable delivery of the sporting quantum standards for Lara. Further consideration would need to be given to the new EPA Separation Distance Guidelines 2024. (Figure 10)
72. The purchase would be included as part of a business case and incorporated into a future budget separate to these Amendments.



Figure 10; Possible future District Outdoor Sports Facility concept plan

Consultation with relevant agencies

73. Council have consulted with several internal departments of the City of Greater Geelong and relevant external agencies in preparing Amendments C444ggee and C453ggee including:

- a. APA Group
- b. Country Fire Authority (CFA)
- c. Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA)
- d. Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
- e. Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (DEECA)
- f. Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
- g. Vic Track
- h. Viva Energy
- i. Wadawurrung Tradition Owners

2.3. Proposed Road Discontinuance and Transfer of unmade road adjoining 137-167 Cox Road, Norlane

Source: Corporate Services
Executive Director: Troy Edwards

Purpose

1. To seek Council approval to initiate the statutory process for the road discontinuance of the land within certificate of title volume 8697 folio 911 which is an unmade road reserve within the property at 137-167 Cox Road, Norlane and sell the land to the current owner for a nominal value.

Background

2. The land at 137-167 Cox Road, Norlane includes two property titles, being certificates of title volume 8697 folio 911 and volume 8090 folio 935. The land is privately owned and there is a planning permit granted for the land to be developed as a residential development.
3. The width of the land in certificate of title volume 8697 folio 911 measures approximately 10 metre wide and 251.46 metres long and appears to have been set aside for the purpose of a road reserve in a historical subdivision. While it is not a road on the plan of subdivision, the title plan dated 5.9.1969 records the description on the land as Bates Street. The road is not constructed, used for this purpose or included in the Municipal Road Register.

Key Matters

4. The road status will need to be removed from the land to enable the subdivision to be registered with Land Use Victoria to release titles for the new lots.
5. The proposed road discontinuance will convert the land to unencumbered free hold land owned by the Greater Geelong City Council. The land can then be transferred back to the current owner for a nominal value. The Council will be reimbursed for expenses incurred in this transaction.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.3

Cr A Aitken moved, Cr A Katos seconded -

That Council:

- 1. Endorse community engagement and invite submissions in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Council's Community Engagement Policy, of its intention to discontinue the road within the land at 137-167 Cox Road, Norlane being certificate of title volume 8697 folio 911 measuring approximately 2,514.60m² and transfer the land to the current landowner for a nominal value;**
- 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**
- 3. Note that a further report will be presented to Council to consider the outcome of the community engagement.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

6. The City will be reimbursed for all costs incurred for the road discontinuance and the sale of the land.
7. As the land is legally owned by the current landowner and has never been included on the City's Municipal Road Register, it is proposed the City will not seek to sell the land at current market valuation. The road discontinuance will enable the land to be developed in accordance with the planning permit.

Community Engagement

8. Community engagement will be undertaken on the Have Your Say page and a notice published in the Geelong Advertiser.
9. Community engagement will include notice to abutting property owners.
10. Any person will have an opportunity to make a written submission on the proposed road discontinuance and sale of the land. 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 and Sustainability

11. There is no adverse social equity issues created as a result of this proposed road discontinuance and sale of land.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

12. Council has the authority to discontinue a road under Clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989* by notice published in the Government Gazette.
13. A person may make a submission in accordance with Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* on the proposed exercise of power to discontinue a road.
14. Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* applies to the sale of land.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

15. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority: Sustainable growth and environment.

Conflict of Interest

16. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

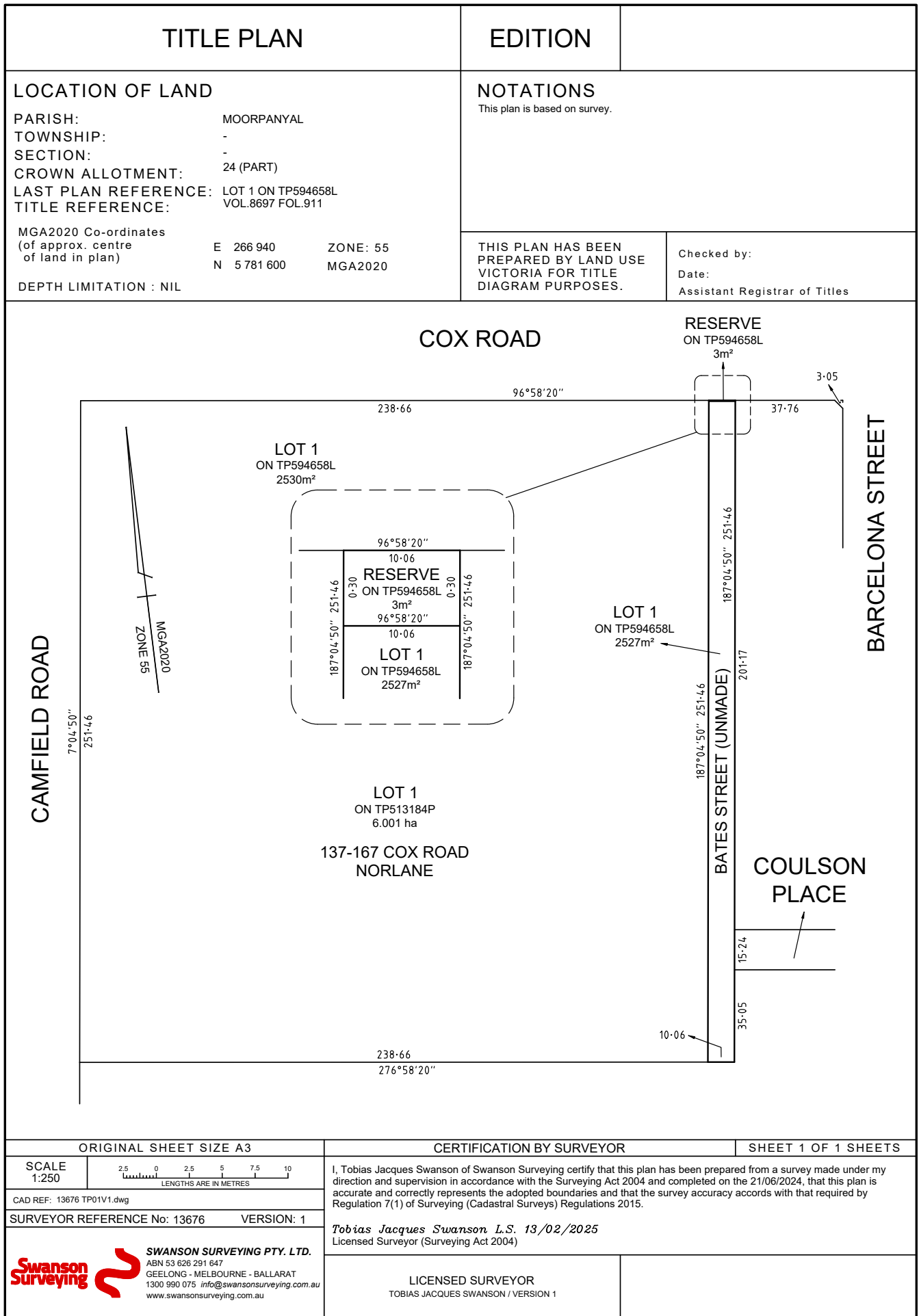
17. The planning permit application process includes a comprehensive assessment of risks regarding the development of the land. This will include ensuring new road reserves are fully constructed to current standards and support appropriate development, including services and traffic movements. Removing the road status from this part of the land will not impact this.

