

Confirmed minutes



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Future Melbourne Committee Minutes

**Meeting Number 69
Tuesday 6 February 2024
5.30pm**

Town Hall Commons

Present

Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece
Councillor Dr Olivia Ball (virtual attendance)
Councillor Roshena Campbell
Councillor Jason Chang (5.35pm)
Councillor Elizabeth Doidge
Councillor Davydd Griffiths
Councillor Jamal Hakim
Councillor Philip Le Liu
Councillor Rohan Leppert
Councillor Kevin Louey

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee
On Tuesday 20 February 2024

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

1. Commencement of meeting and apologies

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

The Chair, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, welcomed attendees to the meeting, acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land governed by the City of Melbourne, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong / Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin, and advised that the meeting was being streamed live and a recording will be made available on the City of Melbourne website.

Statement – Susan Riley, Medal of Order of Australia

On behalf of the City of Melbourne, the Lord Mayor congratulated Susan Riley, a former City of Melbourne Councillor and Deputy Lord Mayor who served across three terms between 2001-2020 who was recognised with the Medal of Order of Australia. The Lord Mayor thanked Susan for her leadership in local government and her service to the community, which had been recognised by the award.

2. Disclosures of conflicts of interest

The Lord Mayor advised that conflicts of interest should be disclosed as they arise.

3. Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting

Moved: Cr Griffiths

That the minutes of meeting No 68 held on Tuesday 5 December 2024 be confirmed.

Seconded: Cr Doidge

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

Cr Chang arrived at the meeting at 5.35pm.

5. Public questions

Below is a summary of public questions and responses. The full question time can be heard in the live stream recording of the meeting on Council's website at <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/committees-meetings/meeting-archive/Pages/Future-Melbourne-Committee-6-February-2024.aspx>

ATET floating nightclub

Bill asked a question relating to the ATET floating nightclub that was formerly operating in Docklands. Bill acknowledged there would be legal sensitivities surrounding the matter due to ongoing legal action between the ATET operators, Development Victoria and the City of Melbourne. Bill sought reassurances that the legal action would not result in Docklands residents being exposed to excessive noise from ATET again. Bill also asked how lessons learnt from the challenges posed by the ATET matter might be captured and applied to avoid similar situations occurring in the future. Bill offered to provide his own observations with regards to lessons learnt.

Through the Chair, Alison Leighton, Chief Executive Officer (the CEO) provided a response to Bill. The CEO acknowledged that the legal matter was ongoing and that no comment could be made on the case itself. The CEO explained that the matter was unique and had led to a closer working relationship between the City of Melbourne, the Environment Protection Authority and Liquor Control Victoria with the groups regularly discussing existing and proposed venues.

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

The CEO encouraged Bill to send through his observations to officers and advised that officers would happily meet and discuss them. The CEO concluded by stating that the City of Melbourne would remain committed to keeping Docklands residents updated via the Neighbourhood Portal.

Gender Based Violence, Docklands.

Ekaterina Send asked what actions and initiatives did the City of Melbourne take in 2023 to raise awareness in the Docklands community on the matter of gender based violence.

Cr Dr Ball, Health, Wellbeing and Belonging Portfolio acknowledged the importance of the 16 Days of Activism campaign but explained that the City of Melbourne uses a number of mechanisms to deliver year round information and education. Cr Dr Ball explained that actions that the City is focused on can be found in the Women's Safety and Empowerment Action Plan.

Halloween 2023, Docklands

Ekaterina Send asked why the City of Melbourne did not have children's activities running in Docklands during Halloween 2023.

Cr Campbell, City Activation Portfolio Lead acknowledged how popular Halloween is with children and assured Ekaterina that the City of Melbourne is committed to events in Docklands, noting the presence that the Firelight and Now or Never festivals have in the neighbourhood. Cr Campbell encouraged community groups who wished to organise Halloween events to do so and seek funding from Council and to promote the events through appropriate channels.

Gaza

Two questions were asked relating to the conflict in Gaza.

Awil Hussein asked if the City of Melbourne will stand in solidarity with Palestinians referencing the City of Melbourne's stance against apartheid in 1990.

Amin Abbas asked for the City of Melbourne to clarify its current stance on the ongoing situation noting events that have taken place since the City of Melbourne made a statement in November 2023.

