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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4708 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 9 May 2023**

**at 1pm**

**Prepared by:**

**Council and Committee Liaison Office**

**Governance, Council and Committee Services**

**City Administration and Governance**

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## PRESENT:

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER) – LNP

The Chair of Council, Councillor David McLACHLAN (Hamilton) – LNP

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| **LNP Councillors (and Wards)** | **ALP Councillors (and Wards)** |
| Krista ADAMS (Holland Park) (Deputy Mayor)  Greg ADERMANN (Pullenvale)  Adam ALLAN (Northgate)  Lisa ATWOOD (Doboy)  Fiona CUNNINGHAM (Coorparoo)  Tracy DAVIS (McDowall)  Vicki HOWARD (Central)  Steven HUANG (MacGregor)  Sarah HUTTON (Jamboree)  Sandy LANDERS (Bracken Ridge)  James MACKAY (Walter Taylor)  Kim MARX (Runcorn)  Peter MATIC (Paddington)  Ryan MURPHY (Chandler)  Andrew WINES (Enoggera) | Jared CASSIDY (Deagon) (The Leader of the Opposition)  Lucy COLLIER (Morningside) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)  Peter CUMMING (Wynnum Manly)  Steve GRIFFITHS (Moorooka)  Charles STRUNK (Forest Lake) |
| **Queensland Greens Councillor (and Ward)**  Trina MASSEY (The Gabba) |
| **Independent Councillor (and Ward)**  Nicole JOHNSTON (Tennyson) |

## OPENING OF MEETING:

The Chair, Councillor David McLACHLAN, opened the meeting with prayer and acknowledged the traditional custodians, and then proceeded with the business set out in the Agenda.

Chair: I declare the meeting open.

Are there any apologies?

## APOLOGY:

**552/2022-23**

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillors Steven TOOMEY, Angela OWEN and Fiona HAMMOND, and they were granted a leave of absence from the meeting on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

Chair: Confirmation of minutes please.

## MINUTES:

**553/2022-23**

The Minutes of the 4707 meeting of Council held on 2 May 2023, copies of which had been forwarded to each Councillor, were presented, taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair: Welcome new Councillors, Councillor Trina MASSEY and Councillor Lucy COLLIER. Welcome, I’m sure we look forward to your later contributions.

Councillors, we do have a public participant this morning who will be coming forward now, Levi Wilson, who asked to address the Chamber on Brisbane’s bus network.

While Levi is coming to the microphone, I’d like to acknowledge in the Public Gallery, a visitor from Canada, Mr Ned Taylor, a former Councillor for the district of Saanich on Vancouver Island, welcome. Welcome, I hope you enjoy proceedings here today.

Levi, thank you, you have five minutes once you start.

**Levi Wilson – Brisbane’s Bus Network**

Levi Wilson: Good afternoon, all. Brisbane is the best city in the world, with small businesses, sport teams, music scenes and something on nearly every day of the week, it’s no wonder we were chosen to host the 2032 Olympics. With the school year already a quarter of the way through and people are well and truly in the swing of their work lives, it’s hard to ignore the overwhelming levels of traffic within our city. Roads are packed on a daily basis and we need to look at solutions for this dilemma. Road improvements may temporarily help our problems, but they cost valuable time and money to produce. If only there were some sort of ride share service which could take hundreds if not thousands of people off the roads. Worry not, because the solution for our delay is buses.

According to census data collected in 2016 and 2020, buses saw a 61% drop in use for regular commutes. However, not all hope is lost, the public needs Council’s support in order to help change this narrative and help shape the way we use our public transport. The benefits of public transport are enormous. Studies have proven that effective use of public transport sees a reduction in congestion, less motor fatalities, road maintenance budgets reduced and citizens having better access to jobs in the community. Right now, you might be thinking another young greenie here to convince us to jump on buses.

Like many, I need my car for my job. I work in disability support and while the idea of cleaner air quality appeals to me greatly, I know one thing we can all get around, money. If one thing could bring Pink Floyd, ABBA and Lime Cordiale all together, it would be money. We could be saving thousands of dollars a week with more investment in our buses. Cars put literal pressure on our roads, leading to potholes and other damage. These are huge hazards for drivers and cost our city millions of dollars to repair. By having less drivers, we can extend the shelf life of our tarmac. Congestion is also a fuel burner. We throw away litres of fuel just being stuck in stop-start traffic and, trust me, when fuel is two dollars a litre, I’d rather spend my money on better things.

Time is also money, getting to my client takes 45 minutes outside of peak hour. Getting home in peak hour is an hour and 30. Imagine what you could do with 45 minutes; play with your dog, get your kids to soccer practice, you could even have your coffee and drink it. By now you’re starting to see why public transport is important, but why are people not taking advantage of our buses now? Let’s face it, they have a bit of an image issue. I asked my community what would make buses more appealing. Cost and service were major reasons people didn’t want to get on board, ultimately, buses also get caught in congestion, so how can we bring people on board? Quicker and frequent buses to key busy locations is important.

Westfield Chermside is the second biggest shopping centre in Australia. From where I live, it takes 20 minutes to take the bus, including a 15-minute walk. Compare this to a five-minute drive from my house. Imagine a world where your teenagers could hop on the bus to get to the shops and you could relax at home instead of driving them. Frequent buses will also reduce crowding. The reality is that no one wants to stand up during bus travel, especially when you’ve finished your work day, you may not smell or look as good when you walked out the door, your legs hurt and you’re tired. In a time when infection control immediately comes to mind, we need to be aware of the public’s perception of buses.

Now, with all my suggestions in mind, how do we incentivise the public to skip the car and hop on a bus? This all circles back to the true root of all evil, money. Make it free. If free isn’t an option, make it cheap. Commuters want value for their money and spending $50 a week for a bus doesn’t sit well. If a taxpayer is paying for subsidies for a free public transport network, they’re more likely to want to take advantage of a system which benefits them. Free transport is also linked to positive economic activity and more access to better paying jobs. Remember, Brisbane is a truly amazing city. Let’s spend more time showing what our city is capable of and less time stuck behind brake lights.

Chair: Thank you, Levi.

Councillor MURPHY, would you like to respond?

**Response by Councillor** **Ryan MURPHY, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Transport Committee**

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you, Chair and thank you, Levi, for sharing your thoughts on the bus network in Brisbane. As an avid bus user, I’m sure that you know that buses do the heavy lifting when it comes to public transport here in Brisbane. Two-thirds of all public transport trips in this city are actually taken on a bus. A lot of people think it’s trains that do it, but it’s buses that do the heavy lifting. We know that this Council is investing heavily in public transport in Brisbane. In fact, we are delivering the highest level of investment in buses and ferries on record and we are also delivering a brand new transport option with the turn-up-and-go Brisbane Metro, which as you identified, involves a comprehensive review of Brisbane’s bus network as it stands.

We are the fastest growing capital city in the country and that’s only going to continue to gather pace as we head towards the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2032 and more and more people get to know where Brisbane is and want to move here for the obvious lifestyle benefits and the reasons that many of us live here. By 2041, we know our population will increase by almost 25%. The way we travel in Brisbane is therefore changing and our population is growing, so we know we have to consistently strive to make our network more efficient and reliable for travellers now and into the future.

As you may be aware, the State Government is the authority responsible for public transport across the whole State of Queensland. Here at Brisbane City Council, we operate our bus services under a contract with the State Government’s transit authority, which you’d know as Translink. This means that while our bus drivers are Brisbane City Council employees and our buses are blue and yellow, ultimately, the State Government is responsible for approving and funding changes to the network. It’s disappointing that we have seen a lack of growth funding for the bus network in this State in recent years. In fact, we’ve done reviews and essentially the network size, or the amount of funding that goes into the network, has been relatively the same or has matched or been slightly under inflation for the last decade. So it’s no wonder that we have seen public transport patronage flatline and actually decline somewhat.

It makes it extremely hard for Council to deliver new services, but the Schrinner Council is extremely passionate about improving public transport and we do that by providing a public transport subsidy. At Council, we contribute to the cost of all public transport services in Brisbane. In fact, our contribution to public transport in this city is bigger than the contribution made by every other Australian capital city combined. No other local government in Queensland subsides public transport in this way. To meet increasing demand for fast and efficient public transport, our investment will increase by 84% to $183 million by the 2025-26 financial year, so a very, very significant increase from this Council that is not matched by the State Government.

On top of that, we are also solely funding, along with some Federal contributions, the Brisbane Metro project which will deliver new biarticulated, high-capacity Metro vehicles and upgraded infrastructure across the busway network. Unfortunately, the answer to improving public transport services in Brisbane is not as simple as just providing more buses. The old adage, just add one more lane to solve congestion on roads, as you’ve identified, it actually also applies to buses in this city. Just adding more buses into our network doesn’t necessarily solve the congestion problem that we have. What we do need to do is make better use of infrastructure and resources that we already have in order to maximise capacity and improve that passenger experience that you’ve identified as really critical to getting people back on our network.

So we know that changes need to be made to our bus network and we need to review the network to integrate high-frequency turn-up-and-go Metro services and ensure that Brisbane Metro, Cross River Rail and all of the other modes deliver an integrate network. That is the hope, that’s what we’re aiming for. As you mentioned, we have recently undertaken consultation on *Brisbane’s New Bus Network*. As part of those changes, we are combining a number of routes to simplify the network and some with extremely low patronage are being removed. The new network will allow us to make better use of our resources to deliver high‑frequency services to more streets.

Again as you’ve identified, that lack of frequency is one of the reasons why people stay off public transport, because the car becomes more reliable than a bus or a train and so it’s our job to solve that. But what’s important to know about our new network is that it is not about cuts, in fact the network that we have proposed represents a significant investment in new services. As I mentioned, Council is, in fact, the only level of government that is investing significantly in new services for Brisbane.

Just finally, I just want to note your suggestion to make public transport free or cheaper. Look, there are many things that many economists will tell you about making something free and the perceived value of that dropping, then cities where free public transport has worked and cities where free or low cost public transport has actually resulted in drops in patronage. So there’s a whole range of, particularly, European cities where you can have a look at that—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor MURPHY: But as I mentioned earlier, Levi, Council operates its bus services under a contract from Translink, so we ultimately don’t have the responsibility to set the fares. That is with the State Government, they set ticket prices and, ultimately, they are the ones who have the responsibility to make public transport free. However, at Council we do do our part to try and encourage residents on to public transport to help with the soaring cost of living, by running a number of free bus services. For example, here in the heart of the CBD we run the free City Loop, that runs every 10 minutes from 7am to 6pm. We also operate the Spring Hill Loop in Councillor HOWARD’s ward and we are currently trialling a free South Brisbane Loop in Councillor MASSEY’s electorate, which runs along Grey Street, Montague Road, Vulture Street and Tribune Street.

We also offer free off-peak travel to seniors, which subsidises the cost of travel for seniors. It makes it easier for our oldest residents to get around the city during the daytime for free. We actually have to pay the State Government to run that service, they don’t—so Council is essentially subsidising all seniors to travel off‑peak in the city for free. Would you believe, since we started that initiative in October 2019, seniors have saved more than $8 million in fares as a result of that initiative alone, so that’s a great outcome for this city’s senior citizens.

So Levi, we remain focused on delivering the best public transport outcomes in this city for as many people as possible, whilst also ensuring a record investment in public transport is spent responsibly. I want to thank you for your time today, Levi, for coming in and for your presentation. Certainly there are some ideas there that are very worthy of consideration, because it’s all in our interest to improve public transport patronage. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Levi, for coming in.

## QUESTION TIME:

Chair: Councillors, are there any questions of the LORD MAYOR or a Civic Cabinet Chair of any of the Standing Committees?

Councillor MACKAY.

**Question 1**

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair, my question is the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, today you released the Chelmer to Indooroopilly river crossing report, a document which presents a number of options to help reduce congestion in Brisbane’s inner western suburbs.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

Councillor MACKAY: Can you please update the Chamber on the findings of this report, including the next steps?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Councillor MACKAY, for the question through you, Mr Chair. Yes, certainly today we did release the document that highlights what comes next and what happens next when it comes to options to improve infrastructure through the corridor between Chelmer and Indooroopilly, otherwise known as the Walter Taylor Bridge corridor. A lot of people aren’t aware that Walter Taylor Bridge has a really fascinating history. It was a fully privately-funded bridge and it was an early use of recycling, because a private entity got a hold of some cables that were used in the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and they used those cables as the basis to create a suspension bridge, which then turned into a tollway. It was opened on Valentine’s Day in 1936, 87 years ago, at a cost of £87,000. It seems like a bargain, seems like a bargain.

One thing for sure is that whatever we do there in the future, between the three levels of government, is going to cost more than £87,000. We know that more than a decade ago we started work on the Go Between Bridge and that project cost in excess of $300 million a decade ago, so costs continue to escalate on every major project because of inflation and also the massive demand. So what we’re seeing now is the options that we’ve had a look at, that could involve duplicating a bridge or constructing new bridges, range from between $800 million and $1.3 billion. It, effectively, would require two bridge structures, one bridge structure across the Brisbane River and another one across the railway corridor, which would be almost as expensive as crossing the river.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

LORD MAYOR: So we’ve put forward a range of different options for consideration and now the next step is to sit down with the State Government in a joint working group to progress these options and narrow it down further. Let’s work out what are the most feasible options and once we do that and once we sit down with the State and work out the next steps, then we can narrow down those options to just a small number of options which we can then go out to the community with. So this is a process—this is a project that will need to be done jointly between the different levels of government. Certainly, nothing can happen without the support and approval of the State Government.

There’s a whole heap of interactions with the railway corridor and also bridges across the Brisbane River become incredibly complex, particularly, when they’re involving crossing railway lines as well. So we’ve had the support of Minister Mark Bailey for progressing this and I look forward to his ongoing support in taking this to the next steps. But certainly we know the critical thing is that people want action when it comes to reducing traffic congestion. They want better travel options; they want to see improvements. If you look at the top three suggested improvements that residents supported when it comes to that corridor, the most popular was a second bridge.

The next one was widening the existing bridge, which I’m a little bit concerned about because from an engineering perspective that is simply not possible, but also improved public transport. As we know, that location has a railway line, there’s a railway bridge through that corridor and a railway line servicing the corridor through Chelmer and Indooroopilly. There’s also a bikeway bridge as well, which links into our new Indooroopilly riverwalk and other destinations in the local area. So looking at the range of different opportunities, but certainly investigating what an additional bridge would look like, what are the most feasible options, I’m keen to progress this to the next step.

With the scale of investment between $800 million and $1.3 billion at this preliminary stage, this is a project that would need the support of all levels of government. It’s not something that Council could or would go alone on, but certainly with the support of the State Government we get to the next important step and next milestone. This is also a project that could be considered potentially through the City Deal arrangement, which would make sense. It would see all three levels of government contributing to what would be important transport infrastructure in that western corridor. So I do look forward to working with Minister Bailey and progressing these opportunities, narrowing down the options and coming up with solutions.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 2**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN, community housing providers build housing for people, not profit. Brisbane City Council is now becoming one of the hardest and most expensive places for affordable housing to be built. Rates are high, infrastructure charges are high and development fees are high. Why is the LNP making it so hard for community housing providers to develop new housing in Brisbane?

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Well thank you, Mr Chair and I thank Councillor CASSIDY for the question. The premise of the question, unfortunately, is false—demonstrably false, but what I will point out is that this Council provides not only rates discounts for community housing providers, but we also provide infrastructure charges discounts as well. So the notion that we’re not doing anything to support this and that we are, in fact, making it difficult is absolutely a nonsense. We work closely with community housing—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please, stop interjecting.

Councillor ALLAN: We work closely with community housing providers where they have projects and certainly assist them actively in the process of looking at development approvals—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor ALLAN: —and achieving the outcomes and approvals they need to build their property. So this notion that we’re not supporting them is totally incorrect. We are also currently looking closely at the build-to-rent sector, the community housing providers could be considered to be in that particular space. They provide long‑term housing on a reduced rental basis and so we will be looking closely to see whether we can support the community housing provider sector through our build-to-rent incentives. So the approach from this Administration is to work very, very closely with them. We truly appreciate the kind of product they’re providing into the market and the work they do for the wider community in Brisbane. But in summary, Councillor CASSIDY’s notion is totally false and it’s misleading and it’s unfortunate that he would take that approach.

Chair: Thank you.

Further questions?

Councillor HUANG.

**Question 3**

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, tonight the Federal Government will hand down their budget for the 2023-24 financial year. Historically, Brisbane City Council has received funding for many of its infrastructure projects, which has allowed us to keep up with our city’s growth. Can you please update the Chamber on what you hope to see in the upcoming Federal budget?

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Mr Chair and through you, thanks to Councillor HUANG for the question. Over many years, Brisbane City Council has enjoyed a strong relationship with respective Federal Governments of both political persuasions. Local government truly is the level of government closest to the people and we know that we can be strong partners with other levels of government to deliver projects of local and strategic importance. In Brisbane, we continuously punch above our weight, delivering significant projects and contributing significant funding to others.

But Mr Chair, we simply can’t do it alone. Local government levy’s just three per cent of overall taxation revenue in Australia, compared to 16% at the State level and 81% from Canberra. So we need Federal support, we are appreciative of the support that we have received over the years. Financial assistance grants from the Federal Government are a valued contribution, providing ongoing support to the work of local government. We’ve received nearly $400 million of funding through these grants over the past decade. This support is critical and we hope it continues and grows, noting the cost pressures we all face.

We’ve also had a great support from major transport projects in the past. When Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was the Infrastructure Minister in the previous Labor Government, we had half a billion dollars committed towards Legacy Way. This funding was then honoured by the incoming coalition government after 2013. Mr Chair, we are Australia’s fastest growing capital city, the ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) recently confirmed this. Our growth rate in Brisbane is more than triple the growth rate of Sydney and more than double that of Melbourne. All of this means we need more Federal funding for roads and public transport to protect our lifestyle in Brisbane.

So Mr Chair, we note with concern the recently announced review of Federally‑funded infrastructure projects. We have pending Federal funding commitments totalling $91 million for Beams Road, $50 million for the State-led Beams Road rail overpass and $41 million for Council’s Beams Road upgrade from Lacey Road to Handford Road. Federal Senator Anthony Chisholm was happy to pose for photos on Beams Road with his State Labor colleagues and Councillor WINES at a press conference in February. We certainly hope Senator Chisholm’s commitment to the northern suburbs is worth the same at the end of the Federal funding review as what it was in February.

Councillors will recall that we moved a motion to ensure that the Federal Government retained its commitment to Moggill Road at Kenmore and we are hoping that this budget and review that is being undertaken as announced by the Minister will not see funding for traffic congestion in the western suburbs of Brisbane cut. This $12.5 million towards the State Government section of Moggill Road is essential in tackling congestion in the western suburbs. The former coalition government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) saw $87.6 million received by Brisbane City Council between 2020 and 2022, delivering dozens of projects, big and small, right across our suburbs.

These projects were aligned with the Schrinner Council’s priorities to deliver better and safer roads, to reduce congestion and also to improve our community and sporting facilities. The coalition announced a two-year $500 million extension in the May 2022 budget and we welcomed the confirmation in the October 2022 budget of a further $250 million extension. However, Mr Chair, the devil was in the detail. We have just discovered here at Brisbane City Council, Australia’s largest local government, representing nearly five per cent of the national population, that we will not get one cent of this additional funding, not one cent.

The Albanese Government has dictated that the additional $250 million in funding for roads through LRCI, is not to go to urban local governments like Brisbane, based on an arbitrary classification system. We’re certainly used to being ripped off by the State Government in this regard, Mr Chair, but it’s disappointing and frankly bewildering to see this now from Canberra. So Mr Chair, we certainly hope that Council’s positive relationship with Canberra will continue after the Treasurer hands down the Federal budget tonight, but Mr Chair, the early signs are not promising.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

**554/2022-23**

At that juncture, the DEPUTY MAYOR moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the Standing Rules be suspended.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR you have up to three minutes to establish the reason for your motion.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, Mr Chairman—

Chair: Point of order, are you raising a point of order?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I did say point of order and that’s why I’m standing.

Chair: Yes, thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Urgency motions now can only be moved if there is a reason that they could not have been put on the agenda by midday on Monday. Given that the funding arrangements for these issues have been fully known for several years, as outlined in some detail by the Finance Chairman, I’m seeking your ruling, Mr Chairman, on why this has become urgent in the last 12 hours.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON, I’ll listen to the DEPUTY MAYOR’s argument as to why it couldn’t be put forward on the agenda before one o’clock yesterday afternoon.

DEPUTY MAYOR: As it says under the local law, a suspension of standing orders is for motions that cannot make it by one o’clock on a Monday, and I would like to explain why that is the case in this. Not because we decided for political gains, but this is about supplying money for people of Brisbane. This was not submitted by 1pm yesterday because it became aware this morning, this morning, that Phase 4 of the LRCI allocations announced today, have been restricted to rural, regional and outer metro councils. Community infrastructure programs are no longer eligible, not that we’ll get any of those as well.

We heard the details just then from Councillor CUNNINGHAM in her answer about the impacts that this funding is going to have on Brisbane. We see that the Australian Local Government Association has also raised concerns about the Government’s decision on this matter. For this reason, as the fastest growing city in Australia, I think it is very important this Council debate this matter to send a strong message in relation to the lack of funding our city is going to miss out on due to the announcement this morning by the Albanese Federal Government.

Chair: Thank you.

We have a motion for the suspension of standing rules.

The Chair submitted the motion for the suspension of the Standing Rules to the Chamber and it was declared **carried** on the voices.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Division.

*The division lapsed for want of a seconder.*

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, can you move your motion please?

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. I move that this—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Sorry, Mr Chairman. Given that the DEPUTY MAYOR has indicated that she was advised about this this morning, or Council was advised about this this morning, will she table the correspondence that has been received so that we can understand, before we have this important debate, what it is the Federal Government has actually announced?

Chair: That’s not a point of order.

DEPUTY MAYOR, can you move your motion please?

**555/2022-23**

At that juncture, the DEPUTY MAYOR moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS—

*That this Council supports the Australian Local Government Association in urgently calling for the Federal Government to not exclude metropolitan Councils, like Brisbane, in the $250 million Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (RCI) Program Phase 4B.*

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: There is no correspondence. It was announced this morning in the media under Phase 4 of LRCI allocations. There is a website, investment.infrastructure.gov.au, around Phase 4 funding, which clearly says it is restricted to rural, regional and outer metro councils. Capital cities and in the case of our outer metro councils, Logan as well, are no longer eligible for LRCI funding at all, community or roads. This is an absolute disgrace. At the last Federal election, voters went to the polls with the information that both sides of politics, Labor and Liberal, would continue to fund LRCI grants as part of their re-election pitches to Brisbane voters.

In fact, Labor promised to increase this funding above the $500 million already allocated by the former government, by adding an additional $250 million. So Brisbane ratepayers were rightly expecting that they would have a share of this extra funding to deliver local initiatives such as road upgrades. The Federal Government came out this morning to say that this extra money must be spent on roads and, unfortunately, that Brisbane would not be getting a cent, roads, community or otherwise. So we saw the Local Government Association—Australian Local Government Association, although they’ve welcomed the extra $250 million which is great if you’re outside of major cities, they need to reinstate the former model that saw it provided to all councils, to all councils.

It is absolutely outrageous as the fastest growing capital in the country, that they’ve decided not to fund one project in our LGA (Local Government Area) area. Why is Brisbane missing out on funding when there are projects this funding can go towards? There are so many examples of Federal funding which have positively contributed to Brisbane as a city. Just last year, we received several LRCI programs for a number of projects. I have to say, in my local area, the Whites Hill Reserve upgrades for the road in that community precinct, where thousands of patrons can now travel more efficiently and safely when they participate at the largest regional sporting precinct on the southside when it comes to the numbers of people through that precinct weekly.

We saw $7.1 million to Wadeville Street and Ritchie Road corridor, $4.5 million to the Witton Barracks community hub, $4.3 million for the Shorncliffe Escarpment—I hope that didn’t have anything else left to finish on it, for the Councillor of Deagon—$6 million for Brisbane International Cycle Park, $900,000 for the Ipswich Road tunnel lighting, $230,000 for Kelvin Grove urban village lighting and $250,000 for Bracken Ridge Scouts and Girl Guides. Now, not only will none of that be seen across the country, but the Federal Government doesn’t believe that Brisbane motorists deserve a fair share of this funding.

We need to send a strong message to the Federal Government that we support Australia’s Local Government Association’s cause to provide funding to councils, not just those that are living outside the capital city. I call again for all Councillors to support this motion, because Brisbane deserves their fair share of infrastructure as well.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. Where was the LNP, where was the DEPUTY MAYOR when the Morrison Government racked up $1 trillion in debt for this nation and allocated, from memory, from this fund a couple of years ago, $600 million to car parks that were never built and then money had to be reallocated? This whole issue around pork-barrelling from the former Morrison Government, which didn’t do Julian Simmonds any good out in the western suburbs, they’ve talked an awful lot about Federal funding going into the leafy western suburbs of Brisbane, that didn’t do Julian any good. So isn’t there a clear message in the last Federal election that if you try and buy votes with public money and you are incredibly transparent about that, that people in this day and age are actually rejecting that? Because what we do see, we see the results of those political decisions.

We see less money being able to be spent on important things and we see that at a council level. Now today the LNP will do anything, Chair, anything to not talk about their own budget and their own failings and their own cost blowouts, which then lead on to less investment in the suburbs of Brisbane. So the criticism they’re levelling at the moment at another level of government is exactly what they are doing in the suburbs of Brisbane, but they don’t want to talk about it, they don’t want to talk about it, but we will be talking about it in the suburbs of Brisbane. The DEPUTY MAYOR got up and said oh, gee, she hopes that the Shorncliffe Escarpment didn’t need any more work after the Federal money dries up, because this LNP Council has no money to invest in our open spaces. The DEPUTY MAYOR just let the cat out of the bag then, local park upgrades—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Councillor CASSIDY: —cannot be completed without Federal money.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY, thank you.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY. Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Noted.

Councillor CASSIDY: She said gee, I hope there doesn’t need to be—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY: —any more done on the Shorncliffe Escarpment—

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor CASSIDY, another point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY: —after the Federal money finishes.

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor CASSIDY, point of order.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I prefer not to be called she.

Chair: Yes.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Councillor please.

Chair: Councillors, can you refer to Councillors by their proper titles please.

Councillor CASSIDY: Councillor ADAMS said gee, I hope there doesn’t need to be any more work on the Shorncliffe Escarpment after the Federal money wraps up, a Council project, a Council project that not one single cent is being put in by this Administration. So that tells you, I think, all you need to know about this political approach from this LNP Administration. When you’ve got at a Federal level $1 trillion in debt that a government of any—of any persuasion over the future has to deal with, a structural deficit at a Federal level of $40 billion going forward, so of course decisions need to be made about that.