Environmental Sustainability

18. There are no environmental sustainability implications to the recommendations.

Attachments

1. Title Plan [2.3.1 - 1 page]
2. SITE MAP - 137-167 Cox Road Norlane [2.3.2 - 1 page]

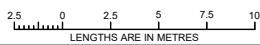


ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3

CERTIFICATION BY SURVEYOR

SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEETS

SCALE
1:250



I, Tobias Jacques Swanson of Swanson Surveying certify that this plan has been prepared from a survey made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the Surveying Act 2004 and completed on the 21/06/2024, that this plan is accurate and correctly represents the adopted boundaries and that the survey accuracy accords with that required by Regulation 7(1) of Surveying (Cadastral Surveys) Regulations 2015.

CAD REF: 13676 TP01V1.dwg

SURVEYOR REFERENCE No: 13676 VERSION: 1

Tobias Jacques Swanson L.S. 13/02/2025
Licensed Surveyor (Surveying Act 2004)



LICENSED SURVEYOR
TOBIAS JACQUES SWANSON / VERSION 1

SITE MAP – UNMADE ROAD RESERVE AT 137-167 COX ROAD, NORLANE

Site map shows intended plan of subdivision



2.4. Our Community Plan Quarterly Report - December 2024

Source: Corporate Services
Executive Director: Troy Edwards

Purpose

1. To present Our Community Plan Quarterly Report – December 2024 for consideration and endorsement by Council.

Background

2. Our Community Plan 2021–25 is Council’s key strategic document which identifies the outcomes and priorities Council will focus its efforts on over the four years, to ensure the social, economic, and environmental sustainability of our region. As one of Council’s key priorities is improving the health and wellbeing of our community, the municipal public health and wellbeing plan has been integrated with the council plan for the first time.
3. Our Community Plan 2021–25 is supported by an annual budget and an annual action plan, Our Community Plan 2021–25 – Annual Action Plan 2024–25, highlights the projects, initiatives and programs that will take place within the 2024–25 financial year.
4. This quarterly report provides progress against the one-year actions for the period 1 October 2024 – 31 December 2024. This is the second quarterly report for the Our Community Plan 2021–25 – Annual Action Plan 2024–25.

Key Matters

5. There are 58 actions reported upon in Our Community Plan 2021–25 – Annual Action Plan 2024–25.
6. At the end of December 2024, two actions are ‘complete’, 51 actions were ‘on track’, one action is ‘delayed’, one action is ‘off track’, two actions are ‘on hold’ and one action is ‘not proceeding’.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.4

Cr E Wilkinson moved, Cr E Sinclair seconded -

That Council:

1. **Notes Our Community Plan Quarterly Report – December 2024 (Attachment 1)**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

7. There are no financial implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

8. The Our Community Plan 2021–25 quarterly reports are prepared in consultation with Managers, Coordinators and Officers from across the organisation. The report will be made available to our community online through our website after the Council Meeting, with the year end results appearing in the City’s annual report.

Social Equity and Sustainability

9. Our Community Plan 2021–25 recognises the importance of social equity, access and inclusion as a key priority area contributing to the long-term sustainability of our community. The quarterly reports document the work we are undertaking to improve equity, access, and inclusion for all.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

10. The City’s activities are guided by the Our Community Plan 2021–25 which was adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and implementation monitored via the quarterly and annual reports.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

11. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority:
Healthy, caring and inclusive community.
High-performing council and organisation.
Strong local economy.
Sustainable growth and environment.
12. This report aligns with the Community led 30-year Vision, “Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future” community aspiration:
A destination that attracts local and international visitors.
A fast, reliable and connected transport network.
A leader in developing and adopting technology.
A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities.
An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community.
Creative and diverse culture.
Development and implementation of sustainable solutions.
People feel safe wherever they are.
Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment.

Conflict of Interest

13. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

14. There are no identified risks arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

15. As the organisation and region face considerable environmental challenges, Our Community Plan 2021–25 outlines the City's priorities in addressing the issues including climate change and waste, increasing population growth and threats to local biodiversity.

Attachments

1. Our Community Plan Quarterly Report - December 2024 [**2.4.1** - 20 pages]



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

OUR COMMUNITY PLAN 2021–25

—
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
QUARTERLY REPORT
DECEMBER 2024





INTRODUCTION

Our Community Plan 2021–25 outlines how we are working towards the 30-year community vision to make Greater Geelong a clever and creative city-region.

The plan informs the community of what Councillors are aiming to achieve during their four-year term, guides how we allocate resources so we can deliver infrastructure, services and programs to the community to ensure the social, economic and environmental sustainability of our region.

The four strategic directions we've chosen to guide us are:

- Healthy, caring and inclusive community
- Sustainable growth and environment
- Strong local economy
- High-performing Council and organisation.

As well as the strategic directions, the plan also outlines:

- Desired outcomes – the future state we're aiming for in four years and
- Four-year priorities – the priorities we'll focus on to help achieve our desired outcomes.

For the first time we have integrated the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing plan – so that the health and wellbeing of our community is central to everything we do. We work with our health and wellbeing partners to identify local health needs and to develop collaborative responses to meet these needs.

The Plan identifies five health and wellbeing priorities which are:

1. Tackling climate change and its impact on health
2. Increasing healthy eating
3. Increasing active living
4. Demonstrating and promoting gender equity practices
5. Improving mental wellbeing and social connection.

Our Community Plan 2021–25 is supported by an annual action plan and budget which highlight the projects, initiatives and programs that will take place within the financial year to address our four-year priorities.

This quarterly report was developed to provide a transparent update of our performance in delivering the annual action plan.

Actions that support the health and wellbeing priorities have been identified with the relevant health and wellbeing icon.



Tackling climate change and its impact on health



Increasing healthy eating



Increasing active living



Demonstrating and promoting gender equity practices



Improving mental wellbeing and social connection



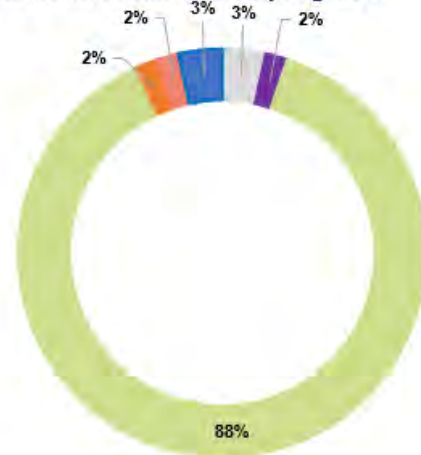
STATUS UPDATE

We committed to 58 actions in our Annual Action Plan this year.

