



MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

5 NOVEMBER 2025



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL HELD 5 NOVEMBER 2025 IN ST KILDA TOWN HALL AND VIRTUAL VIA TEAMS

The meeting opened at 6:31pm.

IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Crawford (Chairperson), Cr Buckingham, Cr Cunsolo, Cr Halliday, Cr Hardy, Cr Jay, Cr Makin, Cr Mears, Cr Thomann.

Chris Carroll, Chief Executive Officer, Brian Tee, General Manager City Development, Kylie Bennetts, General Manager Community Wellbeing, Simon Hill, Acting General Manager, City Infrastructure, Tarnya McKenzie, Acting Director People and Experience, James Gullan, Acting General Manager Governance and Performance, Dana Pritchard, Manager Open Space, Recreation and Community Resilience, Christine Denning, Manager Community Building and Inclusion, Vicki Tuchtan, Manager, Property and Assets, Michael Major, Head of Property Operations & Facilities, Darren Camilleri, Planning Coordinator Canal Ward, Emily Williams, Senior Council Business Advisor, Joshua Vearing, Council Business Advisor.

The Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge their legacy and spiritual connection to the land and waterways across the City of Port Phillip and pay our heartfelt respect to their Elders, past, present, and emerging.

1. APOLOGIES

Nil.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED Crs Thomann/Mears

That the minutes of the Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 15 October 2025 be confirmed.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Halliday declared a general conflict of interest in a matter that was considered at the 17 September 2025 Council meeting, being item 8.1 - Community Grants Program 2025-26 Recommendations. Councillor Halliday noted that they were not part of the assessment of grant applications, or the determination of the recommended recipients, but were present for the vote that approved the grant recipients. Councillor Halliday advised that they did not declare this conflict at the time as they were unaware that a personal associate had been involved in the development of an application that was subsequently recommended for funding. This declaration does not affect the outcome of the vote, but was made in the interest of transparency and to uphold the integrity of the decision making process.

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CONDOLENCE MOTION – LIZ PAIN

The City of Port Phillip acknowledges the passing of Liz Pain, a founding member of Pride March Victoria and who coordinated the first 11 pride marches. Liz was a long-term St Kilda resident and whose creativity, humor and fierce sense of purpose created a lasting impact on Melbourne's lesbian and gay community.

MOVED Crs Thomann/Makin

That Council:

- Expresses its deep regret on the passing of Liz Pain.
- Offers its sincere condolences to their family
- Places on record its appreciation for their service to the City of Port Phillip.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF AWARD – ECOCENTE REDVELOPMENT

Mayor Crawford accepted an award on behalf of the Port Phillip EcoCentre which was awarded a Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Tidy Towns and Cities Sustainability Award, in the 'Energy' category.

Brian Tee, General Manager City Development was pleased to advise that the award highlights the EcoCentre building's exceptional sustainability design. The EcoCentre is all electric and generates more solar power than it consumes, and stores this additional power in batteries, with 98% of the material from the original building being reused for the redevelopment.

The facility enhances the EcoCentre's ability to deliver sustainability outcomes and the project would not have been delivered without the EcoCentre's commitment and hard work including both current and former Councillors and a number of Council officers who helped realise the vision for this new facility which is a great addition to our municipality.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUBMISSIONS

Public Questions are summarised below. The submissions were made verbally and can be listened to in full on our website: <http://webcast.portphillip.vic.gov.au/archive.php>

Public Question Time:

- **Jenni Roper:** How often are the following services physically present on Fitzroy, Acland, Jackson and Carlisle Streets and if their presence or outreach visits occur daily, weekly, or only upon request: *Port Phillip Zero, Alfred Health, Better Health Network, First Step, Housing First, Launch Housing, Ngwala Willumbong Aboriginal Corporation, Port Phillip Community Group, Sacred Heart Mission, Salvation Army, Southern Homeless Services Network, South Port Community Housing Group, Southside Justice, St Kilda Community Housing, Uniting and Wintringham.*

Christine Denning, Manager Community Building and Inclusion advised that several services conduct daily outreach to Fitzroy, Acland, Jackson, and Carlisle Streets, including Launch Housing (Rough Sleeping Initiative), Better Health Network, Ngwala Willumbong, and Sacred Heart Mission's Journey to Social Inclusion program. Weekly or planned outreach is