The Lord Mayor provided the following statement in response:

At the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on Tuesday 14 November 2023 Council resolved a public statement regarding the ongoing conflict in Gaza and Israel.

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

The City of Melbourne's highest priority is to maintain cohesion and unity for the people of Melbourne and for our multicultural community. Racism, vilification and discrimination have no place in our city. The city of Melbourne will continue to support efforts to maintain that cohesion, unity and common humanity here in Melbourne.

6. Reports from management

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

Submissions/Correspondence

In relation to Agenda item 6.1, **Ministerial Planning Referral: TPM-2022-21 218-246 Macaulay Road & 23-35 Boundary Road North Melbourne:**

Request to speak:

- Patrick Brennan, Contour.

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

In relation to Agenda item 7.1, **Post travel report by Councillor Philip Le Liu, China and Thailand, November 2023:**

Request to speak and item of correspondence:

- Chris Thrum.

In relation to Agenda item 7.2, Post travel report by Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Dubai - COP 28, Dec. 2023:

Request to speak and item of correspondence:

- Chris Thrum.

In relation to Agenda item 7.3, **Notice of Motion, Cr Dr Olivia Ball: Funding support request, *Night Falls in the Evening Lands*, The Assange Epic conference:**

Request to speak:

- Chris Thrum
- Gabriel Shipton.

Item of correspondence:

- Chris Thrum.

Planning Section

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece assumed the role of Chair at 5.53pm to consider one report from management where Council exercises its responsibilities under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

6.1 Ministerial Planning Referral: TPM-2022-21 218-246 Macaulay Road & 23-35 Boundary Road North Melbourne

The purpose of this report is to advise the Future Melbourne Committee of a Ministerial Planning Application seeking approval for the development of land at 218-246 Macaulay Road and 23-35 Boundary Road, North Melbourne.

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Patrick Brennan, Contour.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to advise the Department of Transport and Planning that the Melbourne City Council does not object to the application subject to the conditions outlined in the delegate report (refer to Attachment 4 of the report from management) subject to the following amendments:*
 - 1.1. *In condition 7, replace subparagraph (b) with the following text: “(b) Further detail of the proposed ‘GT03 – Glazing – Patterned’ and ‘BK01 – Brick finish’, and the application and appearance of these materials.”*
 - 1.2. *In condition 41, after sub-paragraph (d), add the following text: “(e) speed limits within the publicly accessible western and northern links”.*

Seconded: Cr Leppert

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

The Lord Mayor resumed the Chair at 6.24pm for the remainder of the meeting.

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 6.24pm.

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

6.2 Draft Place and Road Naming Policy – Community Engagement Results

The purpose of this report is to provide the Future Melbourne Committee with the findings of the community and stakeholder engagement on the Council’s draft Place and Road Naming Policy and associated Guidelines and outline next steps.

Cr Le Liu returned to the meeting at 6.26pm.

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*

- 1.1. *Notes the survey responses from members of the public regarding elements of the draft Place and Road Naming Policy.*
- 1.2. *Requests that the Place and Road Naming Policy be revised and updated and be presented to this Committee by no later than 9 April 2024, and for that updated version to provide clear provisions that address the following:*
 - 1.2.1. *Each of the elements identified in the resolution of 6 December 2022;*
 - 1.2.2. *Who may make proposals and how and when those proposals may be submitted;*
 - 1.2.3. *How the level of significance distinguishing different classes of naming application will be defined;*
 - 1.2.4. *What mechanism/s will be available to supersede a ‘priority’ name where there is support to do so;*
 - 1.2.5. *How precinct-naming approaches will be developed and how these will interact with, or extinguish, standard provisions in the policy; and*
 - 1.2.6. *An annual public reporting mechanism of all new names applied in the reporting period.*

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

The motion was put and carried with the following Councillors voting for the motion: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey and the following Councillor voting against the motion: Cr Campbell.

6.3 Economic Development Strategy: Progress and next steps

The purpose of this report was to provide an update on the City of Melbourne economy, including progress to deliver on the Economic Development Strategy and proposed further initiatives to support sustained economic growth.