You’ve got a structural deficit in the Brisbane City Council budget that clearly can only be plugged by money coming from other levels of government and now through what we will see is astronomically high rate rises and an enormous amount of borrowing, which is going to be put on to future generations of Brisbane residents. So this is just—that was laughable when the DEPUTY MAYOR got up and said—when the DEPUTY MAYOR got up and said this isn’t about political point scoring. That’s what this is all about, it’s about obfuscation, it’s about trying to get people to look somewhere else when we’re approaching a Council budget. Where Councillor MURPHY doesn’t know what the price of the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge is going to be by the end of it. Where the LORD MAYOR has no idea how much the Metro’s going to end up being. He announced today a bridge that will cost somewhere between $800 million and $1.3 billion, they can’t do public—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Will Councillor CASSIDY take a question?

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, will you take a question?

Councillor CASSIDY: Well we were in Question Time and the DEPUTY MAYOR got up—the DEPUTY MAYOR got up and stopped that—and stopped that.

Chair: There’s a question, will you take a question?

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes.

Chair: Yes.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’m wondering if he’s supporting the motion or not.

Councillor CASSIDY: Well actually that was just four minutes, I was going to wrap up, but maybe I’ll go longer, maybe I’ll keep going, maybe I’ll keep going.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, this is a joke, this is a joke. A little simple Google—a little simple Google search would suggest that five days ago this information was out in the public domain. So the ALGA (Australian Local Government Association) put up on their website, the Council magazine from the ALGA on 4 May, so it was four days ago, I’m sorry, so how this became urgent just today in the middle of Question Time—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I didn’t quite get that interjection. Feel free to ask another question if you want. I saw this that went up four days ago, I’m not sure whether the DEPUTY MAYOR did, a bit slack in bringing this today. But this is all a political concoction to try—and on Federal budget day redirect people’s attention. But we know what this is all about, we know that this LNP Administration can’t manage projects, whether they are Council funded or State and Federal funded. We see on every single one that this LORD MAYOR and his Finance Chair and his DEPUTY MAYOR have their fingerprints on, they blow out, there’s delays which require more borrowings that ratepayers have to fund or Federal taxpayers have to fund. So I think these are all crocodile tears.

They’re very deeply worried about their own budget quite clearly, because we’re going to have to see not just the highest rate take on record, but quite clearly one of the biggest rate increases on record as well, to fund their stuff-ups. I’ve found it incredible that after seven and a half years in this job at how hollow the Council budget really has become. When you see basic works—I’ll go back to the Shorncliffe Escarpment because the DEPUTY MAYOR brought that up, that was critical work. That is 100% a Council responsibility and this Administration couldn’t fund it, they couldn’t fund it, because all of that money is going into the inner city. It’s going into the Metro black hole and the Kangaroo Point bridge black hole.

This is Council work they couldn’t fund, so they relied on Federal money to fund it and they’re coming in today because they are scared. Because this budget that’s coming up is going to be a horror show for the residents of Brisbane, an absolute horror show. If I was the LORD MAYOR I’d be worried that delivering that horror show less than 12 months before the next election’s going to reflect very, very poorly on him.

Chair: Thank you.

Your claim of misrepresentation, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Councillor CASSIDY claimed that I let the cat out of the bag. I did absolutely no such thing.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers? Any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Mr Chairman. Well, we can see a number of things from the motion that’s been moved by the DEPUTY MAYOR today. Six days ago, six days ago the Australian Local Government Association put out a public statement about the issue that Councillor ADAMS has stood up and misrepresented in this Chamber today as being something that was announced this morning. It is available on something called the World Wide Web, six days ago.

So firstly, we see here the LNP cooking up a political motion simply to try and score a few cheap political points against the Federal Government. The same Federal Government that they’re going cap in hand to, to say but we really need your money, but you’re a bad Federal Government because you won’t do what we want you to do and boondoggle and pork-barrel projects in LNP wards out in the suburbs. That’s what’s going on here and the Chair of Council is allowing it. The rules are very clear, other people’s motions are ruled out of order if they cannot demonstrate urgency. Now the DEPUTY MAYOR has been caught out deliberately misleading the Chamber. Six days ago this was announced, it’s not urgent.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: She could have put a motion—

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Noted.

Councillor JOHNSTON: The DEPUTY MAYOR stood up, she told us all it was this morning, that’s when the media came out, that’s when she said it happened. Because otherwise she would have had to put her notice of motion in last week and guess what, six days ago she still had four days to put the notice of motion in and didn’t do it.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: This is a debate on suspension of standing orders. Relevance to the motion, is she supporting it or not?

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, if you can come to the motion please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I think I’m being relevant to the motion. The motion is that this is the most important thing we need to do today. The DEPUTY MAYOR has stopped the business of Council—

Chair: No, we’ve moved past suspension of standing rule.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —she has stopped the business of Council to move this motion because she said it was urgent. Clearly it’s not; it’s political. Now let’s get to the second part of this issue, which is this LNP Administration doesn’t actually have any ideas of their own. They’ve had to take a six-day-old press release from the Australian Local Government Association and bring it in here to try and put something up in this Chamber to debate.

Not an issue here today of their own to support the people of the City of Brisbane, they’ve borrowed someone else’s idea, they’ve tried to misrepresent it in this place and make it urgent. This LNP Administration is bereft of ideas, they are fundamentally dishonest by the way they’ve done this today and the other thing about all of this today is the budget is going to be handed down tonight. We know that there is a newish Federal Government, there are many other programs that will be announced in the budget tonight. We don’t know whether funding for roads in Brisbane is coming through some other avenue of funding through the Federal Government. We don’t know, it has not been publicly announced.

Now do I think that the DEPUTY MAYOR is going to stand up next Tuesday and go oh, well, we got that road money, didn’t we, from the budget last week and oh, gee, it was under a different road program, or it was under a different funding corridor. No, she’s just scoring a few cheap points here today. It’s backfired because they’ve just been exposed as they’re pinching ideas from another organisation that’s a week old off the internet. That’s where the City of Brisbane leadership is at, well done.

Chair: Claim of misrepresentation, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you. I saw the media this morning and I stand by that. I saw it this—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Councillor JOHNSTON had no idea what I was speaking about, so I believe she probably didn’t see it six days ago either.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair and I rise in support of this motion. I would hope, Mr Chair, that this is a motion that every single Councillor in this place can get in behind and support. Because we are voting on whether we back the assessment of the Australian Local Government Association and its President, a Labor Councillor, Labor Councillor Linda Scott from Sydney, that the distribution of the additional $250 million from Canberra is unfair. What has happened is that due to an arbitrary classification of local governments across the country—no doubt developed by some Canberra bureaucrat, is that Brisbane City Council and our neighbours to the south, the City of Logan, completely miss out on a piece of this vital funding.

The Gold Coast has received $3.4 million, Ipswich has received $1.3 million, Moreton Bay is getting $2.8 million, the Redlands is getting just shy of $1 million, the Sunshine Coast is getting $2.1 million, and get this, Mr Chair, the ACT Government is getting $3.8 million. Mr Chair, based on these allocations, it just doesn’t make sense that Brisbane and Logan are missing out. This is not about politics; this is about ratepayers and taxpayers getting their fair share. The Albanese Government has said—the Government has drawn on the Australian Classification of Local Governments as a robust framework underpinning the determination of eligible councils for this additional $250 million in funding. Well, Mr Chair, drawing on some arbitrary classification system to distribute a quarter of a billion dollars’ worth of funding makes no sense. It makes no sense to ALGA, it makes no sense to Labor Councillor Linda Scott—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: —and I hope that all Councillors will support this motion.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Will Councillor CUNNINGHAM take a question?

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, will you take a question?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: No, I’ve finished.

Chair: No, the answer is no.

Sorry, you’ve finished?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Yes.

Chair: Any further debate? No further debate.

DEPUTY MAYOR, summing up.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair and I am gobsmacked. We are elected into this place for one thing and one thing only and that is to represent the people and residents of Brisbane, whether it’s in your ward or whether it’s across the city in a role like Deputy Mayor or Leader of the Opposition. But from those opposite what we see is they will stick up for the locals as long as they don’t have to fight their political masters. Councillor cuts CASSIDY is quite happy to see that Brisbane doesn’t get anything from the Albanese Government, because they’ve got to deal with debt and they’ve got to sort pork-barrelling. Well I don’t know what the definition of pork-barrelling is if it is not a brand new sports centre in the middle of the Treasurer Federal and State’s ward, which was never announced in the Olympics or anywhere else. So he knows the definition because they use it all the time.

I am so dismayed that if I heard from Councillor GRIFFITHS keep up with it Councillor ADAMS, if they were up with it six days ago, where are their calls on their ALP Federal Government to advocate—

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’m screaming it from the rooftops right now, Councillors.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor ADAMS.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. I don’t see them advocating, I don’t see them talking to their Federal Members saying by the way, this is very, very, very poor.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I would love to be able to pick up the phone. We have a unanimous motion moved in Council to support the fact—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Right now this puts City Deal in a very, very precarious situation. I am sure the LORD MAYOR and the Premier will be talking about what this means for the capital—fastest growing capital. Pot, kettle, black. The politics over there, we didn’t even debate the motions. Both of the speakers on the other side talked about the process, talked about me, talked about hypocrisy, did not once say whether they actually truly supported or didn’t support this. So what I hear is they don’t truly support the residents of Brisbane. This is about Brisbane residents getting their fair share of Federal funding. They pay GST too. They pay Federal taxes. They deserve Federal funding. Nothing more, nothing less and shame on Councillors who can’t support their residents to get their fair share.

Chair: Thank you.

As there was no further debate, the Chair submitted the motion to the Chamber and it was declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, the DEPUTY MAYOR and Councillor Andrew WINES immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 17 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY and Andrew WINES.

ABSTENTIONS: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Trina MASSEY.

Chair: Thank you, Councillors, return to Question Time.

Councillor STRUNK.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: I can see you, Councillor JOHNSTON, but I’ve called Councillor STRUNK.

**Question 4**

Councillor STRUNK: Sorry, thank you, Chair. My question is to the Chair of City Standards, Councillor MARX.

We see that you have posted on your social media about being very busy with your arts and crafts hobby, making decorative cards. We haven’t seen any progress from you in the removing of 80,000 tonnes of organic waste buried in landfill each year. Councillor MARX, is full FOGO (food organics and garden organics) on the cards for Brisbane residents?

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Thank you, through you Mr Chair, for the question from Councillor STRUNK. Well I’m glad to see you’re following my social media, that’s very good. Can I say, I hope that you are appreciative of the time that I spend generally after midnight in my crafting room making cards, birthday cards, Mother’s Day cards, for my residents to enjoy as a way—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: No, I do not sell them, I’ll take your interjection, Councillor CUMMING.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CUMMING, please.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please. Order, please.

Councillor MARX: I do not sell any of the cards that I make. I spend a fair whack of money I earn as a Councillor buying supplies and then I actually give away a whole lot of supplies to my kindies and preschools.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: That’s a good idea, I’ll take that interjection, Councillor WINES. I will do a farewell card for Councillor CUMMING and I’m thinking the design on the front is going to be a boomerang, absolutely. I’m going to find a boomerang stamp just for you, Councillor CUMMING and I’m going to put it on there and hopefully we’ll see you again next week, because we’re absolutely enjoying your Committee and Council Chambers interactions with us. Every year I give my colleagues a Christmas card, they’re handmade every single year and I know they enjoy them.

I also do sympathy cards, so when a resident of mine passes away, one of my jobs of my staff is they read the condolence—the death notices every day in the paper, which is not always pleasant for my office to do but they do that. Then I write a sympathy card to the remaining spouse, if there is one, if they live in my ward. I also make birthday cards for residents from when they turn 80, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99 and even 100, when they turn 100. Do you know, the issues with the birthday cards is that the people of that age, it is so lovely, they actually take time to write me a note to thank me for the card that I sent them for their birthday, which is a very old-fashioned, I would suggest, way of doing things. But it’s certainly lovely and I really, really appreciate it.

Councillor STRUNK: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Would you bring the Councillor back to the actual question and that was to do with FOGO, something that’s very important to the residents of Brisbane.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair. Would you perhaps like to actually chair this meeting, Chair?

Chair: That wasn’t a point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

To Councillor STRUNK’s point of order, Councillor MARX is being relevant to the question as asked.

Councillor MARX: So I’m guessing obviously those on the opposite side are concerned that they’re not getting birthday cards from me, so I’m more than happy, if you would like to text me your birth dates, I’m more than happy to send you a birthday card. Because I can say I get a lot of pleasure from making cards and they’re what I would suggest is a destressing tool for me as a Councillor. I would suggest if you don’t have any destressing tools in your own pocket, maybe you could take cardmaking as a way of—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor STRUNK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, point of order.

Councillor STRUNK: Again the relevancy. I don’t think she has actually even mentioned the word FOGO and that was the poignant part of the question.

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, you asked the question. The Councillor is being relevant to the question as asked.

Councillor MARX: Also I understand, through you Mr Chair, the instructions in this Chamber is that we are referred to as Councillors. As my mother always used to say, she is the dog’s mother and I’m neither of that, even though I have just purchased a dog I’m actually not the dog’s mother. So she is not relevant to me.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: Well if you want to know about the dog I’m happy to tell you about the dog, but that’s probably getting a little bit off target.

Chair: Councillor MARX, to the question please.

Councillor MARX: That’s getting off topic. I understand, Chair, that is absolutely getting off topic. Councillor STRUNK mentioned the acronym FOGO, which can I say a lot of residents don’t even know what FOGO actually means, what it stands for or anything like that. So as a Council, you’ll know that I like to speak quite plainly, so we spoke to officers and we came up with the terminology of food recycling. To me that means exactly what it is, it’s about food recycling and I’m very pleased to say in that space that we started a trial and unfortunately there was a little event back in 2022 of the floods—

Chair: Councillor MARX, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor HUTTON.

**Question 5**

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the Chair of Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, Councillor ADAMS.

DEPUTY MAYOR, over the weekend our city hosted thousands of interstate visitors for the Brisbane NRL Magic Round. Can you please update the Chamber on the benefits of hosting these major events and how it supports Brisbane’s local economy?

Chair: Thank you.

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair and it’s absolutely wonderful to stand here with the Schrinner Administration that supports Brisbane, whether that’s through infrastructure delivery with support from other levels of government or not, or through economic support through major events. Council puts in a percentage through the Brisbane Economic Development Agency in relation to how much TEQ (Tourism and Events Queensland) puts through. So when tourism events in Queensland, through you Mr Chair—

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’ll take the interjection from Councillor CUMMING, when they release their data you can look at our data as well. Brisbane was absolutely buzzing over the weekend with the Brisbane NRL Magic Round, which just keeps getting bigger and better.

There is no other time, or as we saw today in *The Courier-Mail*, or any other city which has more sporting action packed into one magic weekend. There was an enormous colourful sea of jerseys that started about Thursday in the Queen Street Mall, lined from the city at Caxton Street, every pub, club and restaurant and a lot of black. A lot of people in the Magic Round actual black jersey as well, with the rainbow colours of all the clubs, which looked fantastic. The city was alive and it was bustling. Sixteen teams, eight matches right here at Suncorp, it was a frenzy of fantastic football, no matter who you barrack for, or except maybe the Storm, that didn’t work too well for me on Saturday night, but the Broncos had a blinder and so did the Dolphins. But it’s not just footy fans that we’re chasing, it was also about cheering on our local businesses this weekend.

In a week when so much is happening in Brisbane, it was about sell-out days at the football; hotel occupancies above 80% we saw on the weekend. Thirty thousand footy fans descended on Brisbane over the three-day blockbuster weekend. I should say over 30,000 from interstate, we had more than 50,000 from out of region, is what we’re seeing. That’s an enormous amount of people driving, flying, getting into the city whatever way they can to spend their money and support our businesses as well. The malls recorded the highest foot traffic for 2023, up 60% on last year’s Magic Round. Tens of thousands of hotel beds, restaurants and pubs working around the clock, close to $30 million injected into our local economy. That is fantastic for not only the owners and operators, but the workers on the street, those who are looking for more jobs, even though our unemployment rate is very, very low.

Everyone loves the event because everybody loves Brisbane and who doesn’t want to move out of Melbourne and Sydney for the weekend at the moment with the weather? Mind you, they must have brought a little bit with them and left it when they went back over the weekend. The energy at the stadium was absolutely electric. The stadiums were filled out. Saturday night when I was there was just madness. People lined up to see their team for the next game, cheering on the game beforehand, I’ve never seen so many slushies as people are going through the crowd with the Margarita slushies, trays and trays full. There was a lot of sugar going through that crowd there as well. But we also saw doubling of last year’s figures, as I said, for interstate travel and that does well for our domestic travel and our airlines as well. It is great to see that this type of event, which is Brisbane born and bred—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I take the interjection from the Councillor of Tennyson; this is the big issues. I am again standing up here to say if you don’t think $30 million injected into Brisbane’s economy is a big issue, again you have no idea how to support the residents in Brisbane who work, live and play here. People who work at Suncorp are people that live in Tennyson, they live in Calamvale. They love the events as much as everybody else because they’re getting money in their pocket. This supports Brisbane, it is a big issue and those on the other side don’t get it. They’ve proved in the motion today they don’t get it. We’ve proved from Councillor CUMMING over that side, through you Mr Chair, carping about the event, they don’t get it.

*Councillors interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: Now Councillor JOHNSTON’s upset I’m saying this, because the truth hurts. We represent the people of Brisbane, we support them—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

DEPUTY MAYOR: —through infrastructure, activities and events—

Chair: Excuse me, DEPUTY MAYOR. Point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Okay, noted.

DEPUTY MAYOR: We are in the middle of one of the biggest times of the year. Comedy Festival, we’ve just come out of the fantastic Brisbane Cycling Festival. We’re coming into the Torian Pro, the biggest CrossFit event in Australia. Brisbane Street Art Festival’s underway and Botanica starts at the end of this week. It is a two‑week‑long festival that hopefully people are staying and playing and paying, which puts money into the pockets of the people that live in our wards and our city and that is a good thing, that is a great thing and this is an event we want to see in Brisbane for years to come.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON, misrepresentation.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. Councillor ADAMS claimed that I was upset because I didn’t get it. I’m upset because the DEPUTY MAYOR thinks that the most important debate in this city is about Margarita slushies. I find it embarrassing.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 6**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, major projects across Brisbane have blown out by billions of dollars and have been delayed for years. These are Council projects. This morning the Transport Committee Chair, Councillor MURPHY, revealed he had no idea how much the Kangaroo Point bridge would end up costing in the long run. These continuous blowouts are pushing up rates for every single resident. Councillor CUNNINGHAM, can you commit to end these major project blowouts and stop asking Brisbane ratepayers to pay more rates and get less services in the suburbs?

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Mr Chair and thank you to the Leader of the Opposition for the question. Once again, Mr Chair, the Opposition show their naivety in coming into this place. They must live under a rock. This Schrinner Council has guided the city through a health crisis, we have guided our city through a flood crisis and we are guiding our city through a global inflation crisis. Because of years of careful financial management, because we have ignored the Opposition’s calls to go into debt—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please. I’ve been pretty patient with you, but please stop interjecting.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Mr Chair, we have guided our city through uncertain times. We’ve been able to respond to the changing circumstances. It doesn’t mean it’s easy, Mr Chair, but difficult decisions have had to be made. We’re doing the right thing by the ratepayers of Brisbane and they trust this LORD MAYOR to manage Council’s $4 billion budget. Times are tough, you only need to ask the State Labor Government. The Coomera Connector project had an escalation of over $600 million. Cross River Rail (CRR) has not been immune either. In fact the CRR Delivery Authority CEO said just not long ago, over the last 12 months we have seen impacts in the construction sector right across the board as far as escalation goes.

We’ve also had the flood and we’ve seen supply chain impacts from the likes of the war in the Ukraine. These are his words, Mr Chair. Clearly there is an issue right across the economy. Bulk water prices have increased nearly 15% in the past four years, bitumen up 50%. Building construction costs in Queensland have increased 14% in the past year, fuel 37% in the 12 months. Times are tough for governments delivering projects, just like they’re tough for the residents of Brisbane managing their own expenses.

If those opposite want to play politics when it comes to infrastructure delivery, that’s fine, but we’ll get on with the job of delivering the services and the projects that our city deserves. When it comes to the Council budget going forward, residents can trust the Schrinner Council to manage and to make the responsible decisions that are required as Australia’s largest local government. We had our strong credit rating reaffirmed by the QTC (Queensland Treasury Corporation) last year. Those opposite can fling mud as much as they like, Mr Chair, but we are doing the hard work to manage the impacts of the current economic climate, just like we had to during the pandemic and just like we did during the flood crisis, Mr Chair. What we will not do is raise our rates by over six per cent, like the Labor Party did the last time they were in this place. Not once, Mr Chair, not once, but four times.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Order please, Councillors.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: That is the Labor way, Mr Chair, that is not the LNP way and we are making the hard financial decisions that are required.

Chair: Councillor ATWOOD.

**Question 7**

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS, the flood buyback scheme that the Federal and State Governments adopted from the Brisbane City Council, continues to be rolled out successfully. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest in this program, including the flow-on benefits for our local communities?

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair and through you, I’d like to thank Councillor ATWOOD for the question. Mr Chair, last month marked a significant milestone in our delivery of the voluntary home buyback program. I’m very pleased to report that the first demolitions commenced in Rocklea and Oxley on five properties purchased under the scheme and this is just the beginning. There are already 78 properties which have settled now and are in Council hands and just last week we received a further tranche of 144 properties from the State Government, which brings the total to over 350. As properties settle they will be added to a rolling program of demolition and removal.

Mr Chair, we are delivering the program with a sustainability focus. Wherever possible we will look for opportunities to relocate the building or repurpose and recycle materials, which will save tonnes of construction waste from landfill. In total we will see more than 15 hectares added to Brisbane’s greenspace estate, as these flood-prone blocks become returfed and revegetated as public parkland, natural reserves and waterway corridors. In some areas residents will benefit from a new pocket park in their street, which will double as space for water during flooding events, reducing the risk to neighbouring properties. In other areas low on the flood plain, like Rocklea, the green space estate will expand considerably and allow more space for water to flow, to soak and spread, with benefits right across the catchment.

But most important is the human impact of this program. We know that the decision to sell your home is never an easy one and for many it’s an option of last resort. That’s why we’ve taken great steps to ensure that this program is delivered with empathy and compassion and we can secure really great outcomes for homeowners. Because, Mr Chair, it is our policy to purchase homes for their pre‑flood value and for many families this can make the world of difference when it comes to finding another home outside the path of floodwaters. Of course it is and has always been a purely voluntary program and a small number of people have declined to proceed with buyback and that’s okay. Our officers in the land acquisition team have done a spectacular job in working through this process with homeowners and I’d like to take a few moments to share some feedback from residents involved in the program.

One family in Windsor wrote, ‘Councillor WINES, we are overjoyed with the outcome, now being able to turn the page and move on and it wouldn’t have happened without you and your team’s dedication. Getting flooded was an awfully stressful thing, but with you and Council’s support it has helped us work through it and manage it okay.’ Another homeowner in Rocklea said, ‘you have closed what has been a very trying chapter in our lives and we will always remember the kindness and compassion you showed us.’ From Corinda a couple shared with us, ‘we cannot thank you enough for your support with every aspect of the buyback. Your empathy and support will never be forgotten.’

Mr Chair, there are many more examples than this and I’d like to join the residents in thanking the land acquisition team for their dedication and for their compassion in delivering this important program. Mr Chair, Councillor ATWOOD reminds us of an important point, that it was only through the many years of work in successfully developing our voluntary home purchase scheme that we were able to secure these outcomes on behalf of the State and Federal Governments. After the 2022 flood event, in which more than 23,000 properties were impacted, we knew that a new buyback scheme would be required and that this time we would need significant investment from other levels of government to deliver it.

So the LORD MAYOR took the initiative and wrote to the State and Federal Governments to seek their support in funding an expanded buyback program to get more properties and more people out of harm’s way. Through the LORD MAYOR’s advocacy, $741 million was secured for the resilient homes fund, which is now facilitated by the QRA (Queensland Reconstruction Authority). When the time came to get the resilient homes fund up and running we already had an exemplar template which was developed for our own voluntary home purchase scheme and this became the model for the current program that’s being rolled out, not only Brisbane but right across the State. Mr Chair, the Schrinner Council is rolling the biggest buyback program in our history and our team will continue to work with residents whose homes have been identified for buyback.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS, your time has expired.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, Point of order, Mr Chair. Can I just check with the notice of motion, I moved a motion in relation to the voluntary home buyback scheme. Is that still on the table?

Chair: The answer is yes.

**Procedural motion – Motion that the motion be taken of the table**

**556/2022-23**

At that juncture, Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY, that the notified motion submitted by Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS at the meeting on 28 March 2023, be taken off the table.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion was declared **carried** on the voices.

Chair: The floor is yours, Councillor GRIFFITHS. I just need to find out where we were in the point of that debate.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I think we got to the end of the meeting and the LNP moved it lay on the table. Look, this is a no-brainer and just hearing Councillor DAVIS saying—

Councillor LANDERS: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor LANDERS.

**Procedural motion – Motion that debate on the motion be adjourned**

**557/2022-23**

At that juncture, it was moved by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR, that debate on the motion now before the meeting be adjourned until the conclusion of business on the meeting agenda.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion that debate on the motion be adjourned, was declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Steve GRIFFITHS immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 17 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Thank you. That motion will be moved to later in the agenda.

Councillors that ends Question Time for today.

Lord Mayor, Establishment and Coordination Committee (E&C) report of 28 April 2023.

## CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER), Chair of the Establishment and Coordination Committee, moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 April 2023, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. It’s been an interesting meeting already. We’ve seen some extraordinary things happen. We’ve seen Councillor CASSIDY and the Labor Councillors have a conversion on the road to Damascus. They are concerned about debt now; would you believe they are suddenly concerned about debt.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: But basically what happened was Councillor CASSIDY justified Federal cuts to Brisbane City Council because he was suddenly concerned about debt. This is extraordinary, it’s extraordinary. This is, this is the Councillor and the party that has a record of always opposing cuts and never opposing debt and suddenly they’ve reversed their position entirely. Let’s have a little reminder about the status of debt. Now Brisbane City Council today has a debt per capita of just over $2,000 per person, so the per capita debt is $2,000 per person.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

LORD MAYOR: The Queensland Government—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

LORD MAYOR: The Queensland Government debt, the equivalent measure is over $20,000 per person. Not $2,000; $20,000 and they’re suddenly concerned about debt. Have you ever heard Labor Councillors be concerned about State Government Labor debt? Never and now suddenly they’ve received the talking points from the Labor treasurer’s office and they’re like oh, we’re concerned about debt. It’s extraordinary. But then other things that are really interesting happened in this meeting as well. They decided to personally make fun of one of our hardest working Councillors because she takes the time to make cards for people. Seriously? Why don’t you highlight one of the things that makes her one of the most popular Councillors in this place and rub that ink spot?