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undertaken by Alfred Health's Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Service and the Access Health Outreach Van, depending on client needs and locations. Services such as Salvation Army, Wintringham, and Southside Justice provide outreach upon request or to existing clients, while others like Port Phillip Community Group, First Step, South Port Community Housing Group, St Kilda Community Housing, and Uniting are drop-in or tenant-focused services and do not conduct street outreach. This mix of proactive, planned, and reactive outreach ensures a broad safety net across the community, tailored to both individual and systemic needs. All of these organisations have representation at Port Phillip Zero which conducts weekly service coordination meetings to understand the needs of the rough sleepers on the By Name List ensuring they are all well supported.

Jenni Roper: The State Government has announced a one-off grant of up to \$500,000 to Life Saving Victoria (LSV). However, this does not appear to offset the cost-shifting burden placed on Councils. How much funding has the State Government withdrawn or reduced from the City of Port Phillip's beach management or related programs?

Dana Pritchard, Manager Open Space, Recreation and Community Resilience advised that Life Saving on Port Phillip beaches is managed by our five Life Saving Clubs, with support from LSV. The support and funding commitments from LSV are made directly to the clubs. Council is aware that clubs are currently in conversation with LSV regarding their funding ahead of the upcoming season. Council is advocating to the Victorian Government and LSV to continue providing the valued lifesaving services along the foreshore. This includes regular beach patrols, increased support on high visitation days like new year's eve, and delivery of our Accessible Beaches Program.

Jenni Roper: There are rumours that the State Government has engaged in cost-shifting with pet registration fees. What is the current increase in pet registration fees? How much of this fee goes to the State Government? How much (in dollars per pet) remains with Council? With regards to Jet skis around the St Kilda Pier, specifically the horseshoe area, could the Council in conjunction with Parks Victoria rezone that area to exclude the Jet skis?

Brian Tee, General Manager City Development advised that Council registration fees vary depending on whether the animal is de-sexed or whether the owner holds a concession card costing approximately \$20 for a de-sexed cat. The State Government currently charges Councils a levy of \$4.61 for each registered pet. This fee is set to increase from \$4.61 to \$9 per pet and is expected to take effect from 1 July 2026, subject to legislation currently in Victorian Parliament. Council is concerned about this increase particularly for concession holders and Council is advocating to the State Government and working with the Municipal Association of Victoria and other Council's to try and stop this increase.

In relation to Jet skis, Council's Local Laws only apply to the land that is owned or managed by Council and therefore does not include watercraft. These Local Laws do apply to the beaches, and Council prohibits the launching and arrivals of jetskis on the beaches. Council will take on the concerns raised and direct those to State Government department as it is a concern shared by Council in terms of the impact jetskis have on the safety and amenity perspective of the community.

- **Jen Bishop:** We are excited about the dog off leash changes that were endorsed earlier this year. The signage hasn't come about as expected which is causing confusion with opposite information on temporary and permanent signs. When will the signage on Elwood Beach be amended with the correct info, can we have a temporary sticker over the old laws to ensure the sign is not false or misleading for Elwood residents?

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Dana Pritchard, Manager Open Space, Recreation and Community Resilience advised that Council has ordered stickers to be placed over the current dog off-leash information on the existing signage in both Elwood and Port Melbourne beaches and these are expected to be in place the week commencing 10 November 2025. With regards to the permanent signs, they are currently being manufactured and the manufacturer has indicated that will be ready for installation by mid December 2025.

Council Report Submissions:

Item 10.1 PDPL/00710/2024 – 180 St Kilda Road, St Kilda

- Nick Buskens
- Philip Bird
- Vanessa Lucas
- Julie Shaw
- Barry Pratt
- Jane Clancy
- Dianne Rooney
- Susan Ratcliff
- Helen Shingles
- Christopher Shingles
- Leslie Rosenblatt
- Isabelle Oderberg
- Barbara Kessel
- Ernest Bennett

Item 14.1 Notice of Motion – Armstrong Street Grand Prix Activation

- Adrian King

5. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

- **Councillor Halliday:** Following on from Jenni Ropers question in relation to Life Saving Victoria (LSV). Does Council provide LSV with direct funding to support lifesaving activities on the City of Port Phillip beaches? Has Council received a request for funding from LSV ahead of the summer period?

