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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4810 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 23 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)  Adam ALLAN (Northgate)  Lisa ATWOOD (Doboy)  Fiona CUNNINGHAM (Coorparoo)  Tracy DAVIS (McDowall)  Fiona HAMMOND (Marchant)  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)  Steven TOOMEY (The Gap) (Deputy Chair of Council)  Andrew WINES (Enoggera) | Jared CASSIDY (Deagon) (The Leader of the Opposition)  Lucy COLLIER (Morningside) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)  Steve GRIFFITHS (Moorooka)  Charles STRUNK (Forest Lake)  Sara WHITMEE (Wynnum Manly) |
| **Queensland Greens Councillor (and Ward)**  Trina MASSEY (The Gabba) |
| **Independent Councillor (and Ward)**  Nicole JOHNSTON (Tennyson) |

## OPENING OF MEETING:

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

Deputy Chair: I declare the meeting open.

Are there any apologies?

Councillor LANDERS.

## APOLOGY:

**598/2022-23**

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

Deputy Chair: Confirmations of minutes please.

## MINUTES:

**599/2022-23**

The Minutes of the 4709 meeting of Council held on 16 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.

## QUESTION TIME:

Deputy Chair: Councillors, Question Time.

Are there any questions of the LORD MAYOR or Civic Cabinet Chair or any Standing Committee?

Councillor HUTTON.

**Question 1**

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, the Schrinner Council’s Speed Awareness Monitors (SAM) have recently notched up some important milestones. Can you please update the Chamber on these milestones, including how the SAM signs are keeping Brisbane’s streets safe?

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Councillor HUTTON, for the question. I know road safety is important to you, Councillor HUTTON, as it is to everyone in this Chamber. Certainly, there has been an important milestone that has been notched up this year and that is 10 years of the SAM sign program, so a decade of SAM signs and the one billionth motorist has passed those SAM signs. What started 10 years ago as a pilot program—some Councillors will recall I was the Infrastructure Chair at the time and responsible for rolling these out—started as a pilot with 26. Why 26?

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: One per ward, so there were one per ward rolled out and it quickly became apparent that they were so effective and so popular that we progressively expanded the program over many years. We now have a situation where there are 190 SAM signs and they are rotated between 894 locations, so we’re now approaching 900 locations across the city that these signs are rotated amongst. In addition, there’s also 83 permanent SAM signs at school zone sites as well, also something that we have installed and grown as a program.

These SAM signs are not only about educating people, it is educating with a smile. It’s not about fining people. We know that the State Government’s approach when it comes to speeding is ever increasing fines, but our approach is education and we do this with a smile. This smile is something that has won the hearts of Brisbane residents and not only the motorists, but also kids in the back seat and I know most parents across Brisbane will hear those little voices coming from the back seat saying, mummy or daddy, you didn’t get a smile, slow down.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Look, I’ve never heard that, I’ve never heard that, but I know that some parents do. It is one of those things that’s interactive. When the kids get involved and peer pressure their parents, that is a good thing, so we’ve heard great results across the city with these SAM signs. In fact the average reduction in speed as a result of these signs going in is 7.5 kilometres, so that is without fining anyone, that is purely an education program with a smile. So to have an average of 7.5 kilometres is a fantastic outcome, but there are some locations where the reduction in speed has been even greater than 7.5. In fact Lister Street, Sunnybank, whose ward is that?

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Councillor MARX, so Lister Street, Sunnybank, there are some speed demons in your ward. But the good news is average speed reduction in Lister Street, Sunnybank, 18.4 kilometres per hour. So once again a positive outcome in an area that was experiencing some problems with speed. Pie Street in Aspley, Councillor DAVIS, average speed reduction of 16 kilometres an hour. Mcalroy Road, Ferny Grove, average speed reduction also of 16 kilometres an hour. Brighton Road, Highgate Hill, average speed reduction of 15 kilometres an hour. Flower Street, Northgate, average speed reduction of 14 kilometres an hour. So this is a program that, as I said, has now been running for 10 years, it’s been a fantastic initiative.

It is now well and truly not only accepted by the Brisbane community, but so many other councils have followed our lead across Australia and are now rolling out similar programs. They’ve seen what’s been achieved here and if you go—if you traverse different council areas across Australia, you will see similar programs right across the country. We’ve been proud to be a leader in this respect and this program is something that we will continue providing funding for. We know that Councillors do have access to funding which they can use to help roll out additional SAM signs. Once again, we’ve got a network of 894 locations already but there’s an opportunity for more based on feedback from local Councillors and the community. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 2**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, the Federal Government’s $10 billion Housing Australia Future Fund is backed by social and affordable housing providers, peak bodies, the crossbench and senators, but it’s being opposed by Peter Dutton’s Liberals, the Nationals, Max Chandler-Mather, Stephen Bates and the Greens and Pauline Hanson’s One Nation. Do you support the Federal Government’s $10 billion Housing Australia Future Fund?

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, Councillor CASSIDY, if you want to go into Federal politics off you go, because I’m focused on Brisbane and I’m focused on Federal politics to the extent that it impacts on Brisbane. But I have not seen any evidence—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

Just one moment, LORD MAYOR.

No interjections while the LORD MAYOR’s—please, giving his response. You’ve asked the LORD MAYOR the question and he deserves the right to be heard in silence.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, I have not seen any evidence of any particular benefits that the Federal Government is offering for Brisbane through this program. If Councillor CASSIDY has any such information, I would be happy to receive that. But certainly, I’ve not been made aware of any benefits for Brisbane. But what we have done is we’ve released our own housing strategy and homelessness strategy, the sustainable growth strategy, which maps out a pathway to provide a significant increase in housing in the right areas of Brisbane, while also protecting the suburbs from inappropriate development.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Just one moment please, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor CASSIDY, you’ve asked the LORD MAYOR a question, he is giving you an answer. Can you please extend the courtesy to hear the answer in silence?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well I’ll take that interjection because it’s quite obvious that I’m a much bigger supporter of public housing than the Labor Party in George Street are, because they have failed year after year after year, to provide adequate public housing to meet the needs of the population. In fact we know there is a waiting list of more than 50,000 people. This is a fundamental failure of the Australian Labor Party and it’s a failure of the Labor Party to look after their core constituents. Remember when the Labor Party was supposed to look after the vulnerable? They do not care, they do not care about the vulnerable people who need public housing and they have failed dismally to provide public housing to meet the needs of our community. So I won’t be lectured by the Labor Party on public housing when they have failed dismally in the area.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Just one moment, LORD MAYOR.

Councillors to my left, please, it’s very hard to hear the LORD MAYOR’s response. This is—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: It’s to everyone, Councillor CASSIDY.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: I said—well they—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: You were making—I’ve warned everybody. This is the last, this is the—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I am quite happy to go to the formal warnings. Don’t push my buttons please.

LORD MAYOR, answer the question please.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Now we know, Mr Chair, that Councillor CASSIDY is a frustrated Federal politician in waiting. He hasn’t seen his opportunity yet and I’m not sure if it will ever come, but the reality is when it comes to our approach to the Federal Government it’s always about what’s best for Brisbane and it’s the same with the State Government as well, what’s best for Brisbane. We will always fight when a Federal policy either benefits or negatively impacts on Brisbane, but I do see though week after week, Labor Councillors opposing the supply of new housing in Brisbane. Week after week they are opposing the supply of new housing in Brisbane.

They are very clearly anti-housing and anti-development. They have made it clear in all of the votes that we’ve had when it comes to providing new housing. I think something like 80% or 90% of all votes that relate to housing supply and development they have voted against, they have voted against, and suddenly they claim to be interested. Well they’ve had the opportunity up in George Street to be interested in housing and they have failed dismally.

Deputy Chair: Any further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Your point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

**600/2022-23**

At that juncture, Councillor Jared CASSIDY moved, seconded by Councillor Lucy COLLIER, that the Standing Rules be suspended.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your three minutes on urgency please.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. This is clearly very urgent now, because the LORD MAYOR has just got up in the Chamber today as our city’s leader and said he doesn’t support—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Can I just ask a question of you as Chair? I believe urgency no longer exists as it was extinguished in the rewriting of the Meetings Local Law. This is about why it couldn’t be on the motions by one o’clock yesterday, is that correct?

Deputy Chair: That is correct, my apologies.

Yes, two—three minutes why it couldn’t be submitted before the official time on Monday, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. We’ve just heard from the LORD MAYOR a couple of minutes ago his answer to one of the most critical issues facing Brisbane at the moment. His answer to that, his answer to investing in more social and affordable housing was that it’s not an issue that is affecting Brisbane apparently. That was his position just then. Maybe it wasn’t—maybe he was a bit confused and a bit flustered. But I think it is very important that we debate this now. There’s an opportunity for LNP Councillors and for this LORD MAYOR to right that wrong. Brisbane is facing a housing crisis, we know this $10 billion fund is going to deliver 30,000 new—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Sorry, Councillor CASSIDY.

