



WHITEHORSE
CITY COUNCIL

Whitehorse City Council

AGENDA

Special Council Meeting

on

Monday 6 June 2022

at 6.30pm

Members: Cr Liu (Mayor), Cr Massoud (Deputy Mayor), Cr Barker,
Cr Carr, Cr Cutts, Cr Davenport, Cr Lane, Cr McNeill,
Cr Munroe, Cr Skilbeck, Cr Stennett

Mr Simon McMillan, Chief Executive Officer

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES.....	2
2	DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS.....	2
3	BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED	2
	3.1 DRAFT BUDGET 2022/2023 SUBMISSIONS	3
4	CLOSE MEETING.....	6

AGENDA

- 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**
- 2 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**
- 3 BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED**

3.1 Draft Budget 2022/2023 Submissions

ATTACHMENT

SUMMARY

Council resolved on 26 April 2022 to endorse the proposed Budget 2022/23 for public consultation in accordance with Council's requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Community Engagement Policy. Public consultation was duly given and the period for submissions concluded 15 May 2022. In total 22 submissions were received; 5 of the submitters have indicated their intention to be heard in support of their submission.

This report includes details of the submissions and provides for the hearing of submissions in accordance with legislative requirements and Council's Community Engagement Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council having heard those who wished to speak in support of their written submission, consider all written submissions as part of Council's deliberations in adopting the Budget 2022/2023 at the Council meeting to be held on 27 June 2022.

BACKGROUND

A Proposed Budget has been prepared for the 2022/2023 financial year in accordance with Council policies, the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Victorian Government's rate capping legislation. The Proposed Budget incorporates the annual plan, operating budget, and capital works program, and details the resources required over the next four financial years to deliver on the council plan 2021-2025.

The Proposed Budget has been prepared with reference to Council's Long Term Financial Plan, which is aimed at creating a sustainable fiscal environment to enable Council to continue to provide the community with high quality services and infrastructure into the medium and long term.

Councillors and officers also held a number of meetings to develop this fiscally responsible four year budget in a time of significant external and internal pressures and challenges.

Until recently, it has been a requirement that Council published a proposed budget for a set number of days, and invites community submissions.

The Local Government Act 2020 no longer has this requirement for the budget. It has changed how we engage with our community on the development of key strategic documents, including our Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Annual Budget.

For the 2023/24 budget, the formal process of making submissions on a proposed published will be replaced. Instead, Council will develop a new way of involving our community and providing a genuine opportunity to have input and influence the budget. This engagement is expected to occur early in the 2023 calendar year and will be communicated widely.

Council resolved to make the Proposed Budget 2022/2023 available for public inspection and comment in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy. It was also determined that the Council would consider, and if requested, hear any submissions in relation to the Proposed Budget on Monday 6 June 2022 at 6:30pm.

A copy of the Proposed Budget document was made available on Council's website and at Council's customer service centres (Box Hill, Forest Hill and Nunawading) and at the four Whitehorse library branches (Blackburn, Box Hill, Nunawading and Vermont South). In addition, there was a special feature on the Proposed Budget in the May 2022 Whitehorse News. A dedicated YourSay community engagement platform was also created to enable feedback to be provided.

The closing date for submissions was Sunday 15 May 2022.

Discussion and Options

Public submissions – Proposed Budget 2022/2023

Council has received 22 formal submissions/comments on the Proposed Budget 2022/2023. There are 5 people/groups that have requested to speak in support of their submissions at the Council meeting.

Submissions were received from the following:

	Name	Issue(s) Raised
1	F Baikie	Requests a dedicated dog park at Bob Saker Oval.
2	F Baikie	Bob Saker Oval
3	L Gordon	Morack Golf Course redevelopment
4	G Gallagher Yerran Dheran Advisory Committee	Update to service description to include Yerran Dheran Nature Reserve.
5	M Allen	Proposed traffic improvement to Alwyn Street, Mitcham
6	Sarah	Requests a Greyhound off-lead area.
7	T McCreadie	Level of spending in the Arts area, and the lack of funding towards basketball facilities.
8	S Korkoneas	Level of spending on recreation facilities
9	N Li Tally Ho Business Park	Supports the commitment to the preparation of a new structure plan for Tally Ho.

	Name	Issue(s) Raised
10	G Ross KooyongKoot Alliance	Masterplan for the whole of KooyongKoot/Gardiners Creek
11	D Sinclair Blackburn South Cricket Club	Funding for the Mirrabooka Pavilion upgrade
12	M Short Blackburn Creeklands Advisory Committee	Master plan of the Whitehorse section of Gardiners Creek
13	E E Meredith	Open space in the area of Whitehorse to the west of Station Street
14	M Taafe Blackburn Village Residents Group	Funding allocation for progressing the Urban Forest Strategy (UFS).
15	D Graham	Reconciliation of budget figures
16	C Trueman	Length of community consultation period
17	D Morrison Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society	Various issues centred around the Urban Forest Strategy and tree canopy cover.
18	R Gillespie Combined Residents of Whitehorse Action Group	Various issues raised
19	T Tescher Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Organisation	Various issues raised
20	V Turnbull Heatherdale Creek Parklands Advisory Committee	Request for a Drinking Fountain / Dog Bowl to be installed
21	D Williams Eastern and Mountain District Radio Club	Requests upgrades at the former Scout hall in McCubbin Street, Burwood
22	E van Vulpen	Forefeiture of state funding for a dog park

The full text of the submissions are attached.

The following people have requested to speak to their submission:

Name	
1	F Baikie
2	G Ross (KooyongKoot Alliance)
3	D Morrison (Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society)
4	R Gillespie (Combined Residents of Whitehorse Action Group)
5	T Tescher (Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Organisation)

ATTACHMENT

- 1 Budget 2022-23 Submissions

4 CLOSE MEETING