Kylie Bennetts, General Manager Community Wellbeing advised that Council does not provide direct funding to LSV or local lifesaving centres for paid lifesaver services. In July 2025 LSV requested funding from Council for paid lifesavers for the 2025/26 summer season, despite having opportunity to contribute to the budget process earlier in the year. This requested amount was for around \$92,000 and was declined. Council does support lifesaving services through other means including the provision of community facilities for example, clubhouses for five lifesaving centres to conduct community programs such as nippers, first aid training etc. In the last 10 years Council has invested more than \$9m into the redevelopment of the South Melbourne and St Kilda lifesaving clubs. Council is co-funding the upcoming refurbishment of the Port Melbourne club with the Victorian Government. The Elwood Foreshore Masterplan includes an action to redevelop and relocate the Elwood Centre, but no funding has been committed by Council or Life Saving Victoria at this stage.

- **Councillor Makin:** The lack of fixed public transport infrastructure in Fishermans Bend such as the lack of tram or train access has been cited as a key reason for the slower than expected delivery of development in Fishermans Bend. There was a public forum on Fishermans Bend where some targets were presented, and it was highlighted that the Montague Precinct was progressing well. Is this because the Montague Precinct is in

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close proximity to the existing 109 tram stop, when compared to the Wirraway or Sandridge Precincts that are not in proximity to any tram or train access?

Brian Tee, General Manager City Development advised that the number of developments in the Montague Precinct is approximately 35 compared to the Sandridge Precinct which is at 8, and Wirraway Precinct at 12 developments currently underway. In terms of the connection to public transport and the impact that has on that disparity has demonstrated the importance of having public transport in order to deliver the vision of Fishermans Bend. This has been confirmed in discussions that Council officers have had with developers who have emphasised the importance of having public transport in order to realise development outcomes.

Councillor Makin followed up that it has also been confirmed through the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) report into Fishermans Bend around public transport being a catalyst for some of that investment and reason why targets have not been met. Is this correct?

Brian Tee, General Manager City Development advised that the VAGO report in broad was concerned about the lack of planning and delivery at Fishermans Bend including public transport needs.

Chris Carroll, Chief Executive Officer advised that in Council's consolidated planning efforts with the State Government, up until the recently announced Integrated Transport Strategy, public transport has always been seen as a catalyst and important prerequisite to achieving the growth outcomes of Fishermans Bend. The recently released Integrated Transport Strategy puts that in a different light.

- **Councillor Thomann:** is there an update on Madden House? Councillors were invited to the opening on Wellington Street a few weeks back. Have people started to move in? How is it progressing?

Christine Denning, Manager Community Building and Inclusion advised that Madden House is scheduled to receive its first tenants the week commencing 17 November 2025. Madden House are currently sorting through the allocations to ensure the most appropriate cohort is tenanted in that location.

6. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Nil.

7. PRESENTATION OF CEO REPORT

Nil.

8. A HEALTHY AND CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Nil.

9. AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT CITY

Nil.



10. A SAFE AND LIVEABLE CITY

10.1 P639/2025 - PDPL/00710/2024 - 180- St Kilda Road St Kilda

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To resolve Council's position on amended plans filed as part of a review at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) against Council's refusal to grant a planning permit for use the land as Store, construction of two additional storeys to the existing building, and construction and display of six internally illuminated business identification signs.
- 1.2 The amended plans address Council's original grounds of refusal.

The following question was taken on notice during discussion of the item:

- **Councillor Thomann:** Who commissioned the traffic reports?

Darren Camilleri, Planning Coordinator Canal Ward took the question on notice.

Councillor Mears moved an alternate motion to the officers recommendation

MOVED Crs Mears/Halliday

That Council resolves to inform the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) and parties to VCAT proceeding P639/2025, that it does not support the amended plans, subject to the following reason:

1. The proposed access and servicing of the building from the rear lane will result in unacceptable amenity impacts at the interface with the adjoining residential uses.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Crawford adjourned the meeting for a break at 7:58pm

The meeting resumed at 8:12pm

11. A VIBRANT AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

11.1 Multicultural Strategy Proposed Community Consultation

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To present the proposed approach for developing the Multicultural Strategy and seek Council's endorsement to commence Phase 1 community engagement.