To your point—

DEPUTY MAYOR: To the relevancy of why this couldn’t be on the papers by one o’clock yesterday, not the motion debate.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please continue and can I remind you, as to why this couldn’t be submitted by one o’clock yesterday, please.

Councillor CASSIDY: Because the LORD MAYOR didn’t answer a question at one o’clock yesterday, he answered a question just a couple of minutes ago. He made clear his LNP Council’s position. We know—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Councillor CASSIDY: We know his history of calling public housing slums, we know that.

Deputy Chair: Sorry, Councillor CASSIDY.

Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: There still is no ability to continue on with the debate of the motion. I ask you to keep him relative and to why not one o’clock, not why he thinks we should have the motion.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Councillor CASSIDY: Chair, just on that, it’s the Council Chamber’s determination whether I have established or not. It’s not up to the DEPUTY MAYOR to get up every five seconds on points of order and make an argument just to break up this debate. Continuing to do that is an act of disorder. But why this needs to be debated today is because we’ve just asked the LORD MAYOR as our city’s leader, as the leader of the city that is hardest hit, hardest hit by this housing crisis—

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Sorry, Councillor CASSIDY.

Point of order.

Councillor HOWARD: Mr Chair, it is about why it couldn’t have been on the notice papers—

Deputy Chair: I realise that, thank you, Councillor HOWARD. To the—

Councillor CASSIDY: You get to make that decision very shortly, Councillor HOWARD.

It is time for this LORD MAYOR, who claims to be progressive—we know on his track record he isn’t, but he likes to talk about being progressive. It’s time for him to send a strong message to his colleagues in Canberra—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Will Councillor CASSIDY take a question?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: We are debating whether this is a suspension of standing orders.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’m trying to find out why it couldn’t be on by one o’clock yesterday and I wish he could tell us.

Councillor CASSIDY: This is really disorderly conduct now, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Yes.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, yes, it is. So as the DEPUTY MAYOR said, as the DEPUTY MAYOR said a couple of weeks ago, this is an important opportunity for this Council to send a strong message to Canberra, to Peter Dutton to say get out of the way and support housing in Brisbane.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your three minutes has expired.

We will now decide whether—this motion is to suspend standing orders.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 5 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

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

ABSTENTIONS: 1 - Councillor Trina MASSEY.

Deputy Chair: Are there any further questions?

Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Just on a procedural matter, the DEPUTY MAYOR during the division, when Councillor ADAMS, the DEPUTY MAYOR, was walking across said, that takes time out of Question Time. Two weeks ago, when the DEPUTY MAYOR moved a suspension of standing orders and we debated a motion, that didn’t impact on Question Time. So I’m just wondering whether the full Question Time will run now, or if there are two rules.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, that is not a valid point of order.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS, I’ve given you the call.

Councillor LANDERS: My question is to the Chair of the Community, Arts—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Councillor LANDERS: —and Nighttime Economy Committee—

Deputy Chair: Just one moment, Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m sorry, are you the Deputy Chair or the—you’re still the Deputy Chair?

Deputy Chair: I’m still the Deputy Chair.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, Mr Deputy Chair, asking a procedural matter about the rules is a valid point of order and it is not unreasonable for you to make a ruling about that point of order. But just to say, it’s not a point of order when it’s clarifying the Meetings Local Law, which you are the only person who can do that, that’s problematic. So it’s a reasonable question. It seems like there’s one standard for the LNP and one for the other side.

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: So could you clarify whether or not urgency motions—

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I am speaking.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —are deducted.

Deputy Chair: I am speaking, Councillor JOHNSTON and as you know, when I am speaking you do not. That’s very, very clear in the rules.

Thank you. I have made my ruling.

Councillor LANDERS, you have the call.

Councillor LANDERS: My question is to the Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Just one moment please, Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor JOHNSTON.

**Procedural motion – Motion of dissent**

**601/2022-23**

Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS, that the Chair’s ruling be dissented from.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion of dissent was declared **lost** on the voices.

Councillor MASSEY: Division*.*

Deputy Chair: No seconder, thank you.

*The division lapsed for want of a seconder.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS, you’ve got the call.

**Question 3**

Councillor LANDERS: My question is to the Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD, in recent days the Schrinner Council has delivered a number of practical initiatives to support Brisbane’s homeless. Can you please update the Chamber on some of these outcomes?

Deputy Chair: Councillor HOWARD, thank you.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair and through you I thank Councillor LANDERS for the question and for giving me the opportunity to update the Chamber on some recent initiatives announced or implemented by the Schrinner Council, designed to assist those across Brisbane at risk or experiencing homelessness. Firstly, however, I would like to take the time to acknowledge the amazing and tireless work that our PSLOs (Public Space Liaison Officers) and the wider inclusive Brisbane team have been doing in this space over the past few weeks and months. As Australia’s fastest growing city, Brisbane is not immune from the housing shortage being experienced nationwide right now. Despite these challenges, Council staff have worked compassionately, diligently and collaboratively with other levels of government and with community organisations to help those at risk or experiencing homelessness across the city.

I think that it’s only appropriate that we acknowledge that work today. In collaboration with representatives from the State Government and community housing providers, our PSLOs have been able to rehouse over 50 persons, that’s five, zero, persons, who had been sleeping rough in Musgrave Park, over the past few weeks alone. This really does represent the great work that has recently been achieved between Council and the State Government in this space and we hope that this collaborative relationship continues with the appointment of the new Minister for Housing. When it comes to programs—I’m being interrupted, Mr Chair, I’m just—

Deputy Chair: Councillor HOWARD, please continue.

Councillor HOWARD: When it comes to programs supported by the Schrinner Council, I can announce to the Chamber that last week several important initiatives were delivered by the Schrinner Council to assist those experiencing or at risk of homelessness. On Thursday last week, Council hosted the 27th Homeless Connect, a free one-day event which brought together volunteers, services and donations to assist those at risk of or experiencing homelessness. First initiated in 2006, Brisbane City Council’s Homeless Connect has gone on to inspire other local governments to implement similar events within their respective areas.

For those unaware, this event connects Brisbane’s vulnerable residents with a range of services, including access to medical and allied healthcare professionals, haircuts by barbers and hairdressers, housing, employment and community support and access to clothing, food and other personal items. Over 850 persons attended this Homeless Connect, making it one of the most well attended individual events on record. I would like to take this opportunity also to thank all of the staff from Council who volunteered their time and effort to assist the vulnerable Brisbane residents present on the day, along with Volunteering Queensland who played an important role in coordinating the day. I know that we had Councillors there, I did see Councillor LANDERS and I’m sure there were other Councillors who turn up every year to support this wonderful event.

Last week the Schrinner Council also announced the most recent recipients of Council’s Pathways out of Homelessness Grant Program. First launched in 2019, this grant program delivers $1 million in funding annually to enable new, innovative and sustainable solutions to address the growing community issue of homelessness. This program has so far supported over 3,700 individuals at risk or experiencing homelessness and on Thursday last week we were proud to announce another three organisations who will share over $1 million worth of funding. These groups will deliver a range of innovative and successful programs that help people experiencing homelessness to access and sustain housing.

With the list of successful organisations being Brisbane Housing Company, who will utilise a specialist mobile health provider to deliver place-based health services to support residents in community housing with complex health needs. Youth Advocacy Centre, who will provide a wraparound advocacy support program for at-risk young people aged 14 to 19 years, to transition to permanent safe housing. And the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health, who seek to support vulnerable First Nations people and families through the delivery of care plans and early interventions designed to maintain their tenancies. I am sure that these amazing new projects will deliver positive outcomes for those in Brisbane who need it most, and are on top of the four existing organisations already supported, Micah Projects, Beyond DV, Communify, and Brisbane Youth Service. These currently have funding agreements with Council to assist those at risk or experiencing homelessness.

Finally, I would also like to update the Chamber on some positive developments that have taken place between Council and the State Government regarding the activation of the Pinkenba quarantine facility for the purposes of short-term crisis accommodation. I was very fortunate to be able to attend a meeting with the LORD MAYOR last week, with the former Minister for Housing, the Minister Leeanne Enoch—

Deputy Chair: Councillor HOWARD, your time has expired.

Councillors, before I move on, can I please address the previous points of order by Councillor CASSIDY and Councillor JOHNSTON? It is my error, I was meant to address both of those points of order and Councillor CASSIDY, to answer your question, the timer for Question Time will continue unless standing orders are suspended.

Are there any further questions?

Councillor MASSEY.

**Question 4**

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. This question is to the LORD MAYOR.

Over the past year there’s been a growing number of unhoused people sleeping rough across Brisbane, who have struggled to receive adequate, safe, long-term housing options. With the pressure of a large cultural festival, Paniyiri, which happened this weekend and a lack of housing options, you recently stated that, we are not going to kick people out of a park if there’s nowhere for them to go, that would be reasonable and uncaring. Across the city, community concerns continue around the needs of unhoused rough sleepers growing in numbers. Explicitly there has been a major increase in unhoused people near the Go Between Bridge.