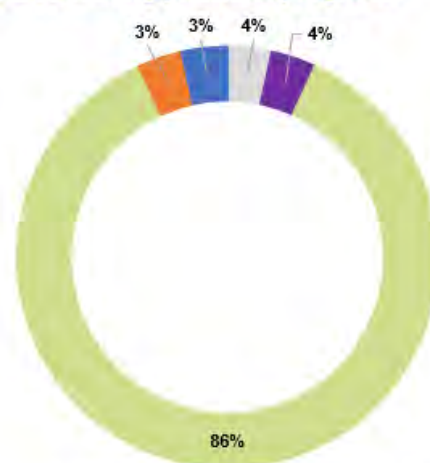
At the end of December 2024:

- **two actions are 'complete'**
- **51 (88%) actions are 'on track'**
- **one action is 'delayed'**
- *Deliver the Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas Precinct Structure Planning (PSP) program*
- **one action is 'off track'**
- *Develop a driving range at Lara Golf Club*
- **two actions are 'on hold'**
- *Review the draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan in line with state government early childhood reforms*
- *Prepare the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for endorsement by Reconciliation Australia*
- **one action is 'not proceeding'**
- *Establish the Armstrong Creek Community Garden*

Annual Action Plan overall progress



Health & Wellbeing priorities progress



On hold Not proceeding On track Off track Delayed Complete

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

HEALTHY, CARING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Desired outcomes







- Our community feels welcome, safe and connected
- Our community has equitable access to health and social services, information and infrastructure
- Healthy behaviours and environments are promoted, supported and accessible

Four-year priorities






- 1.1 Help our community, recreation groups and volunteers to prosper and grow
- 1.2 Deliver health and community initiatives that are culturally sensitive and accessible across all life stages
- 1.3 Foster and embrace community connectedness
- 1.4 Demonstrate and promote gender equity practices
- 1.5 Foster an inclusive community culture
- 1.6 Facilitate social and affordable housing in Greater Geelong
- 1.7 Provide access to places, spaces and services where and when people need them the most
- 1.8 Strengthen relationships and partnerships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Greater Geelong
- 1.9 Support the City's cultural and creative life, history and heritage
- 1.10 Provide facilities that foster and facilitate positive health and wellbeing outcomes
- 1.11 Respond to the findings of the Royal Commissions into aged care and mental health






Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
1.1.1	<i>Partner with Geelong Food Relief to utilise fresh produce from community gardens</i>	From July to September 2024, we delivered seven crates of excess vegetables from community gardens to Geelong Food Relief. From October to December 2024, no excess vegetables were available as all plants were removed and the gardens renewed.	On track
1.2.1	<i>Review the draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan in line with state government early childhood reforms</i>	Work is continuing with the state government to understand impacts of state government reforms to kinder delivery, and future demand for kinder to inform Council's early years planning.	On hold

*Major budget initiative

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
1.2.2	<i>Implement the Healthy Choices Guidelines in selected Council owned and operated food retail outlets</i> 	Promoting healthy food and drink options at our kiosks and cafes is helping community members make more nutritious choices at our sport and recreation centres. GREEN foods and drinks (as defined by the Victorian Government's Healthy Choices Guidelines) have increased from an average of 33 per cent to 41 per cent of our total offering. Average food environment scores have increased from 49/100 to 54/100, with the most significant improvements made at Barwon Valley Activity Centre and Lara swimming pool. Our employees are learning about the healthiness of the food and drink options in our kiosks and cafes. GREEN, AMBER and RED classifications have been integrated into our POS system and PowerBI reporting to give employees real-time insights into the products they sell.	On track
1.3.1	<i>Establish the Armstrong Creek Community Garden</i> 	This project will not proceed as the proposed site was not supported by the community group involved.	Not proceeding
1.4.1	<i>Implement the Fair Access Policy</i> 	Gender Impact Assessments (GIA+ assessments) to understand the gendered impacts of all current infrastructure and planning projects have been completed for all current infrastructure and planning projects. A partnership has been established with Leisure Networks to help deliver on the City's <i>Fair Access Policy</i> action plan initiatives.	On track
1.4.2	<i>Develop the LGBTQIA+ Action Plan utilising the Rainbow Ready roadmap</i> 	Results of community engagement to inform the development of the new LGBTQIA+ Action Plan have been finalised and made available on the City's Have Your Say website. A draft LGBTQIA+ Action Plan is currently being developed and will be presented to Council in 2025, for endorsement for public exhibition and a second phase of engagement.	On track
1.5.1	<i>Implement first year of the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024–28*</i> 	The <i>Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024–28</i> was publicly launched at the Geelong Awards for People with Disability on 3 December 2024. We will continue to engage with the community throughout the lifespan of the action plan to track our progress. Other actions to date include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the launch of a new 'Disability and Accessibility' website landing page and accessible events checklist delivery of the Sport4All program construction commenced for Rippleside Inclusive Playspace (see below). 	On track
1.5.2	<i>Continue construction of the all-abilities playground at Rippleside Park*</i> 	Construction continued on the all-abilities playground and changing places toilet facility. The existing public toilets and playground were demolished and civil and drainage infrastructure installed. Plumbing, electrical, structural steel and cladding was installed on the Rippleside Changing Places facility which will provide access to facilities for people with complex disabilities and their carers.	On track

*Major budget initiative

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
1.6.1	<i>Negotiate with developers for social housing contributions within new housing developments</i> 	Agreement on the provision of social and affordable housing for Jetty Road Stage 2, Curlewis has been integrated into Amendment C387 to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme and is awaiting ministerial endorsement.	On track
1.7.1	<i>Complete the redevelopment design for the Norlane Community Centre</i> 	Work on the redevelopment of the centre is continuing in partnership with the Norlane Neighbourhood House and stakeholders. Design development for the community garden and building components have commenced.	On track
1.7.2	<i>Construct and open the Central Geelong Youth Hub two-year pilot</i> 	The Year 1 Report was submitted to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing on 13 December 2024. Terms of Reference for the Youth Hub Reference Group and Youth Hub Steering Committee have been drafted for review ahead of the first meetings (6 and 25 February respectively). Work on operational planning and programming and development of an evaluation plan is underway. To date, seven organisations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and discussions are ongoing with various community service providers.	On track
1.8.1	<i>Prepare the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for endorsement by Reconciliation Australia</i> 	Preparation of the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is currently on hold pending recruitment for the Manager First Nations Engagement and Outcomes position. This position will provide critical expertise and support the expression of interest for the First Nations partnership model for the RAP.	On hold
1.8.2	<i>Elevate First People's living cultures, histories and knowledge through curations, exhibitions, and storytelling</i> 	Work continued with activities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of First Nations cloaks/quilts essay review of all the Museum-educator led workshops to identify opportunities to embed the priority of learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures. acquiring <i>House of Gold, 2023</i> by artist Dr Christian Thompson AO, a Bidjara man of the Kunja Nation with Irish and Chinese heritage. The work was originally created at the National Wool Museum actively raising awareness of First Nations objects in the collection through print and digital communications, specifically, the seasonal What's On and social media. This past quarter included Buniya Yaluk – Redgum Island, 2007, Glenn Romanis and Mark Trinham, Wadawurrung Country, Fyansford, Outdoor Collection featured on inside front cover of Museum What's On. partnering to produce an early years Acknowledgement of Country song with Auslan signs. Under the guidance of the Acting Best Start Facilitators from Mingo Waloom of Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative, it will be rolled out for testing and feedback in early 2025 before being finalised in consultation with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation. 	On track