Because making fun of Councillor MARX, you’re making fun of someone who cares deeply about our community, works really hard and I don’t think I’ve ever heard anyone question Councillor MARX’s work ethic.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Then highlight the fact that she goes above and beyond, in her own spare time, with her own money, to make personal cards for people. She starts at the beginning of the year making Christmas cards. She really puts a lot of love and effort into it and Labor Councillors want to make fun of that. Well done, well done. Then Councillor GRIFFITHS forgot that he had a motion on the table.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: He had to actually as the question, oh, is that motion still on the table? He cares so passionately about this issue that he forgot about it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Now today he’ll concoct some kind of fury about how he’s suddenly so hot on this issue, the one that he forgot about. Now that his preselection’s over, he’s actually interested in it again. Because he had a little bit of a battle on his hands, I understand. Many people in the party wanted to kick him out for being so ineffective over such a long period of time. He’s managed to scrape through and now he remembered he had a party political motion on the table. So we look forward to what he has to say about that, now that he’s actually remembered that he moved a motion on this issue.

What’s happened today really says a lot about a lot of things. It highlights an Opposition that is only interested in party politics. Not in the slightest bit interested in the people of Brisbane. Not in the slightest bit interested that we are the fastest growing capital city in Australia.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Not in the slightest bit interested that every week people are coming here from other parts of Australia and the world and we need better infrastructure, we need more investment from all levels of government. Yet, they were quite happy to abstain on a vote calling for Brisbane residents to get their fair share of Federal funding.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Party politics all the way for these people. Party politics all the way for Labor Councillors, they will never, they will never attack their Labor colleagues.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Even if it’s the right thing to. Now our record stands in clear contrast to that. Now I will point out that when, during the short period of time, we had an LNP State Government, we went into a massive fight with that Government about the bus network review.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: In fact there are still people who are angry with us in the State team about that Bus Network Review. I won’t mention any names. We did the right thing by our people of Brisbane to support them, even if it was our party. We stood up and we did the right thing. Labor will never do that, they will fall into line, they will toe the party line and they will always put their party first above the people of Brisbane.

This is the Opposition who claims that they want to be the next administration. What that would mean, if that happened, it would be a Labor-Green administration that wouldn’t be prepared to stand up for the people of Brisbane. That wouldn’t support more funding for roads because the Greens would be pulling the string. They would support less funding for roads, they would want to de-fund the police, they would support people in shoplifting if they didn’t have enough money. They would support people in illegally squatting in houses.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: The list goes on. But one thing they certainly wouldn’t do is they would never stand up and fight for the fair share for the people of Brisbane. Now, why is this more important now than ever before? You just have to look at the statistics on growth in the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics growth figures for the different regions and cities of Australia.

Sydney grew by 0.7%, Melbourne grew by 1.1%, Adelaide grew by 1.1%, Perth grew by 1.5%, Hobart grew by 0.7%, Darwin by 0.5%, Canberra by 0.7% and regional Australia grew by 1.2%. But what did Brisbane grow by? 2.3%.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: As was pointed out by one of my colleagues earlier, we’re growing three times as fast as Sydney and twice as fast as Melbourne. Yet Labor Councillors abstained when it came to asking for a fair share of Federal funds. One of my colleagues also pointed out that more than 90%, I think it’s 93% of all tax revenue is levied by other levels of government other than local government—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —97%. So three per cent of tax revenue across this nation is levied by local government, 97% by the other two. I think it’s more than 81% by the Federal Government. Yet Labor Councillors think it’s okay to not demand our fair share from the level of government that collects the most tax. It is right that they fairly fund all councils and not for some political reason exclude some councils. The DEPUTY MAYOR pointed out that in the lead up to the last election when the Albanese Opposition at the time said yes, we’ll support LRCI, we’ll add an extra $250 million.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: That was a relief to all of us. That was a relief to all of us because we took them at their word and wouldn’t you believe, the devil’s in the detail.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Once the election’s over, they scraped in with no policy agenda to speak of. Now they’ve revealed that certain councils are going to miss out on this funding, despite promising big to every council that they would benefit in a share of $250 million.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: But don’t expect Labor Councillors to stand up and fight. It is quite extraordinary but, as I said, it says a lot.

Mr Chair, as I always do, I wanted to acknowledge some of the great community causes that we support as an organisation, particularly through the lighting up of assets across the city. Last night the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge and Reddacliff Place were lit up in teal to support—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —teal—to support World Ovarian Cancer Day. This day raises awareness about this type of cancer which is the eighth most common cancer in Australia. About 1,700 Australian women are diagnosed each year with this disease. Tonight the Tropical Dome, the Story Bridge will both be lit up in red to support World Red Cross and World Red Crescent Day.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**558/2022-23**

At that point, the LORD MAYOR was granted an extension of time on the motion of the DEPUTY MAYOR, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: World Red Crescent Day, celebrated on 8 May each year and celebrates the unity of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement.

Tonight the Victoria bridge and Reddacliff Place will be lit up in blue to support International Thalassemia Day. This international day raises awareness about the struggles of people who have this severe blood disease, including remembering those who unfortunately have passed away from the disease as well.

Tomorrow night, City Hall, Reddacliff Place, Victoria Bridge and the Story Bridge will be lit up in yellow to support the Brisbane Writers Festival. This year the festival celebrates 61 years. It also involves thousands of readers and writers to showcase their literature and celebrate their stories. Thursday eve is the eve of Do It For Dolly Day and this annual day is dedicated to bringing the community together, spreading kindness and uniting all people in standing up against bullying.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: On Friday night our assets will be lit in blue to support those who suffer from chronic fatigue. This awareness week is observed all around the world to demonstrate how this debilitating disease can affect its sufferers.

On Saturday night the Victoria Bridge, Reddacliff Place and Story Bridge will be lit up in yellow for the Brisbane Art Design Festival, otherwise known as BAD. But it is anything but bad, it’s an amazing art design festival that we support each year. It shows the incredible talent that our city has and its designers have. Finally, on Sunday night all of our assets will be lit up in yellow to support National Road Safety Week.

It was great to join Councillors—a number of Councillors at the Lanham Park May Fair on the weekend. Councillors HAMMOND, WINES and DAVIS were there together with David Crisafulli, the Leader of the Opposition. It was great to see so many people out enjoying that event. Perfect weather for it. I want to thank Councillor HAMMOND and the Inner North Rotary Club of Brisbane for organising this event, as well as all of the sponsors and supporters and stallholders that came along.

Also want to acknowledge the Vaisakhi event put on by the Punjabi Cultural Association at Curlew Park in Sandgate and Councillor CASSIDY, who is the local Councillor there and also the presiding officer for a citizenship ceremony. It was a fantastic event and enjoyed by all. It’s always great to see our newest citizens welcomed into the family.

I did want to point out—and it is timely to point out—and you know something which makes an impact around the world that is hard to overstate. That is the locally produced TV show *Bluey*. They’ve now celebrated becoming the most streamed show in the US with 737 million minutes of *Bluey* having been viewed.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I said it’s hard to overstate because what you’re seeing is in homes around the world, a very unique view of Brisbane being portrayed to children and, I’ve got to say, to parents as well, around the world, that really showcases this amazing city we’ve got. We know that *Bluey* takes real locations and works them in to their animations. We know that places, in particular in Councillor MATIC’s ward, feature heavily. But also the Brisbane CityCats. The Brisbane City Council buses and a whole range of features about our city as well.

So having that broadcast around the world and watched by so many people really has an amazing impact. Because we know that more and more people will want to learn about Brisbane and come and visit Brisbane. We know also previous examples where these kind of things can generate a tourism economy of their own. Remember *The* *Lord of the Rings* series and that generated massive tourism inflow into New Zealand.

I have no doubt a similar thing will gear up in Brisbane as well. I have every expectation that there will be people offering *Bluey* tours of Brisbane and showing the sites that appear in that show. That is a good thing, it’s something we should celebrate.

The other thing that I love about it is it celebrates the unique Queenslanders that we have all worked really hard to protect. So this very unique form of housing that you won’t see anywhere else in the world, is showcased around the world. The Queenslander style home. So it’s really wonderful. It also points out how leafy and green Brisbane is as well.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Highlights why we were awarded the gig as Australia’s greenest capital city in—I think it was last year when we got that award. So we should celebrate the impact that *Bluey* has. There will be more and more kids around the world eating Vegemite, saying the word dunny instead of toilet and wanting to come and visit Brisbane and we welcome them,

The item on the agenda today is the Stores Board Submission—Significant Contracting Plan for the Cartage of Quarry Products. Obviously not a particularly sexy item but one that is important. Council owns and operates two quarries, one at Mt Coot-tha and also at Bracalba. Both of which are critical to the production of asphalt for Council’s road network.

Now having those two quarries shows significant foresight in the past. Because there are many, many councils that do not have their own quarries and they have to rely on others for the supply of this material. So having this ability to supply our own materials is something that adds significant value to the people of Brisbane. They may not realise it but it does help keep the cost down as well in terms of providing that material for things like road resurfacing and various other uses as well.

This current—currently the cartage services contract is a preferred supplier arrangement that expires on 30 November this year. The demand for asphalt material has increased significantly in recent years and it’s not just about road resurfacing but also major projects that are underway. Whether it’s Brisbane Metro or Beams Road upgrade or Moggill Road corridor upgrade and a range of other projects that rely on our quarry material.

Going to market for these services will provide Council more options when it comes to transport, allowing a wider variety of support outside those we currently have to contract the work with. So this tender will go out to a competitive market basis on 15 May, it will close within a month. The panel arrangement will be then decided for a maximum term of up to five years. So pretty straight forward and I do hope Councillors support this item.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on all the items on E&C. Oh, that’s right, there’s only one.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: As we reflect on the work that this LNP Mayor is doing. The last two weeks we’ve had a grand total of two items come to Council. Last week was privatising a portion of a bridge to allow a fancy restaurant. This week it’s contracting out basic services, the cartage of quarry projects, to the private sector. You know there’s no discussion—you know apparently, the LORD MAYOR was all too busy in this meeting to be able to debate Councillor GRIFFITHS’ motion about reinstating an important—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —he didn’t want to be here for that. Couldn’t talk about that. But he spent a lot of time talking about *Bluey*. Great show. Didn’t talk about the central messages of care and compassion. Talked about *Bluey* tours and we used to have them, there used to be one down at Norman Park but he cut that ferry as well, this LORD MAYOR.

There are so many things we should be talking about, Chair, in this Council meeting today. He didn’t talk about housing, he didn’t talk about local road congestion.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Or—yes, he didn’t talk about—

LORD MAYOR: Point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY: —flood proofing Brisbane—

LORD MAYOR: Councillor CASSIDY didn’t talk about any of these things either.

Councillor CASSIDY: —as climate change—

Chair: Sorry, LORD MAYOR, are you taking a point of order or just interject—

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Okay, thank you.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: But didn’t—yes, he refused to talk about organic recycling, food organics, garden organics, recycling to remove 80,000 tonnes of organic material from our landfill each and every year. They don’t want to talk about that. They won’t talk about those critical issues for the future of Brisbane. All this LNP Administration wants to talk about today is a significant contracting plan for the cartage of quarry products.

This is—this is—I heard an interjection when the LORD MAYOR was talking before. I think it was Councillor MARX, I’m sure she can correct me if I’m wrong. But she said it’s essential, or necessary—she said it was necessary work and I agree. I couldn’t agree more. It’s necessary and it’s basic, basic Council work. Since its inception, this Council—100 years ago—has been responsible for road maintenance and quarry products are key part of that, obviously.

If we look at item 9 in the report that’s before us today, it raises an important question, which is included in all these significant contracting plans. That question is could Council businesses provide the services or works? Now what we’ve become accustomed to in reading these reports, generally, is that that says no. It usually says no, Council can’t do these services anymore because of the hollowing out and the contracting out of this conservative LNP ideology. Which has been here in this Council and the Lord Mayor’s office for the last 20 years.

But this one’s slightly different and I was encouraged to see that Council could do these services. But then, as you read on, they choose not to, they choose to contract it out. So Council could do these basic works in house and give secure, stable employment in an ongoing way to workers here in Brisbane. But the Council says, in this report, they could do this but they don’t have the capacity to do it anymore. So it’s something Council could do if the LNP chose to. But currently there is no capacity to do so. Because this LNP Administration, led by Adrian SCHRINNER, has hollowed out Council’s workforce and they can no longer do the basics.

You wonder, well you don’t wonder any more after 20 years of LNP rule in this place, why Council is going like this. We heard from Councillor CUNNINGHAM before that the LNP apparently responded to the floods last year. They didn’t have enough people to fill sandbags, didn’t have enough people to close roads. They didn’t have enough people to be able to respond on the ground and in the weeks after were relying on labour hire companies to provide staff and contractors, other external contractors. Getting tree trimming contractors to come in, stop doing that work on that contract to come in because there’s no ongoing work in Council. Hence why these types of basic works have to be contracted out.

So perhaps what they mean in terms of capacity is actually, money is really what they’re talking about. I suspect internally—and they’ve got their—you know their key lines and they can go to their blue folders and pull out the sheet when they get a question on rates or budget management—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —and they can read that out. But that’s what that means. There is no resourcing put into the capacity of Council to deliver basic services any more. We’re in this now, vicious cycle, where basic work needs to be contracted out and then they need to engage contractors to manage those contracts in contracting out that basic work and there is no value for money equation any more in that.

But there’s nothing that this Council can do about it because there is no capacity. So we go full circle around. So 20 years goes by, all this contracting goes on and goes on and goes on. Even if you wanted to make a change you look at the budget bottom line and you go well, there’s no capacity to do so.

It’s the default position of this LNP Administration. You look at it, grass cutting, tree pruning, concept design and engineering services, manufacturing of buses, pathway upgrades, drainage restoration works, hydraulic fire systems, hall refurbishments, supply and delivery of pipes and culverts, roof replacements. That’s just since the start of this year. Just since the start of this year, Chair.

So, obviously we have no problem with the individual businesses that will tender for this work. That’s in their interest to do it obviously to make money out of these tenders. They wouldn’t do it otherwise, that’s—you know the very purpose of running these businesses is to make a profit, for an individual or for shareholders or whatever. But there is a serious problem with the ease that this LNP Mayor and LNP Administration are happy to contract out services, basic works and importantly jobs.

We know that at the quarries that these trucks will be going to and picking up. There is now a situation where there are permanent employees working directly for Council there, working alongside labour hire employees to get employed on a day-to-day basis. They get called up and said yes, we’ll have you in tomorrow or no, we don’t need you tomorrow.

It’s ongoing work but we know it’s a strategy that this LNP is employing throughout Council to divide and conquer and de-unionise a workforce. Because then they become more pliable to the LNP’s way of thinking. You know that paints a very clear picture about how this LNP Administration is exactly the same as their political friends at the State Government and at the Federal Government, who got tossed out last year.

I suppose there’s little reason why *The Courier-Mail* described Adrian SCHRINNER as a conservative—a strong Conservative voice, that’s what they said. Within the LNP he’s a strong conservative voice. These contracts prove that—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —day in, day out in this Council. You don’t need to look any further than that. So when a contract comes through like this that says that this Council could, if there was a political will in here, engage these services directly and provide that basic service to the residents of Brisbane. Give them good value for money and also provide secure employment. We won’t be supporting the contracting out of those jobs.

We will never support the contracting out of those jobs and in fact there should be a wholesale review of everything that Council does in delivering basic services to actually look at that value for money. Because it’s—you can just say it by saying—I’m sure the LORD MAYOR will when this contract comes back to Council, well this contractor was there cheapest, therefore it is value for money. But there is no assessment done about the true return to the community on their rates when you deliver these basic services in-house. So no, we won’t be supporting this item today.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

LORD MAYOR: Point of order.

Chair: Oh, sorry, LORD MAYOR—

LORD MAYOR: Yes.

Chair: —claim of misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Councillor CASSIDY listed a number of issues that he criticised me for not talking about. Yet we’ve just been through Question Time where they didn’t ask me a single question on any of those issues.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor MARX.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Hang on, point of order.

Chair: Sorry, apologies. Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you. I’m just seeking a ruling on whether that was actually a point of misrepresentation by the LORD MAYOR. He was just debating, essentially, what Councillor CASSIDY had to say. So I’m not sure how that was misrepresentation. Is it you’re ruling that it was?

Chair: Yes, I believe the LORD MAYOR responded to the issue that was raised and made his point of misrepresentation, thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So just to be clear, you can now debate if you don’t—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON I’m not debating—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —agree.

Chair: —points of order processes with you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m just trying to clarify what the rule is here because—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON. I’m not debating with you points of order.

Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item A which is the Stores Board submission for the cartage of quarry goods. So this SCP (significant contracting plan) seeks to establish a corporate procurement arrangement in the form of a panel arrangement which will expand the capability and capacity of materials to be transported between Brisbane’s production facilities across Brisbane. These facilities, such as the two quarries at Mt Coot-tha and Bracalba, form a component of the supply chain for the production of asphalt materials for Council’s road maintenance program, that ensures Brisbane’s are able to get home sooner and safer.

So for those who are new to the Chamber, I’m happy to give some background. So Council owns and operates two quarries, one at Mt Coot-tha and one at Bracalba and a construction materials recycling staging facility at Pine Mountain. So the management and administration of the Bracalba Quarry is separate to the combined management and administration of the facilities at Mt Coot-tha Quarry and Pine Mountain. These facilities form a critical component of the supply chain for the production of the asphalt materials for our roadmaking rehabilitation, as well as for servicing the external commercial contracts from Bracalba Quarry.

So the cartage of this quarry products contract encompasses the transport of gravel and other construction materials from our quarries to the asphalt plants at Eagle Farm and Riverview. As well as from Bracalba to service commercial contracts. So the transporting of recycled construction material to Pine Mountain for processing is also included. So in short, we do a lot of transporting of stuff around the city and obviously Bracalba, which is outside of the city grounds.

So I just want to say that the—it’s a significant contract and we’re obviously seeking approval for a public tender to establish a panel of supplies for this service. As I’ve mentioned, the critical parts of this is about the processing of the transportation of various asphalt products across our city and further out to Bracalba, which is outside of our city edges.

Look, I’m just happy to say that I’m very proud of our Administration’s investment in finding solutions to increasing our recycled materials and asphalt, including the asphalt removed during road resurfacing projects. I personally have been out to a site where we do store—at Pine Mountain—the recycled concrete. So concrete footpaths that are picked up for repairing and replacement, they go back Pine Mountain and I’ve been out there where there’s been a huge mountain—no pun intended—of concrete. Then on a secondary visit I’ve been out there and it’s all been used up.

So I think that can be only a good thing for us and the residents and it’s disappointing to hear that those in the Opposition will not be supporting this. Thank you very much.

Chair: Is there any further debate? No further debate.

Now move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Establishment and Coordination Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Jared CASSIDY and Charles STRUNK immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 16 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

The Right Honourable, the Lord Mayor (Councillor Adrian Schrinner) (Chair); Deputy Mayor (Councillor Krista Adams) (Deputy Chair); and Councillors Adam Allan, Fiona Cunningham, Tracy Davis, Vicki Howard, Kim Marx, Ryan Murphy and Andrew Wines.

#### A STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – SIGNIFICANT CONTRACTING PLAN FOR THE CARTAGE OF QUARRY PRODUCTS

**165/830/179/955**

**559/2022-23**

1. The A/Chief Executive Officer, provided the information below.

2. The A/Chief Executive Officer and the Stores Board considered the submission, as set out in Attachment A (submitted on file), on 17 April 2023.

3. The submission is recommended to Council as it is considered the most advantageous outcome for the provision of the required services.

4. Commercial-in-Confidence details have been removed from this report, highlighted in yellow and replaced with the word [Commercial-in-Confidence].

Purpose

5. The Stores Board recommends approval of the procurement strategy for:

Contract title: Cartage of Quarry Products

Type of procurement: Establishing a Corporate Procurement Arrangement (CPA) in the form of a Panel Arrangement

Categories/portions: Not applicable

Market engagement strategy: Seek offers publicly

Contract duration: An initial term of three years with options to extend for additional periods of up to two years, for a maximum of five years.

Price basis: Schedule of rates.

Background/business case

6. Council owns and operates two quarries at Mt Coot-tha and Bracalba and a construction materials recycling/staging facility at Pine Mountain. The management and administration of Bracalba Quarry is separate to the combined management and administration of the facilities at Mt Coot-tha Quarry and Pine Mountain. These facilities form a critical component of the supply chain for the production of asphalt materials for Council’s road making rehabilitation, as well as for servicing external commercial contracts from Bracalba Quarry. The Cartage of Quarry Products contract encompasses the transport of gravel and other construction materials from the quarries to the asphalt plants at Eagle Farm and Riverview as well as from Bracalba Quarry to service commercial contracts. Transport of recycled construction material to Pine Mountain for processing is also included.

7. The existing CPA 130164 – Cartage of Quarry Products in the form of a Preferred Supplier Arrangement commenced on 1 December 2013, with an initial term of two years with options to extend for additional periods of up to eight years, for a maximum term of 10 years.

Policy and other considerations

8. Is there an existing arrangement for these goods/services/works?

Yes, CPA 130164 for quarry cartage services, which is due to expire on 30 November 2023.

9. Could Council businesses provide the services/works?

Yes. However, Council does not have the capacity to provide these services. In addition, having a panel provides flexibility in a market where technology change is anticipated e.g. electric/hydrogen trucks.

10. What policy, or other issues, should the delegate be aware of?

Nil

11. Does this procurement exercise need to be managed under the PM2 Governance and Assurance Framework?

No

12. Does the proposed contract involve leasing?

No

Market Analysis

13. According to IBISWorld, operating costs from higher wages and increased fuel have significantly impacted on the haulage industry making profitability lower. Industry competition is strong where firms with long-term contracts are in a better position to succeed.

14. The demand for bulk haulage suppliers has increased markedly in South East Queensland in recent years with major infrastructure projects including Brisbane Metro, Cross River Rail and the Bruce Highway upgrade requiring sustained haulage services. Known large cartage companies such as Gravel City, Brancatella Plant Hire and Eagle Alliance Earthmoving Pty Ltd, will be notified of the tender.

15. There are numerous small operators with limited fleet size that are interested in being engaged by Council. A number of South East Queensland suppliers, including the six listed below, have expressed interest in the new panel arrangement who will also be notified of the tender.

- APA Dawson Tippers Pty Ltd

- Hawgood Haulage Pty Ltd

- Farrell Transport Group Pty Ltd

- Somerset Domestic Water Qld Pty Ltd

- G Star Pty Ltd

- Browns Tipper Hire Pty Ltd.

Procurement strategy

16.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Procurement objective: | To procure the goods/services/works in a way which complies with the Sound Contracting Principles set out in section 103(3) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* and provides the most advantageous outcome for Council.  The achievement of the above procurement objective will be measured in the post-market submission. |
| Title of contract: | Cartage of Quarry Products |
| Type of procurement: | Establishing a CPA in the form of a Panel Arrangement. |
| Categories/portions: | Not applicable |
| Process to be used: | Request for Proposals (RFP) |
| Tendering standards to be used and any amendments: | Council’s corporate standards with no amendments. |
| Contract standard to be used including any amendments: | Services – high risk – panel arrangements.  No changes have been made to the standard. |
| Market engagement: | Offers are to be sought publicly via Council’s supplier portal. |
| How tender documents are to be distributed: | Via Council’s supplier portal |
| How tenders/proposals are to be lodged: | Via Council’s supplier portal |
| Part offers: | Part offers will be considered. |
| Contract duration: | An initial term of three years with options to extend for additional periods of up to two years, for a maximum term of five years. |
| Insurance requirements: | Public liability of $20 million, motor vehicle insurance of $20 million (including supplementary bodily injury) and workers’ compensation insurance as per legislated requirements. |
| Price basis: | Schedule of rates |
| Price adjustment: | Prices are expected to be subject to adjustment based on labour, Consumer Price Index and fuel index movements, subject to negotiation. |
| Liquidated damages: | Not applicable |
| Security for the contract: | Not applicable |
| Defects liability/warranty period: | Not applicable |
| Other strategy elements: | A panel arrangement is anticipated to provide additional capacity and flexibility for Council in a volatile market. In accordance with Council’s safety policy and environmental objectives, the requirements for minimum emissions standards and maximum truck ages will be specified i.e. a minimum of EURO 5 emissions standard and a 10-year maximum truck age during the contract term. Not specifying EURO 6/new trucks will allow Council to optimise value for money outcomes, access existing market capacity (noting delays on new trucks) and timing of emerging technologies such as electric/hydrogen. Trucks are anticipated to be diesel, however, other technologies such as electric/hydrogen are becoming available. A refresh clause will be included in the arrangement which may help to mitigate risks associated with technology change during the contract term. For a panel refresh, weightings for the non‑price evaluation criteria may be adjusted to incentivise early adoption of new truck technologies. Discounts in return for high fleet utilisation within a period, where common haulage routes are required, may be negotiated if advantageous to Council. |
| Alternative strategies considered: | A single preferred supplier strategy was considered. However, this was not recommended due to current market volatility regarding demand for cartage services and supply constraints for new vehicles. In addition, a panel with more than one supplier provides a competitive environment and greater certainty of service availability. |

Anticipated schedule

17. Pre-market approval: 9 May 2023

Date of release to market: 15 May 2023

Tender closing: 16 June 2023

Evaluation completion (including formalised contract offer(s)): 25 August 2023

Post-market approval: 2 October 2023

Contract commencement: 1 December 2023

Funding and budget considerations

18. Estimated expenditure:

Based on historical levels and projected business forecasts, expenditure is anticipated to be in the order of $23.5 million over the potential five-year term.

19. Sufficient approved budget to meet the total spend under this CPA?

Establishing the CPA will not commit Council to any purchases. Funding is only required when an appropriately delegated Council officer approves placing orders under the CPA, subject to approved funding availability. Where any commitment to high fleet utilisation is negotiated, availability of budget will be confirmed in the post-market submission.

20. Indicative program and supporting information:

Not applicable

21. Anticipated procurement benefits (if any):

Nil

Procurement risk

22. Is this contract listed as a ‘critical contract’ requiring the contractor to have in place a Business Continuity Plan approved by Council?