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Councillor MASSEY: Now that there is—

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

Councillor HOWARD: Can we have the question please?

Councillor MASSEY: It’s coming. Here we are. Now that there is no pressure of a citywide festival, will you continue your commitment to ensure unhoused people sleeping rough are not kicked out of parks and public spaces and continue to actively work with State Government to find them appropriate, long-term, safe housing?

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you for the question, Councillor MASSEY. Look, I know that publicly, you claim the credit for housing those people from Musgrave Park, but we know that the reality is very different to that. It was actually the State Government who worked with us to find homes, which is their job. Their job. So we have been out there, as we always do, engaging with those experiencing homelessness and rough sleepers across the city. Until very recently, we were told by State Government agencies that there was nothing available, no homes available. Thankfully they must have done an audit of their facilities and they have found some places. So they were able to house more than 50 people in recent times who were sleeping rough in places like Musgrave Park. That is a good outcome and we expect that that effort will continue.

This is one of the issues that I raised in my meeting with the former Minister for Housing, Leeanne Enoch, and it’ll be an issue that I will raise again with the new Minister for Housing as well. The reality is I have always said if you think that allowing people to sleep in a park is an acceptable response to homelessness, you are giving up. We’ve always had the priority of getting those people housed. I’ve seen so many cities around the world where they just give up and you see public spaces all across those cities filled with tents and people sleeping rough, with no one working on any real solutions. So my approach is very clear. If there are homes available, you should not be permitted to sleep in a public park or in a public space. If there are homes available, sleeping in a public park is not an acceptable response to homelessness.

But obviously we need to take into account the supply of homes that are available, the supply of crisis accommodation, which is exactly what we’ve been doing. So we’ll continue working with the State Government and so that wherever there is crisis accommodation made available, we will ensure that people are provided with those opportunities. That is the right thing to do, it is what we are already doing, it’s what we are continuing to do. Obviously we’re determined to see the Pinkenba facility opened up so that there can be more than 500 beds provided in that facility that can be used to supplement the supply of homes that is needed right now. We’ll keep working on that, we’ve committed to fund up to $1 million in the budget upcoming towards activation of Pinkenba. But obviously this is a process that has to be led by the State Government.

The Federal Government’s made it very clear they are waiting on a proposal from the State Government on activating that facility. We will obviously work in support of the State Government to achieve that outcome. I have discussed briefly with the new Housing Minister, Meaghan Scanlon, about the top priority of this issue and she has expressed a willingness to work together, which is a positive thing and so we’ll continue pursuing it. But certainly, we will continue, as we have been doing, working with the State Government. This is not suddenly something that we’ve started doing; this is something that has been bread and butter for this Council for years and years. This is something where we have our public space liaison officers out on the streets every day, engaging with those experiencing homelessness or sleeping rough and linking them up with the services that are available.

Now in the past there has been room at the inn, there has been housing available and we’ve, wherever possible, linked people up with that housing. We were told very recently that there was nothing available and so while ever that situation continues, obviously we will be caring and compassionate as a Council. But sleeping rough in tents in the long term is the sign of a city that has given up and we should not accept that, we shouldn’t settle for that. We should settle for more, we should expect more, we should push back and expect secure housing to be provided for people. Whether it is crisis accommodation as a first stage, whether it is a more interim solution or whether it is longer-term housing, that is what we should be aiming for and that’s what we’ll continue to work with the State Government on.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Are there any further questions?

Councillor HAMMOND.

**Question 5**

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

DEPUTY MAYOR, the Schrinner Council is working hard to do the most for small-business-friendly council in the country. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest initiatives supporting Brisbane businesses?

Deputy Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair and I thank Councillor HAMMOND for the question. It’s very exciting what we’ve been doing over the last few years and really what we’re looking at for the next couple of years as well. Business is growing under the Schrinner Council and we are working hard to ensure that our local Brisbane businesses are supported, connected and have the right tools in their kit to be able to take on the day-to-day challenges of running a small business. We have more than 136,000 actively trading businesses in Brisbane. That has increased by 4.3 per cent in the past 12 months and 97% of those are small business, which is 19 people or under. That’s your mums and dad businesses, your local shopkeepers, your tradies, your makers, your innovators. They are the backbone of our community and they are supporting thousands of families and local community groups, giving our suburbs their unique character and identity.

Our reputation as the most small-business-friendly city in Australia has well and truly set in and you only have to look at the past performance to see that the future looks bright. The health of Brisbane businesses, big and small, is absolutely fundamental to our economic and social future. We have an important role to play in providing targeted relief and support strategies, especially in times of economic hardship and uncertainty. During COVID, we responded with an immediate $7.9 million business relief package, waiving fees, rents and charges. We introduced rates deferrals and payment plans, implemented seven-day payment terms for all business suppliers, launched our buy local campaign and opened the doors to the Brisbane Business Hub, which has supported more than 20,000 businesses now since October 2020.

More recently, we introduced the business resilience program, offering local businesses free continuity planning and physical assessments, to help them build back better and more resilient if there are future natural disasters like we saw in February last year. But for all the challenges we have faced over the past few years, there have also been some great new opportunities. Our city is growing, but our economy is growing and that means our local businesses are growing. Our latest economic development program, the Growing Precincts Together Program, delivers hands-on support to local shopping precincts to help promote and activate businesses.

We have over 300 local business precincts in Brisbane. They range in size from just a couple of tenancies to a few hundred, each with their own unique brands and offerings and this program is about bringing businesses together to build a sense of community and to develop a shared vision for the precinct. Rosalie Village and Racecourse Road in Ascot have been our first two pilot programs and engagement in these areas started late last year. Racecourse Road traders identified promotion marketing events was the preferred way for businesses to work together to improve their precinct activity, after years of trouble with not only COVID, but the construction of Kingsford Smith Drive as well. Rosalie Village thought that more could be done to increase awareness of their precinct retailers and build a strong brand to help promote their offerings.

We helped more than 50 businesses in Racecourse Road and Rosalie Village through one-on-one business coaching, digital marketing, visual merchandise training, specialised food business coaching and shopfront makeovers. We’ve partnered with *Style* magazine to deliver a suite of promotions, digital and print, highlighting some of the best on offer in these local precincts. Feedback from the local businesses have been incredibly positive. We know Rosalie Village—and Councillor MATIC can attest to this—come together in tough times and they tend to have it when it’s raining and they really enjoyed the support that we gave them after February 2022 to get back on to their feet again as well. We know that businesses often spend so much time working on their businesses, they do forget about that extra bit of help that just takes it to the next step.

So that’s why I’m very happy today to announce the next two precincts that will be seeing the Council officers starting to plan their engagement programs with for the next financial year and that would be Banyo and the Wynnum CBD. Banyo is along St Vincents Road and Royal Parade, divided by a train station that has promised upgrades and Wynnum CBD has fantastic community events and a vibrant bayside living that really needs that little extra boost for the businesses to work together. We’ll be focusing on our playbook, which is promote, support, refresh and activate. It’s all about building confidence and resilience in these precincts by encouraging small business owners to work together and grow together. We’ll kick it off early in the financial year with engagement workshops with the business owners and they can decide which part of those precinct playbooks that they want to focus on for a bigger and better business in their local area.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Are there further questions?

Councillor STRUNK.

**Question 6**

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Deputy Chair. My question is to the DEPUTY MAYOR, Chair of Economic Development, the 2032 Brisbane Olympics and Paralympic Games Committee.

DEPUTY MAYOR, the only item on your Committee as on the agenda today is a presentation from Dine BNE, an event showcasing where you can get champagne, lobsters, oysters and caviar in Brisbane. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, housing crisis—

Councillor LANDERS: Point of order, Chair.

Councillor STRUNK: —can you see how out of touch your priorities are?

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor LANDERS: This is question time, not statement time.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS, I’m pretty sure Councillor STRUNK is very close to asking the DEPUTY MAYOR a question.

Councillor STRUNK: It was three sentences, hello.

Deputy Chair: Councillor STRUNK, can you—

Councillor STRUNK: May I start over?

Deputy Chair: Of course, of course.

Councillor STRUNK: Okay, my question is to the DEPUTY MAYOR, Chair of the Economic Development and the 2032 Brisbane Olympics and Paralympic Games Committee

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: That’s her title.

DEPUTY MAYOR, the only item on the Committee on the agenda today is a presentation from Dine Brisbane, an event showcasing where you can get champagne, lobsters, oysters and caviar in Brisbane. In the midst of a cost of living and housing crisis—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors, sorry. Sorry, Councillor—

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order.

Councillor STRUNK: —can you see how out of touch—

Deputy Chair: Councillor STRUNK—

Councillor STRUNK: —your priorities are?

Deputy Chair: One moment please, while I am speaking the Chamber will be quiet.

Councillor STRUNK, you have two minutes. You’ve already chewed up a minute asking the question the first time. Can you please go to the question?

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Yes.

Councillor CASSIDY: This is really getting quite ridiculous. Councillor STRUNK had, while you started shouting at him, had just—I heard him just ask the question and you’ve got LNP Councillors getting up, which are clearly acts of disorder which you are not ruling on, Deputy Chair. Can we actually just ask questions in Question Time please?