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
1.9.1	<i>Develop a Heritage Strategy</i>	Development of a new Heritage Strategy, to replace the City's former <i>Heritage Strategy 2017–21</i> commenced. Community consultation on the strategy is complete with an engagement report due by the end of January 2025. The input of Council will be sought early in 2025 prior to the draft strategy being released for public comment around April 2025.	On track
1.9.2	<i>Develop a Public Art Strategy</i>	The City's Public Art Strategy is being refreshed and updated to reset strategic priorities and align with current plans. The strategy will guide sustainable development, identify gaps for future investment in services through established programs and strengthen partnerships and governance. Engagement with internal stakeholders is complete, with external engagement to commence late February/March 2025.	On track
1.10.1	<i>Deliver the Drysdale Sub-Regional Sporting Precinct Master Plan*</i> 	The Cultural Heritage Management Plan has been lodged with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, following consultation with Traditional Owners.	On track
1.10.2	<i>Develop a driving range at Lara Golf Club*</i> 	Consultation with stakeholders was extended to ensure the best outcome for the club and value to the community which has resulted in minor delays in completion of detailed design.	Off track
1.10.3	<i>Plan for the provision of new playing fields in Armstrong Creek as part of the Bloinks Reserve Master Plan</i> 	Background work on the master plan is underway with consultants commencing work on an issues and opportunities report for the reserve due for completion in Q3. Armstrong Creek provision analysis report is underway. The provision analysis is a report that will tell us how much and what type of sports infrastructure we require based on population and sports participation data. This supporting document will assist in the development of the draft master plan. Once complete, the master plan will guide the future development of sport and recreation spaces and facilities for the reserve.	On track
1.10.4	<i>Deliver the upgrade works at Thomson Recreation Reserve*</i> 	Detailed design is currently underway for the reserve. The outcome of a grant application to Sport and Recreation Victoria's Country Football and Netball Program is still pending.	On track
1.10.5	<i>Construct the Ocean Grove District Ride Centre*</i> 	Detailed design has been completed and a tender process for the construction of the Ride Centre will commence in 2025. The Ride Centre will entail both an asphalt pump track and dirt jump tracks with lines of various difficulties, catering for varied levels of rider skill. There will be a shared spectating area, a central shade shelter and various landscaping elements.	On track

LINKS TO THE CLEVER CREATIVE VISION



AN INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE,
HEALTHY AND SOCIALLY
CONNECTED COMMUNITY



PEOPLE FEEL SAFE
WHEREVER THEY ARE



CREATIVITY DRIVES CULTURE


STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2 SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Desired outcomes





- We are delivering our vision for sustainable growth across the municipality
- We have a choice of housing and lifestyles to meet the diverse needs of our community
- There are connected transport networks throughout the region that support liveability and prosperity
- Greater Geelong has quality, vibrant public spaces
- We are leading a reduction in community emissions and are increasing the City's resilience to climate change impacts
- We protect and restore our natural environment
- We minimise waste with good design and manage effective recovery of resources

Four-year priorities





- 2.1 Meet the housing needs of our future community
- 2.2 Meet existing and future transport needs
- 2.3 Create engaging places and spaces
- 2.4 Deliver best practice Environmentally Sustainable Design principles and vibrant neighbourhoods
- 2.5 Achieve carbon neutral in all City-managed operations by 2025 and manage our climate change risks
- 2.6 Support our community and region to reduce emissions and build resilience to climate change
- 2.7 Reduce the impact of waste
- 2.8 Support greater indigenous biodiversity

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
2.1.1	<i>Deliver the Northern and Western Geelong Growth Areas Precinct Structure Planning (PSP) program</i>	The Creamery Road Precinct Structure Plan (PSP) and Development Contribution Plan was adopted by Council at the August 2024 Council meeting. Authorisation for the exhibition of draft planning scheme amendment C450ggee by the Minister for Planning's is currently pending. Negotiations are ongoing for new PSPs - Batesford North and Elcho Road West (with Heales Road West).	Delayed
2.2.1	<i>Develop a background report to inform development of the Integrated Transport Strategy</i> 	A summary report for Phase one engagement is complete and available on the City's Have Your Say page. Phase two of community engagement will commence in early 2025. A draft background report to inform the development of the Integrated Transport Strategy is complete.	On track

*Major budget initiative

Four-year priority	2024-25 Action	Progress comment	Status
2.2.2	<i>Partner with the Surf Coast Shire to explore options for a future safe cycling route between Geelong and Torquay</i> 	Project scoping and procurement is complete and a consultant appointed to work on the options. The City is working in partnership with the Surf Coast Shire on a community engagement plan and survey. The Have Your Say page and survey launched in December 2024.	On track
2.3.1	<i>Deliver the City's tree planting program</i> 	Since July 2024, a total of 1,239 trees have been planted. Planting is scheduled to recommence in the next growing period beginning April 2025.	On track
2.3.2	<i>Work with state government to improve public spaces and places around the new Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Nyaal Banyul *</i>	On 3 December, Geelong councillors toured the Nyaal Banyul Convention and Exhibition Centre site with Regional Development Victoria and Development Victoria representatives. They also received a briefing on the related Mercer, Gheringhap, and Bayley Streetscape master plan, including a presentation on the proposed Stage 1 of the master plan, the Gheringhap Plaza, located adjacent to Nyaal Banyul - for which the City is seeking budget for the delivery of the plaza. The master plan will be presented to Council for final adoption.	On track
2.3.3	<i>Support businesses/traders in the activation of outdoor areas</i>	A trial for extended outdoor dining in Little Malop Street commenced on 6 December 2024 and will end on 11 March 2025, with an option to extend to Easter 2025. The trial aims to create a more vibrant and welcoming space, encouraging greater use of our public areas while assessing the potential for long-term implementation. The results of the trial will be used to finalise the City's Outdoor Dining Guidelines.	On track
2.3.4	<i>Commence development of an Open Space Strategy</i> 	Consultation with internal stakeholders has commenced. Procurement is underway to select a consultant who will prepare the Open Space Strategy.	On track
2.5.1	<i>Continue the upgrade of street lighting with LED lights & smart control technology including the Central Management System*</i> 	Lighting conversion is complete and development of the Central Management System to manage the new lighting network is ongoing. The new LED lights include a smart control device which will be connected to a new wireless network. This will enable remote control adjustment of the lighting output and create a platform for additional Smart City infrastructure to be added.	On track