Moved: Cr Campbell

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee requests management:*

- 1.1. *Provide a report in March detailing outcomes of the City Economy Summit and recommendations from the City Economy Advisory Committee and recommendations for actions to be delivered prior to September 2024.*
- 1.2. *Commence work on the next Economic Development Strategy, with a view to it being adopted before June 2025, and refer to the 2024-25 budget and annual planning process a proposal on how a whole-of-organisation strategy-development project should be undertaken in 2024-25.*
- 1.3. *Update councillors via briefing paper with progress towards Economic Development Strategy interim targets when 2022-23 data becomes available.*

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

- 1.4. *Update councillors via briefing paper on the next Economic Development Strategy by August 2024.*

Seconded: Cr Hakim

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

7. General business

There were three items of general business.

7.1 Post travel report by Councillor Philip Le Liu, China and Thailand, November 2023

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Chris Thrum.

Cr Campbell left the meeting at 7.10pm and returned at 7.14pm.

Moved: Cr Le Liu

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*

1.1. *Notes the report by Councillor Philip Le Liu on travel undertaken to China and Thailand in November 2023.*

1.2. *Notes that the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit will be taking place in Melbourne from 4 to 6 March 2024 and requests management to brief Councillors on opportunities for the City of Melbourne to meet with and host visiting delegates and officials with a view to building relationships and exploring potential business and cultural connections with leaders from across Southeast Asia.*

1.3. *Approves the additional cost of \$1100 which takes the total cost to Council for Councillor Le Liu's travel to \$7100.*

Seconded: Cr Hakim

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

7.2 Post travel report by Lord Mayor Sally Capp, COP28, Dubai, Dec 2023

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Chris Thrum.

Moved: Lord Mayor Sally Capp

That the Future Melbourne Committee notes the report on the Lord Mayor's participation at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) and associated meetings between 30 November to 6 December 2023 at an estimated cost to Council of \$2128.

Seconded: Cr Doidge

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

Confirmed minutes

7.3 Notice of Motion, Cr Dr Olivia Ball: Funding support request, *Night Falls in the Evening Lands*, *The Assange Epic* conference

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Chris Thrum
- Gabriel Shipton.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee:*

- 1.1. *Approves the allocation of a one-off grant of \$1,000 via the discretionary fund to the Assange Campaign Inc for the purpose of supporting the conference: Night Falls in the Evening Lands, The Assange Epic.*
- 1.2. *Notes the one-day conference will be held at RMIT University on 9 March 2024.*
- 1.3. *Requests Council management to promote the conference through appropriate City of Melbourne channels.*
- 1.4. *Reaffirms the position expressed in previous Council and Future Melbourne Committee resolutions in support of Mr Julian Assange and calls again for his immediate release without charge.*

Seconded: Cr Hakim

The motion was put and carried with the following Councillors voting for the motion: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey. Cr Campbell, being present but not having cast a vote (abstaining), was taken to have to have voted against the motion.

8. Urgent business

There was one item of urgent business.

8.1 Local Government Reforms

Moved: Lord Mayor Sally Capp

That the matter of proposed Local Government reforms meets the criteria for consideration as an item of Urgent Business as it has arisen since the distribution of the agenda and cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next meeting.

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Chang, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

Moved: Cr Leppert

1. *That the Future Melbourne Committee, in relation to the proposed Local Government reforms sent to Mayors and CEOs on the evening of 31 January 2024 with a request to respond by 29 February 2024:*
 - 1.1. *Requests that the CEO write to Local Government Victoria requesting an extension of time of at least 4 weeks to allow Councils enough time to make considered responses.*
 - 1.2. *Requests a report to the 27 February 2024 Council meeting, or a later Council or Committee meeting if the time for feedback is extended, proposing a City of Melbourne position on the proposed reforms;*

Confirmed minutes

- 1.3. *Requests that the aforementioned report include an analysis of the potential impacts of the proposed Model Councillor Code of Conduct reforms on the City of Melbourne's current Councillor Code of Conduct and incorporated policies.*

Seconded: Cr Le Liu

Cr Chang left the meeting at 7.38pm.

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece and Councillors Dr Ball, Campbell, Doidge, Griffiths, Hakim, Le Liu, Leppert and Louey.

9. Public questions

There were no further public questions.

Cr Chang returned to the meeting at 7.40pm

10. Closure of meeting

The Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday, 20 February 2024.



Chair
Future Melbourne Committee