No

23. Summary of key risks associated with this procurement:

| **Procurement risk** | **Risk rating** | **Risk mitigation strategy** | **Risk allocation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Small number of responses received from the market | Medium | Ensure any known potential suppliers are contacted and encouraged to view the tender documents. | Council |
| Quality of tenders received | Medium | Ensure specifications are clearly defined and questions are adequately addressed in a timely manner. | Council |

Tender evaluation

24. Evaluation criteria:

1. Mandatory/essential criteria:

* Nil

1. Non-price weighted evaluation criteria:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Local benefit | 30% |
| Track record and experience | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Environmental outcomes | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Workplace Health and Safety and quality assurance systems | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Capacity to deliver | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |

1. Price model (to establish a comparative price):

* Basket of commonly purchased services.

25. Evaluation methodology:

(a) Evaluation plan and shortlisting:

Council’s standard evaluation plan including the standard shortlisting methodology will be used.

(b) Negotiations:

Council’s structured negotiation process is anticipated to be undertaken.

(c) Value for Money (VFM):

Council’s standard VFM method. This is non-price score divided by price.

26. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

27. **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Stores Board recommends approval of the procurement strategy for:

Title of contract: Cartage of Quarry Products

Type of procurement: Establishing a Corporate Procurement Arrangement in the form of a Panel Arrangement.

Contract duration: An initial term of three years with options to extend for additional periods of up to two years, for a maximum term of five years.

Price basis: Schedule of rates

**ADOPTED**

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, Economic and—Economic Development and Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, please.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE BRISBANE 2032 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES COMMITTEE

The DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), Civic Cabinet Chair of the Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before I go the report from last week, I just want to remind people we have been on a break but that is no reason to forget that the Business Hub is still there and supporting our small-to-medium businesses. Coming up this week, from tomorrow through to next Tuesday, How to Take your Event from IDEA to LAUNCH, that’s tomorrow morning at 9.30. Winning Government Business—the 2032 Olympic Opportunity for Queensland Business, which will be on 16th at 9am, being held by Gov Ready. They do a fantastic job on getting businesses ready—on getting on to panels and supporting them for Brisbane’s—for Council, State and Federal grants as well. We’ve seen some fantastic feedback in the last few weeks.

The Art of Public Speaking had a great event for free and they said thank you for organising that. A great session around practical, applicable, collaborative learning built-in and that was the Secrets to Rapport Building Through the Sales Cycle. There was an On The Couch with the LORD MAYOR and Lady Mayoress Schrinner over the break, which was apparently a fantastic and inspiring event. I was here launching APCS (Asia Pacific Cities Summit), it was a big night in Brisbane, I can assure you.

The Business Hub really is a gem for small business, so please keep it alive. So we’re getting that feedback from so many and I assure you we will be keeping it alive and making sure that we spread the word. I ask all Councillors to please spread the word to their businesses to make sure they know what is on.

Speaking of the Business Hub and how we support—as I have been today—our local residents and businesses. Last week we got our start of session economic update. The ABS recently released their Annual Regional Population Report detailing population changes over the 2023 financial year showing continued growth in our net internal migration to Greater Brisbane, with just over 28,000 people moving into the region in the last 12 months.

We’ve covered unemployment figures, which are reported to be the lowest in nearly 15 years at just 3.2%—has not been that low since 2009. Youth unemployment rate is down to 6.5%, which has been generally above 10% since 2010, so that is fantastic as well.

The number of JobSeekers has fallen well below pre-COVID levels and it’s just the small business in Brisbane is showing signs of that strengthening with a five per cent increase in registered small businesses over the last 12 months. That is 5,500 new small businesses in Brisbane. So they are now 97% of businesses in Brisbane. A sign of confidence in our local economy and let’s remember, who runs small businesses? Mums and dads and residents that live in our wards. So we are absolutely proud of supporting our local economy and proving, once again, that we are the most small-business-friendly Council in Australia and we support all across Brisbane as well.

Domestic and international travel is rising, international has a little way to go yet but domestic is up over pre-COVID levels, about 104%, which is great to see as well. On average, travellers are spending more, which is also great for that hip pocket for our local businesses and workers as well. The foot traffic through the mall is getting strong and, as we said, we saw a 60% increase on last year’s foot traffic in the Queen Street Mall from Magic Round. I look forward to seeing what that month-on-month change is as well for the Queen Street Mall.

I recommend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any debate?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on the economic update. The update tells a clear story about the challenges we, as a city, have faced over what has been some of the toughest years in our history. The data acknowledges that despite these challenges, our city has awoken from its COVID cocoon and is well-positioned to continue to grow and thrive in the post-pandemic world.

Unsurprisingly, as the DEPUTY MAYOR shared, we know that our southern friends have begun to recognise that Brisbane is alive with opportunity. Soon to be the host to the Olympic and Paralympic Games and home to an idyllic climate that we know and love.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HUTTON: Over the past 12 months we’ve seen more than 28,000 residents moving from Sydney and Melbourne, acknowledging Brisbane as the fastest growing capital city in Australia. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics’ data, the unemployment rate in Brisbane peaked in May 2020, at the height of the pandemic with more than 64,000 locals on JobSeeker payments.

However, the unemployment rate has since decreased to 3.2% with 26,000 people on these payments as of April 2023. Lower than pre-pandemic levels. Unfortunately, this has presented its own challenges, with many businesses struggling to fill vacancies. The number of advertised jobs reported through the online platforms, such as SEEK, CareerOne and Australian Job Search, demonstrated strong growth through the months of October 2022, to just reach over 35,000 new jobs listed in this month. It has been the highest in over a decade.

This not only places greater emphasis on skills, training and development of workers to fill vacant jobs, but also increases pressure on businesses investing in staff training and retaining staff in an extremely competitive market. Our Brisbane Hub and Suburban Brisbane—Business Hub, sorry, at Nundah, continues to be the lifeline for some many small business, providing training, support, mentoring, networking, all for free.

Since 2020 we’ve had more than 24,000 businesses receive support through these hubs in—since 2020. In terms of business activity there has been a significant increase in the number of new businesses starting up in Brisbane. According to the statistics, again, there were more than 136,000 active, trading businesses in Brisbane, which represented a net increase of approximately 5,600 businesses since last year.

This suggests that our support programs for entrepreneurs and small businesses has been effective in promoting economic growth and job creation. As Australia’s small-business-friendly Council we are proud of the many initiatives we have developed and continue to deliver across Brisbane.

Initiatives like our Growing Precincts Together program, which supports retail precincts across the city improve their local economic prosperity and, of course, our Small Business Roundtable, which sees industry and business leaders provide feedback and insight on what is happening in their industry while helping us shape Council programs and projects.

The tourism/hospitality sector was one of the hardest hit during our pandemic. With many businesses forced to close or reduce operations, due to lockdowns or travel restrictions. However, according to the data, Brisbane’s tourism industry has been showing signs of great recovery. In the first quarter of 2023, the number of domestic visitors to Brisbane increased by 25% compared with the same period in 2020.

This suggests that the Council initiatives aimed at supporting the tourism and hospitality sector, such as our targeted marketing campaigns and promotions via the Brisbane app or investments in things like Brisbane’s Magic Round have been effective in attracting visitors to our city. Overall, while the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on Brisbane economy, our Schrinner Council initiatives to support local businesses and to stimulate activity have been effective in mitigating negative impacts.

As a result, the city continues to grow and thrive in this post-pandemic world and I want to put on record my appreciation to the team for their efforts, for continuing to support our local economy.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate? No further debate.

DEPUTY MAYOR?

Now move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Krista Adams (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Sarah Hutton (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Jared Cassidy and Steven Huang.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BRISBANE’S ECONOMIC UPDATE

**560/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Economic Development, City Planning and Economic Development, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on Brisbane’s economy. He provided the information below.

2. In April 2023, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released their annual *Regional Population* publication which details components of population change for sub‑state regions over the 2022-23 financial year. Net internal migration data found that Greater Brisbane was one of two capital cities that recorded positive net internal migration.

3. The Committee was shown a graph demonstrating the unemployment rate for Brisbane and Queensland to March 2023. Unemployment in the city has been decreasing since March 2021, where Brisbane saw an unemployment peak at 6.5% as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the phasing out of fiscal support measures for businesses such as JobKeeper. As of March 2023, the unemployment rate was 3.2%, which is the lowest recorded unemployment rate since April 2009. The unemployment rate of Brisbane is lower than the rest of Queensland.

4. The youth unemployment rate among persons aged 15 to 24, continues to follow the same trend as the overall unemployment rate. The youth unemployment rate reached 6.5% in January 2023; a level not seen since April 2009. The Brisbane youth unemployment rate has typically been greater than 10% since 2010.

5. The number of jobseekers in Brisbane in March 2023 was at 26,660 which is now below pre‑COVID-19 rates. The number of jobs advertised in Brisbane continued to show strong growth through to the months of October and November 2022, however, a slight decrease in advertisements was experienced in December 2022, which is consistent with seasonal patterns from previous years. Despite this seasonal decrease, the number of job advertisements started to stabilise for the month of February 2023, which is similar to previous years following the December fall. In February it was reported that there were approximately 29,300 job advertisements in Brisbane.

6. As of 30 June 2022, it was reported by the ABS that there were 136,218 actively trading businesses in Brisbane, which represented a 4.3% net increase compared to 12 months prior, or a net increase of approximately 5,600 businesses. Small businesses with less than 20 employees, accounted for 97% of the total number of actively trading businesses in Brisbane, demonstrating the importance of small business to our local economy.

7. The Committee was shown graphs of the number of domestic and international passengers arriving into Brisbane Airport, which serves as an indicator of air travel into Brisbane and Queensland. Domestic arrivals into the Brisbane Airport are currently at 90% of pre‑COVID‑19 levels. Since January 2022, and as international travel restrictions continue to be relaxed, there is a resurgence in international activity. The number of international passengers has increased from 25,000 passengers in January 2022, to approximately 500,000 in 2022. In 2022, 7.38 million domestic overnight visitors came to the Brisbane region and more than half of these travellers came from within the state. Approximately one quarter of domestic travellers came from New South Wales and approximately 12% visited from Victoria.

8. While the total number of domestic visitors remains below pre-pandemic levels, new data from Tourism Research Australia is suggesting that total domestic visitor spend in the region has now exceeded levels observed prior to the pandemic. Whilst part of this increase could be attributed to increased prices and inflation, it is apparent that, on average, domestic travellers are now spending more within the Brisbane region than they have been previously.

9. Queen Street Mall (QSM) foot traffic has generally shown an upward trend throughout 2022, with the exclusion of late February and early March due to Brisbane’s flood event. In December 2022, QSM foot traffic was 101% of pre-COVID-19 levels. While activity declined over the new year period as many businesses shut down for the holidays and workers and residents took leave, foot traffic to QSM has shown positive signs of growth since February 2023 and is currently sitting at approximately 80% of pre‑pandemic levels.

10. Following a question from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Manager for his informative presentation.

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

|  |
| --- |
| **561/2022-23**  At that time, 3.01pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the meeting adjourn for a period of 15 minutes, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors locked.  Council stood adjourned at 3.03pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, Transport Committee report, please.

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Ryan MURPHY, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Transport Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week, members of the Transport Committee received a presentation on our Brisbane Metro Accessibility Working Group. This is a group that was formed in 2019 and it meets quarterly to discuss how Council can ensure that the project makes Brisbane’s public transport system accessible for everyone. They have met around 30 times since their inception and members represent groups with interest in mobility, disability services, access, aged, hearing and vision impaired. The group provides an interactive forum for members to provide comments and to shape various aspects of the Metro project. Their feedback has covered everything from design and operation of vehicle to layout of the infrastructure upgrades, so that is the station upgrades.

The Accessibility Working Group also provides valuable insights into how we might make the overall customer journey and experience as accessible and inclusive as possible through onboard and on-platform systems, through wayfinding and signage, as well. The working group has participated in several exercises to inform the layout of the Metro. Throughout the vehicle design stage, we have utilised life-size mock-ups and taped floor tests to generate feedback, even before the vehicle was manufactured Chair. That feedback has played a very significant role in shaping the Metro itself.

More than 35 major design changes were made to the vehicle layout as a direct outcome of our engagement with the Accessibility Working Group, and based on the group’s feedback, we did things like relocated the first door to make way for an additional mobility space. That means there’ll be three wheelchair bays in the front compartment. We also increased the size of the mobility allocated spaces to be above the minimum Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport requirements. The number of priority seats, we’ve been able to increase from two to 10, and we have maximised the number of alternative passenger assistance buttons, including bell push buttons, ramp request buttons, and open door buttons.

Once the vehicle commenced testing, Chair, we also had our working group onboard several times to provide further feedback on the pilot vehicle. This has resulted in further adjustments to the vehicle, including the automated vehicle ramp which will be rolled out to the rest of the fleet. The working group has also assisted with design improvements to infrastructure at the Cultural Centre station and the Buranda busway station. We work very hard in our—I won’t say design, but the redesign of these stations to make them more accessible than they already were. At Cultural Centre station, for example, the layout of the stop will make it much easier to get on and off the platform, and the relocation of the lift wells will increase accessibility.

The feedback from our Accessibility Working Group gave us additional insights into the location of help points and signage at the stops, which makes sure everyone can get around those stations as easily as possible. These improvements will ensure equitable access for all patrons, not only once works are completed, but as we progress through the construction phase, as well. Feedback collected by the working group will continue to focus on patron safety and comfortability in preparation for the Metro services commencing in late 2024. It’s another step in delivering an accessible Brisbane Metro that ensures Council’s goal to be a city where everyone can move around easily and safely.

Before I finish, Mr Chair, I would just like to share in the great milestone, or share a great milestone that occurred for e-mobility over the weekend. Of course, on the weekend, we had the NRL Magic Round, as the DEPUTY MAYOR was saying, which we know now is a great—a very great boost in tourism for our city. We had more than 30,000 visitors visit the city during the event. Each game attracted an average of 49,000 spectators. The Broncos did an excellent job on Friday night and thumped Manly. I did have Tom Trbojevic scoring. The multi did not get up, unfortunately, Chair, by one leg, which was a real shame, but we always love the Broncos winning in their home city.

It was also great to see, Chair, how popular e-mobility was with footy fans, transporting them to and from games and across the city, from hotels to venues and from South Bank, south of the river to the north side of the river. Anyone who was in the CBD on Friday night would have seen the vast number of visitors who were around, many of them wearing—as the DEPUTY MAYOR said—NRL jerseys or the Magic Round jerseys. Mr Chair, over the whole weekend of Magic Round, we had 50,000 e-mobility trips in total. Even more exciting was that, on Saturday, we had our highest daily trip count on e-scooters since we began the e‑mobility scheme in 2018. So, in five years, we have finally achieved the highest trip count and it was Magic Round that did it, Chair.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: What our scheme allows us is it allows us to get great real-time data and insights out of the scheme and I note the interjection—maybe, Chair, the last interjection—from the Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward. Who knows, he might be back here next week, but I also note that the Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward has been the greatest supporter of e-mobility rolling out to the bayside suburbs there, where he wasn’t too concerned about the injury rate. In fact, he petitioned us to keep the scheme in his suburb, so we know what a great friend and supporter of our e-mobility scheme he has been, and we thank him for that.

Earlier in the year, as I mentioned last week, Chair, we passed 10 million trips on e-mobility. It’s great to see just how popular e-scooters are, not only with the residents of this city, but increasingly, the visitors to this city. We know, we see that when we talk to the operators Beam and Neuron, they monitor the activations that we see. People who’ve never taken a trip before who come into town, they download the app, they add a credit card or a PayPal and they jump on scooters, many of them for the first time, and then they take that back to their city when they go home and they say, hey, there’s this amazing technology that we have in Brisbane where we don’t need to drive a car or rent a car. We can get around the city nice and easily on e-scooters.

So, another great outcome from Magic Round, and we look forward to many more Magic Rounds in the beautiful City of Brisbane, Chair. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

Now move to the vote on the report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Transport Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Ryan Murphy (Civic Cabinet Chair), and Councillors Jared Cassidy, Steven Huang, and David McLachlan.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Angela Owen (Deputy Chair).

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BRISBANE METRO ACCESSIBILITY WORKING GROUP

**562/2022-23**

1. The Governance and Strategy Integration Manager, Metro Project Delivery, Major Projects, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Brisbane Metro Accessibility Working Group (BM-AWG). She provided the information below.

2. The BM-AWG was formed in 2019 with representatives from groups with interests relating to mobility, disability services and hearing and vision impairments. The BM-AWG meets regularly to provide feedback and input on various aspects of Brisbane Metro (the Metro), including infrastructure design and customer experience. Feedback from the BM-AWG has already played a critical role in the design of the Metro fleet, with more than 35 major design changes implemented between 2019 and 2021. The design changes ensure the Metro exceeds compliance with the relevant legislative acts and standards and greater accessibility options are provided to patrons.

3. The Committee noted images showing how members of the BM-AWG have participated in onboard experience testing conducted by the Metro team. Consultation with the BM-AWG, accessibility advisor and other key stakeholders will continue with a focus on patron safety and comfortability, in preparation for the Metro services to commence in late-2024.

4. The BM-AWG has also assisted with design improvements to infrastructure at the Cultural Centre precinct and Buranda busway station to ensure equitable access is available for all patrons. Engagement with members of the BM-AWG has been undertaken prior to and during construction works at the two sites to gain valuable feedback into wayfinding and other accessibility considerations.

5. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Governance and Strategy Integration Manager for her informative presentation.

6. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor WINES, Infrastructure Committee report, please.

### INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Councillor Andrew WINES, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Peter MATIC, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. This week’s report was by Jamie Mullins, the Manager for Major Projects and Planning in the Transport Planning and Operations branch of the BI (Brisbane Infrastructure) division. It had discussions of the four major projects, the State’s Cross River Rail, the private and State-supported Queen’s Wharf Brisbane, Brisbane Metro, and the green bridges. It was prompted by a wonderful tour that the Committee took of the Cross River Rail site. Can I thank the CEO of the Cross River Rail Authority for arranging that for us? As Councillors have heard me say before, I try and make membership of the Infrastructure Committee meaningful and involved, so I try and take the Committee places.

So, can I thank the Councillors who did attend? For those who were curious, myself, Councillor HUTTON, Councillor STRUNK all attended the tour. It was open to all members of the Committee. It was a very significant project. We really do appreciate the generosity of the staff there who took us around. It was quite a lengthy and significant tour of the Albert Street portal, the Albert Street component of that particular piece of infrastructure, which I look forward to being able to use at some point in the future.

So, the notes are within the report. I encourage all Councillors to consider them and commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further debate? No further debate?

Move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Infrastructure Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Andrew Wines (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Peter Matic (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Fiona Hammond, Sarah Hutton and Charles Strunk.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Steve Griffiths.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – INNER CITY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

**563/2022-23**

1. The Major Projects Planning Manager, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on inner city construction. She provided the information below.

2. The following major construction projects have already commenced or are in the planning phase:

- Cross River Rail (CRR)

- Brisbane Metro

- Queen’s Wharf Brisbane (QWB)

- green bridges.

Due to works currently underway, a number of traffic network disruptions are being experienced in the CBD, South Brisbane, West End and Kangaroo Point.

3. The Committee was provided the following update on CRR.

- Construction of the new internal access roads at Mayne Yard and the new rail bridge over Breakfast Creek is still ongoing. To facilitate these works, a temporary closure of Breakfast Creek near Grafton Street, Albion, for all boats and vessels will be in place until July 2023. Redundant facilities are also being decommissioned.

- Construction of the new Exhibition station has commenced and the new track was completed on 10 March 2023. Exhibition Station will remain closed for the Ekka 2023 and planning has commenced for transportation contingencies.

- Upgrade of the subway and new finishes for Platform 2 for the Inner Northern Busway at Roma Street will commence in May 2023, as well as the fit-out of the new services building.

- A permanent cavern arch lining is now completed at the Albert Street station and installation of precast mezzanine segments have commenced.

- Woolloongabba station works are continuing with the installation of precast mezzanine segments and ongoing utility works in Main and Gibbon Streets.

- Southern tunnel portal construction continues with the installation of precast mezzanine segments.

- The Princess Alexandra Hospital connection bridge spanning over the railway at Dutton Park station was erected in April 2023.

- Works are ongoing at the following stations:

- Dutton Park station – closed from 1 April 2023 with works commencing on the new station and pedestrian overpass south of Annerley Road

- Fairfield station – has reopened with stair access only, and construction activities, including the installation of new lifts, will continue until late 2023

- Yeronga station – has opened and is now accessible via three new lifts, handover activities to Queensland Rail have commenced

- Yeerongpilly station and Clapham Yard, Yeerongpilly – planning has commenced for construction at Yeerongpilly station with earthworks and construction of new drainage and an internal bridge, and installation of rail and services continuing at Clapman Yard.

- Rocklea station – will remain closed and is scheduled to reopen by late 2023.

4. Construction works for the Brisbane Metro are underway at the following locations.

- Fast charging sites at UQ Lakes, St Lucia; Countess Street, Brisbane; and Ernie’s Roundabout, Herston.

- King George Square tunnel connection works continue with current platform access arrangements in place until late 2023.

- Mining and surface works commenced at the Adelaide Street tunnel on 16 February 2023, which is undertaken from Sunday to Thursday, between 7pm and 5am. Bus stops are relocated on Adelaide Street between those times.

- Kerb construction on Victoria Bridge and strengthening works for the Riverside Expressway is underway, with nightly closures between 11pm and 5am.

- Temporary platforms are in operation at the Cultural Centre station bus platform while the permanent platform is under construction. Traffic changes are in place on Grey and Melbourne Streets, South Brisbane.

- Service relocation works are underway at Buranda busway station, which requires the partial road closure of O’Keefe Street, Woolloongabba.

- Metro depot site works are underway which required closure of School Road, Rochedale, from 3 February 2023.

5. QWB construction works continue for the following:

- excavation of Precinct 3 (residential towers) which includes the closure of the Alice Street footpath

- the final segment of the Neville Bonner Bridge was installed on 27 February 2023

- construction continues at QWB integrated resort development, this includes the Bicentennial Bikeway upgrade, parks, hospitality venues, amenities and streetscaping on George Street.

6. Construction activities at the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge include:

- Marine construction activities:

- deck works for the Lores Bonney Riverwalk extension

- bridge pier and deck construction

- Land-based construction activities:

- retaining wall works in Newstead Park

- concrete pours for the riverwalk structure from Kingsford Smith Drive

- roadworks on Breakfast Creek Road

- riverwalk abutment works at the western end of Cameron Rocks Reserve.

7. Construction activities during April 2023 at the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge will include:

- commencement of CBD plaza works, including a piling platform

- installation of bridge deck spans next to the City Botanic Gardens Riverwalk

- continued bridge pier construction, including a large marine concrete pour on the main bridge pier.

8. The Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Major Projects Planning Manager for her informative update.

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor ALLAN, City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee report, please.

### CITY PLANNING AND SUBURBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Adam ALLAN, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before I get to the items on the agenda and the Committee meeting from last week, I did want to provide the Chamber with a bit of an update on the City Planning and Suburban Renewal portfolio. It’s clear in this portfolio, we are getting on with the job, and that includes ensuring that there is a pipeline of housing supply through our development approvals. To April this year or the calendar year, the Development Services team has approved 1,072 development applications for all types, 168 new high-level development applications for material change of use of a residential nature. This has resulted in a net increase of approximately 1,455 dwelling approvals, of which 105 units were build-to-rent.

In total, to April this financial year—so, the full financial year—the Development Services team has approved 3,033 development applications of all types, 563 new high-level development applications for material change of use of a residential nature. This has resulted in a net increase of approximately 3,513 dwelling approvals, of which 881 units were build-to-rent, with 254 units of this allocated for affordable housing. These statistics highlight the role the build-to-rent model has to play with increasing the supply of housing options in the city, and that is why one of the key initiatives from *Brisbane’s Sustainable Growth Strategy*, our housing strategy, is providing incentives for build-to-rent development by allowing infrastructure charges to be paid over time. This incentive will assist the industry in constructing more dwellings sooner and adding more dwellings to the rental market.

Now, moving to the Committee presentation from last week, we reviewed a development approval at 201 Gooderham Road, Pallara, and the approved development site is currently vacant land with a site area of 20,260 square metres, and is set to establish the first local community shopping centre in Pallara. Proposed services to be included are retail shops, healthcare services, an indoor gym, food and beverage outlets, and a veterinary clinic. The approved development comprises of two storeys. It will rise 10 metres in vertical height and provide 288 car parking spaces and 34 bicycle spaces. The development will support the needs of the local community, whose catchment is set to increase from 4,600 in 2021 to 9,100 in 2025, and more than 13,000 in 2032.

The development at 201 Gooderham Road, Pallara will generate employment during construction and ongoing operation of the centre. Consistent and cohesive landscaping accentuates Brisbane’s subtropical landscape character and contributes to the microclimate of the neighbourhood site. Council is delighted to see this project progressing to serve the residents of Pallara, and I’d like to acknowledge the strong advocacy of the local Councillor, Councillor OWEN, for the project. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

Move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Adam Allan (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Fiona Hammond (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Peter Matic and Charles Strunk.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Lisa Atwood.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – 201 GOODERHAM ROAD, PALLARA (A005772656)

**564/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Planning Services, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on 201 Gooderham Road, Pallara (the site). She provided the information below.

2. An aerial view and context map was shown to the Committee, displaying the proximity of the site to surrounding locations, including the Willawong resource recovery centre and the Willawong bus depot and a future neighbourhood centre. The applicant for the development is Property Projects Australia Pty Ltd.

3. The site has an area of 20,260 m2, which will be reconfigured into Shopping centre, Food and drink outlet and Office land use areas. The development will include 7,015 m2 gross floor area (GFA) for a shopping centre consisting of:

- 288 car parking spaces

- 34 bicycle spaces

- 3,144 m2 GFA for a supermarket

- 813.44 m2 GFA for shops, health care services, veterinary services and food and drink outlets

- 600.74 m2 GFA for an indoor sport and recreation facility

- 370.35 m2 GFA of office space.

4. The development will provide vehicular access via entry and exit on Pallara Avenue and Gooderham Road which will have a left-out exit only. The site will also see an extension of the existing concrete median and interim pavement widening to straighten the western alignment of Gooderham Road.

5. Noise impacts will be mitigated via transparent thermoplastic panels which will be incorporated into the upper portions of an acoustic fence to ensure access to light is maintained to dwellings adjoining the development. Trucks and delivery vehicles with a reversing beeper will be limited from using the loading bay between the hours of 10pm and 7am.