*Major budget initiative

Four-year priority	2024-25 Action	Progress comment	Status
2.6.1	<i>Support the delivery of community climate change partnership programs</i> 	The City's Climate Change Partnership grant program provides an equitable way to support a range of not for profit community groups and financial support to leading sustainability groups. Climate Change Partnership Grants have had 6 successful projects out of 10 grant applications received while the Environment and Sustainability Grants have had 11 successful out of 13 applications received.	On track
2.7.1	<i>Commence waste facilities upgrades for future delivery of a Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) service</i> 	The application process for EPA approval to upgrade the City's waste facilities continued. Required testing and community engagement for the EPA application was completed in December 2024. The final application to the EPA will be submitted in January 2025 due to a delay finalising the required testing.	On track
2.8.1	<i>Continue implementing the Sparrovale Wetlands Reserve – Ngubiti yooree Master Plan</i>  	The native vegetation offset site annual monitoring reports have been completed and submitted to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) on time. These reports are part of an agreement with DEECA and the City where the City agreed to manage the offset sites in accordance with the Site Management Plan which allows DEECA to monitor progress. As part of this process the City must prepare an annual offset progress monitoring report for DEECA until 2029.	On track

LINKS TO THE CLEVER CREATIVE VISION



*Major budget initiative

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3


STRONG LOCAL ECONOMY

Desired outcomes

- We have a global, national and local reputation as a place to do business – especially in our key sectors
- We have a diversified, future-focused and sustainable economy to drive employment and support growth
- We are an influential Council that builds effective private and public partnerships, taking the lead role in advocating for future investment



Four-year priorities

- 3.1 Attract and facilitate public and private investment
- 3.2 Promote and leverage the competitive strengths and attractiveness of our region, globally, nationally and locally
- 3.3 Support entrepreneurs, start-ups, innovation, research and digital connectivity
- 3.4 Attract businesses with a carbon neutral and circular economy focus
- 3.5 Support local business resilience and recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 3.6 Attract, retain and enable participation in the workforce to meet industry needs
- 3.7 Address high levels of unemployment in targeted areas of our region
- 3.8 Promote our region as a trial location for innovation and new technologies

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
3.1.1	<i>Progress delivery of the Market Square Quarter Master Plan and continue to advocate for improved public realm outcomes in the central city</i>	The Market Square Quarter Master plan is being finalised. Implementation plan is being prepared, with external stakeholder consultation commencing. Conversation with key stakeholders is progressing with feedback contributing to finalise the implementation plan. The master plan is scheduled to go to Council for adoption in April 2025, this will include the implementation plan.	On track
3.1.2	<i>Manage delivery of Commonwealth Games legacy assets</i> 	Development Victoria will lead the delivery of three projects in Geelong: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the re-development of Stead Park, Corio – the schematic design is complete with detailed design commencing in early in 2025 • new indoor sporting facilities at Armstrong Creek – the procurement for a head contractor is underway and will be finalised by February 2025. The successful contractor will commence in July 2025 • and a new indoor sporting complex at Waurn Ponds – an advance tender notice for the head contractor was released in November 2024 with procurement likely to commence in February 2025. The co-design process with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation has recommenced, with the outcome of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the site pending. 	On track

*Major budget initiative

Four-year priority	2024-25 Action	Progress comment	Status
3.1.3	<i>Support actions and advocacy for the Sustainable Destination Master Plan</i>	<p>The City met with more than 20 applicants to discuss how their plans aligned with the Tourism Greater Geelong and The Bellarine's <i>Sustainable Tourism Destination 10 Year Master Plan</i> with letters of support provided to 18 applicants for funding through state government infrastructure programs.</p> <p>The Regional Tourism Investment Fund is yet to be announced while the Enabling Tourism Fund has had two successful applications from the Greater Geelong region.</p>	On track
3.1.4	<i>Establish a strategic alliance with the City of Wyndham</i>	The draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the City of Wyndham will be considered by the new Geelong council with the aim to adopt the MoU in early 2025.	On track
3.2.1	<i>Support the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to produce a cultural tourism plan</i>	The feedback process to inform development of the Cultural Tourism Plan is underway with the plan and feasibility study close to completion. The tourism conference program for February 2025 includes a dedicated Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) session. The City is working with WTOAC to embed language in visitor publications.	On track
3.2.2	<i>Deliver the Tastes of Greater Geelong program</i>	Preparation for the 2025 Tastes of Greater Geelong event has commenced. The 2024 Tastes of Greater Geelong evaluation report has been finalised and will be made available when dates for the 2025 program are announced in early 2025.	On track
3.2.3	<i>Deliver a program of innovative and inclusive workshops, events and initiatives for local businesses</i>	Following a review of the 2024 Geelong Small Business Festival, the City in partnership with the Geelong Chamber of Commerce plan to commence discussions on the 2025 event from February 2025. Our efforts to support local businesses saw us engage with over 4,600 small businesses through events, mentoring, training, and workshops. This year, the City continued to foster partnerships with key industry partners, helping start-up businesses through the Runway Incubator program and supporting 10 women in the Business in Heels Accelerator program. The City's Business Concierge service also assisted over 450 businesses, providing valuable advice on regulatory requirements, as well as information for those looking to set up or expand their operations.	On track