Deputy Chair: I would really appreciate that.

Councillor STRUNK, can you move to your question please?

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, the third line of text and the last. In the midst of a cost of living crisis and housing crisis, can you see how out of touch your priorities are?

Deputy Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair and I thank Councillor STRUNK for the question, because all it highlights is how out of touch the Opposition is and when it comes to supporting businesses. I just spoke for five minutes on the importance of our local economy and supporting our businesses, whether they be in the CBD or whether they be in the Wynnum CBD. They employ mums and dads and kids from uni and students from uni when we get people into our restaurants and our entertainment precincts.

*Councillors interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: I take the interjection from Councillor CASSIDY, that I don’t think students are buying caviar. He was very, very class warfare last week when we had this presentation in Committee. The whole point of Dine BNE, if they bothered to read it, is to give discounts and opportunities for mums and dads in a cost of living crisis to experience—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I don’t know whether they want to hear the answer. Obviously not.

Deputy Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR—

DEPUTY MAYOR: They just want to get their TikTok up, so I’ll say it again. We are absolutely proud to support the economy, regardless of what area you own business in Brisbane. Dine BNE is about getting feet on the street in the CBD. Yes, it is about having meal deals with Donna Chang and I assure you the meal deal with Donna Chang is a lot cheaper than if you went to Donna Chang. Yes, it’s an expensive restaurant, but there are now deals that people can approach and go in there and try it. It is just like we support the NRL Magic Round, because it’s not about making sure the footballers come up here; it’s about making sure that people flock to our CBD, to support our local businesses. Last weekend, last weekend we had the Broncos on Thursday night, the Dolphins on Saturday night, the Lions on Saturday night, the truck show which smashed it out of the park for numbers and Paniyiri.

*Councillors interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: I didn’t mention the Reds.

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, I will take that interjection, sorry, Councillor WINES. It’s not whether it is a high-end restaurant or it’s a maker entrepreneur in Morningside. It’s not whether it’s the NRL Magic Round or the Wynnum Bugs playing at the Saturday club. It is about supporting the economy in Brisbane and those people to my right continue with their class warfare and don’t understand that mums and dads and residents own and run these businesses and we support them in a variety of ways. Dine BNE, where they’re saying champagne and caviar, is four weeks in the year of a calendar of events. They don’t even talk about—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please can we hear the DEPUTY MAYOR finish the question.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I will take the interjection from Councillor CASSIDY. If he believes Dine BNE is all I talk about, I don’t know what he talks about. The only thing on my agenda, through you Mr Deputy Chair, is my Committee presentation from last week, as is the case in every Committee report. Next week it’ll be about the maker entrepreneur workshop program, will be on the agenda and the week before it was what was in that Committee. So the hypocrisy of those people, the Labor Councillors, believing they support people in Brisbane and then bagging at events and programs like Dine BNE because they think it’s too posh for Brisbane, is ridiculous. They don’t get it. The LORD MAYOR also made it very clear how we help the homeless, we’re working through our DV (domestic violence) strategy—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Just one moment, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Can I ask Councillors on both sides of the Chamber to be quiet please during Question Time?

Are you still with us, Councillor WINES?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Again, and I’ll look forward to talking about Dine BNE in my Committee report, as is on the agenda today. It is a strong program that has more from the Sea to the city, that is supported by Brisbane Economic Development Agency through Brisbane City Council, whose main role and only role is to support the economy of this city. Whether it’s Donna Chang’s in the city, as I said, whether it’s Tony’s Italian in Carina, or whether it’s the fish and chips that you want to have on the bayside up in Deagon, as you mentioned last week, Councillor CASSIDY, they are all equal in our eyes. We will support the economy and continue to do that and I hope that Brisbane recognises that well enough not to even consider putting a tick beside their name next year.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Before I call on the next Question Time, can I remind Councillors please to pass any statements to Councillors in the Chamber through the Chair.

Councillor HUANG.

**Question 7**

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Transport Committee, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY, the Schrinner Council’s award-winning Brisbane Metro project continues to make significant progress. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest in this project, including any other recent announcements?

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you, Mr Chair, and through you to Councillor HUANG for the question. One of the great things about Brisbane Metro is that while it is primarily a public transport project, it will also create a lot of new active transport connections. It’ll improve accessibility and provide upgraded public spaces. Last week, Mr Chair, as part of the LORD MAYOR’s City to South Bank Vision, we announced another very exciting legacy of the Brisbane Metro project, which is shading on Victoria Bridge. This shade structure will be on the downstream side of the bridge between CityLink Cycleway and across the pedestrian path. We know that tens of thousands of pedestrians use the bridge every single day, in addition to cyclists and scooter riders.

It connects the heart of Brisbane’s premier cultural and entertainment precincts with South Brisbane and South Bank. The two precincts are so close together, but anyone who’s crossed Victoria Bridge in the peak of the Brisbane summer knows that that can feel like a very long walk. We have over 280 days of sunshine every year in Brisbane, Mr Chair, so this shade will go a long way towards making this city more walkable. The bridge is an important part of the fabric of the CBD, so with that in mind the design of the shade structure is guided by a number of key principles.

Firstly, we wanted to make sure that the shade structure itself would seamlessly integrate with the bridge, the river and the cityscape. That’s why we’ve made sure that the shape of the shade structure mirrors the bridge’s iconic arch shape and will still allow for those 360 degree river and city views.

The design of the canopy itself is inspired by the ripples on the river and it’s made up of overlapping aluminium tiles. In true Brisbane fashion, the design of the supporting structure is reminiscent of the classic Australian invention, the Hills Hoist. On a typical summer’s day, the shade structure will result in a 70% reduction in sunlight and heat for those walking beneath it, which is a tremendous result, Mr Chair. We also wanted the structure to be robust, safe and easy to maintain, so we’ve ensured that the design uses durable, low maintenance materials and we’ve incorporated city lighting into it as well.

The bridge itself, as we know, Chair, was built in the 1960s, so it has some engineering challenges we must consider. The shade structure needed to be light and it needed to have a materiality that would suit the architectural integrity of the bridge. Tenders for construction of the shade closed a few weeks ago and we’ll be announcing the successful tenderer very shortly. Before I finish, Mr Chair, I also wanted to talk about some recent milestones that we’ve reached with the Brisbane Metro vehicle. It’s hard to believe but it was just over a year ago that our first Metro vehicle arrived in Brisbane. When it arrived last year, we said we’d be putting it through its paces and as of last week, Mr Chair, I can advise that the pilot vehicle has ticked over 60,000 kilometres on the odometer, a very impressive milestone in just 12 months. The vehicle has passed tests on over 1,000 technical requirements and it’s been running smoothly up and down the busway.

Mr Chair, sometimes when I’m feeling glum, all I have to do is look out of my office at Brisbane Square, look down at that glistening Metro as it crosses Victoria Bridge and I smile and I smile, Chair. Dr Karl must have been doing the same from his office on the other side of the river at the ABC building, because we recently saw Dr Karl’s review of the Brisbane Metro and of course, Mr Chair, just like the rest of us, Dr Karl is a big fan of Brisbane Metro. In fact his words were, quote, ‘I think I love it’, unquote, Mr Chair. Dr Karl loves the flexibility of the Brisbane Metro system. Since the vehicle doesn’t run on tracks and there’s no bulky or unsightly overhead wires, the system is adaptable and as Dr Karl said, as our city grows we can easily extend or change Metro lines to serve additional areas without having to build costly overhead or track infrastructure. He described the fast charge system as, quote, ‘brilliant’, unquote. It’s much more efficient than a diesel bus and better for the environment.

Since testing began, the pilot Metro has received almost 1,500 individual charges and has spent almost 300 hours in total charging. Our testing has shown that the fast charging technology is about 85 times faster than traditional EV (electric vehicle) charging at home. In addition to having zero tailpipe emissions, we’ve also shown through testing that the Metro is about half as loud as a traditional bus when approaching the platform, or twice as quiet, Chair, whatever way you want to spin it. So Dr Karl’s overall assessment, Chair, to reiterate, he loves it and we agree with him. But just wait until he gets on board, Mr Chair, it only gets better from there and everyone who has gotten on board our pilot vehicle becomes an instant convert to Brisbane Metro thought. Chair, with Brisbane Metro we are truly pioneering the most sustainable form of intelligent public transport in Australia.

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY, your time has expired.

Councillors, that is the end of Question Time.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

**602/2022-23**

At that juncture, Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY, that the Standing Rules be suspended.

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, to the suspension please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you, yes. Yesterday afternoon it came to my attention that Councillor CASSIDY has resigned from the Environment, Parks and Sustainability (EPS) Committee and there is a vacancy on that Committee. The motion that I have brought forward today is to appoint myself to the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee. It is urgent because there is a vacancy in the Committee itself.