MOVED Crs Buckingham/Thomann

That Council:

- 3.1 Notes background work that has been undertaken to inform the first stage of development of the Multicultural Strategy as outlined in Attachment 1.
- 3.2 Notes the overall approach to development of the Multicultural Strategy, as outlined

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in section 4.9 of this report.

- 3.3 Approves to proceed with the initial phase of community engagement scheduled from 10 November to 14 December 2025.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

12. AN ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED COMMUNITY

12.1 S6 Delegation - Council to Officers under the Planning and Environment Act 1987

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To present to Council an updated S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff

MOVED Crs Mears/Halliday

That Council:

- 3.1 Delegates to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff (Attachment 1) the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument.
- 3.2 Delegates to the Head of Strategic Planning (HoSP), the following provisions under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to be included in (Attachment 1): Sections 96G(1), 96H(3), 96J, 114(1), 120(1), 125(1), 149A(1) and 171(2)(f).
- 3.3 The Common Seal of Council be affixed to the S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff.
- 3.4 Notes that the S6 Instrument of Delegation comes into force immediately upon resolution and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.
- 3.5 On coming into force, the previous S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff (dated 15 October 2025) is revoked.
- 3.6 Notes that the duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation must be executed, in accordance with any policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.
- 3.7 Authorises the CEO, or their delegate, to make administrative changes to the document to correct any titles and typographical errors, to enable the documents to be appropriately sealed.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.



13. A TRUSTED AND HIGH-PERFORMING ORGANISATION

13.1 Proposed Discontinuance and Sale of Laneway R3052, off Kings Way, South Melbourne Vic 3205

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek Council's approval to:
 - 1.1.1 Remove the road adjoining 45-53, 55, 57, 59-61 Park Street and 311 Kings Way, South Melbourne, being the laneway known as R3052 (Road) from Council's Register of Public Roads pursuant to section 17(4) of the *Road Management Act 2004* (Vic) (the RMA); and
 - 1.1.2 Commence the statutory procedures pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic) (the Act) to consider discontinuing the Road. If the Road is subsequently discontinued, it is proposed to be sold to the adjoining owner for market value.

MOVED Crs Jay/Makin

That Council:

- 3.1 Acting under section 17(4) of the *Road Management Act 2004* (Vic), resolves that the road adjoining the properties 45-53, 55, 57, 59-61 Park Street and 311 Kings Way, South Melbourne, being the laneway known as R3052 (the Road), be removed from Council's Register of Public Roads on the basis that the Road is no longer reasonably required for general public use for the reasons set out in this report.
- 3.2 Acting under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic) (the Act):
 - 3.2.1 Resolves that the statutory procedures be commenced to discontinue the Road;
 - 3.2.2 Directs that under sections 207A and 223 of the Act, public notice of the proposed discontinuance of the Road be given in *The Age* newspaper;
 - 3.2.3 Resolves that the public notice required to be given under sections 207A and 223 of the Act should state that if the Road is discontinued, Council proposes to sell the Road to the adjoining owner of 45-53, 55, 57, 59-61 Park Street and 311 Kings Way, South Melbourne, for market value;
 - 3.2.4 Notes that the current market value of the Road has been assessed to be \$263,000 plus GST;
 - 3.2.5 Notes that the purchaser would be required to pay Council an additional sum of approximately \$19,404 plus GST for bluestone pavers currently in situ (49 sqm of bluestone pavers @ \$396 per square metre);
 - 3.2.6 Notes that proceeds from the sale will go into Council's Strategic Property Reserve used to support the acquisition and development of the property portfolio;
 - 3.2.7 Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under section 223 of the Act in relation to this matter; and
 - 3.2.8 Resolves to hear and consider any submissions received pursuant to section 223 of the Act at a Council meeting to be determined at a later date.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.