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
3.2.4	<i>Host visits from domestic and international delegations</i>	<p>In celebration of the 30th anniversary with Geelong's sister city, Lianyungang, China, the City hosted a delegation of 10 key representatives from Lianyungang, including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and the Chief Executive Officer of their Chamber of Commerce on 13 December 2024. A formal book exchange between the cities was arranged, with books from the Geelong collection now making their way into a library in Lianyungang. The City, in partnership with the Advanced Fibre Cluster, will also welcome the Consul-General of Japan on 7 January 2025 to continue discussions about hosting an event in March 2025 to celebrate and further strengthen Geelong's connections with Japan. This event will be held at the National Wool Museum, following the success of a similar event hosted at the Geelong Gallery in July 2024.</p> <p>Additionally, the City has secured a partnership with Korean elite baseball team KT Wiz. The team comprising over 80 players, coaches, and officials, will conduct their training camp in Geelong for six weeks starting on 15 January 2025.</p>	On track
3.2.5	<i>Support Tourism Greater Geelong and The Bellarine to deliver destination marketing programs and improve in-region visitor experiences</i>	<p>Actions to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wrapping up a winter Visiting Friends and Family Campaign in September 2024 • hosting media familiarisation tours across the region • attending trade shows targeting the business events sector • updating the visitor website in December 2024 to provide a better user experience and provide more content about local experiences • providing new visitor publications - travel planner and touring map, printed and distributed in December 2024. 	On track
3.2.6	<i>Renew the John Landy Field athletics track to World Athletics Class 2 accreditation</i> 	The \$1.5 million renewal project of the John Landy Field athletics track is complete. The City funded project will ensure the track retains its World Athletics Class 2 accreditation. Along with replacing the ageing track with a brand-new surface in blue and grey, the hammer and discus cages were relocated to allow for more competition events to be carried out at the same time in accordance with World Athletics standards. The upgrade saw 57 tonnes of recycled rubber sourced from used truck tyres installed underneath the track surface.	Complete
3.3.1	<i>Provide grant programs and share knowledge with local businesses and industry</i> 	<p>Two successful applicants have been awarded funding through the City's Clean Economy Grants program 2024–25.</p> <p>Boomaroo Nurseries & Wholesale Supplies Pty Ltd received \$25,000 for an AI-driven system to optimise boiler operations at the nursery, reducing energy consumption and fuel costs by managing temperature based on real-time data and environmental conditions.</p> <p>Deakin University received \$23,400 for a pilot-scale prototype that will be developed to reduce energy consumption of heating/cooling devices in Geelong households by maximising self-consumption of solar energy to precool/preheat households.</p>	On track

Four-year priority	2024-25 Action	Progress comment	Status
3.8.1	<i>Enhance the Geelong Digital Twin to visualise and analyse urban development projects across the built and natural environments</i>	The Geelong Digital Twin , an innovative virtual 3D representation of the city, is advancing with updated building data, reflecting new constructions, demolitions, and private land tree canopy coverage. These improvements set the stage for its formal launch in early 2025, offering enhanced insights and documentation for improved urban planning and infrastructure management.	On track
3.8.2	<i>Deliver AI-driven solutions for traffic optimisation and flow in priority locations</i>	Progress on delivering Artificial intelligence (AI) driven traffic optimisation includes establishing procedures for using Pan, Tilt, and Zoom cameras in analytics, addressing data gaps caused by camera movements, and completing setup in the Market Square Precinct. Work on managing large data volumes is delaying the release of the Geelong Data Exchange Insights dashboard.	On track

LINKS TO THE CLEVER CREATIVE VISION



A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY THAT SUPPORTS JOBS AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



A LEADER IN DEVELOPING AND ADOPTING TECHNOLOGY



CREATIVITY DRIVES CULTURE



A DESTINATION THAT ATTRACTS LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

*Major budget initiative

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4

HIGH-PERFORMING COUNCIL AND ORGANISATION

Desired outcomes

- Our services are accessible and meet the diverse needs of our community
- We are acknowledged and recognised as a leading council and organisation
- We have a healthy, safe, inclusive and diverse culture
- We are a financially sustainable and resilient organisation

Four-year priorities

- 4.1 Enable a customer-focused approach that delivers efficient and responsive service
- 4.2 Communicate and engage effectively with our community to understand their needs and advocate on their behalf
- 4.3 Foster excellence and equity in planning for our growing region
- 4.4 Continue to strengthen our workforce capabilities and culture
- 4.5 Create a more efficient and effective organisation
- 4.6 Develop a digital core of brilliant basic technology that supports better ways of working
- 4.7 Ensure that our employees are safe at work
- 4.8 Focus on economic, social and environmental sustainability

Four-year priority	2024–25 Action	Progress comment	Status
4.1.1	<i>Develop a Customer Experience Strategy*</i>	The draft Customer Experience Strategy is complete. The next step will be to develop action plans that support Customer Experience principles. An updated strategy and draft plan will be reviewed internally in early February 2025.	On track
4.1.2	<i>Develop a business case for the implementation of our future customer relationship management platform</i>	The tender process for the development of business cases for Phase One of the IT strategy has been completed. This significant milestone marks the commencement of detailed design and planning scheduled to kick off early in the new year. Core focus areas include Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Asset and Field work management, and platform integration.	On track
4.1.3	<i>Complete reviews of selected City services*</i>	The Service Review Framework and Prioritisation Tool are complete. The Framework ensures consistent governance for evidence-based decision making, while the Prioritisation Tool helps create a Service Review Roadmap that focuses on critical services and optimises review frequency based on priority and resources.	On track
4.2.1	<i>Review the Public Question Time response process</i>	The City's refreshed Public Question and Submission Time Policy is on track to be adopted by Council in early 2025, after a period of community consultation.	On track
4.3.1	<i>Develop the Asset Plan 2022–32 (2025–35) that will increase the City's ability to effectively manage its extensive asset portfolio review</i>	Development of asset management principles and objectives for the Asset Plan is underway. The Asset Plan is being developed in conjunction the City's new Council Plan 2025–2029.	On track




Four-year priority	2024-25 Action	Progress comment	Status
4.4.1	<i>Refresh the City's organisational values</i>	A refresh of the City's organisational values, the guiding principles for how the organisation works together to achieve outcomes for our customers and our community, is currently underway. Consultation with employees has commenced and a forum held with leaders to build broader leadership engagement and commitment. Feedback from these discussions will inform future consultations.	On track
4.4.2	<i>Induct new Councillor Group with a comprehensive training program</i>	Following development of a detailed induction plan and engagement of key training providers, training began on 19 November 2024, all mandatory training will be completed within four months.	On track
4.5.1	<i>Review our operational decision-making guide</i>	The category review of operational decisions is complete and is being distilled into the framework that will inform the drafting of the guide. We have been slightly delayed in completing the draft guide but will focus on its completion in the first quarter of 2025.	On track
4.5.2	<i>Implementation of new governance structure and framework for informal meetings of Council.</i>	Appointments of Chair and Deputy Chair for councillor portfolios and councillor representatives on Advisory Committees were finalised at the Council meeting in December 2024.	Complete
4.5.3	<i>Continue to review and update the structure of the organisation*</i>	Review of and updates to the structure of the organisation to drive effectiveness and efficiency, and better align with community needs are ongoing.	On track
4.6.1	<i>Deliver priority technology capabilities and investments aligned to our organisational and technology strategies</i>	Implementation of the workforce (HR) dashboards for Senior Leadership Team members is complete. Several drop-in sessions have been hosted, with feedback to date being resoundingly positive. Efforts in this space are now being shifted towards validating finance data use cases, a collective reference for the three finance data initiatives. Enterprise Bookings discovery and evaluation has been completed and a detailed project brief has been prepared. Following approval of the business case, the next phase of the project, scheduled to commence in late January 2025, will aim to refine costs through detailed planning and design. Upgrades to Empower UX are scheduled to be complete in February 2025.	On track
4.6.2	<i>Implement an integrated performance and reporting software solution</i>	Implementation training for a pilot group was successfully completed in December. The rest of the organisation will undergo training over the first two months of 2025.	On track