Because of the LNP’s outrageous behaviour at the last swearing in for all Councillors, I was only appointed to one Committee and all requests to be appointed to a second Committee have been refused. Some Councillors in this place are actually on three Committees, which is unreasonable. I have the time to give to this Committee, it’s a Committee I’ve been on previously. There is a vacancy and I thank Councillor CASSIDY for letting me know yesterday so I could bring forward this urgency motion today. So I urge all Councillors to vote yes and appoint me to the vacancy.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

We have a motion before us to suspend standing orders.

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

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Trina MASSEY 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, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

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

Deputy Chair: We’ll now move on to item 4 of the agenda before us, Consideration of Committee Reports.

LORD MAYOR.

## 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 15 May 2023, be adopted.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before I move on to other items, I wanted to deal with the issue that Councillor CASSIDY has suddenly become interested in and that is the issue of the Federal Government’s housing future fund. Suddenly apparently the Labor Party’s interested in providing more public housing, despite the fact that a Labor Government has been in George Street for 30 out of the last 35 years, 30 out of the last 35 years. You want to talk about tired and out of touch, it is Labor in George Street, 30 of the past 35 years and what have they done for social housing in Queensland? They have sold it off, they have sold it off—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors, thank you.

LORD MAYOR: They have sold it off. So we’ve seen in fact they struggle to even replace the homes that they’ve sold off. That’s the status of social housing and public housing with the Labor State Government in George Street. They’ve been selling it off faster than they can replace it. They struggle to even replace what they’ve sold off. Now Councillor CASSIDY, he’s got this ongoing challenge where he doesn’t criticise us for what we’ve actually done or said; he makes up stuff and completely misrepresents what has been done and said. Now Councillor CASSIDY’s been making a claim repeatedly about something that I supposedly said.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Okay, so let’s go there, let’s go there, because Councillor CASSIDY, you will eat your words.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR, can I remind you if you’re going to speak to other Councillors, it’s through the Chair, please.

LORD MAYOR: Through you, Mr Chair, Councillor CASSIDY will eat his words. So not last year, not the year before, not even five years ago, but 17 years ago there was an article in a local newspaper, 17 years ago. Councillor CASSIDY has this clipping as one of his favourite clippings. Now Councillor CASSIDY wasn’t there at the time, I think he was probably in shorts in school at the time, but what he doesn’t know is that there was a proposal in my local ward at the time to massively densify the amount of public housing to replace what was around—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors. Councillors, please.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: To replace what was around 300 public homes in Carina Heights with around 1,500 public homes in Carina Heights. What I simply did—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, I hear some interjections here.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, Councillor CASSIDY, I’ve noted that you’ve interjected quite a few times during the meeting. Can we please listen to speakers in silence?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. What I simply did was point out what researchers and in fact any person on the street knows to be a fact, which is when you concentrate disadvantage, you concentrate the challenges for that community. It is well known, it is backed up by all scientific research and it is the reason why, it is the reason why high-density public housing projects have their challenges. It is the reason why the accepted logic now is the dispersal of social housing throughout the community. This is something that I support and this is something that the research supports. Now if Councillor CASSIDY believes otherwise, I’d like him to justify why he believes that, but that was simply my point.

If you massively increase the number of social homes in one particular area and not disperse it throughout the community, you concentrate the challenges, the social problems, the disadvantage and that is not a model that works. So yes, Councillor CASSIDY, that’s my view and I absolutely believe that, I absolutely believe that. But guess what, I’m not the only one who believes that, because there was a more recent example of where—do you think it was a Labor State Government that wanted to massively increase investment in public housing in Queensland? No, in fact the best friend of public housing in Queensland has been our side of politics.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: You only have to go back to the plan of the former—Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Just one moment, please. Councillor CASSIDY, I heard that from the Chair. Now while I can accept some interjections, statements like that are not acceptable. Can you please withdraw that?

Councillor CASSIDY: I said there are 10 billion reasons why that statement makes the LORD MAYOR a liar and I stand by that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I’m going to make the assumption that that is no for a withdrawal?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Sorry, can you speak into your microphone please?

Councillor CASSIDY: No.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I consider you are displaying unsuitable meeting conduct and in accordance with section 21(4) of the *Meetings Local Law 2001*, I hereby request that you cease your behaviour in this Chamber and refrain from exhibiting this conduct.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Under the former LNP State government there was a visionary proposal for Logan, an area which we know has had challenges with the concentration of social housing and disadvantage and one which we’d like to see lifted and improved. So the former government proposed an investment of $800 million into Logan public housing renewal and a key part of that was the dispersal of the housing throughout the community rather than the concentration, a key part of that plan. Councillor DAVIS knows about it and guess what, guess what this proposal was called by academics like Professor Hal Pawson from the University of New South Wales, described this as a ground-breaking project, ground‑breaking in scale.

He then went on to say it aimed to dilute the concentrations of public housing in some Logan suburbs with a mix of affordable rentals and home ownership that would have delivered visionary jobs and development programs for residents. This is not what the LNP said; this is what an academic, a professor said about the LNP’s housing program. What did the Australian Labor Party do? They scrapped it, they scrapped it. They hung Logan residents out to dry and they are still yet to propose any alternative. So when I hear—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR: —grand proposals about a housing future fund, what I really hear is oh, okay, so we have to rely on the Labor State Government to deliver this housing. Is it going to happen? Never, never. Their record speaks for itself, they cannot even deliver basic replacement and renewal of their social housing, let alone an expansion. They have failed dismally, not just last year, not just the year before, but for 30 out of the last 35 years they have let their own people down. The most vulnerable, the workers, they have let them down and I see no evidence that they have changed. A leopard does not change its spots, Labor doesn’t care and the reality is they don’t mind the concentration of disadvantage because they have their safe Labor seats in that area.

That’s what it’s all about for Labor, they want to keep those areas down. They do not want to see them progress and that is so disappointing and so cynical, Mr Chair. We’d like to see all areas across the community lifted, we would like to see areas come ahead. Labor opposes that. It is shameful, their approach to their own supporters, to their own supporters, the most vulnerable people. They do not care. All Councillor CASSIDY wants to do is come in here and play like he’s a B‑grade Federal politician. We know he wants to be elsewhere, off you go, Councillor CASSIDY, because right now we’re focused on what’s good for Brisbane, we’re focused on building more housing in Brisbane, increasing the supply.

We have a proposal coming through very soon that will help accommodate up to 10,000 extra people in Kurilpa, that will accommodate extra people in our major centres that are well located with public transport and active transport links and infrastructure and facilities. That’s what a caring Administration does, increases the supply of housing so that areas can come ahead. Labor, on the other hand, wants to hold areas back and keep them down. It is shameful and they should be ashamed of themselves.

Mr Chair, Labor’s motion before us is even more hypocritical and ridiculous, because last week when we advocated for increased Federal funding from the Federal Government, what was Councillor CASSIDY’s response to the motion? He said, ‘I think you overestimate the importance of motions in this Council’. Do you remember that? So last week it wasn’t important and this week it’s suddenly important. I say it again, we will advocate on Federal issues where I can see a clear benefit for the people of Brisbane.

In this case, the Federal Government can approve all the money they want, but this Labor State Government is incapable of delivering it. They cannot deliver the houses. They have promised again and again, they have re-promised, they have reheated old announcements that they still can’t deliver. So I have no faith that even with increased funding that the Labor State Government in George Street will be able to deliver on their commitments. They haven’t been to date and I see no evidence that they will be able to deliver. But what they can do is they can sign off on Pinkenba and immediately make 500 beds available really quickly, really quickly. Not in five years’ time, not in 10 years’ time, really quickly.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**603/2022-23**

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

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. As I always do, I wanted to acknowledge the community causes and campaigns and initiatives that we’re supporting as a city through the lighting up of our assets. Last night all of our assets were lit up in blue and green to support Make NF Shine. The campaign is part of the World Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month. Around 1,000 Brisbane residents are living with this condition, which causes benign tumours to grow on the body.

Tonight, Victoria Bridge and Reddacliff Place will be lit up in yellow to recognise Ecuador Independence Day. It was on this day in 1809 that Ecuadorians rebelled and declared their independence from Spain. I know our local Ecuadorian community, even though it is quite small, will be very appreciative of our support and acknowledgement of this important day.

Also tonight, the Story Bridge will be lit up in maroon and blue to support National Palliative Care Week. This year’s theme is It’s Your Right and seeks to raise awareness about the rights of all Australians to access high-quality palliative care when and where they need it. Tomorrow night, all of our assets will be lit up in green to support, Councillor DAVIS, the Green Heart Fair, which will be this weekend, Sunday, at Victoria Park.

On Thursday night, the Tropical Dome and Story Bridge will be lit up in yellow to support Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea and obviously an event run by the Cancer Council to raise funds for cancer research and support of those families going through the challenge of cancer. Also on Thursday night, Sandgate Town Hall, City Hall, Reddacliff Place and Victoria Bridge will be lit up in red to support the Eve of 65 Roses Awareness Day. The month of May is the national awareness day for those living with cystic fibrosis and I know that’s something you, Mr Acting Chair, are also very passionate about.