6. The development was approved for the following reasons.

- Shopping centre facilities to support the local residential community.

- Scale and intensity reflects the centre’s proximity to, and frequency of, suburban public transport networks and services, and reflects the nature of the surrounding neighbourhood.

-

- Vehicular access arrangements that minimise impacts on surrounding land, including amenity and pedestrian connectivity, and protect the functionality of both local and higher order road networks.

- Car parking which is legible and clear.

- On-site landscaping that reinforces the centre’s identity and complements Brisbane’s subtropical landscape character, which contributes to the microclimate of the neighbourhood and site.

- Subtropical planting supports outdoor living and assists in reducing urban heat island effects, with deep planting areas for the protection or establishment of large, subtropical shade trees.

- Appropriate response to land constraints, mitigating adverse impacts on environmental values as identified by the overlays affecting the site.

- Design and operation in conjunction with conditions of the approval to avoid or mitigate any potential adverse amenity impacts on adjoining uses.

7. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Manager for her informative presentation.

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor DAVIS, Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee report, please.

### ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Tracy DAVIS, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week’s Committee presentation was on memorials in parks, which was timely following Anzac Day, where I know that all Councillors here will have visited a memorial in their local community. As one of Australia’s oldest cities, Brisbane has a significant collection of memorial installations throughout our parkland estate, with 351 memorials in total, 52 of which are war memorials. A memorial can be a statue, an object or a structure installed to commemorate a significant event, individual or anniversary and they have a very special place among our public art portfolio, defining a sense of place, of history and, of course, community.

Memorials come in all shapes and sizes and are as diverse as the things that they commemorate. They can often serve multiple purposes as infrastructure, as well as art. For instance, we learnt that Brisbane’s oldest memorial was actually a drinking fountain built in 1867, where mains water was first introduced to Brisbane. No expense was spared on the ornate sandstone sculpture, which was erected at a cost of £370, which was a significant amount of money in those days. In 1972, the fountain was formally named in recognition of Walter Hill, who was the first curator of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens.

In May 1988, a further dedication was added to James Thomas Mooney, a volunteer fireman who lost his life attending a fire on Queen Street in 1877 and to all firefighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The Walter Hill Fountain is a great example of how memorials can grow and evolve over time, reflecting different moments in history and events that were significant in Brisbane at the time. Perhaps our best known memorials are the various Anzac memorials that can be found in parks across the city, the most iconic of which is at Anzac Square. We learnt that Brisbane’s war memorials were part of a movement in the years following the First World War, which was the first major war in which Australia fought and remains the most costly in terms of human life.

The earliest Anzac memorial at Mowbray Park actually commenced construction during the war, with the foundation stone laid in 1916. The Anzac memorials are usually built from materials like granite, marble, sandstone and bronze and take the form of statues, obelisks and monoliths. Like the Walter Hill Fountain, these memorials have evolved over time, with further embellishments being added to honour those who lost their lives in subsequent conflicts, both civilian and military. The Anzac memorials have an important place, both in the history of our nation and of our city. They were often funded through donations from the public and given the cost of the materials involved, it sometimes took years to raise those funds.

Today, many community groups, including RSLs (Returned and Services League of Australia), veterans’ associations and even school P&Cs (parents and citizens) continue to actively participate in the preservation of these memorials. Maintaining these memorials and preparing them for events like Anzac Day and Remembrance Day is a very big job and one which is undertaken with great pride by our Public Space Operations (PSO) team. In the lead-up to these events, work like cleaning, repairing and planting of gardens is undertaken, in addition to regular maintenance activities which PSO performs year-round and often with the help of the community.

Memorials are not just about the past, Mr Chair. We are seeing proposals for new and exciting designs, which incorporate technology like QR codes, videos and interactive digital experiences. Whatever form they take, Brisbane’s memorials perform an important job in sustaining memories and enlightening visitors and future generations to the events which have shaped our community identity and values. I’d just like to thank the officers for the very informative presentation and for all of the work that they do in preserving and protecting these treasured features in our parks across the city. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

I’ll move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Tracy Davis (Civic Cabinet Chair) and Councillors Jared Cassidy, Steve Griffiths, Sandy Landers and David McLachlan.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor James Mackay (Deputy Chair).

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – MEMORIALS IN PARKS

**565/2022-23**

1. The General Manager, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an overview of memorials in parks. He provided the information below.

2. Council maintains 351 memorials, 52 of which are war memorial sites. Memorials, monuments and plaques form a collective memory and offer an officially sanctioned view of history, providing an insight into the values and ideas of society. The Committee was shown pictures of various memorials across Brisbane.

3. Memorials help define a sense of place, history, and community. They reflect the stories of the people and events that have made significant contributions to society; sustaining memories and enlightening visitors and future generations to the achievements and events that have shaped community identity and societal values. War memorials are the most common form of public memorial and provide recognition, respect and acknowledgement for veterans. Many of these memorials are continually added to and reinvested in overtime, and are made predominately of sandstone, granite, marble or bronze. Heritage memorials are those that are featured on either Council’s Heritage overlay or the Queensland Heritage Register.

4. Anzac Day is one of Australia’s most important national occasions and marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. Extensive preparation for community Anzac Day ceremonies is undertaken by Council’s Public Space Operations branch within City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, to clean and repair memorials and to trim, plant and tidy surrounding gardens. To assist with maintenance scheduling, a memorial audit was undertaken in 2019, assessing the condition of memorials which is continually updated in accordance with Council’s *Schedule 252 – Memorial and Heritage Restoration*.

5. The use of technology such as QR codes, interactive videos and experiences, online materials and Bluetooth have contributed to contemporary memorial and monument design which have moved away from including much of the symbolism in traditional memorials and monuments. Focus remains on a sensory and emotional aspect and consideration is given to the impact of artists, designers, committees, sociocultural and political context, and the use of materials in the creation of a new memorial or monument with potential for abstract memorials to reflect emerging social themes.

6. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the General Manager for his informative presentation.

7. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor MARX, City Standards Committee report, please.

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Kim MARX, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Standards Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. Just briefly, before I get to the report, I just want to make some comments around the question that Councillor JOHNSTON had for the LORD MAYOR last week in regards to Oxley Road. I know there were concerns that Councillor JOHNSTON had about⎯in particular, grass growing through Oxley Road and wanting to know—the fact that it had flooded, was it being resurfaced? In short, the answer is yes, Oxley Road did go underwater during the flood. Has it been identified resurfacing? The answer is no. So, following the recent vehicle—as all Councillors know, all the roads that were flooded during our recent event did go under some major testing in those spaces and they were inspected by officers.

Now, Oxley Road, in particular, was last inspected by officers in November 2022 to assess whether the road met Council’s intervention standard for road surfacing. At the time of the inspection, officers noted that the road had received the correct sealing treatment in mid-2021 and the treatment designed to extend the serviceable life of an asphalt had been planned between resurfacing. Now, look, I understand the correct sealing treatment, is it an attractive thing that we do with our roads? No, it’s not, but does it save ratepayers lots and lots of money? Yes, it does.

The other issue we have with road resurfacing or patching, in particular, when you do large failures—and this happens when we actually put in traffic lights, as well, which is also a big annoyance of mine—we do these beautiful roads resurfaced and then we cut into them. So, with traffic lights, they have to cut down in to the asphalt in order to lay the cabling for the traffic lights to work. My question, of course, is, well, why don’t you do that at the time of the road resurfacing? The answer, purely and simply, is you would have to put the cables so far down into the asphalt they would be ineffective because of the heat of the asphalt being poured on top of the cabling. So, fair call.

Does it look great? No, it doesn’t, but until someone comes up with some better cabling, that’s what we’re stuck with. The other situation we have, of course, is when roads are cut into like that, you’re going to have the grass growing through the cracks because you’ve got the dirt and the seeds flying across roads and then the grass grows through it. Does it look attractive? No, it does not look attractive at all. I agree with you completely, Councillor JOHNSTON. Does it affect the efficiency and the efficacy of the road? No, it does not. Unfortunately, we don’t have the budget to resurface roads just because they look untidy, which is a thing for another day.

I also wanted to talk about the Committee meeting that we had last week. The presentation was of the Kedron Brook Bikeway restoration project. Huge project, absolutely massive. In fact, so big, three Chairs visited the site of that particular project. That’s how many of us were actually involved. There’s some very, very amazing statistics that Shane, as Manager of Construction, talked about and gave to the Committee. I know there was some concern amongst the local residents and, obviously, local Councillors that were involved in the space about the length of time that this project was taking to be done.

There were many constraints in the space, one of them obviously that UU (Urban Utilities) were working in the same space, contaminated land. They had issues that they had to deal with. I think it has been mentioned here in the Chambers before at the time, but there were these things called these tusked frogs, which I understand are these ugly little things, but apparently—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: —very, very important. It was their breeding time, so we—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: They needed privacy, I’ll take that interjection through you, Mr Chair. It’s a bit like the bats. We can’t do any work around trees with bats in them in the breeding time because it disturbs them. Of course, there was a fair amount of public interaction with the Council officers on the ground speaking to a huge amount of residents and people on their bikes and walkways, walking through that space. There was a lot of work done that you potentially wouldn’t see. It’s like a house when you renovate. The first thing you want to do is the stumping, which if anyone knows that, you’ve got to work from your foundation up, otherwise you’re wasting your time and your energy and your money. We had things like 900 tonnes of rock, 2,100 cubic metres—you know, on top of the project, we had 5,000 plants and we had 2,500 square metres of turf.

So, that’s potentially what the residents will see. They’ll see the nice concrete pathway, which I have to say looks absolutely beautiful and then they will see the planting as they come up, but what you don’t see is all the work that’s gone into it, as I said, the foundations. So, I want to take the opportunity to publicly thank the officers for the huge amount of work they did. I am aware it took a while, but as I said, there were some extenuating circumstances that just had to be dealt with and there’s nothing you can do about that. Our officers very patiently worked with everybody and all the Chairs, that we all visited the site at the time and they took time out to explain it to us. As I said, Shane’s team in that construction space did an outstanding job and I congratulate them. We have made it bigger and better, as the LORD MAYOR’s directions are with anything that was flood related, so hopefully, it will be standing for the next⎯third time.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: That’s the idea. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I rise to speak on the Kedron Brook Bikeway restoration. I note that the LNP Administration has used this as a flagship project for flood recovery in Brisbane. I note there’s no funding that’s attributed to the report before us today, but I presume this has cost some hundreds of millions of dollars and it will be interesting to find out exactly how much. It is very interesting, as well, as Councillor MARX has stated, that the LNP Administration is building things back bigger and better as part of our flood recovery. I also note that this project has been fully funded by Council and, presumably, Council will be seeking reimbursement through the national disaster administrative arrangements. Now, the really, really interesting part of this is this project is located, if not wholly, substantially, within LNP wards on the northside. I don’t think there’s any Labor areas that the Kedron Brook—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh, that’s interesting. I think they’re just having a bit of a grumble, so I think I’m on the money. It’s all in—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s all in an LNP—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please. Councillors. Order, please.

Councillor WINES, that’s enough.

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s the LNP Councillors, Councillor ADAMS, Councillor WINES, but that’s okay. They’re not named.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, it’s the usual—

Chair: I just said Councillor WINES, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, yes. Well, not Councillor ADAMS, who’s been interjecting. This is a big project that’s been funded directly by Council through LNP wards. I presume, as I said, Council will seek reimbursement. Now, over in poor old Tennyson Ward where we had 3,000 flooded homes, we’ve got people who are still in distress. They can’t get their insurance sorted. They’re waiting for builders. They’re still waiting on buyback and/or resilient funding. We still have people 15 months, 16 months, on from the floods whose living situation has not been resolved. You would think that perhaps Council might be putting the same amount of effort into restoring flood-damaged community facilities in Tennyson Ward as they are in the LNP wards on the northside, but no, that’s not the case.

So whilst things are being built back bigger and better on the northside in the LNP wards, Cactoblastis Corner is the only park left in Brisbane that remains closed and catastrophically damaged with no plans by Council to repair it. In fact, one of the motions that the LNP is blocking from debate is pushing for funding for Cactoblastis Corner, a riverfront park in Sherwood, to be fixed. This park does not deserve the same treatment, according to the LNP, as the Kedron Brook Bikeway. They are funding that project directly. This Council has said, no, no, we couldn’t possibly fund Cactoblastis Corner rehabilitation. That funding has to come from a grant from the State Government.

So here’s the double standard. Whilst in LNP areas, public infrastructure is being built back—as Councillor MARX has said—bigger and better, not in non-LNP wards. In fact, in my ward, nothing’s been built back better. It’s not even being built back at Cactoblastis Corner. We’re 16 months on from the floods and nothing has happened. It’s fenced off and a bit of make-safe work has been done. That’s not the only one. That’s not the only one. You’d think maybe they’d get the idea, right? The Sherwood Arboretum pontoon, the second time the Sherwood Arboretum pontoon has been washed away. This is a heritage-listed, district access park, again on the river and is, of course, the LNP doing the same investment in that flooded, damaged asset as they are at the Kedron Brook Bikeway? No, they are not. They’re not directly funding that like they did in the LNP wards on the northside.

Again, it’s like, oh no, there’s no funding for that. You’re going to have to ask for the grant funding from the State Government. Here’s the double standard, but wait, there’s more. The Taylor Bridge playground. Now, this is the park that flooded in 2011 and Council basically hosed off the swings that were 20 years old then and then refused to replace the pontoon that was lost, so they wouldn’t do that then. Now, the playground has been removed and we’re still waiting on the new playground to be delivered. I’m told it’s coming this year. That’s still not been done, either. Then, there’s the riverbank landslip at Corinda, where part of the Brisbane riverbank fell into the river and exposed all the illegally dumped waste that went over the side from the old Montrose redevelopment. Is Council going to fix that? No, there’s no plans to do that, either.

So here we have parks, pontoons, and riverbank areas in Brisbane that the LNP Administration is not fixing, has no plans to fix, has allocated no funding to fix and certainly not, in Councillor MARX’s own ward, built them back bigger and better, but it’s so nice to know, isn’t it, that the LNP Councillors on the northside have got a gold-plated Kedron Brook Bikeway fully restored, fully paid for by Council and that was done upfront and done as a priority? Meanwhile, over in one of the worst flood-affected wards in the whole city, we’ve got parks closed, community assets damaged and no funding from Council to fix them.

The double standard and the hypocrisy by the LNP Administration is shameful. They are prepared to fund projects in their own ward and crow about them publicly, yet they refuse to even debate the need for funding for projects in Tennyson Ward and there is absolutely no reason that they should be continuing to block that motion, which remains on the table. I’ve repeatedly asked for it to be put back into circulation for debate, but the LNP has said no. So, I’m sure the LNP is really, really proud of the work that it’s doing in the Kedron Brook Bikeway and I’m happy that people on the northside have had their bikeway fixed, but I think it is shameful that the LNP will not invest the same amount of time, money and resources in fixing flood-damaged community assets, parkland and riverfront areas in Tennyson Ward that they do in their own LNP wards.

That is hypocritical behaviour by the LNP. They are elected to represent the whole city and it’s clear by their actions that they are failing to do this.

Chair: Further debate?

Councillor MARX—

Oh, sorry, Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Sorry, Councillor McLACHLAN, I just want to speak to this report and I just want to take a moment to thank the officers for their work to repair the Kedron Brook Bikeway and, in particular, the Kedron Brook itself. The Kedron Brook is a very important waterway that reaches from the very western end of the city all the way through your ward to the ocean. It changes names at certain points, but it is a vital link for environment, for recreation—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor WINES: —for drainage. It is a very, very important part of our community and can I—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please. You’ve had your say.

Councillor WINES: Can I thank the officers for their commitment to this place and the ongoing work to it? The creek itself has, sort of, a rock bed that shifts through the creek, and that’s one of the reasons why there was so much damage, because the Mitchelton and Enoggera reaches of the creek picked up a lot of the sediment and then dropped it at Alderley. So, where there was once bridges and creek lines, you would have—it was waist-high sediment. So, where there was a creek and a bridge, you could walk over the bridge and see this much of the handle above the sediment in the place. It was a remarkable amount of silt had shifted. We’re talking thousands of cubic metres in some places and that’s merely the Mitchelton to Alderley component that doesn’t speak to the significant damage in Grange and Gordon Park and further east—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor WINES: *—*and Stafford, exactly right. Some of the scouring on the banks, the restitution of the bridges has taken a lot of work. We make light of the tusked frog, but it did push this work back three months to ensure that the frogs that were found in the banks at the Wolverhampton parts, which is the Stafford portion⎯the Stafford reach⎯their wellbeing was preserved. Their bridge is back. We are now considering options to make sure that, if there is a flood of significant or comparable size in the future, we will not lose that bridge or that access again. You have to take an opinion that cycling is an equivalent transport mode to motoring or walking or public transport and to ensure that we keep principle active transport routes like the Kedron Brook Bikeway open as much as possible.

Now, there’s been a policy change to make sure that we clean them as though they were roads in a flood event in the future, but also to restore them to a resilience that would endure a comparable event if it were to occur again. There has been tremendous damage in that corridor, but can I also say there’s been tremendous patience by the residents and I thank them for that? Can I assure them that the work that this Council is doing will mean that their facility is better, cleaner and more resilient and more beautiful into the future? Can I thank the officers for their work? Can I thank the residents for their patience? I look forward to the ongoing commitment to this key northside asset.

Chair: Further debate?

Councillor MARX, summing up? No?

Move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the City Standards Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Kim Marx (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Steven Toomey (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Peter Cumming and Sarah Hutton.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Nicole Johnston.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – KEDRON BROOK BIKEWAY RESTORATION

**566/2022-23**

1. The General Manager, Construction, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on Kedron Brook Bikeway (the bikeway) restoration. He provided the information below.

2. The bikeway was damaged at multiple locations in the 2022 severe weather event (the event). Following this, Council undertook cleansing, assessment and ‘make safe’ works to 20 kilometres of the bikeway. Initial assessments found a number of critical points of the bikeway that were damaged, this included at:

- Royal Parade, Alderley, near Stafford City Shopping Centre

- Walter Bourke Park, Gordon Park

- Corbett Park, Grange

- Wolverhampton Street, Stafford

- Kalinga Park, Kalinga.

3. The Committee was shown images of before, during and after restoration works at Corbett Park, Wolverhampton Street, Walter Bourke Park and Royal Parade.

4. A section of the bikeway was destroyed at Corbett Park during the event. The volume and velocity of water moving through Kedron Brook (the brook), along with run-off from a nearby large stormwater outlet, resulted in erosion and damage. Restoration works included rebuilding the eroded embankment and damaged sections of concrete footpaths, and planting a variety of native water-tolerant plants and jute mesh to assist with resilience on the rebuilt embankment.

5. The existing creek near Wolverhampton Street was destroyed in the event. The eastern embankment of the brook experienced severe erosion, and portions of the culvert crossing and adjoining concrete pathway were washed away. Council identified several protected wildlife species and habitats at this site. The bikeway has been restored and reconnected, with final works being completed in April 2023.

6. Restoration works to Walter Bourke Park involved rebuilding the eroded embankment, repairing damaged sections of the culvert, handrails and adjoining concrete paths, and planting native water‑tolerant plants and jute mesh to assist with resilience on the rebuilt embankment. These works were completed in December 2022.

7. At Royal Parade, restoration works involved laying new turf and planting water-tolerant plants to help with soil stability around the creek crossing. Landscaping and sediment removal works around the bridge were completed in December 2022.

8. The restoration presented a number of challenges, including:

- managing the works in conjunction with Council’s business-as-usual activities

- availability of materials

- contaminated spoil

- protected wildlife.

9. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the General Manager for his informative presentation.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee report, please.

### COMMUNITY, ARTS AND NIGHTTIME ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Councillor Vicki HOWARD, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before moving to the report, it’s been a little while since I’ve been able to address Council on the many, many things that the Schrinner Council has that are more to see and do across Brisbane. I’d just like to mention one or two things that have happened recently when we were in recess. On Saturday night, we had Light Up the Night ball that was for a LGBTIQ domestic violence (DV) fundraiser. I wanted to say a big thank you to Ben Bjarnesen, the founder of this organisation. This was the second year that they’ve held this ball in City Hall. They had a hundred more people and I’m pleased to say that there were two extra tables. One was from our River City Pride people and I want to say again a big thank you to River City Pride for all of the work and the advocacy that that they do within Brisbane City Council and my own table, which was able to host Councillor ATWOOD and Councillor CUNNINGHAM and quite a number of—oh, and the good Senator James Mackay and quite a number of—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Oh, McGrath, sorry, I just elevated you, through you. Anyway, James McGrath. Can I just say, it was a fantastic event and Ben did an amazing job? For that organisation to have been able to achieve that in two short years is just truly amazing. I also want to mention that we celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Australian Red Cross Night Café and that is—we had to wait a couple of years because of COVID, so it was actually, I think, 22 years. Of course, the Australian Red Cross Night Café provide a valuable service to our less—our more vulnerable people across Brisbane on a Tuesday night, right here in City Hall. So, it was great to meet with the Red Cross and many of their supporters to celebrate that great milestone.

I also attended the Brisbane Youth Service and their Youth Homelessness Matters Day afternoon tea. Again, a fantastic organisation and I want to say a big thank you to Pam and her team for the amazing work that they are doing in these very difficult circumstances at the moment. Youth homelessness is really something that, you know, they are just struggling to work with, so it was great to see so many people there supporting that group. We also had the 4MBS Festival of Classics 30th Anniversary function at Government House. Again, you know, the amazing work that these people have been doing over so many years was recognised by the Governor and it was great to be there to support them with that.

We had the Trans Community Awards for 2022 and again, another group of people where their awards night is growing and growing and the ability to recognise the community members and the fantastic work that they do was also very good. I want to thank Councillor WINES and his team for the wonderful flag that now appears outside the Wickham Hotel. It has been a great success. Councillor WINES and I went down there early one morning and I can tell you, Councillor WINES, that many a photograph has been taken on that flag since it was painted outside the Wickham and it’s become quite the iconic part of Fortitude Valley, so really grateful for that.

The LORD MAYOR and I also attended the 2023 Queensland Music Awards and many of you will remember that I was talking about this just before we broke for recess. So, it is my great delight to tell you that DZ Deathrays won the Heavy Award for ‘Paranoid’. I have to say that I did storm the stage, as I was so excited. We didn’t think that anyone from DZ Deathrays was there and so John Collins invited me up because he knows I’m such a great fan. Just as I was about to accept the award, someone from DZ Deathrays arrived too. I think he was a little confused about why this strange woman was standing on the stage.

Can I just say how very proud I am of the guys because, as we know, Brisbane‑based and just such a success? I really want to thank all of those that were involved in the Queensland Music Awards because it really is such a fantastic opportunity for us to recognise some of our homegrown artists that have just done so well. The Album of the Year, which is presented by Brisbane City Council, was for Ballpark Music, Weirder & Weirder. So, great opportunity. The awards night was fantastic. The LORD MAYOR certainly enjoyed himself and it was really wonderful to see so many local artists recognised.

Moving to the report, we had a Committee presentation on the Brisbane Writers Festival for 2023 and the Artistic Director from the Brisbane Writers Festival provided us with a fantastic presentation. I encourage all Councillors in the Chamber to go online and to have a look at the presentation because this festival, which was founded in 1962 and is held from 10 to 14 May, hosts 160 events and approximately 360 writers and artists in a celebration of the Brisbane and Australian literary landscape. The festival acts as a key part of the writing network and aims to bring together authors, publishers, printers and critics, while exposing Brisbane authors to a wider audience. There are educational programs such as Word Play that invite students from Prep to Year 12 to grow and experiment with their creativity and the Love YA programs provide a celebration of young adult fiction amongst our libraries.

Again, a fantastic presentation. Copies of the program have been sent to all Councillors with the encouragement of them to promote that through their own wards. I’m delighted to tell you that, as of this morning, there are 12,500 tickets have been sold, 57 sessions have been sold out, which is over 75% booked, and they are on track to be the best-selling Brisbane Writers Festival ever. So, congratulations to them and I’ll leave debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

We move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Vicki Howard (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Sandy Landers (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Peter Cumming, Steve Griffiths and Steven Toomey.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor James Mackay.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BRISBANE WRITERS FESTIVAL 2023

**567/2022-23**

1. The Artistic Director, Brisbane Writers Festival, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Brisbane Writers Festival 2023 (the Festival). She provided the information below.

2. The Festival, which was founded in 1962, welcomes thousands of readers and writers to Brisbane to celebrate books, spark ideas and start conversations. Held from 10 to 14 May 2023, the Festival hosts 160 events and approximately 360 writers and artists in a celebration of the Brisbane and Australian literary landscape. First Nations and Torres Strait Islander curators and national and international authors who write on topics such as science, comedy and technology will be featured. Positioning Brisbane as a global city with an international standard of literary, the Festival promotes 20 international authors with a focus on South Korea. Guests include Bae Suah, Sang Young Park, Krys Lee and Kim Min Jeong.

3. The Festival acts as a key part of the writing network and aims to bring together authors, publishers, printers and critics, while exposing Brisbane authors to a wider audience. Educational programs, such as Word Play, invite students from Prep to Year 12 to grow and experiment with their creativity, and the Love YA program provides a celebration of young adult fiction. Forging strong relationships with university, corporate, philanthropic and local business sectors, the Festival strives for continued excellence and aims to foster a cultural association and appreciation in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

4. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Artistic Director for her informative presentation.

5. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, Finance and City Governance Committee report, please.

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Mr Chair, our presentation and first Committee report back was the net borrowings report, which included an economic update from the Corporate Treasurer in Council. We’ve recently had the latest inflation data from the ABS, showing inflation at seven per cent nationally and 7.4% in Brisbane. Clearly, households are hurting at the moment and Council, just like all other levels of government, is feeling the impacts. That’s why we work really hard at Council to try and receive whatever external funding we are eligible for, Mr Chair. It helps us deliver great projects and services and keep downward pressure on our rates. It’s something that this whole Chamber should support.

We also had the bank and investment report for March, with the CFO (Chief Financial Officer) on hand to answer any questions of the Committee and I’ll leave debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

I’ll move to the vote on this report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Finance and City Governance Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Fiona Cunningham (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Steven Huang (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Lisa Atwood and Charles Strunk.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Angela Owen.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION AND REPORT – NET BORROWINGS – CASH INVESTMENTS AND FUNDING – MARCH 2023

**568/2022-23**

1. The Corporate Treasurer, Financial Analysis and Treasury Management, Corporate Finance, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to present a report to the Committee on Council’s net borrowings for the March 2023 quarter. The report details the corporate cash holdings invested and the status of Council’s funding activities.

