

**Privacy acknowledgement: \***

I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

**Name: \***

Stan Capp

**Email address: \***

[REDACTED]

**Phone number \***

[REDACTED]

**Date of meeting: \***

Tuesday 5 September 2023

**Agenda item title: \***

Affordable Housing People's Panel

**Alternatively you may attach your written submission by uploading your file here:**



[peoples\\_panel\\_submission\\_by\\_stan\\_capp\\_to\\_fmc\\_5\\_sept\\_23.docx](#) 14.90

KB · DOCX

**Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: \*** No

**Agenda Item 6.3**  
**Affordable Housing People's Panel**

**Submission to Future Melbourne Committee 5 September 2023**

I appreciate your invitation to make this submission. In summary, I am extremely positive about the proposal and congratulate all concerned for bringing it before the Future Melbourne Committee.

I think the paper sets out the issues well and correctly identifies the importance of the question/remit, the need for independent randomly selected panellists and a commitment by Council to include recommendations to the maximum extent possible in future decision making.

In relation to the question/remit, I would support **a sharper refinement** so as the Panel can focus its attention on some of the challenging areas where there is currently no clear or decisive view. This brings into the question/remit not only how the City of Melbourne and the community deliver more affordable housing effectively but also raises questions about locations, access to existing and future infrastructure, community impacts and future community engagement.

I strongly support the need for independent randomly selected panellists. We need to ensure that the discussion is informed not only by subject matter experts but also other critical stakeholders, but these people are not the decision makers, a role vested solely with the independent panel.

It is positive that Council will include recommendations to the maximum extent possible and it is good practice that Council commits to publicly explain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any recommendation.

The proposed People's Panel is consistent with *the City of Melbourne Community Engagement Policy 2021* and will demonstrate a **"proof of concept"** of an approach that I would advocate should be embedded in the City of Melbourne's decision making on matters of significant complexity. I note that there is already a commitment to engage in similar processes when dealing with the City of Melbourne's Community Vision; Council Plan; Financial Plan; and Asset Plan and there will be other significantly complex decisions that can be informed by people's panels.

Finally, the use of this strategy in dealing with the complex issue of affordable housing is an excellent opportunity to utilise this model of deliberative democracy and **a well-designed evaluation tool** should be adopted to make sure that any learnings are identified and will inform future panels.

**Dr Stan Capp**  
**A resident of the City of Melbourne since 2000**