Friday is National Sorry Day. To recognise this day, all of our assets will be lit up in the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags. The National Sorry Day is obviously held on 26 May each year to acknowledge and commemorate members of the Stolen Generations. This is something that we as a Council for many decades have continued to acknowledge and support and we do that in many ways. One way is through the ceremony that we hold each year here in King George Square and then followed by a reception in City Hall. But also the local community Sorry Day events that we support as well in multiple parts of the city.

Tomorrow night, Brisbane City Hall will be lit up in purple for the for the annual Bravehearts Ball, which is being held in the main auditorium. Also on Saturday night, our assets will be lit up in rainbow for the 2023 LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Day. This annual day aims to end violence and abuse within the LGBT communities by increasing visibility and understanding and giving hope and courage to victims and survivors. On Sunday night, our assets will be lit up in the colours of both the Aboriginal and the Torres Strait Islander flags to recognise National Reconciliation Week, which is next week. So once again, moving from Sorry Day on Friday through to National Reconciliation Week the following week.

We were recently informed of the passing of Peter Francis Thorley, who was the Town Clerk of Brisbane City Council from 1973 to 1981. Peter served under two Lord Mayors, Clem Jones and Bryan Walsh. Originally from the town of Dalby, the Dalby Town Council, Peter moved to Kenmore to begin his job as the Town Clerk here in Brisbane. This was a role that predated the CEO of Council and so over the years the role has morphed and the Town Clerk now doesn’t exist as a role, it’s become the CEO essentially.

His time in Council was busy, only two months into the role, the 1974 floods happened. That reminds me of Colin Jensen’s tenure here, where he was just appointed and then the 2011 floods happened. But knowing the damage done to Brisbane in 2011 and in 2022, recognising the challenge that Peter helped lead this city through that incredibly challenging event, we certainly appreciate and acknowledge Peter’s work. Not only for the Brisbane City Council and this organisation, but for the wider community in helping, together with the Lord Mayor of the day, leading the response to that flood.

Additionally, he helped work with the Lord Mayor to lay the groundwork for the 1982 Commonwealth Games, ensuring the successful delivery of the Games from a Council perspective. After his years in local government, Peter was awarded an AM to become a Member of the Order of Australia for his service to local government and the community. Peter was married to Gloria and they had three kids, Jo, Marty and Mary-Louise. He was a much loved grandfather to Mia and Jack. We sent all of our condolences to the Thorley family at this time and once again we thank Mr Thorley for his service to the City of Brisbane.

Item A on the agenda is the annual operational plan, the quarterly financial report from March 2023. The operational plan and quarterly financial report gives an overview of a snapshot in time of the financial position between budgets. As Councillors are aware, these documents come through a number of times each year to keep all of us updated on the progress of delivery. This report shows that our capital program continues to ramp up, with $845 million in capital works delivered to the end of March 2023 so far and an incredible $308 million delivered between January and March alone. So that is an incredible record of delivery in just a three‑month period and it reflects what I keep saying, which is we have provided funding to support the biggest investment in infrastructure our city has ever had.

That’s not just this year, but that’s over the coming period of years as well. Whether it’s the major projects that are happening, or whether it is road resurfacing, or whether it is building footpaths, whether it’s investing in playgrounds and parks, whether it is a whole range of improvements, there is a record investment in improving assets across the city and providing upgrades. Obviously at the heart of our capital program are congestion busting projects, whether it’s investment in better public and active transport, through new bridges, upgrades to the Moggill Road Corridor, which the officers tell me they call ‘Mr Cup’, Moggill Road Corridor upgrade project, MRCUP.

Projects of that scale and right across the city, smaller improvements and upgrades. We’ve also invested over $70 million to the end of March in the Smoother Suburban Streets program of road resurfacing. Once again, an incredible gearing up of delivery in response to the need for improved investment, particularly following not only the floods, but also the incredibly wet couple of years that we’ve had recently. The statement of comprehensive income shows how revenue and expenses are tracking against the annual budget and also compares to the same period last year.

Grants and subsidies are higher this year, but that’s mainly due to the Voluntary Home Buy-Back program. We know that is funded by a combination of the Federal and State Government and we support it with our resources and officers. We run the acquisition of homes, we also where possible find new uses for those homes if they’re reusable as well. So where the homes can be easily and safely relocated to provide a home for someone else, we facilitate that. Where the home is one that needs to be demolished, then we also organise that. Also Federal funding for Metro and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements have contributed to higher than anticipated revenue at this point in time, although over the longer term we’re not expecting higher than anticipated revenue, it’s a temporary feature.

This is partly offset by lower LRCI (Local Roads and Community Infrastructure) grant revenue and lower financial assistance grants revenue. I mentioned the temporary impact here, sadly the lower LRCI grant revenue is now a permanent impact, because we have been advised in the budget that we miss out on all future LRCI funding. So Brisbane has been deliberately carved out, where other councils get this funding for unbeknown reasons, both Logan and Brisbane will not receive any more LRCI funding. Developer contributions that relate to development activity are higher than this time last year, but they still are lower than pre-COVID levels. So it’s tracking up in terms of building activity, but it still remains below pre-COVID levels. The increase in other contributions and donations—

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**604/2022-23**

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

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. The increase in other contributions and donations relates to $123 million in contributed road assets. So that’s largely where through the development process, new roads are built by others and then they become Council assets. That could include things like the State PDAs (priority development areas), so State development areas where someone else builds the asset and then it becomes a Council asset. Where it could include new housing estates where a developer has built the road and then it becomes a Council asset as well.

I know the Finance Chair will speak to this report further, item B relates to the third budget review. This is the third and final adjustment to the 2022-23 budget and obviously in the coming weeks we’ll see the new budget for the new financial year released. To reflect emerging issues and any required funding changes, we bring through three budget reviews each year. Council’s operating capability for 2023, which is otherwise known as the surplus, an overall accumulated surplus has increased in this review. Overall, the budget review sees relatively minor changes in the second budget review. I mentioned revenue increasing before in the quarterly financial report. The budget review also reflects that temporary increase in revenue.

Also expenses decreasing by a small amount of $4.5 million and capital increasing by $56 million. In the context of a $4 billion budget, these movements are relatively modest and are largely the result of some updated phasing of projects, some depreciation adjustments and additional revenue associated with the voluntary home buy-back that I referred to before. So you can see effects across both of these reports that are related. Borrowings remain at the published level, with no change expected in the end of year forecast. Mr Chair, my team is firmly focused on responsible financial management, that has always been the case for us, that will continue.

We know that it is particularly important because year in, year out, delivering balanced budgets means that we are not going into deficit which has to be repaid in the future. When we borrow, we borrow against assets. Those are long-term assets, but we certainly don’t borrow for operating expenses like we see happen at other levels of government, because in the end that gets you into a hole. When you go into an operating situation like that, when you go into a deficit in your operating capability, you’re getting into a hole which each year becomes more and more difficult to get out. Particularly when you have inflation running high, particularly when you have the cost of living pressures that we have at the moment.

So we will continue to manage the budget responsibly. Doing that keeps downward pressure on rates and that is absolutely a top priority for us. It has remained a consistent priority and once again I say, as the Finance Chair has consistently reminded us, under an LNP Administration, under the team I lead, we will never see the kind of six per cent rate increases that we have seen time and time again under Labor. Now those rate increases came at a time when inflation was way, way lower than it was these days, way lower. We’ve seen inflation running at high levels we haven’t seen in decades, yet even when inflation was lower, Labor was increasing rates at a six per cent level on no less than four occasions. So we have never done that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR: We have never done that and we never will. Our record speaks very clearly and in fact very shortly after I became LORD MAYOR, we announced the first rate freeze in 35 years. In fact, the last time rates were frozen was under Liberal Lord Mayor Sallyanne Atkinson, 35 years ago. So our record is very clear. We will absolutely continue to manage the budget responsibly. We do that so that we can deliver for the people of Brisbane, build the infrastructure our city needs but also keep downward pressure on rates.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Are there any further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on both of these items. I’ll debate them concurrently because they both relate to the delivery of the LORD MAYOR’s budget throughout the 2022-23 financial year. I do just want to start by agreeing with the LORD MAYOR that leopards don’t change their spots. It took him 17 years, apparently, to come up with some sort of explanation as to why he described public housing as slums. He still couldn’t bring himself to apologise.

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

Councillor HOWARD: I don’t believe that—

Councillor CASSIDY: He still couldn’t bring himself to apologise.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, you have a point of order against you.

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order, Mr Chair, I don’t believe that we’re talking about the item before us.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: That’s not in the item before us.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor CASSIDY can I remind you that we are speaking to the items before you.

Councillor CASSIDY: They’ll do anything other than speak about housing in Brisbane at the moment, won’t they? Because they’re failing, they are failing. You know the LORD MAYOR, I’ll pick up on what he finished on, Chair. In that according to him he’s running a balanced budget. Because he’s borrowing massive amounts, billions and billions of dollars against assets and somehow tries to claim that he doesn’t have to pay them back because they’re borrowed against assets. Of course that debt has to be paid back. We see that in the papers before us, the interest payments on that debt is massive.