2. The report provided a market and economic review, and a summary of the following issues in

relation to Council’s investments, including:

- cash position

- review of cash activity

- earnings on investments

- funding capability

- borrowings

- facility performance

- leases.

3. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Corporate Treasurer for her informative presentation.

4. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE REPORT.**

**ADOPTED**

#### B COMMITTEE REPORT – BANK AND INVESTMENT REPORT – MARCH 2023

**134/695/317/1228-002**

**569/2022-23**

5. The Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Finance, Organisational Services, provided an overview of Council’s cash and cash investment positions as at 24 March 2023.

6. Page 2 of the report (submitted on file) outlines Council’s cash and investments with financial counter parties as recorded in Council’s financial systems.

7. The decrease of cash and investments of $178 million in March was consistent with Council’s usual business cycle activities during the period and largely due to:

* Receipts:
* Quarterly Residential Rates.
* Payments:
* Quarterly QTC Debt Service and Lease Payments
* Capex Outflows.

8. Explanation of the significant items include:

* Cash at Bank in Australian Dollars (AUD):
* transactional banking account with Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) - this is Council’s operational bank account for receipts and payments for day‑to‑day transactions in Australian Dollars
* the variance between the balance as per the General Ledger and the balance as per bank statements relates to timing differences in recognition.
* Swiss Francs (CHF) Bank Account - AUD equivalent:
* AUD equivalent of CHF held in a CBA account which is solely used for Brisbane Metro project hedge settlements and invoice payments in CHF.
* Cash investments:
* Council is holding a total of $374 million cash investments with $290 million placed in longer-term investments (with maturities up to six months) and $84 million held in at call accounts
* the variance between the balance as per the General Ledger and the balance as per the investment statements relates to the accrued interests and fees which have not yet been processed to the bank statement.
* Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) Investment:
* the QIC investment account is set up to provide asset backing for Council’s self‑managed insurance fund.

9. The variance for the period is due to accruals of interest and fees not yet recorded in the bank statements and timing of transactions processed. These are normal variances due to timing of transactions and information received.

10. Page 3 of the report (submitted on file) includes a reconciliation of the CBA bank account between Council’s financial records and the CBA statement. The majority of unreconciled bank transactions at the end of the period have since been reconciled.

11. In addition, the Swiss bank account movements during the period are disclosed.

12. Page 5 of the report (submitted on file) includes amounts held by Council in trust as well as petty cash balances. The trust amounts are largely associated with monies held for infrastructure development commitments.

13. Trust balances are higher, due to receipts being greater than payments during the month. These are normal fluctuations of the funds from month to month.

14. The variance between the trust ledger and the investment balance is due to timing of transfers processed to ensure the required funds are held outside of Council’s transactional bank account. These are normal variances and fluctuate from month to month.

15. All relevant General Ledger accounts were reconciled and analysed.

16. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REPORT**, as submitted on file, **BE NOTED.**

**ADOPTED**

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Thank you. Next item before us is Petitions.

Are there any petitions? No petitions? That would be unusual circumstance. No petitions? Calling once, calling twice, calling thrice. We don’t. Okay, as there are no petitions, we move on. There’s no need to ask for a motion to present those petitions.

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

Chair: Councillors, General Business.

Are there any statements required as a result of an Office of the Independent Assessor or a Councillor Ethics Committee Order? No one rising.

Are there any matters of General Business? Who wants to go first?

Councillor ATWOOD: Good—

Chair: Councillor ATWOOD.

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Chair. I rise this afternoon to speak about—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Yes, okay. We’ll go with Councillor ATWOOD and then come back. Okay, is that all right? Yes.

Councillor ATWOOD: Okay, apologies.

Chair: Okay.

Councillor ATWOOD: About the Kenrose Street Festival and I wanted to thank some incredible businesses for helping to bring this event to life after a two-year hiatus. The Kenrose Street Festival was first held in January 2020 after completing the Village Precinct Project upgrade. It was such an incredible transformation to a very old and tired shopping precinct and the community’s gratitude was certainly evident when the LORD MAYOR and I opened it on 30 January in 2020. The street was packed with locals, and the stories from local businesses was incredible. Michael from Giovanni said that they had their biggest night ever, and week on week, their sales increased, unfortunately until COVID hit. These stories were repeated with other local businesses down there in Kenrose Street. The bakery started to close at 2pm instead of 6pm because they were just selling out every single day.

It’s incredible to hear those stories. The Kenrose Street Festival team were so excited to bring this back as an annual event to promote the local businesses and showcase our beautiful Carina community. We were really excited to bring it back in 2021, but unfortunately, it was cancelled due to a COVID lockdown. In February 2022, the bakery and the music shop flooded. It closed the music shop for three months and the bakery for 12 months. So, to say that this year’s Kenrose Street Festival was a long time coming would be an understatement. This year’s Kenrose Street Festival really celebrated all of the businesses being back open down there on Kenrose Street and celebrating Ian and Laura’s journey of rebuilding their bakery.

This year, we also welcomed two new businesses, a pizza shop and a dog wash. The pizza shop said that the Kenrose Street Festival night, they sold as much that night as they would in a normal week, so they were really, really grateful. They were really over the moon to share their amazing food with our community and the same has been going on. They’ve been getting busier and busier every night. The Trusty Dog Wash also said their inquiries have gone through the roof and they’re hiring additional staff now. I loved hearing those stories. I just also wanted to leave a text message with you from Ian, from the Kenrose Street Bakery.

‘Lisa, I felt very privileged to have the LORD MAYOR attend our street party with his family. For me, it was a fantastic insight to see how much he loves Brisbane, and I appreciated his time to chat. His family are so genuine and it is evident how much he loves our community at large. It made me and Laura feel really special’.

So, I wanted to thank the LORD MAYOR for giving up every single weekend to come to all of our events. It makes our community feel really special. I also wanted to thank him for funding these events and to continue to upgrade our tired old shopping precincts into thriving community hubs. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor COLLIER. Thank you. Noting this is your first speech, welcome to the Chamber.

Councillor COLLIER: Thank you, Chair. I acknowledge that we are on Aboriginal land and pay my respects to owners past and present. I acknowledge the ongoing efforts to protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. I support an Indigenous Voice to Parliament for our First Nations people. It is an enormous privilege to stand here and represent my beautiful community in this Chamber. Today, I have the opportunity to share my values, my beliefs, and my thanks, all of which brought me to this place. Morningside Ward, which includes the suburbs of Balmoral, Bulimba, Hawthorne, Morningside, Norman Park, Seven Hills, and Camp Hill is the most incredible place. What makes Morningside Ward really special, though, is the people who make up this wonderful community. So, every single day, I will strive to bring the best to the people of Morningside and for the people of Brisbane. It is what they deserve.

This community is filled with people who share my passion in making our area a wonderful place to live, to raise a family, and preserving our way of life. I acknowledge the many incredible community groups and organisations who make this area what it is. There are literally hundreds of you, and all of you are amazing. Through my own involvement in the Bulimba Community Centre as the immediate past President, the Morningside 1/Camp Seven Neighbourhood Watch, the I Love Bulimba & 4171 Facebook page, and the local Bulimba District RSL Sub-Branch to volunteer coordinate for Anzac Day, just to name a few, I’ve been able to see firsthand the dedication of many local residents.

I feel incredibly energised to work alongside my local community groups and organisations to get the best community building outcomes for them. I very much believe that we all have a responsibility to ensure that we leave our community in better shape than what we found it. Brisbane right now is at a crossroad, and the decisions of this Council will go down in history. In this Chamber, the decisions we make must put the interests of residents first, and for too long, for 20 years of this LNP Administration, they have not. The way that we move around this city is influenced by the decisions of this Council.

The LNP have spent billions on the inner city Metro without tackling improved cycling infrastructure or congestion busting in the suburbs like mine, where it takes over 45 minutes to catch a bus less than five kilometres to the CBD. What’s worse, this LNP Administration cut the Norman Park ferry service. That is their solution to addressing traffic congestion in my community, to cut services. We must address housing availability and the cost of living. The LNP have no plan. Last year, we saw the largest increase in rates in over a decade under this LNP Administration, but the suburbs are getting less.

We are facing a genuine climate crisis and we owe it to the residents of Brisbane to be a truly carbon-neutral council and make Brisbane a more liveable, net zero emission city. Instead, the LNP refuses to act and introduce FOGO, the number one way a council can reduce the carbon emissions of every single resident. The choice at the next election will be clear: a 20-year-old LNP Administration, only in it for themselves, or a Labor-led Council who will put residents first. The Brisbane that I know and that I love is one that is vibrant. It is progressive and it is inclusive. It deserves that kind of representation, not an Administration that is so focused on looking back, it cannot look forwards. A vision of hope and progress for the city can only be delivered by a Labor team in Council, a team that I am incredibly proud to be a part of.

I particularly want to thank—through you, Chair—Councillors CASSIDY, CUMMING, STRUNK and GRIFFITHS for their support. It is a true privilege to represent both my community, but also the party that I love. So I must particularly acknowledge a few very important people, without whom my presence in this Chamber would not be possible. I am the next in a history of strong women who have represented the Morningside Ward.

I certainly must acknowledge, firstly, the formidable former Councillor for Morningside Ward, Kara Cook, whose professional and personal support has had a huge impact on my life. There is simply no one like her. She is strong, passionate, determined, all of these qualities that we should look and find within ourselves. She lives her values every single day. There are not enough words that I can say to thank Kara personally and on behalf of our community. So now, it is up to me to continue to be the strong voice in Council that the Morningside Ward deserves.

I acknowledge the thousands of Brisbane City Council workers. Please know that you are valued by the Labor Party and we will always stand up to fight for the best paying conditions that you deserve, alongside our union movement. I thank my union, the United Workers Union, for their continued support. I want to acknowledge my village, those who have given such invaluable support to me, not only over the past few months but over many years. Firstly, the Humphreys, Atkinson, and Ibrahim families, you are my family. The wonderful local ALP members from the Morningside Ward.

To my friends and biggest supporters, Grace, Renee, Brian, and Barb, Rachel, Jess, Brooke, Simon, Kirsten, the Robinsons. You all know how I feel about you, but I want to put my thanks on record today. Like many other families, mine is large and a little complicated, but of course I love them all so very much. My husband’s family, who are now my own, I particularly acknowledge my father‑in‑law Buzz and thank you for your love and support. My husband’s late mother Karen, who we miss every day. The Leman family who have been such a big part of my life and helped shape me. The Norris family, who are the most kind and loving people you may ever meet. My sisters Scout and Millie, my instant best friends. You know me better than I know myself. Thank you.

My parents, who have had the greatest impact on my life. My father Ian, AKA dad of strong daughters, who has always encouraged me and supported me to find my voice. My mum, Cathi, who is an inspiration to all that meet her. I am so proud to be your daughter. I couldn’t do this without your support. You are always just there for me. Thank you for being on this journey with me. To Di, you have nurtured and supported me through absolutely everything. I look up to you. You are the kind of person that we should all aspire to be like. You are the most remarkable person. You raised Millie and I to care deeply for others and be the best people that we can be. It is the greatest privilege to share a love for our wonderful community and to be able to do what we do now together. I owe the most gratitude to my loving husband, Matt, and my daughter, Maisy. I hope that I make you both proud. I love you both bigger than the whole sky.

To serve your community with the support of those you love is the greatest honour, and I will work hard to do my community proud. I’m just getting started, and I will always put my community first.

Chair: Thank you.

Further General Business?

Councillor HUANG.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on a book launch I attended last Saturday. Mr Chair, last Saturday, the Australian Taiwan Cultural Foundation launched a publication called *Taiwanese Australians in Queensland*. This book is divided into seven sections. Of course, the first two sections are acknowledgements from officeholders, both local and from Taiwan, including the President of Taiwan and also Premier Palaszczuk and, of course, our LORD MAYOR Adrian SCHRINNER. The next five sections are divided into topics. The community identity, entrepreneurship, community organisations, social responsibility, and professionals.

Mr Chair, you can tell from the titles of these sections, this is a book about how the Taiwanese community in Queensland, especially in South East Queensland, are doing an extraordinary job in contributing to the Queensland community and setting a prime example of how multicultural communities are making the effort to assimilate into mainstream Australian society. As the first Taiwanese-born Councillor, I’m immensely proud of the achievements of the Taiwanese community in Brisbane. Whether you are supporting charitable courses like Mater Foundation, Royal Brisbane Women’s Hospital Foundation, or LORD MAYOR’s Charitable Trust, or business successes in retail, construction, and many other professional services, the Taiwanese community is indeed doing its best to make our city, our State, our nation a better place for future generations.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Chair of the Foundation, Ms Melody Chen, and the Executive Editor, Edward Lin, in putting this publication together and leave a legacy for future generations. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY, noting this is your first speech.

Councillor MASSEY: I begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of Mianjin, Brisbane, the Turrbal and Jagera peoples. I pay my respects to all Elders past, present, and emerging, and acknowledge and welcome all First Nations peoples here with us today. As part of the oldest continuous living culture in the world, the traditional custodians of the city should be held in a place of pride, supported in truth telling, and have a powerful voice in decision-making. Sovereignty was never ceded. This was and always will be Aboriginal land. We must work towards treaty.

I speak to you warmly now, as the newly appointed Councillor for The Gabba Ward, a position of great privilege, a position that for someone like me has been unimaginable for all their life. I’m proudly a queer woman of Filipino and African American descent who immigrated here at a young age. Reflecting on my childhood and youth in the 90s, I remember growing up in a time when Brisbane was changing and growing, but I also remember never seeing someone like me on TV, in ads, in magazines, or even in public life. The older I got, as I continued living in this city, diverse communities became more visible, more present, but this Chamber remained largely the same.

The truth is, it’s not only here, it’s at every level of government. That’s why this position of privilege has been so unimaginable, because visibility counts. As many people have said before me, you can’t be what you can’t see. So, in the city where 31.7% of its population was born overseas, I humbly take pride in being the first queer woman of colour in this Chamber today. I accept the responsibility of representing the many intersections that make me me, the diverse people across the city that have supported me throughout my life and career, through friendships, community support, and transformative work that we’ve done together at all levels, particularly in grassroots.

I humbly take pride in being the first queer woman of colour in this Chamber today to ensure that minorities and those that are marginalised have an amplified voice. I humbly take pride in being the first queer woman of colour today in this Chamber because I know I won’t be the last. I won’t be the last because Brisbane is changing again, and today, these times are challenging. Every day people like me are dealing with a housing crisis, mortgage rate crisis, and pressure rental crisis. We see this Chamber’s inaction across our streets and our parks with the growing numbers of homelessness and rough sleepers.

Residents are fighting a conflicting development system that sees neighbourhood plans thrown out the window. Instead, we see forced precinct plans, a lack of foresight for sustainable mixed development, density development across the city. No genuine community consultation or any accountability for the social infrastructure needed for high-density populations to thrive. When will this Council make developers earning hundreds and millions of dollars every year pay their fair share? In this city, we see the continued prioritisation beyond all else of cars, depleting the opportunities for new active transportation corridors for walkers, cyclists, and scooter commuters to safely reach their destination. We now have a Council known for turning inner city greenspaces grey, prioritising commercialisation of publicly-owned space time after time.

I could go on—and in time, I will, I’m sure—but, you see, to get back to my point about not being the last, the point is the residents of the city have had enough of this tired and unimaginative LNP Council. As we approach the 20th year of a Liberal-run Council here in Mianjin, Brisbane, we can all honestly recognise in this Chamber, I think, that this city’s people expect more from us. Residents across the city want a voice. They want to be heard, and they know 20 years—nearly 20 years on, they live in a Brisbane whose governing body listens and acts less and less in their interests.

I take on this role with commitment to the residents of The Gabba to work hard for and with them. I take on this role with a commitment to empowering voices, but also listening. I take on this role by sending a notice. What was once unimaginable to me, to many people like me, has now happened. So my message to the people of The Gabba and Brisbane is, what is possible in the future is limitless. What I mean by this is this city and its residents can be listened to, can thrive with better active and public transport, they can have access to greenspace and community hubs where they can build genuine local connections. They can have the contributions of local artists valued and nurtured. They can have a say on how their neighbourhoods look like, and so much more. In this future, deep, systemic social issues are tackled by us here, honestly, through generosity and by hard work. The people of this city will have their say, because change is coming.

So, to conclude, I want to thank my partner, Mel, whose support is invaluable to me. My closest and dearest friends and family. To the Queensland Greens, I thank you for your support and confidence. Finally, but most importantly, I want to thank the residents and communities across The Gabba who have warmly welcomed me. Your support means the world to me.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MASSEY.

Is there any further General Business?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, thanks, Chair. I just wish to speak about a local matter, O’Callaghan Park. If you want to see what we mean when we say suburban neglect under this LNP Council, you need look no further than O’Callaghan Park in Zillmere. The sporting precinct is a powerhouse on the northside. It’s home to the North Star Soccer Club, the Zillmere Eagles AFL, AFL Queensland, the Zillmere PCYC, Honey Badgers Olympic Weightlifting Club, and the licensed Zillmere Sports Club. Years ago, these clubs were engaged by Council to get their views on the future of the site and some amazing opportunities that were identified to support the growth of these sports and to give that hardworking community of Zillmere some great facilities, but years have gone by and that master plan at O’Callaghan Park has only collected dust.

Clubs are frustrated, and so are local residents. Half the site is now totally unused and Council has no plans to reopen it. The LORD MAYOR needs to stop spending our rates exclusively in the inner city and start investing in our suburbs. Funding these upgrades in Zillmere is a priority for me and my submission to the LORD MAYOR in his budget this year, and my community wants it to be a priority for the LORD MAYOR, as well.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers in General Business?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you. Oh, you could have kept that going a bit longer for me. I’m so sorry. Thank you. Yes, I wanted to rise to speak briefly on the LORD MAYOR’s announcement regarding the Walter Taylor Bridge duplication or the Indooroopilly-Chelmer Bridge. Thank you. I’m a little bit disappointed in Council’s actions. It’s been several months since I called for the files and they were only given to me about a week ago. Council has known for many weeks that it was going to put a flyer out this week. Council officers did ring and offer a briefing, which is coming tomorrow, but nobody in Council has had the courtesy to brief me in advance of this issue going out to the public.

As people in the Chamber know, this is an issue that I asked the LORD MAYOR about a few months ago via a question directly in the Chamber. Brisbane City Council promised almost a year ago to update residents about the outcome of the feasibility study, and failed to do so until it was publicly shamed into action. I can see from the minutes of internal discussions that discussions have been happening with the relevant Chair of Council, and I presume that is Councillor WINES, for over a year. There have been ongoing discussions with the senior leadership of the LNP about this project for a year. No one thought that our community should be updated.

Now, I don’t think that’s good enough. The bigger problem, though, is what the Council has actually released and the feasibility study itself. Let me start here. About 33% of people indicated in the feasibility study that they wanted a new bridge. That means 67% of people did not. As the LORD MAYOR mentioned earlier, there was another percentage of people that wanted to widen the Walter Taylor Bridge, which is not possible. Thirty-four per cent of people, actually the highest amount, wanted improvements to public and active transport through the corridor. About another 20% want improvements to local intersections around the bridge on the northside and the southside, which are a huge part of the problem. Brisbane City Council, however, has in its flyer that it has publicly released indicated in a very slight-of-hand way, I think, that 70% of people support a new bridge, and then there’s an or this, or that.

So, they don’t want to actually disclose the numbers and make it clear to people what the public feedback was. You do have to read the document to find that. Of course, the flyer has the LORD MAYOR’s face on it. As we all know, that is the number one prerequisite for any LNP Administration flyer. Councillor MASSEY, was that included in your Councillor training briefing? Councillor—yes. That’s when they came to talk to you, that’s the prerequisite for any Council material. It’s got to have a giant picture of the LORD MAYOR on it. I’m surprised that wasn’t mentioned. They might have said you should put it in your materials. That’s the way they like to do things.

The biggest problem with the way in which the LNP Administration is approaching this project is it is playing political games. At no point has there been a proper look at whether or not there should be a bridge duplication between Chelmer and Indooroopilly. The presumption, it’s clear, has already been made by the LNP that it will be done there. The presumption, or as I see it, the fix is in because the LNP has presented, quote, ‘six options’, all of which are essentially the same option, which is a duplicated bridge which then feeds over the rail line at Indooroopilly and back into Coonan Street, Indooroopilly.

Now, anybody, anybody with a brain in the western suburbs—and I know the LORD MAYOR will stand up and go, she’s not an engineer, she doesn’t know what she’s talking about. Well, I’ve lived out there for a very long time, and I use the bridge pretty much on a daily basis. Like every other resident in my ward, we know the bridge is not the only problem. The problem is the intersection of Coonan Street and Westminster Street, which is a failed intersection without proper turning lanes. Now, of course, the LNP Administration does not want to address this. That intersection, which is the single biggest choke point for residents, isn’t even mentioned in the flyer. Residents on the southside want to turn, they want to get down into the educational precinct to the schools, to the university, and they want to be able to get to their places of employment, and the university is a huge employer in our area.

So, the biggest problem that we face is that the intersection of Coonan Street and Westminster Street doesn’t function. As a result, the right-hand turn lane banks up, blocks back over the river, blocks onto the Chelmer side of the bridge, and a huge part of the reason the bridge is blocked is because the cars can’t turn right at Westminster Street to get around, into Indooroopilly, to get to the schools and the university where their children go. We share catchments. Chelmer and Graceville are in the catchment of Indooroopilly State High School. It is a connected community. Plus, St Peters, Brigidine, Holy Family, Ambrose Treacy. Did I say St Peters? You know, you name it, there’s a bunch of schools.

You know, some people on the northside send their girls to one of the best or the best girls school, probably, in Brisbane, St Aidan’s at Corinda, so some traffic goes the other way. What the Council—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, what the—that doesn’t count. What the Council has done is to set up a solution that is doomed to fail. There are no options being presented. The only option is a bridge over the river and another bridge, as you heard the LORD MAYOR say today, over the Indooroopilly rail Station, feeding traffic back into Coonan Street. Now, anybody who’s driven up Coonan Street at the moment knows that it’s probably the most diabolical bit of road in all of Brisbane due to the botched project by the LNP that—I don’t really know what they’re getting on with as to whether or not it’s actually fully funded or not.

It seems like they want some more money from the Federal Government to fund a project that’s already, I think, run over budget by about 25%. They just want to feed more traffic back into one of the most congested road corridors in Brisbane. That will not give residents who want to go to the knowledge precinct in St Lucia and Indooroopilly the opportunity to turn right. The solution, the only solution that Council is putting up for the bridge—there are no other options—is a straight north-south alignment down Coonan Street. Now, that fundamentally fails from my point of view, and my position is clearly on the public record about this. Council does not need to start by duplicating the Walter Taylor Bridge.

The bigger question is, if we are going to have further bridges in the western suburbs for transport, which I think may be necessary, we should be looking at where the best options are, not simply for political game playing purposes between the State Transport Minister and the LORD MAYOR, saying we’re going to plonk a bridge down between Chelmer and Indooroopilly. Then—then the Council’s playing silly political games, which is what it’s doing, by saying the only option we’re going to present to the other levels of government are two bridges, including one over the rail line, saying that the State Government is going to have to sink Indooroopilly rail station down so we can build a flyover over the Indooroopilly rail line to force all the traffic into Coonan Street which must go north into town, which is not where the traffic wants to go.

Now, the LNP Administration have failed to listen to the message from residents out of this feasibility study, and it’s so clear. It was crystal clear to me when I got the files to have a look, not that anybody from Council would brief me. I’ve read the files. Residents don’t want to duplicate the bridge. Some do, but a majority doesn’t. They want to see other fixes, and clearly, they want to see intersection fixes to make access to the local area better. That has to include Coonan Street. I note in the flyer that Council is prioritising the right-hand turn from Coonan Street into Riverview Terrace to make it easier for people to get to Fig Tree Pocket. Well, yes, of course they are. That’s actually highlighted. There might be two residents that made that suggestion.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s not good enough.

Chair: Are there any other speakers in General Business?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on a couple of events, I suppose, and a turning on of a set of lights in the ward over the last week. Firstly, Vesak. Vesak, the day of full moon, is the most sacred day to millions of Buddhists around the world. It was on this day of Vesak about 2,500 years ago, in the year 623 BC, that Buddha was born. This day, 6 May just passed, we celebrate the birth of enlightenment and the passing away of Lord Buddha. The message this year was to promote social cohesion, understanding, and acceptance among human beings, and treat equally to all living beings in loving kindness and compassion.

The multicultural festival of Vesak, which is the Buddha’s birthday, was celebrated in my ward on this past Saturday, and it was hosted by the Sri Lankan Buddhist Monastery. I enjoyed—along with many others, of course, and some dignitaries, as well, which I’ll come to—a colourful lantern parade, Buddhist stage drama, traditional dancing, of course, and delicious multicultural food, and most of all, celebrating alongside the community that is important in the local community that I serve. Congratulations to the executives, teachers and parents and volunteers, and there were many volunteers. As a matter of fact, the whole evening was conducted by their students, actually, and they did an absolutely terrific job.

I want to make special mention to Anton Swan, who has been 30 years as Honorary Consul for the Sri Lankan community. He’s wanting to retire after 30 years, but they keep saying no. Anyways, I just hope they do find—he hopes that they do find someone else that’s suitable. He’s getting a lot of traffic from down south because the Consul General that works out of Sydney has—it’s no longer funded, and so he is getting a lot of contact from down there. I mean, he’s up for it. He loves his community and has been a great advocate for all these years.

I just also want to mention that the Sri Lankan Monastery and school there, of course, as well, they’ve just opened up a mindful wellbeing centre next door. They bought an equally large size box of land that they already currently have the school and the monastery on, next door along Considine Street, and they’re developing it into a centre there that will actually not just look after their own community, but the general community in the Ipswich corridor, as well. It’s really good to see that they link in with other monasteries when it comes to holding Buddha’s birthday. I think a couple years ago before COVID, they actually took everything up to the Goodna Temple and they held the services up there. So, they come together to celebrate Buddha’s birthday, but they don’t—I mean, they do it as a collective sometimes, as well, which is really good.

The other event that’s happening this month is the month of May, which signifies the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month here in Queensland, an annual initiative to raise community awareness of domestic and family violence and coercive control, and the support of the services that are available. This year’s theme is very much in keeping with what they’re focusing on over the last couple of years, and that is it’s in the—it is our control to end coercive control. I suppose a couple of the candlelight vigils that that I recently attended over the last couple of years—I should say, except for during COVID, of course—talked very much about that coercive control.