14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor Hardy - Armstrong Street Grand Prix Activation

MOVED Crs Hardy/Jay

That Council:

- 1.1 Notes the impact of the Grand Prix on traders within the Armstrong Street, Middle Park precinct, and notes the opportunity for local businesses to activate by extending the road-closure in Armstrong Street from Richardson Street to Canterbury Road in order to attract patronage from event attendees for no more than the four day Grand Prix period.
- 1.2 Requests officers to undertake a feasibility study and consultation with impacted businesses and surrounding residents on the proposed road closure, including its impact on local businesses and service delivery, as soon as possible.
- 1.3 Subject to the feasibility study and consultation outcomes finding that the road closure is broadly supported by impacted businesses and that there are no significant adverse amenity impacts, authorises the CEO to:
 - 1.3.1 Implement a road closure in Armstrong Street from Richardson Street to Canterbury Road to allow businesses to extend their trading, subject to individual licenses and permits required
 - 1.3.2 Approve the payment of associated costs for traffic management, waste services, and toilet provision, estimated at \$21,000.
- 1.4 Seeks to include this request to co-fund this initiative as part of the broader advocacy to the Australian Grand Prix Corporation.

AMENDMENT

MOVED Crs Crawford/Buckingham

That Council amends item 1.3 as indicated in bold:

- 1.3 Subject to the feasibility study and consultation outcomes finding that the road closure is broadly supported by impacted businesses and that there are no significant adverse amenity impacts, authorises the CEO **to proceed with a one-year trial**, including:

A vote was taken and the AMENDMENT was CARRIED.

FOR: Crs Makin, Crawford, Buckingham, Halliday and Cunsolo

AGAINST: Crs Jay, Thomann, Mears and Hardy

The AMENDMENT became the SUBSTANTIVE MOTION:

That Council:

- 1.1 Notes the impact of the Grand Prix on traders within the Armstrong Street, Middle Park precinct, and notes the opportunity for local businesses to activate by extending the road-closure in Armstrong Street from Richardson Street to Canterbury Road in order to attract patronage from event attendees for no more than the four day Grand Prix period.

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- 1.2 Requests officers to undertake a feasibility study and consultation with impacted businesses and surrounding residents on the proposed road closure, including its impact on local businesses and service delivery, as soon as possible.
- 1.3 Subject to the feasibility study and consultation outcomes finding that the road closure is broadly supported by impacted businesses and that there are no significant adverse amenity impacts, authorises the CEO to proceed with a one-year trial, including:
 - 1.3.1 Implement a road closure in Armstrong Street from Richardson Street to Canterbury Road to allow businesses to extend their trading, subject to individual licenses and permits required
 - 1.3.2 Approve the payment of associated costs for traffic management, waste services, and toilet provision, estimated at \$21,000.
- 1.4 Seeks to include this request to co-fund this initiative as part of the broader advocacy to the Australian Grand Prix Corporation.

A vote was taken and the SUBSTANTIVE MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

15. REPORTS BY COUNCILLOR DELEGATES

Councillor Buckingham reported as the Councillor Delegate to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) who attended the MAV State Council on 10 October 2025. This was a valuable opportunity for Council to amplify the voice of the community and advocate for meaningful, system wide change. By working collaboratively with other Councils, Councillors strengthen their collective influence to help shape policy outcomes that benefit communities across Victoria. It was a significant day with over 80 motions considered by Councils across the state. Councillor Buckingham was pleased to report that the City of Port Phillip had five motions successfully passed and adopted into MAV's advocacy platform. The first was support for local climate action, the second was improving acute mental health response programs that was based on recommendations from the Ian Gray report and roundtable, the third was protecting and expanding urban tree canopy, the fourth was streamlining the planning scheme amendments, and the fifth was around the transport plan for Victoria and supporting the state wide transport strategy being actioned. These motions align closely with Councils endorsed advocacy priorities and reflect the issues that are being raised in the community.

16. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.



17. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

MOVED Crs Cunsolo/Thomann

That Council resolves to move into confidential to deal with the following matters pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

17.1 Melbourne Water Main Drain - Updated Financial Agreement

- 3(1)(a). Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

Reason: This report contains information that may impair Council's ability to effectively negotiate contractual arrangements with preferred suppliers for future tenders on reconstruction works.

A vote was taken and the MOTION was CARRIED unanimously.

The meeting closed to members of the public at 9:08pm.

The meeting reopened to members of the public at 9:23pm.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9:23pm.

Confirmed: 19 November 2025

Chairperson _____