LORD MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR, thank you, noted.

Councillor CASSIDY: It’s massive. So he claims that his budget doesn’t have a structural deficit when it clearly does, where he has to borrow, a massive structural deficit. We know that the infrastructure budget for LGIP (Local Government Infrastructure Plan) items has a deficit of billions of dollars. We know that to deliver basics in the suburbs, very poorly, under this LORD MAYOR’s leadership, is having to borrow billions of dollars and somehow tries to come in here today and claim that that’s all balanced.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Nothing to see here, apparently. Don’t you worry about that, that brings up some memories to a past leader of his political party—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

Councillor MURPHY: Point of order, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Will Councillor CASSIDY take a question?

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, would you care to take a question?

Councillor CASSIDY: No, no.

Councillor MURPHY: Of course not.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, you’ve got the call.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, no, I’m sure Councillor MURPHY will raise his point in debate on this item. So these papers before us, these items, do tell an extremely sad story for the ratepayers of Brisbane. Because what we know—and the LORD MAYOR said there’s no sort of extra borrowing in this quarter—we know because he borrowed an extra $400 million last quarter, he did all that last quarter to cover the blowouts on his inner city projects. The massive blowouts on the Metro and the massive blowouts on the Kangaroo Point Bridge.

There’s little reason why we’ve heard from Councillor MURPHY over the last few weeks why that project is blowing out. Because it had to be redesigned to accommodate a two-storey restaurant. He had to go and buy some land to put a little cafe on at the end of it. All because the LORD MAYOR wanted that.

The LORD MAYOR’s blown the budget on the Metro because he went to providers, went to tenderers and said, listen, we’d love a locally-made electric bus. But you have to make it look like a tram, sorry Volgren, you can’t produce that in Brisbane. He had to go to Switzerland.

So we know the budget is in an absolute shambles because of the political decisions that this LORD MAYOR and his LNP Chairs make in this place, week in, week out. They have totally lost control of this budget and their spending and they’ve taken to hiding the details now, as we know, in the fine print. There’s all these sort of high-level motherhood statements and explanations, but no real detail in there.

Because you know they’re scared of people finding out the real details about what a mess this budget is in. I think ratepayers will be—will have a taste—this is, I think a taste of what’s to come in another month or so when the LORD MAYOR hands down his budget. We know rates are going to be up to fund cost blowouts—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —on inner city projects. We know it’s a fact that rates have doubled under this LNP Administration. But if you go and talk to an average ratepayer out in the suburbs of Brisbane, if they feel like they’re getting good value for money when they’ve got a broken and dangerous footpath in their street. Seeing street trees dying left, right and centre, suburban projects being cut or delayed.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Their answer—no caviar for those in the suburbs, of course.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Or lobster or champagne out there. They missed out, all those streets with broken footpaths. If you ask them if they feel like they’re getting good value for money, their answer’s no. This mob over here is totally out of touch, Chair, totally out of touch—

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Councillor CASSIDY: —with the priorities and values of—

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, you have a point of order against you.

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order. For goodness’s sake, ‘this mob over there.’ What sort of language is that in this Chamber?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor STRUNK—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: You should be sorry.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you should also be sorry.

Can I just make the point again. That if you are going to address any Councillors within this Chamber as a group or as an individual, it goes through the Chair. Let me make that very clear.

Councillor CASSIDY, you have the call.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. So a budget, as we know, is a statement of priorities and values. That’s what this LORD MAYOR’s budget is to the people of Brisbane. It’s his statement of priorities and values. Our conservative LNP Mayor clearly prioritises himself and his agenda over that of the residents of Brisbane.

His two signature projects the Metro and the green bridges are absolutely sucking this budget dry. The LNP has spent less money on 160 suburban projects than they did on the bendy-bus Metro and the green bridges. They’ve spent more on those two inner city projects than they have on 160 other suburban projects. Those suburban projects are the ones that are delayed, they’re the ones that are cut, they’re the ones that are gutted to fund these inner city projects.

So that before us today is the black and white proof that all the LORD MAYOR cares about are his inner city signature projects. They get him on the camera, they’re the media opportunities, they’re the photo opportunities. He doesn’t really care about the suburbs of Brisbane, he doesn’t care about the broken footpaths or the dangerous roads or buses not showing up in the suburbs, or rates going through the roof on his watch.

The LORD MAYOR is going slow on maintaining and rehabilitating suburban drainage. Maintaining and rehabilitating suburban drainage is being slowed down in this review. That’s not a good look for a city that suffered through the February 2022 flood disaster, just 15 months ago.

There are massive underspends on key areas, Future Brisbane, which is around planning for a growing city, the Future Brisbane program which is supposedly, according to the LORD MAYOR—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —delivering new housing in Brisbane. Well, they’re underspending in that program, they’ve slowed down in that program. Clean, Green and Sustainable, underspent, slowed down. Lifestyle and Community Services, which delivers our Homeless Connect program and our Public Space Liaison officers and works with people sleeping rough. Well that program’s going slow, underspent there.

City Standards, Community Health and Safety, the basics, the basics in the suburbs of Brisbane have gone slow. They’re being underdelivered by this LORD MAYOR. There’s a total of $48 million in delays to suburban projects in this budget review, $48 million in delays to suburban projects. Councillor ATWOOD, Councillor ALLAN and Councillor OWEN, I’m sure, were disturbed to read some of that tricky language in the fine print in there. Where projects are being rephased and reimagined and all those sorts of things. Being put on the back burner because the LNP have run out of money.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: The Brisbane International Cycle Park project at Murarrie is one of those, the Nudgee Recreation Reserve in Northgate Ward, of which Councillor ALLAN attended a public meeting I was at and guaranteed that it was all going to be fast‑tracked, all the things that he gutted from the project. That he personally gutted from that project. Now we see, lo and behold, the suburbs are missing out again and the Pallara Stormwater Infrastructure project as well—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —is one of those. No library out there, of course. Still don’t see that. I would be very worried if I was one of those suburban Councillors. Because it’s very easy for the LORD MAYOR to kick those projects down the road, they’re in very marginal wards, of course, as well, no less. So those Councillors might have a bit of trouble explaining to their communities what’s going on there. The LNP are underperforming when it comes to the basics in the suburbs, that’s really clear, in black and white before us. They’ve taken their eye off the ball in the suburbs of Brisbane.

But there’s one area of this budget the LORD MAYOR hasn’t skimped on. There’s one area that’s surging ahead. Anyone take a guess?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: That’s right, advertising, marketing and communications, Adrian from advertising strikes again. Of course, advertising. By the third quarter—by the third quarter, the LORD MAYOR had completely maxed out the advertising and marketing budget. He’s gone slow on basic services in the suburbs but he’s maxed out the credit card when it comes to advertising and marketing.

So I think it’s actually really quite clear that Brisbane and the residents who live in the suburbs of Brisbane, cannot afford another four years of this LORD MAYOR. His billion dollar blowouts are just not acceptable. Our suburbs deserve much better. It’s very clear, very clear to the ratepayers of Brisbane. They’re paying more and getting less under the LNP.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY.

LORD MAYOR, your misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: Yes, Councillor CASSIDY continues to make stuff up. He claimed that I said we didn’t have to pay back debt. I didn’t say that at all. That was just a complete fabrication on his part.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Are there any further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise to speak on both items and provide a factual account to the Chamber, rather than the scaremongering of those to my right. Firstly, on item A, the annual operational plan progress and quarterly financial report at the end of March 2023. To the statement of comprehensive income, we can see how revenue and expenses are tracking against the annual budget and also as at the same period last financial year. Grants and subsidies have increased, mainly due to the Voluntary Homes Buy-Back program, Federal contributions to Brisbane Metro and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Disaster Recovery funding arrangements.

This is partly offset by lower Local Roads and Community Infrastructure and Financial Assistance Grant revenue received so far this financial year. Developer contributions are tracking above last year’s revenue. But are still well down on previous years, as the LORD MAYOR mentioned. The increase in other contributions and donations is related to $123 million in contributed road assets.

While significant challenges in the market remain, we’ve rolled out $845 million in capital works in the first nine months of the financial year. With 308 delivered between January and March alone and that is remarkable. In Program 8, City Governance, revenue is currently ahead of budget, due to the earlier than anticipated receipt of some grants and subsidies from flood claims, interest revenue and lease accounting adjustments. In the annual operational plan progress report, we remain on track with our targets for local buy procurement and of course our social enterprise investments that we so proudly talk about at Brisbane City Council.

We’ve also onboarded 131 new participants to our employment pathway initiatives, bringing the total number of participants now to 384—includes apprenticeships, pre-trade work experience traineeships, cadetships, tertiary work experience, graduate and emerging capabilities programs. As well, of course, as the DisABILITY ACTION at WORK project.