Since elected, I have always worked towards helping those groups in the ward that are actually wanting to do work in this area, and when required, we funded that red bench that went into, of course, a lot of the wards. Also, just things like red roses and things like that for the community to actually lay on this red bench during DV Day or DV Week and Month. I’m very proud to wear the purple ribbon here, as we are today in the Chamber.

The candlelight vigil, which I talked to a little bit earlier, is happening on 18 May in the Civic Centre. We attract quite a few people, actually, and we get people from all sorts of walks of life and organisations, and the police, of course, are there in numbers because they are, of course, at the forefront of having to deal at the coalface with domestic and family violence. I just pay tribute to the work that they do. It’s really hard. I’ve talked to a number of constables, senior constables, and sergeants over the years, and they tell you some unbelievable stories of what they find when they knock on that door.

Finally, I want to talk about the set of traffic lights that I actually had the pleasure of switching on this last week on the corner of Rudyard and Forest Lake Boulevard. These sets of lights were very much looked forward to by the community, although we had some people in the community who thought maybe they should be at the corner of Tewantin Way and Forest Lake Boulevard, which is probably about 400 or 500 metres away. These sets of lights have made an impact already, in regards to making the intersection of Rudyard and Forest Lake Boulevard very, very safe for pedestrians, as well as drivers.

The people down in Tewantin Way, which is where we have an over-55 precinct, who come out onto the road, they can actually see the set of lights just up the road at Rudyard Street, and they can time their crossing to go down to the shopping centre with those lights now, as well. So, that intersection would have been—well, they wanted a set of lights down there, as well, but actually, the set of lights that are at Rudyard and Forest Lake Boulevard are doing most of that work for them. I was able to switch them on, of course, with Milton Dick, the Federal Member for Oxley and Speaker of the House, because it was money that came from Black Spot funding, which was Federal Government money.

Of course, Council pulled the whole project together, of course, with that money. So I was very happy to spend that half hour or so with him when we switched the lights on, because it was it was very impactful, actually, when you’re able to do something like that. Maybe not as good as maybe turning on the Christmas lights out on King George Square, but I think it’s probably more important from a safety point of view. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers in General Business?

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. Look, I just wanted to rise and make a few comments about the Black Spot Program that Councillor STRUNK was just discussing. I just wanted to remind him that it was a project where there was eight recorded crashes between 2015 and 2021, seven of which resulted in medical treatment or hospitalisation. Now, it was a Black-Spot-funded program, which is a Federally‑funded program. Now, I appreciate Councillor STRUNK’s commitment and celebration of Federally-funded programs delivered by the Council. I would encourage him to speak to his Leader and tell him about the power of Federally‑funded Council constructed projects.

Now, as many Councillors would know, I like to be at the birth of all the traffic lights, but I wasn’t able to make this one. My officers provided me this wonderful photograph of Councillor STRUNK, who I ensured was able to turn the lights on, and that’s a photograph I’ll be prepared to table today. Can I just say, traffic lights and safety improvements for roads delivered in a partnership between the Federal Government and the Brisbane City Council are an excellent thing, and I’m glad that Speaker Dick saw the same. Can I encourage Councillor STRUNK, with the same enthusiasm he brought here, to go to his party room and force the issue that we need continued support from the Federal Government to be able to deliver these sorts of projects?

Chair: Is there any further General Business? Councillors, no further General Business?

## CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADJOURNED MOTION:

Chair: We now move to the adjourned motion from earlier in the agenda, and that was a motion to take a previous motion off the table. That motion for debate is—and I’ll reiterate it, the LORD MAYOR reinstates Council funding for the Voluntary Flood Affected Homes Buyback scheme in the 23-24 Brisbane City Council budget. The debate will now resume from where it left off on 28 March, and to remind Councillors, the previous speakers were Councillor GRIFFITHS, Councillor JOHNSTON, and Councillor DAVIS.

I now call for other speakers.

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on this motion, that the LORD MAYOR reinstates Council funding for the Voluntary Flood Affected Homes Buyback scheme in the 23-24 Council budget. As we heard back in March this year, and as I’m sure Councillors in here are very aware, that the Moorooka Ward which Councillor GRIFFITHS represents was one of the hardest hit parts of the city as a result of river flooding in the 2022 February flood event. The genesis of this motion, though, of course, goes all the way back to 2011 when the scheme was put in place after that devastating event, and I think that’s been well and truly covered.

That was a scheme back then that was supported by all sides of politics because it was a good program at the time, and it’s a good program now, to purchase homes that cannot be made flood resilient, whether that’s through lifting them out of the way of floodwaters or rebuilding them after events in a more resilient way. We saw some of those homes, I think, that would have been rebuilt in a more resilient way at the time, thinking at the time that would have been inundated in February of last year. Obviously, that event in 2011 informed that policy, and the event in 2022 has informed the current policy around house buybacks and the flood assistance program through the State and Federal Government funding of $741 million for retrofitting and for house raising, which has seen some changes and some reform as that’s rolled out over the last 12 months or so since that package was announced. In 2016, I think, or maybe 2017, 2016-17—

*Councillor interjection.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, 2016 was the last year. I’ll take the interjection. 2017—so, 2016 the last year of the Council funding, 2017 that program changed. You know, it was interesting at that time, too, Council was dealing with, you know, a project that went on to blow out by hundreds of millions of dollars, the Kingsford Smith Drive project at the time, at the same time that Council was looking at, obviously, finding ways to save money, and that was a program that got wound back. What we heard at the time and what we’ve heard subsequently from the LNP is that, according to them, people didn’t want to participate in the program. However, we’ve seen examples of people who were desperate to participate in that program.

I have a resident—well, now former resident in Zillmere who was deemed not eligible under that program, but has since had their home bought back to be demolished, like their neighbour’s was following the 2011 flood event down there. So, you know, we certainly don’t accept that that program wasn’t needed to continue going forward. It’s not to say that people didn’t need assistance, in this sense, at the time, but what clearly happened was political decisions were made. People who were previously eligible found themselves not eligible. Those changes were made so that people couldn’t access that scheme.

There was no ongoing work in that space from 2016 through to February 2022, to make sure that people who, through various retrofittings or building programs at their own properties, couldn’t be taken out of harm’s way. Clearly, there was a need for that comprehensive buyback program to be to be kept in place up to that point, but, you know, whatever. That is the history. We’re at a point now where, last year, the State and Federal Government funded a program which Councillor DAVIS spoke about earlier, which she said was the model of a Council program, that they decided to defund. So Council, the LNP, decided to defund a program, but then said it was so good that other levels of government took it up with gusto.

We are seeing now, you know, hundreds of homes have been transacted through Council to be bought back and to be demolished and to be removed from habitable living places. So, it’s clearly the case that this would have been more responsive and we would have been better prepared and communities would have been better prepared if that program had actually continued to roll out. That’s what has been called for here. There’s obviously a set program with the arrangements for the Resilient Homes program, and I think at a minimum, at a minimum—this motion doesn’t set specific timeframes or specific amounts around it, but at a minimum, Council should commit to funding the administrative processes—this is at a bare minimum—the administrative processes for purchasing those homes.

What’s happening at the moment is those people will be approved for a home buyback. That data will be sent to Brisbane City Council and Brisbane City Council processes that, negotiates with people, executes the purchase of that, and all of the costs that are incurred along the way are being deducted out of that fund, which when you add up all those costs and you go through hundreds of homes that are being purchased and demolished, we will probably end up with a situation where a whole lot of money that could have otherwise gone to retrofitting, to house raising or to purchasing more properties will have been eaten up in administrative costs.

So we’re not—you know, this motion wasn’t about getting up here today and saying 10 million or 50 million or hundreds of millions have to be put into this program from a Council point of view, but to make sure that those people who went through hell aren’t short-changed through this program, Council should at least commit to covering the administrative costs of that program as a bare minimum. You know, everyone thought 2011 was the worst. In many ways, 2022 was certainly different and a lot worse for a bigger number of people in a geographic area in Brisbane. That program around retrofitting and purchasing homes wasn’t just contained to people who experienced river flooding, but for the very first time, for people who experienced overland flow flooding and creek flooding, as well, particularly, what used to be called flash flooding, I guess.

That kind of flood now is no longer academic. It’s not sort of sitting on those maps saying, this is the one in 100, in some cases the one in 500 or one in 1000-year flood, in some of the assets that we have here in Council. That is now what actually happened, is the reality of living in Brisbane. The concern is that, without Council committing to this in the long term and having residents’ backs in the long term, that we’re going to see people short-changed through this process. So, in calling on Council to properly fund their contribution to this scheme at a bare minimum, we should be seeing a proactive approach from Brisbane City Council that doesn’t short change residents.

Too many people had a bad experience from this Council through the 2022 floods. As we’ve litigated some of those, we’ve certainly done that over the last 12 months, but earlier tonight, people saw as a result of 20 years of political decisions Council’s own ability completely and utterly hollowed out, in responding to the disaster as it unfolded. There weren’t sandbags. There weren’t road closures. There weren’t warning messages about flash flooding, about creek flooding. There weren’t sufficient evacuation centres set up. Sure, you know, 14 or 15 months later, some of those recommendations have been acted on, too slowly in some cases.

What this motion is seeking is a commitment that Council supports those that were hardest hit during the 2022 flood disaster. Many of them in the 2011 flood disaster, as well, Council commits to supporting them in a long-term, ongoing way. So, it’s not an outrageous motion. It’s quite a sensible and measured one, in putting out there our Council, this Council’s commitment to supporting those people that did it most tough during that 2022 flood disaster. I’m sure the LNP, after hearing Councillor DAVIS’ ringing endorsement of that Council program earlier today in supporting this coming off the table, that they’re going to support this motion in calling on the LORD MAYOR.

That’s, after all, what we are all here to do, to represent our communities here in City Hall, be our community’s voice here in City Hall, and call on the LORD MAYOR in his budget to be delivered in June this year to allocate funding to support the ongoing home buyback program here in Brisbane.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on the motion. First and foremost, this motion is calling for Council funding in the 23-24 budget, the budget which remains in development. We only have six weeks to wait to see what is in this document, but this motion was lodged despite there being an already fully-funded $741 million program, which is working perfectly right now and it isn’t costing ratepayers a cent. This buyback program, which has been going now for over 12 months, has over 350 houses which have been approved by the State Government for buyback. It is doing exactly what our buyback program did, except this time it is being funded by the Federal and State Governments.

If Councillor GRIFFITHS’ residents aren’t aware that the scheme is currently available, he clearly hasn’t done a very good job of advertising this opportunity for them. There are already 78 properties which have been settled and now are in Council’s hands. Just last week, we received a further list of 144 properties from the State Government, which brings us now to a total of 350 properties. This program is working. It is working perfectly right now, and I’m not quite sure why Councillor GRIFFITHS assumes this program won’t continue next year. As I mentioned, there are over 350 houses which have now been approved for buyback, and there are only 78 in Council’s hands. I can assure you that we won’t be able to transact over 250 properties in the next eight weeks.

I do want to respond to Councillor CASSIDY’s claims about the offer to pay for the administration of delivering or of accepting these properties. I did want to let him know that Council will actually be paying for the demolition of these properties, and also the ongoing maintenance. Trust me, the State haven’t done it all for us. I would also like to refer to the de Jersey report, which says in the recommendations, 3.4 Voluntary Home Purchase Scheme (VHPS) that’s subject to the availability of State and Federal funding, the VHPS be reinstated. So it’s very clear, even from de Jersey, that we were not meant to be managing this program and it was meant to be State and Federally funded.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HUTTON: My message to Councillor GRIFFITHS is that he should get behind the current program, support your residents in making applications if they want their properties purchased, and when Council can administer a program without committing its ratepayers to solely funding it, it is a good thing. There is no need for us to duplicate the current program. For this reason, we will not be supporting this motion.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. Can I just double check, you have indicated, if I’m correct, saying I have already spoken in the debate and I can’t speak again? Is that right?

Chair: That’s correct, yes, following Meetings Local Law procedures, so yes, that’s it.

No further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS isn’t here to sum up—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: —so we move to the vote on this motion.

As there was no further debate, the Chair submitted the motion to the Chamber, and it was declared **lost** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Jared CASSIDY immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **lost.**

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Peter CUMMING, Charles STRUNK, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 15 - Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY and Andrew WINES.

Chair: Thank you. I now declare the meeting closed.

## QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

*(Questions of which due notice has been given are printed as supplied and are not edited)*

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (received on 4 May 2023)**

**Q1.** Please advise how many rates accounts, residential and commercial, were established across Brisbane in the following financial years:

1. 2021-22
2. 2022-23 to date

**Q2.** Please advise by suburb how many rates accounts, residential and commercial, were established across Brisbane in the following financial years:

1. 2021-22
2. 2022-23 to date

**Q3.** List the addresses of broken or damaged footpaths awaiting repair, grouped by suburb.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Address** | **Suburb** | **Details** | **Expected repair date** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Q4.** List the addresses of potholes or damaged roads awaiting repair, grouped by suburb.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Address** | **Suburb** | **Details** | **Expected repair date** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Q5.** List the parks with broken or damaged playground equipment awaiting repair, grouped by suburb.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Address** | **Suburb** | **Details** | **Expected repair date** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Q6.** List the locations of any drainage infrastructure awaiting maintenance or repair, grouped by suburb.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Address** | **Suburb** | **Details** | **Expected repair date** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Q7.** What is the average cost for Brisbane City Council staff to plant 1 new sapling‑sized tree, broken down and including all costs such as the plant/tree, labour, plant and equipment, initial maintenance etc.

**Q8.** What is the average cost for external contractors to plant 1 new sapling-sized tree, broken down and including all costs such as the plant/tree, labour, plant and equipment, initial maintenance etc.

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

*(Answers to questions of which due notice has been given are printed as supplied and are not edited)*

**Submitted by Councillor Nicole Johnston (from meeting on 2 May 2023)**

**Q1.** Please provide a list of footpaths approved for funding through the Suburban Enhancement Fund for the past three financial years in the table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Street name** | **Suburb** | **Ward** |
| **2022-23** |  |  |  |
| **2021-22** |  |  |  |
| **2020-21** |  |  |  |

***A1.*** *The information requested for 2021-22 financial year has previously been responded to.*

*2020-21:*

| ***Street Name*** | ***Suburb*** | ***Ward*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Albany Creek Rd* | *Bridgeman Downs* | *McDowall* |
| *Alexander St* | *Lota* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Amberjack St* | *Manly West* | *Doboy* |
| *Appleby Rd* | *Stafford Heights* | *Marchant* |
| *Ardoch St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Arenga St* | *Wakerley* | *Chandler* |
| *Argyle St* | *Albion* | *Hamilton* |
| *Ashworth St* | *Chermside* | *Marchant* |
| *Baltray St* | *Ferny Grove* | *The Gap* |
| *Bapaume Rd* | *Holland Park West* | *Holland Park* |
| *Bent St* | *Cannon Hill* | *Doboy* |
| *Bent St* | *Toowong* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Bonneville St* | *Holland Park West* | *Holland Park* |
| *Boulting St* | *Mcdowall* | *McDowall* |
| *Boundary Rd* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Boundary Rd* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Bowler St* | *Paddington* | *Paddington* |
| *Brassey St* | *Ascot* | *Hamilton* |
| *Caladium St* | *Wakerley* | *Chandler* |
| *Christian St* | *Clayfield* | *Hamilton* |
| *Corbett St* | *Enoggera* | *Enoggera* |
| *Corrigan St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Cremin St* | *Upper Mount Gravatt* | *MacGregor* |
| *Cunningham St* | *Taringa* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Curwen Tce* | *Chermside* | *Marchant* |
| *Dacre St* | *Toowong* | *Paddington* |
| *Dargie St* | *Everton Park* | *McDowall* |
| *Dargie St* | *Everton Park* | *Northgate* |
| *Delathin St* | *Algester* | *Calamvale* |
| *Demby Cr* | *Wakerley* | *Chandler* |
| *Dewar St* | *Sherwood* | *Tennyson* |
| *Dianthus St* | *Wakerley* | *Chandler* |
| *Dickson Tce* | *Hamilton* | *Hamilton* |
| *Dowrie St* | *Upper Mount Gravatt* | *MacGregor* |
| *Dugald St* | *Aspley* | *McDowall* |
| *Dundalli St* | *Chermside* | *Marchant* |
| *Elizabeth St* | *Sherwood* | *Tennyson* |
| *Esher St* | *Holland Park* | *Holland Park* |
| *Fairy St* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Falconglen Pl* | *Ferny Grove* | *The Gap* |
| *Federation Street* | *Wynnum* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Fifth Ave* | *Balmoral* | *Morningside* |
| *Flinders Pde* | *Brighton* | *Deagon* |
| *Flower St* | *Northgate* | *Northgate* |
| *Fourteenth Ave* | *Kedron* | *Northgate* |
| *Fourteenth Ave* | *Kedron* | *Northgate* |
| *Glenmorgan St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Glenrosa Rd* | *Red Hill* | *Paddington* |
| *Grandview Rd* | *Pullenvale* | *Pullenvale* |
| *Grandview Rd* | *Pullenvale* | *Pullenvale* |
| *Gray St* | *Carina* | *Doboy* |
| *Hanson Rd* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Harriet St* | *Red Hill* | *Paddington* |
| *Hassall St* | *Corinda* | *Tennyson* |
| *Hawken Dr* | *St Lucia* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Hector Road* | *Holland Park* | *Holland Park* |
| *Hemmant-Tingalpa Rd* | *Hemmant* | *Doboy* |
| *Hewitt St* | *Wilston* | *Enoggera* |
| *High St* | *Toowong* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Holloway Dr* | *Everton Park* | *McDowall* |
| *Ijong St* | *Kenmore* | *Pullenvale* |
| *Jarrah St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Kedron Brook Rd* | *Wilston* | *Enoggera* |
| *Kelston St* | *Manly West* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Kentwill Pl* | *Wishart* | *MacGregor* |
| *Keperra St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Kingsford Smith Drive* | *Eagle Farm* | *Hamilton* |
| *Leong St* | *Bridgeman Downs* | *McDowall* |
| *Leworthy St* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Ludwick St* | *Cannon Hill* | *Doboy* |
| *Luxworth St* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Mackay Tce* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Mackay Tce* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Major St* | *Manly West* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Mansfield Pl* | *Mansfield* | *Chandler* |
| *Markwell St* | *Auchenflower* | *Paddington* |
| *Martha St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Mathews St* | *Stafford* | *McDowall* |
| *Memorial Ave* | *Ashgrove* | *The Gap* |
| *Merthyr Rd* | *New Farm* | *Central* |
| *Merthyr Rd* | *New Farm* | *Central* |
| *Messines Ridge Rd* | *Tarragindi* | *Holland Park* |
| *Miles Platting Rd* | *Rochdale* | *MacGregor* |
| *Molonga Tce* | *Graceville* | *Tennyson* |
| *Monier Rd* | *Darra* | *Jamboree* |
| *Moy St* | *Kelvin Grove* | *Paddington* |
| *New Rd* | *Manly* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Newton St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Northam Ave* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Nudgee Rd* | *Nundah* | *Northgate* |
| *Olinda St* | *Carina* | *Doboy* |
| *Ormadale Rd* | *Yeronga* | *Tennyson* |
| *Osman St* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Oxford St* | *Hamilton* | *Hamilton* |
| *Pammay St* | *The Gap* | *The Gap* |
| *Parry St* | *Bulimba* | *Morningside* |
| *Patrick St* | *Norman Park* | *Morningside* |
| *Persimmon St* | *Ferny Grove* | *The Gap* |
| *Persse Rd* | *Runcorn* | *Runcorn* |
| *Petrie Terrace* | *Petrie Terrace* | *Paddington* |
| *Pie St* | *Aspley* | *McDowall* |
| *Pringle St* | *Ascot* | *Hamilton* |
| *Priory Rd* | *Indooroopilly* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Queens Rd* | *Nudgee* | *Northgate* |
| *Regan St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Rodway St* | *Zillmere* | *Deagon* |
| *Rothbury Pl* | *The Gap* | *The Gap* |
| *Rowell St* | *Zillmere* | *Deagon* |
| *Sandgate Rd* | *Albion* | *Hamilton* |
| *Satellite St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Satellite St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Seanna Cres* | *Bridgeman Downs* | *McDowall* |
| *Selkirk Cres* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Seville Rd* | *Holland Park* | *Holland Park* |
| *Shaw Rd* | *Kalinga* | *Northgate* |
| *Sheehy St* | *Stafford* | *McDowall* |
| *Shire Rd* | *Mount Gravatt* | *Holland Park* |
| *South Pine Rd* | *Mcdowall* | *McDowall* |
| *Staghorn St* | *Enoggera* | *Enoggera* |
| *Stanillon St* | *Aspley* | *Marchant* |
| *Station Rd* | *Indooroopilly* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Stellmach St* | *Everton Park* | *McDowall* |
| *Stimpson St* | *Fairfield* | *Tennyson* |
| *Stirling St* | *Enoggera* | *Enoggera* |
| *Stirrat St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Swan St* | *Gordon Park* | *Marchant* |
| *Telegraph Road* | *Bald Hills* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Tenth Ave* | *Kedron* | *Northgate* |
| *Tingal Rd* | *Wynnum* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Tingal Rd* | *Wynnum* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Tripcony Pl* | *Wakerley* | *Chandler* |
| *Valnay St* | *Aspley* | *Marchant* |
| *Vulture St* | *West End* | *The Gabba* |
| *Warburton St* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *White St* | *Wavell Heights* | *Northgate* |
| *Wilgarning St* | *Stafford Heights* | *Marchant* |
| *Wynnum Rd* | *Wynnum* | *Wynnum Manly* |
| *Yoorala St* | *The Gap* | *The Gap* |

*2022-23:*

| ***Street Name*** | ***Suburb*** | ***Ward*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Abney St* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Albert St* | *Camp Hill* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Albert St* | *Camp Hill* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Alderley Ave* | *Alderley* | *Enoggera* |
| *Alderwood St* | *Acacia Ridge* | *Moorooka* |
| *Annerley Rd* | *Dutton Park* | *The Gabba* |
| *Annie St* | *Auchenflower* | *Paddington* |
| *Armstrong Tce* | *Paddington* | *Paddington* |
| *Armstrong Tce* | *Paddington* | *Paddington* |
| *Banning St* | *Wishart* | *MacGregor* |
| *Barnes Ave* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Beckett Rd* | *Mcdowall* | *McDowall* |
| *Blakeney St* | *Highgate Hill* | *The Gabba* |
| *Blinzinger Rd* | *Banyo* | *Northgate* |
| *Blinzinger Rd* | *Banyo* | *Northgate* |
| *Bors St* | *Carindale* | *Chandler* |
| *Boundary St* | *West End* | *The Gabba* |
| *Boundary St* | *West End* | *The Gabba* |
| *Brassington St* | *Zillmere* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Bristol Rd* | *Kedron* | *Northgate* |
| *Brookside St* | *Doolandella* | *Forest Lake* |
| *Bryant St* | *Ashgrove* | *The Gap* |
| *Chaucer St* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Cherston St* | *Chermside West* | *Marchant* |
| *City View Rd* | *Camp Hill* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Cole St* | *Alderley* | *Enoggera* |
| *Crowley St* | *Zillmere* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *D'Arcy Rd* | *Seven Hills* | *Morningside* |
| *Dargie St* | *Everton Park* | *McDowall* |
| *David St* | *Tennyson* | *Tennyson* |
| *Depper St* | *St Lucia* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Devona St* | *Aspley* | *Marchant* |
| *Devonhill St* | *The Gap* | *The Gap* |
| *Duke St* | *Ascot* | *Hamilton* |
| *Dundalli St* | *Chermside West* | *Marchant* |
| *Eidsvold St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Eldorado St* | *Bracken Ridge* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Elizabeth St* | *Toowong* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Elliot Rd* | *Banyo* | *Northgate* |
| *Elston St* | *Red Hill* | *Paddington* |
| *Emma St* | *Bracken Ridge* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Fig Tree Pocket Rd* | *Fig Tree Pocket* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Fison Ave W* | *Eagle Farm* | *Hamilton* |
| *Fison Avenue, East* | *Eagle Farm* | *Hamilton* |
| *Fleetwood St* | *Macgregor* | *MacGregor* |
| *Forest Lake Blvd* | *Forest Lake* | *Forest Lake* |
| *Gailey Rd* | *St Lucia* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Gillies St* | *Zillmere* | *Deagon* |
| *Gladstone St* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Glen Kedron Ln* | *Kedron* | *Northgate* |
| *Gordon Rd* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Gray St* | *New Farm* | *Central* |
| *Haig St* | *Gordon Park* | *Marchant* |
| *Hants St* | *Hamilton* | *Hamilton* |
| *Hardgrave Rd* | *West End* | *The Gabba* |
| *Harold Street* | *Stafford* | *Marchant* |
| *Harty St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Havering St* | *Aspley* | *Marchant* |
| *Hawken Dr* | *St Lucia* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Hawthorne Rd* | *Hawthorne* | *Morningside* |
| *Hemmant Tingalpa Rd* | *Hemmant* | *Doboy* |
| *Hermitage St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Idonia St* | *Bridgeman Downs* | *McDowall* |
| *Ingleston Rd* | *Wakerley* | *Chandler* |
| *Jesmond Rd* | *Fig Tree Pocket* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Kadumba St* | *Yeronga* | *Tennyson* |
| *Karbala St* | *Stafford* | *Marchant* |
| *Kingsford Smith Drive* | *Eagle Farm* | *Hamilton* |
| *Kingsford Smith Drive* | *Hamilton* | *Hamilton* |
| *Kirra St* | *Pinkenba* | *Hamilton* |
| *Lavarack Ave* | *Eagle Farm* | *Hamilton* |
| *Levy Cct* | *Bridgeman Downs* | *McDowall* |
| *Lucas St* | *Lutwyche* | *Marchant* |
| *Lumley St* | *Upper Mount Gravatt* | *MacGregor* |
| *Lutana St* | *Stafford* | *Marchant* |
| *Macquarie Street* | *Teneriffe* | *Central* |
| *Maddocks St* | *Virginia* | *Northgate* |
| *Main Ave* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Main Ave* | *Wavell Heights* | *Northgate* |
| *Mayfield St* | *Moorooka* | *Moorooka* |
| *Mayled St* | *Chermside West* | *Marchant* |
| *Mccallum St* | *Carseldine* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Melba St* | *Holland Park* | *Holland Park* |
| *Meridian St* | *Coorparoo* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Mingera St* | *Mansfield* | *Chandler* |
| *Miskin St* | *Toowong* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Moggill Rd* | *Indooroopilly* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Monte Carlo St* | *Wishart* | *MacGregor* |
| *Muneera Cres* | *Aspley* | *McDowall* |
| *Musgrave Rd* | *Coopers Plains* | *Moorooka* |
| *Mylne St* | *Chermside* | *Marchant* |
| *Nellie St* | *Nundah* | *Northgate* |
| *Nudgee Rd* | *Nudgee* | *Northgate* |
| *Odin St* | *Sunnybank* | *Runcorn* |
| *Opal St* | *Holland Park* | *Holland Park* |
| *Park Rd* | *Nundah* | *Northgate* |
| *Park Tce* | *Kedron* | *Northgate* |
| *Pavo St* | *Camp Hill* | *Coorparoo* |
| *Payne Rd* | *Auchenflower* | *Paddington* |
| *Payne St* | *Indooroopilly* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Pearse St* | *Keperra* | *The Gap* |
| *Playfield St* | *Chermside* | *Marchant* |
| *Prince St* | *Paddington* | *Paddington* |
| *Queensthorpe St* | *Tarragindi* | *Holland Park* |
| *Rafting Ground Rd* | *Brookfield* | *Pullenvale* |
| *Railway Tce* | *Milton* | *Paddington* |
| *Red Hill Rd* | *Nudgee* | *Northgate* |
| *Reeed Hill Rd* | *Nudgee* | *Northgate* |
| *Rogers St* | *Spring Hill* | *Central* |
| *Rushworth St* | *Bald Hills* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Sandgate Rd* | *Boondall* | *Deagon* |
| *Sandringham St* | *Mansfield* | *Chandler* |
| *Sapphire St* | *Holland Park* | *Holland Park* |
| *Scott St* | *Corinda* | *Tennyson* |
| *Seventh Ave* | *Windsor* | *Enoggera* |
| *Sheaffe St* | *Bracken Ridge* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Sir Samuel Griffith Drive* | *Bardon* | *Paddington* |
| *Streisand Dr* | *Mcdowall* | *McDowall* |
| *Sunnydale St* | *Upper Mount Gravatt* | *MacGregor* |
| *Tallara St* | *Bracken Ridge* | *Bracken Ridge* |
| *Taurama St* | *Gaythorne* | *Enoggera* |
| *Toombul Rd* | *Northgate* | *Northgate* |
| *Upper Kedron Rd* | *Ferny Grove* | *The Gap* |
| *Vernon Terrace* | *Teneriffe* | *Central* |
| *Vernon Terrace* | *Teneriffe* | *Central* |
| *Vivaldi Pl* | *Mackenzie* | *Chandler* |
| *Vortigern St* | *Carindale* | *Chandler* |
| *Vulture St* | *West End* | *The Gabba* |
| *Waterworks Rd* | *Ashgrove* | *The Gap* |
| *Whitehead Rd* | *The Gap* | *The Gap* |
| *Windsor St* | *Hamilton* | *Hamilton* |
| *Witton Rd* | *Indooroopilly* | *Walter Taylor* |
| *Witty Rd* | *Moggill* | *Pullenvale* |
| *Woodland St* | *Algester* | *Calamvale* |
| *Various* | *Jamboree Heights* | *Jamboree* |

**Submitted by former Councillor Jonathan Sriranganathan (from meeting on 2 May 2023)**

**Q1.** Has Brisbane City Council ever produced any analysis for internal use on the effectiveness or impacts of the ‘free off-peak bus and ferry travel for seniors’ policy, especially its effects on ridership by seniors, and if so can you please provide a summary of the conclusions and the name of the document?