Four-year priority	2024-25 Action	Progress comment	Status
4.6.3	<i>Develop the City's Cyber Security Strategy and three-year roadmap</i>	The City's Cyber Strategy remains on track for internal endorsement by 30 June 2025. Feedback workshops will be arranged in 2025 to ensure alignment of tactical and strategic cyber security initiatives. The Managed Detection and Response (MDR) business case has been approved with initial work underway to build the underlying infrastructure. Currently tracking ahead of schedule, this flagship cyber security initiative will be delivered by 31st March 2025. The protection of cardholder payment data is paramount to the overall cyber security program. To help ensure the City achieves compliance with pertinent standards (PCI DSS), a cardholder data environment (CDE) discovery and scope validation activity has been scheduled, along with documentation and process reviews which will both feed into a gap analysis and remediation plans.	On track
4.7.1	<i>Implement a psychological health and wellbeing framework</i>	The ongoing development of the City's Psychological Safety Framework has included a review of the Victorian Government's <i>Guide to Developing a Mentally Healthy Workplace Strategy and Action Plan</i> . This is the document that the City's Psychological Safety Framework is based on. The framework will also include reference to the respective legislative obligations regarding sexual harassment, bullying and harassment, Respect@Work, The Positive Duty, and psychosocial risks in the workplace.	On track





*Major budget initiative

APPENDIX

Ongoing actions from 2023–24 action plan

2023–24 Action	Progress comment	Status
<p>1.2.1 Develop a policy to make the region's food system more accessible and resilient</p> 	<p>Work continued with Foodprint Melbourne, other local government and community partners to co-design policy development tools that will help us strengthen the resilience of our local food system. A discussion paper was prepared to help community members better understand the opportunities and challenges facing our local food system. Engagement to enable community members to share their vision and aspirations for the future of our food system and have their say on how the City's current Food Policy can be improved has been delayed until 2025. Delays in progressing this work are related to the need to align this work with enterprise-wide priorities such as the development of the social procurement and catering policies.</p>	Off track
<p>1.7.4 Review our approach to the provision, development and subsidy of Council owned and/or managed community outdoor recreation reserves (Fair Play Strategy)</p> 	<p>Following approval of a project management resource, work will now commence in early 2025. It is anticipated that the project will be complete in late 2025.</p>	Delayed
<p>1.9.5 Advocate for funding for the implementation of Bellarine Arts Centre-Potato Shed business case</p>	<p>A report on the Bellarine Arts Centre-Potato Shed business case has been deferred until early 2025 to allow for induction of the new councillor group and the appointment of a project management resource.</p>	Delayed
<p>1.11.1 Consider a phased response to the aged care reforms, to ascertain future participation of Council in Community Care services (Aged care reform)</p> 	<p>The Aged Care Bill has entered Parliament and been referred to a Senate Committee. The federal government intends to introduce Support at Home for the Home Care Package program from 1 July 2025, with changes in the terms and conditions, payment mechanisms and amounts. The City will brief the new council early in 2025 in preparation to consider the response they will make.</p>	Ongoing
<p>2.1.2 Prepare the Strategic Assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and biodiversity conservation strategy for the Northern and Western Growth Areas*</p>	<p>Agency and developer engagement for Structured Decision Making (SDM) process has been finalised and feedback considered. A draft SDM Report has been prepared which provides for increased conservation reserves in the proposed development layout to better protect and enhance threatened species. The SDM report will inform the update to the Strategic Assessment documentation to be considered by the federal government for approval.</p>	Ongoing

*Major budget initiative

2023–24 Action	Progress comment	Status
2.2.1 Finalise the transport infrastructure and services strategy for growth areas 	The supporting summary document for transport infrastructure and services in growth areas has been completed and will help guide direction in the work with Precinct Structure Planning in the future.	Complete
2.3.1 Promote access to sport and physical activity for women and girls through the development of the Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 	The final report was issued to stakeholders for approval and support. It will then be considered by council in early 2025.	Ongoing
2.7.1 Update the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020–2030 to include new focus areas such as food & garden organics recycling and roll out of the municipal container deposit scheme 	The review of the current strategy and action plan update is progressing. Results of engagement with internal stakeholders (which has been conducted) will be used to inform the development of updated actions.	Ongoing
3.2.2 Finalise the procurement activities related to redevelopment of the Osborne House site and complete the draft proposal of future activities for council endorsement*	The Expressions of Interest is still under review and advice from internal stakeholders will be considered on the determination to progress the next stage and a possible full 'Go to Market' process. This will also be in line with considerations from the newly appointed Councillors.	Ongoing
3.3.2 Partner with AARNet to provide community facilities and public spaces with access to ultra-high-speed internet as part of the Fibre in the North project (Fibre in the North) 	Progress on the Fibre in the North project with AARNet includes construction underway on the Rail Trail, with completion into Drysdale still expected by early January 2025. Sections spanning Grubb Road to Queenscliff, are also progressing, with completion targeted for February 2025, while the section spanning Portarlington Road to High Street is on track. These efforts will deliver ultra-high-speed internet to key community spaces.	Ongoing
4.6.2 Commence the detailed design of a digital innovation program across the organisation*	The tender process for the development of business cases for Phase One of the IT strategy has been completed. This significant milestone marks the commencement of detailed design and planning scheduled to kick off early in 2025. Core focus areas include business case Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Asset and Field work management, and platform integration.	Ongoing

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

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2.5. Planning Authorisation - Council to Staff

Source: Corporate Services
Executive Director: Troy Edwards

Purpose

1. To appoint City officers as authorised officers under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (P&EA).

Background

2. City officers are appointed as authorised officers to exercise statutory powers under various Acts and regulations. Appointments as authorised officers are to individual staff members.
3. The P&EA regulates enforcement and is reliant on authorised officers acting on behalf of the responsible authority (Council).

Key Matters

4. Where there is a specific power within an Act, Council should appoint authorised officers pursuant to that Act. This is the case for the P&EA.
5. **Attachment 1** sets out the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the P&EA and lists the staff member to whom this authorisation applies.

RESOLUTION - Item 2.5

Cr A Katos moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, Council resolves that:

1. **City staff referred to in the Instrument (Attachment 1) be appointed and authorised as set out in the Instrument;**
2. **The Instrument comes into force immediately upon the resolution of Council; and**
3. **The Instrument be signed by the Chief Executive Officer on behalf of Council.**

Carried

Financial Sustainability

6. There are no financial sustainability implications arising from the subject of this report.

Community Engagement

7. Relevant City managers have been consulted regarding this recommended appointment and authorisation.

Social Equity and Sustainability

8. There are no social equity sustainability implications arising from the subject of this report.

Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications

9. The recommended appointment and authorisation of staff members complies with the relevant provisions of the P&EA and the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Alignment to Community Plan and Vision

10. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority: High-performing council and organisation.

Conflict of Interest

11. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

Risk Assessment

12. There are no significant or high risks associated with the subject of this report.

Environmental Sustainability

13. There are no environmental sustainability implications arising from the subject of this report.

Attachments

1. Planning Authorisations Council to Staff March 2025 [2.5.1 - 2 pages]

Greater Geelong City Council

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

(Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*)

In this instrument "**officer**" means –

Sarah Exley

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Greater Geelong City Council -

1. under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* - authorises the officers to carry out the duties or functions and to exercise the powers of an authorised officer under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*to; and
2. under section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* authorises the officers generally to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

It is declared that this instrument comes into force immediately upon the resolution of Council.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Greater Geelong City Council on 25 March 2025.

Signed for GREATER GEELONG CITY COUNCIL by
ALI WASTIE, Chief Executive Officer

Chief Executive Officer

Date:

3. PLANNING DELEGATIONS

Source: Placemaking
Executive Director: Tennille Bradley

Purpose

1. To provide the schedule of planning permit applications determined under delegation since the last report.

Background

2. Section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020* 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. Section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* allow Council to establish a delegated committee with the power to determine planning permit applications.
4. Council to Staff Instrument of Delegation allows staff to determine planning permit applications where there are less than 6 objections lodged.
5. The Planning Committee's terms of reference provide for determination of planning permit applications where there are 6 or more objections lodged.
6. The City is required by Council to provide information on planning permit applications determined under delegation.

Key Matters

7. The Schedule attached to this report provides information on the planning permit applications determined under delegation since the last report.

RESOLUTION - Item 3.1

Cr A Katos moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

That Council receive the information in the Schedule entitled *Planning DMC Decisions Report February 2025*.

Carried

Planning Decisions Report - DMC - February 2025

Row Number: 5

App No	Location	Application Type	Decision Date	Description	Authority Description
PP-168-2024	5 Cozens Road, AVALON VIC 3212	Use and Development of the Land for a Contractor's Depot	25/02/2025	Refusal - DMC	Decision Making Committee
PP-225-2024	Unit 2/56 Orton Street, OCEAN GROVE VIC 3226	Alterations and Addition to an Existing Dwelling Over 7.5m in Height	28/02/2025	NOD Permit - DMC	Decision Making Committee
PP-937-2024	458 Torquay Road, ARMSTRONG CREEK VIC 3217	Use and Development of a Store (Self Storage Facility)	26/02/2025	Refusal - DMC	Decision Making Committee
PP-816-2024	19-21 Peter Street, GROVEDALE 3216	Use of the land for Sale of Liquor (Packaged Liquor Licence)	3/03/2025	NOD Permit - DMC	Decision Making Committee
PP-787-2007/H	53-57 Church Street, GEELONG WEST 3218	Construction of a Building to be used as a Child Care Centre and Indoor Recreation Facility (Child Play Centre) and Associated Works and Outdoor Structures, and the Alteration of Access to a Road in a Road Zone Category 1, and Development of an Internally Illuminated Business Identification Sign	3/03/2025	Refusal - DMC	Decision Making Committee

4. RECORD OF INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

Source: Corporate Services
Executive Director: Troy Edwards

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.

RESOLUTION - Item 4.1

Cr M Cadwell moved, Cr T Sullivan seconded -

That Council receive the summary of the informal meetings of Councillors for the period to 25 March 2025.

Carried

**INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS
(Council Meeting 25 March 2025)**

Informal Meeting Details	Councillor Attendance/Apology	Officer Attendance	Agenda Items	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Councillor Strategic Session 18 February 2025	Cr S Kontelj Cr R Nelson Cr T Sullivan Cr M Cadwell Cr E Wilkinson Cr E Kontelj Cr A Aitken Cr E Sinclair Cr C Burson Cr R Story Cr A Katos	A Wastie (CEO) T Edwards (EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) T Bradley (EXEC DIR) J Stirton (EXEC DIR) A Higgs (MGR) F Bolitho (MGR) E McHugh (CO ORD) J Douglas (MGR)	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Sport and Participation • Community Engagement Policy/Workshop • Mayor 100 Day Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
Councillor Strategic Session 19 February 2025	Cr T Sullivan Cr M Cadwell Cr E Kontelj Cr A Aitken Cr R Nelson Cr E Wilkinson Cr E Sinclair Cr C Burson Cr A Katos Cr S Kontelj <i>Apology:</i> Cr R Story	A Wastie (CEO) T Edwards (EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) T Bradley (EXEC DIR) A Higgs (MGR) A Locke (MGR) E Ryan (SNR OFFICER) D Pangrazio (OFFICER)	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged Care Reforms • Balyang Par 3 • Fair Play Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr A Aitken declared a conflict of interest in relation to Aged Care Reforms and left the meeting prior to that discussion

<p>Councillor Strategic Session 4 March 2025</p>	<p>Cr S Kontelj Cr E Kontelj Cr R Nelson Cr A Aitken Cr E Wilkinson Cr E Sinclair Cr C Burson Cr R Story Cr A Katos Cr M Cadwell Cr T Sullivan</p>	<p>A Wastie (CEO) T Edwards (EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) T Bradley (EXEC DIR) J Stirton (EXEC DIR) A Martin (CHIEF) E Ryan (CO ORD) D Pangrazio (OFFICER)</p>	<p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Victoria – Housing Projects • CEO Financial Sustainability (CEO 90 Day Plan) • Domestic Animal Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>Councillor Briefing 11 March 2025</p>	<p>Cr S Kontelj Cr T Sullivan Cr M Cadwell Cr E Kontelj Cr A Aitken Cr E Sinclair Cr C Burson Cr R Story Cr A Katos Cr E Wilkinson</p> <p><i>Leave of Absence:</i> Cr R Nelson</p>	<p>A Wastie (CEO) T Edwards (EXEC DIR) A Basford (EXEC DIR) T Bradley (EXEC DIR) J Stirton (EXEC DIR) A Martin (CHIEF) S Owens (MGR) J Blunt (CHIEF) A Stebbing (MGR) F Bolitho (MGR) R Nibaldi (MGR) D Ross (CHIEF) K Liepens (OFF) S Nuttall (MGR) J Van Slageren (MGR) M Quigley (OFF) J Douglas (MGR) E Ryan (SNR OFF)</p>	<p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Plan Workshop • Flood Update – City Infrastructure <p>Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ocean Grove Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2025 • Amendment C444ggee - Southeast Lara Residential Growth Area and Amendment C453ggee - Lara Business Park • Proposed Road Discontinuance and Transfer of unmade road adjoining 137-167 Cox Road, Norlane • Our Community Plan Quarterly Report – December 2024 • Planning Authorisations – Council to Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.00pm on Tuesday 25 March 2025.

Signed: _____

Cr Stretch Kontelj (Mayor)

Date: _____