***A1.*** *No.*

**Q2.** Can you please provide figures to answer the following questions: for the months after the introduction of the free off-peak bus and ferry travel for seniors policy but before March 2020 (i.e. during pre-COVID conditions),

1. did ridership by seniors on buses and ferries increase compared to the monthly figures in previous years?
2. did ridership by seniors on public transport (all modes) in Brisbane increase compared to the monthly figures in previous years?
3. did ridership by seniors on buses and ferries during off-peak periods increase compared to the monthly figures in previous years?
4. did ridership by seniors on buses and ferries during peak periods decrease compared to the monthly figures in previous years?
5. how did ridership by seniors on trains (peak and off-peak) change compared to the monthly figures in previous years?

***A2.*** *a. Yes.*

*b. Council does not have access to the patronage data of other operators and modes of transport.*

*c. Yes.*

*d. No.*

*e. Council does not have access to the patronage data of other operators and modes of transport.*

**Q3.** For the months after March 2020 until the present (i.e. post COVID conditions),

1. did ridership by seniors on public transport (all modes) increase faster in Brisbane than in Sydney and Melbourne in the same monthly periods?

***A3.*** *Council does not have access to the patronage data of other operators and modes of transport.*

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (from meeting on 2 May 2023)**

**Q1.** Please advise what the difference in printing costs is for the use of matte finish paper as opposed to the current gloss paper version of the Living in Brisbane publication.

***A1.*** *$0.01 less per copy.*

**Q2.** Please provide a breakdown of how much funding is expended from each Councillor’s Ward budget for training purposes during the following financial years:

1. 2021-22
2. 2022-23 to date

***A2.*** *(a) 2021-22*

*Paddington Ward Office - $3,920*

*(b) 2022-23 to date*

*Jamboree Ward Office - $1,360.*

**Q3.** Please provide monthly usage numbers for each Brisbane City Council pool for the following financial years:

1. 2021-22
2. 2022-23 to date

***A3.*** *Data for the months July to February 2021/22 has previously been provided and the answers remain unchanged. Data for April and May 2022/23 is not yet available.*

| ***Council Pool Attendance*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Venue* | *Year* | *July* | *August* | *September* | *October* | *November* | *December* | *January* | *February* | *March* | *April* | *May* | *June* |
| *Acacia Ridge Leisure Centre* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4,933* | *4,581* | *4,034* | *3,883* |
| *FY 22-23* | *4,393* | *4,750* | *5,386* | *9,604* | *9,055* | *6,383* | *9,095* | *6,328* | *6,028* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Bellbowrie Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2,188* | *3,352* | *3,589* | *1,087* |
| *FY 22-23* | *1,046* | *1,019* | *4,036* | *17,405* | *21,516* | *17,004* | *16,206* | *14,258* | *13,053* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Carole Park Swim Centre* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4,521* | *856* | *0* | *0* |
| *FY 22-23* | *0* | *0* | *1,279* | *4,282* | *6,144* | *2,306* | *3,793* | *3,819* | *4,461* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Centenary Aquatic Centre & Healthclub* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *27,706* | *21,006* | *18,914* | *16,480* |
| *FY 22-23* | *17,298* | *17,844* | *18,337* | *28,824* | *27,405* | *17,680* | *24,082* | *29,781* | *24,107* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Chermside Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *19,989* | *16,752* | *12,523* | *10,586* |
| *FY 22-23* | *10,955* | *11,751* | *16,353* | *28,565* | *34,971* | *52,120* | *78,701* | *32,742* | *26,572* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Colmslie Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *26,358* | *18,852* | *20,207* | *16,409* |
| *FY 22-23* | *17,443* | *17,928* | *19,240* | *25,003* | *25,326* | *17,099* | *23,551* | *24,123* | *25,261* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Dunlop Park Memorial Swimming Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *18,098* | *13,111* | *10,833* | *9,420* |
| *FY 22-23* | *7,778* | *9,133* | *11,991* | *20,853* | *29,629* | *16,132* | *21,556* | *18,870* | *17,493* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Emily Seebohm Aquatic Centre* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8,860* | *6,883* | *6,916* | *6,396* |
| *FY 22-23* | *6,273* | *5,808* | *6,401* | *8,035* | *8,767* | *8,482* | *9,714* | *9,071* | *10,125* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Hibiscus Sports Complex* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *23,721* | *14,369* | *15,313* | *13,488* |
| *FY 22-23* | *15,078* | *14,359* | *14,798* | *17,923* | *24,400* | *18,099* | *20,192* | *21,549* | *21,200* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Ithaca Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5,958* | *2,686* | *1,227* | *586* |
| *FY 22-23* | *20* | *452* | *1,960* | *4,650* | *5,863* | *4,322* | *6,816* | *6,948* | *6,747* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Jindalee Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *0* | *0* | *3,563* | *3,336* |
| *FY 22-23* | *1,851* | *3,012* | *3,414* | *6,760* | *7,030* | *7,144* | *10,552* | *10,375* | *8,732* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Langlands Park Memorial Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *30,504* | *19,612* | *23,023* | *19,781* |
| *FY 22-23* | *12,572* | *19,088* | *17,447* | *29,760* | *36,898* | *24,610* | *28,741* | *32,558* | *31,275* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Manly Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *15,004* | *15,004* | *6,114* | *6,637* |
| *FY 22-23* | *6,032* | *7,608* | *11,849* | *18,348* | *18,539* | *17,123* | *21,896* | *19,064* | *18,212* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Mt Gravatt East Swimming Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *16,421* | *14,980* | *14,219* | *13,650* |
| *FY 22-23* | *13,844* | *14,257* | *13,804* | *15,639* | *15,943* | *11,208* | *15,862* | *16,406* | *16,029* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Musgrave Park Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *12,759* | *9,921* | *6,904* | *5,611* |
| *FY 22-23* | *5,454* | *6,476* | *8,220* | *13,920* | *19,227* | *12,587* | *13,301* | *22,625* | *22,014* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Newmarket Olympic Swimming Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *19,082* | *8,647* | *8,128* | *6,953* |
| *FY 22-23* | *0* | *0* | *0* | *11,779* | *12,737* | *15,388* | *35,446* | *37,853* | *25,433* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Parkinson Aquatic Centre* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *27,244* | *20,155* | *19,562* | *20,776* |
| *FY 22-23* | *19,221* | *19,106* | *22,608* | *28,275* | *25,718* | *21,091* | *28,466* | *28,307* | *28,439* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Runcorn Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *21,489* | *16,256* | *16,405* | *13,747* |
| *FY 22-23* | *13,915* | *16,695* | *19,856* | *24,112* | *25,222* | *17,205* | *23,852* | *20,009* | *22,462* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Sandgate Aquatic Centre* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *32,643* | *24,641* | *22,577* | *18,842* |
| *FY 22-23* | *18,789* | *21,046* | *25,457* | *35,734* | *47,883* | *31,433* | *52,231* | *41,904* | *39,764* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Spring Hill Baths* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1,788* | *1,544* | *1,407* | *1,020* |
| *FY 22-23* | *0* | *720* | *1,287* | *2,032* | *2,113* | *1,925* | *2,382* | *2,317* | *2,103* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Valley Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *14,514* | *15,229* | *10,309* | *7,630* |
| *FY 22-23* | *7,305* | *9,107* | *9,879* | *17,241* | *20,690* | *7,512* | *13,008* | *13,305* | *17,889* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| *Yeronga Park Memorial Swimming Pool* | *FY 21-22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *29,541* | *21,224* | *18,987* | *16,917* |
| *FY 22-23* | *15,563* | *18,435* | *21,806* | *31,125* | *35,188* | *24,396* | *31,592* | *36,001* | *35,221* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |

**Q4.** Please provide results of the Brisbane City Council’s latest Employee Satisfaction Survey.

***A4.*** *This question has previously been responded to, and the answer remains unchanged.*

**Q5.** Please advise why Council charges $163.25 for a replacement Certificate of Occupancy when only one word is changed, being Classification to Occupancy?

***A5.*** *The premise of the question is wrong and is unable to be answered.*

**Q6.** Please provide a breakdown of all advertising to promote the Brisbane Metro project in the 2022-2023 financial year to date, including print and media advertising, promotional material, correspondence etc.

***A6.*** *This question has previously been responded to, and the answer remains unchanged.*

**Q7.** Please provide a breakdown of all advertising to promote BrisBetter in the 2022‑2023 financial year to date.

***A7.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2022-2023 spend (to date)*** |
| *Print* | *$ 2,095.20 ex GST* |
| *TV + Broadcast Video on Demand* | *$ 373,933.52 ex GST* |
| *Creative* | *$ 285,098 ex GST* |
| *Social media* | *$ 43,741.89 ex GST* |
| *Publicity* | *$ 3,674.03 ex GST* |
| *Radio* | *$ 80,994.46 ex GST* |
| *Outdoor* | *$ 86,770.73 ex GST* |
| *Digital* | *$ 60,742.13 ex GST* |

**Q8.** Please provide a breakdown of all television advertising (including on-demand services) to promote any Brisbane City Council initiative in the 2022-2023 financial year to date.

***A8.***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2022-2023 spend (to date)*** | ***Initiative*** |
| *TV + BVOD* | *$ 373,933.52 ex GST* | *Brisbetter* |
| *TV* | *$ 12,305 ex GST* | *Victoria Park* |

**Q9.** Please provide the cost of printing and distributing the Living In Brisbane flyers in the 2022-2023 financial year to date.

***A9.*** *$1,432,804.35.*

**Q10.** Please provide a detailed breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising in the 2022-2023 financial year to date, broken down by the various categories of advertising (eg television, billboards, radio, social/digital, influencers, print etc).

***A10.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2022-2023 spend (to date)*** |
| *TV* | *$ 386,238.52 ex GST* |
| *Radio* | *$ 531,587 ex GST* |
| *Print* | *$ 425,513.91 ex GST* |
| *Outdoor* | *$ 109,916.5 ex GST* |
| *Digital* | *$ 807,482.39 ex GST* |
| *Social Media* | *$ 196,064.72 ex GST* |

**Q11.** Please provide the total number of visitors to the Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre broken down by month for January 2023 to March 2023.

***A11.*** *January: 346*

*February: 566*

*March: 589*

*Note: the Brisbane Metro Information Centre was closed from 1 – 15 January.*

**Q12.** Please provide a breakdown of all costs associated to date with Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre.

***A12.*** *This question has previously been responded to, and the answer remains unchanged.*

**Q13.** Please provide a breakdown of the monthly running costs of the Brisbane Metro Visitor Centre, including but not limited to cleaning, staffing, rent, etc.

***A13.*** *The costs for cleaning and utilities are not separated between the Brisbane Metro Information Centre and the remaining leased area. Staff costs is for only one full-time Brisbane Move team member to staff the Information Centre as required and is covered within the approved project budget.*

**Q14.** What is the lease expiry date for the Brisbane Metro Visitor Centre site?

***A14.*** *The answer has been provided to Councillors separately due to its Commercial‑in-Confidence nature.*

**Q15.** Please provide the following information in relation to bus driver assault and abuse reports:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ABUSE/ ASSAULT** | **Jan-23** | **Feb-23** | **Mar-23** |
| Verbal abuse - Moderate  (derogatory, remarks, swearing, obscene gestures) |  |  |  |
| Verbal abuse - Extreme  (shouting, screaming at driver, pinching bus) |  |  |  |
| Spit |  |  |  |
| Physical contact  (striking and pushing) |  |  |  |
| Physical contact  (low grade - touching) |  |  |  |
| Object thrown |  |  |  |
| Theft |  |  |  |

***A15.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***ABUSE/ ASSAULT*** | ***Jan-23*** | ***Feb-23*** | ***Mar-23*** |
| *Verbal abuse - Moderate (derogatory, remarks, swearing, obscene gestures)* | *68* | *74* | *41* |
| *Verbal abuse - Extreme  (shouting, screaming at driver, pinching bus)* | *8* | *10* | *6* |
| *Spit* | *4* | *1* | *6* |
| *Physical contact (striking and pushing)* | *1* | *4* | *2* |
| *Physical contact (low grade - touching)* | *0* | *1* | *0* |
| *Object thrown* | *1* | *1* | *1* |
| *Theft* | *0* | *0* | *1* |

**Q16.** Please provide the 10 routes in the Brisbane City Council bus network which have the most reported assault and abuse cases for 2022.

***A16.*** *Routes 100, 110, 130, 150, 196, 199, 330, 340, 345, 375.*

**Q17.** Please provide the 10 routes in the Brisbane City Council bus network which have the most reported assault and abuse cases for 2023 to date.

***A17.*** *Routes 100, 120, 130, 140, 180, 196, 199, 222, 330, 345.*

**Q18.** How many reports about broken or damaged footpaths has Council received for the 2022-2023 financial year to date (broken down by suburb)?

***A18.*** *The below figures reflect contacts with Council’s Contact Centre about broken footpaths. These figures include multiple contacts for the same job, and can also include requests for information, complaints, suggestions, or a status update on an existing job.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Acacia Ridge* | *28* |  | *Doolandella* | *5* |  | *Kuraby* | *23* |  | *Runcorn* | *42* |
| *Albion* | *17* |  | *Drewvale* | *11* |  | *Larapinta* | *3* |  | *Salisbury* | *21* |
| *Alderley* | *28* |  | *Durack* | *6* |  | *Lota* | *9* |  | *Sandgate* | *31* |
| *Algester* | *34* |  | *Dutton Park* | *7* |  | *Lutwyche* | *19* |  | *Seven Hills* | *7* |
| *Annerley* | *47* |  | *Eagle Farm* | *8* |  | *Lytton* | *2* |  | *Seventeen Mile Rocks* | *7* |
| *Archerfield* | *12* |  | *East Brisbane* | *45* |  | *Macgregor* | *9* |  | *Sherwood* | *35* |
| *Ascot* | *39* |  | *Eight Mile Plains* | *15* |  | *Mackenzie* | *2* |  | *Shorncliffe* | *10* |
| *Ashgrove* | *43* |  | *Ellen Grove* | *3* |  | *Manly* | *19* |  | *Sinnamon Park* | *16* |
| *Aspley* | *68* |  | *Enoggera* | *20* |  | *Manly West* | *15* |  | *South Brisbane* | *67* |
| *Auchenflower* | *22* |  | *Everton Park* | *45* |  | *Mansfield* | *48* |  | *Spring Hill* | *52* |
| *Bald Hills* | *42* |  | *Fairfield* | *21* |  | *McDowall* | *44* |  | *St Lucia* | *30* |
| *Balmoral* | *18* |  | *Ferny Grove* | *17* |  | *Middle Park* | *11* |  | *Stafford* | *47* |
| *Banyo* | *25* |  | *Fig Tree Pocket* | *14* |  | *Milton* | *34* |  | *Stafford Heights* | *26* |
| *Bardon* | *22* |  | *Fitzgibbon* | *9* |  | *Mitchelton* | *26* |  | *Stretton* | *10* |
| *Bellbowrie* | *16* |  | *Forest Lake* | *69* |  | *Moggill* | *6* |  | *Sumner* | *4* |
| *Belmont* | *15* |  | *Fortitude Valley* | *79* |  | *Moorooka* | *40* |  | *Sunnybank* | *38* |
| *Boondall* | *50* |  | *Gaythorne* | *11* |  | *Morningside* | *34* |  | *Sunnybank Hills* | *44* |
| *Bowen Hills* | *26* |  | *Geebung* | *19* |  | *Mount Gravatt* | *15* |  | *Taigum* | *16* |
| *Bracken Ridge* | *74* |  | *Gordon Park* | *18* |  | *Mount Gravatt East* | *34* |  | *Taringa* | *26* |
| *Bridgeman Downs* | *17* |  | *Graceville* | *36* |  | *Mount Ommaney* | *8* |  | *Tarragindi* | *32* |
| *Brighton* | *37* |  | *Grange* | *18* |  | *Murarrie* | *16* |  | *Teneriffe* | *30* |
| *Brisbane Airport* | *1* |  | *Greenslopes* | *45* |  | *Nathan* | *2* |  | *Tennyson* | *6* |
| *Brisbane City* | *211* |  | *Gumdale* | *1* |  | *New Farm* | *93* |  | *The Gap* | *39* |
| *Brookfield* | *9* |  | *Hamilton* | *46* |  | *Newmarket* | *20* |  | *Tingalpa* | *28* |
| *Bulimba* | *45* |  | *Hawthorne* | *16* |  | *Newstead* | *36* |  | *Toowong* | *52* |
| *Burbank* | *1* |  | *Heathwood* | *49* |  | *Norman Park* | *25* |  | *Upper Kedron* | *5* |
| *Calamvale* | *45* |  | *Hemmant* | *8* |  | *Northgate* | *22* |  | *Upper Mount Gravatt* | *37* |
| *Camp Hill* | *40* |  | *Hendra* | *20* |  | *Nudgee* | *9* |  | *Virginia* | *11* |
| *Cannon Hill* | *28* |  | *Herston* | *10* |  | *Nundah* | *46* |  | *Wacol* | *6* |
| *Carina* | *30* |  | *Highgate Hill* | *18* |  | *Oxley* | *44* |  | *Wakerley* | *18* |
| *Carina Heights* | *29* |  | *Holland Park* | *33* |  | *Paddington* | *55* |  | *Wavell Heights* | *40* |
| *Carindale* | *37* |  | *Holland Park West* | *40* |  | *Pallara* | *15* |  | *West End* | *41* |
| *Carseldine* | *28* |  | *Inala* | *33* |  | *Parkinson* | *24* |  | *Westlake* | *9* |
| *Chandler* | *3* |  | *Indooroopilly* | *44* |  | *Petrie Terrace* | *15* |  | *Willawong* | *1* |
| *Chapel Hill* | *21* |  | *Jamboree Heights* | *15* |  | *Pinjarra Hills* | *3* |  | *Wilston* | *13* |
| *Chelmer* | *23* |  | *Jindalee* | *16* |  | *Pinkenba* | *9* |  | *Windsor* | *32* |
| *Chermside* | *46* |  | *Kalinga* | *9* |  | *Pullenvale* | *2* |  | *Wishart* | *37* |
| *Chermside West* | *28* |  | *Kangaroo Point* | *47* |  | *Ransome* | *1* |  | *Woolloongabba* | *42* |
| *Clayfield* | *47* |  | *Karana Downs* | *4* |  | *Red Hill* | *25* |  | *Wooloowin* | *13* |
| *Coopers Plains* | *30* |  | *Kedron* | *47* |  | *Richlands* | *8* |  | *Wynnum* | *65* |
| *Coorparoo* | *95* |  | *Kelvin Grove* | *20* |  | *Riverhills* | *32* |  | *Wynnum West* | *32* |
| *Corinda* | *29* |  | *Kenmore* | *32* |  | *Robertson* | *12* |  | *Yeerongpilly* | *10* |
| *Darra* | *44* |  | *Kenmore Hills* | *5* |  | *Rochedale* | *10* |  | *Yeronga* | *27* |
| *Deagon* | *12* |  | *Keperra* | *19* |  | *Rocklea* | *36* |  | *Zillmere* | *38* |

**Q19.** Please provide the following information, broken down by suburb:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | |  | Current at 26/04/2023 | | | Financial year to date at 26/04/2023 | | | |
| Suburb | Total no. of streets | | Total no. of streets with only partial footpath | Total no. of streets with concrete footpath | Total no. of streets with no concrete footpath | Total no. of broken footpaths | Total no. of temporary footpath repairs | Total no. of reconstructed footpaths | Total no. of new footpaths |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

***A19.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to answer this question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

**Q20.** Please provide the amount Brisbane City Council has spent on Market Research in the 2022-2023 financial year to date.

***A20.*** *$435,234.*

**Q21.** Please provide a list of market research contractors engaged in the 2022-2023 financial year to date.

***A21.*** *Nature Pty Ltd*

*Kantar Public Australia Pty Ltd*

*Q&A Market Research Services*

*The Lab Insight and Strategy Brisbane Pty Ltd.*

**Q22.** Please provide a list of market research projects requested in the 2022-2023 financial year to date, including subject matter if not clearly indicated by title.

***A22. -*** *Satisfaction with delivery of Council services*

*- Resident perceptions of the quality of life in Brisbane and other cities across Australia*

*- Monitor Council's brand and evaluate the Living in Brisbane newsletter*

*- Evacuation testing of the Metro Vehicle*

*- Understanding of target audiences for Brisbane Metro along with review of past research and communication material to inform future messaging*

*- User testing of one of the digital tools used as part of community engagement for Metro*

*- Campaign evaluation of Be Prepared campaign and development of future campaigns*

*- Understand visitors to Botanica and the economic impact of the event*

*- Customer satisfaction with ferries*

*- Customer satisfaction with libraries.*

**Q23.** Please provide the total mosquito spraying budget allocated for the 2022-2023 financial year, and the amount that has been spent from that budget.

***A23.*** *The mosquito spraying budget is publicly available in the 2022/23 Council Budget. As previously explained, Council sprays for mosquitos every time Council’s entomologist says Council should spray, and the budget will always be adjusted to cater for this. The year to date spend is $3,454,000.*

**Q24.** Please provide the number of FTE currently employed in mosquito control services for Brisbane City Council, and their job titles.

***A24.*** *A response regarding FTEs has previously been responded to and the answer remains unchanged. Job titles are as follows: Field Technical Officer Mosquitoes, Medical Entomologist, Senior Medical Entomologist, Senior Technical Officer Mosquitoes, Pest Management Technician, Rodent Control Officer.*

**Q25.** Please list all locations of ‘illegal’, un-approved gardens installed by third parties other than Council on Council property since January 2020.

***A25.*** *There aren’t any illegal or un-approved community gardens on Council land.*

**Q26.** Please provide a breakdown of annual costs for the kerbside waste collection services in 2022/2023.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bin** | **Collection Cost** | **Processing Cost** | **Additional Costs** | **Total Cost** |
| Yellow Top Recycling |  |  |  |  |
| Red Top General Waste |  |  |  |  |
| Green Top Green Waste |  |  |  |  |

***A26.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to answer this question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

**Q27.** Please provide the following information in relation to CityCat, KittyCat and ferry staff and abuse reports:

| **ABUSE/ ASSAULT** | **Oct-22** | **Nov-22** | **Dec-22** | **Jan-23** | **Feb-23** | **Mar-23** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Verbal abuse - Moderate  (derogatory, remarks, swearing, obscene gestures) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Verbal abuse - Extreme  (shouting, screaming at driver, pinching bus) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Spit |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Physical contact  (striking and pushing) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Physical contact  (low grade - touching) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Object thrown |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Theft |  |  |  |  |  |  |

***A27.*** *The below data contains all reported incidents on CityCats and ferries, and can include incidents involving passengers also.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***ABUSE/ ASSAULT*** | ***Oct-22*** | ***Nov-22*** | ***Dec-22*** | ***Jan-23*** | ***Feb-23*** | ***Mar-23*** |
| *Verbal abuse - Moderate (derogatory, remarks, swearing, obscene gestures)* | *3* | *2* | *1* | *2* | *1* | *12* |
| *Verbal abuse - Extreme  (shouting, screaming at driver, pinching bus)* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Spit* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Physical contact (striking and pushing)* |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |
| *Physical contact (low grade - touching)* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |
| *Object thrown* | *2* |  | *1* |  | *1* |  |
| *Theft* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 5.06pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Victor Tan (Council and Committee Coordinator)

Dorian Maruda (A/Senior Council and Committee Officer)

Ashley Bailey (A/Council and Committee Officer)