Item B, Mr Chair—Mr Deputy Chair, is the third budget review. In June, when the annual plan and budget is set down in this Chamber, project delivery is phased, based on the best possible information that we have at that time. Then it is refined as we go throughout the year, with budget reviews. As per the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*, Council’s budget for a financial year can be amended during the financial year and this report outlines changes since the last update, last year.

Overall, Mr Chair, this is a modest budget review with fairly minor changes from the second budget review. The anticipated surplus for 30 June 2023, as approved by Council, was $13.966 billion. As a result of this third budget review, the anticipated accumulated surplus will increase just slightly to $14.017 billion. Revenue for 2022-23 is projected to increase by $46 million, likely due to additional revenue—to the home buy-back scheme and also our interests on deposits.

This is offset by transfers to future years for some capital revenue. There is a net increase in capital this year of $56 million, again, associated with the Voluntary Home Buy-Back. Finally, there is a net $4.5 million decrease in expenses being booked into this review.

Mr Deputy Chair, I commend this report to the Chamber.

Deputy Chair: Thank you Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Are there any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. I rise to speak on the financial and operational plan in the E&C report before us today. One thing is extremely clear about the situation of Brisbane City Council when it comes to the finances of this city. That, firstly, this LNP Administration, not once, ever have they got up and said we’re actually doing more than we think we’re going to do. Never happened. I’ve been here 15 years and I’ve heard every excuse under the sun from this lazy LNP Administration, who cannot deliver on their promises. They just fundamentally cannot do it.

The budget before us today, as the Finance Chairperson has just confirmed, is profiting from the Brisbane floods. We’re getting money in from the Federal and the State Government to fund Council’s part in the voluntary buy-back scheme and this Council is making a profit from it. That’s what’s going on.

In addition to this, we note overall Brisbane City Council is getting more revenue in through a whole variety of mechanisms, the State, the Federal Government, grants, lots of other options. But they are spending less and less on basic projects, essential services and the critical flood recovery that we need for our city. We are not seeing the investment that is being made in this city invested out in our suburbs. Now we can see that based on the reports that have been brought forward here today.

Even in their own areas now, usually it’s ours, like mine or a Labor Councillor’s. But even in their own areas now they are actually failing to deliver on basic projects like library upgrades and park upgrades. It’s that bad, it’s that bad. The reason it is that bad is because of the leadership of this LNP Administration who have gutted, absolutely gutted, Council’s service provision, it’s capability to deliver on the ground projects and turned Council into some sort of management consultancy under the leadership of the LORD MAYOR and the CEO of Council. So that you try and get a footpath fixed or a tree trimmed and it takes a year.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: A year to get a tree trimmed or a footpath fixed. That is what we deal with every single day out in the suburbs, every single day. Not only that, the LNP Administration, who are getting more money from the State and Federal Government under the disaster arrangements than they expected, aren’t actually investing it into the projects on the ground to do the work. Is the drains at Yeronga fixed that were closed? No. Cactoblastis Corner? No. They even voted against it last week.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Voted against fixing up—voted against fixing up a flood-damaged park in Brisbane. This is a park that our community fought so hard for, that the LNP in the western suburbs abandoned. It’s probably why there’s a Green there now and why they can’t retain the seat at a State level. Because the LNP promised to support that community in Sherwood to protect the old Alan Fletcher Research Station and Scott, didn’t last very long, rolled over in the Newman administration and allowed that land to be sold off. Now—

LORD MAYOR: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

LORD MAYOR: Councillor JOHNSTON is again attacking people who are not in the Chamber to defend themselves.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So I just wonder if you could rule on that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Chamber, please.

Councillor HOWARD, that’s not necessary.

Councillor JOHNSTON, would you care to either (a) amend your decision from last week? Or (b) withdraw?

Councillor JOHNSTON: You actually said, last week it wasn’t a point of order when I said it. So I presume it’s quite okay to do it. So I’m sorry, if you’re ruling now, Mr Deputy Chair—

Deputy Chair: That’s okay, that’s okay.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —I want to clarify your ruling.

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, while I’m speaking—

Councillor JOHNSTON: If you can’t mention—

Deputy Chair: —you don’t—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —anybody else.

Deputy Chair: —you cannot speak. You know that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: So I dare say what we will do is we will move forward, saying that you can mention previous people from this Chamber.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: There we go.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR and I will remind the Chamber that there is no privilege in this place.

Councillor JOHNSTON, you have the call.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, I think everybody out my way understands Scott Emerson’s role in our community and he rolled over and abandoned that community. Now, true to form, the LNP is rolling over and abandoning that community. Because they don’t think fixing a riverside park that our community fought so hard to protect as valuable community space, should be fixed. They voted against it.

We can see that they’re not investing that funding into park upgrades. Because they have cut the funding and failed to deliver on the projects that are needed. This third budget review rolls over a phenomenal amount of money to 2023-24, 2024‑25 because this Administration, year—

Deputy Chair: Just—sorry, Councillor JOHNSTON, just one moment, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes.

Deputy Chair: When you rose to speak—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes.

Deputy Chair: You did not mention that you were going to speak on the third budget review. Do you intend to speak on that?

Councillor JOHNSTON: I said I was speaking on the financial report.

Deputy Chair: Yes but you just mentioned—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well that’s—

Deputy Chair: —the third budget review, you started talking about the third budget review, or am I mistaken?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well that’s a financial report.

Deputy Chair: It’s item B, you only mentioned item A.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: I didn’t mention item A or item B, I said I was speaking on the financial reports.

Deputy Chair: I’m asking a question. Are you intending to speak on it or not?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, because—

Deputy Chair: Okay, thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —I’m speaking on—okay, right—oh. I mean—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —if the LNP doesn’t know what the financial reports are then there’s a bigger problem with that. But let me get back to the point I was making. That there is less and less being delivered by this LNP Administration. Not only that, we’ve heard—and this is why, this is the why that I think that there is now an increase to the surplus. Brisbane City Council’s going to have more money in the kitty coming into an election year than they would otherwise have expected. Councillor—the Finance Chair explained all of that when she indicated there was a big increase in the surplus up to $14 billion, I think it was.

So, what have we got? Year after year, this Administration failing to deliver on their own promises. These aren’t promises that are made by somebody else that Council is told to deliver. Every year, in June, the LORD MAYOR stands up, he gets the speech, he gets to say whatever he wants and he promises I’m going to do this, this and this.

As the year unfolds it goes well, we couldn’t really do that. Sorry about that, that’s going to happen next year or the year after. Then he goes well, we’ve got some more money from here but this other LNP project in this area is not going well, so I’ll invest in that instead. You cannot believe a word the LNP, the LORD MAYOR, Adrian SCHRINNER says to the community of Brisbane. Because his actions in managing the budget and the projects of this city show that he cannot deliver on what he promises.

Not only that. When he says there are no six per cent rate rises for the suburbs of Brisbane under his leadership. He is flat out being dishonest—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —6.7% rate increase for Yeronga and it was just as high in several other suburbs in my ward. The LNP Administration has set the residential rates cap at seven per cent for years now. There are many suburbs in Brisbane that are experiencing huge rate rises. They can’t get intersections fixed, they can’t get footpaths fixed, they can’t get trees trimmed. This LNP Administration is getting more money in but can’t deliver on their own promises. That’s what the financial documentation before us here today shows.

It also shows up that this LNP LORD MAYOR, Adrian SCHRINNER, cannot—fundamentally cannot be honest with the people of Brisbane about the rate rises that have been delivered under his Administration. He wants to stick to the average rates increase and he refuses to mention the cap that he sets, that dozens of suburbs around Brisbane—

LORD MAYOR: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Deputy Chair: Noted, LORD MAYOR, thank you.

Councillor—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, he does refuse to mention—

Deputy Chair: Councillor—

Councillor JOHNSTON: He does refuse to mention it.

Deputy Chair: Sorry, you’ve got the call.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I do, yes, thank you.

Deputy Chair: Yes, you do.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So when there are dozens and dozens of suburbs around Brisbane that experience year after year, five per cent, six per cent and seven per cent rates increases under this LORD MAYOR, it’s happened every single year. I’ve been here for 15 years and not once in the 15-year period has the LNP kept rates the same, or even, god forbid, decreased them. They gave gone up every single year, year after year. Until the fact that they have now doubled, doubled in the same time that Councillor—well the LORD MAYOR, Adrian SCHRINNER and I have been in this Chamber. They have doubled under his leadership. Finance Chair, Public and Active Chair, DEPUTY MAYOR, LORD MAYOR, he’s been part of the decision-making—

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —the whole time.

Deputy Chair: —expired.

LORD MAYOR, misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: Yes, every Lord Mayor, every administration, from all sides of politics, has always referred to the average rate increase for owner-occupied properties. What I was referring to with six per cent under Labor, that was the average—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —not the maximum, the average. So you can only imagine what the maximum would have been under Labor.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, thank you, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: —12%, 15%, 20%.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: The reality is Councillor JOHNSTON—

Deputy Chair: Thank you, you’ve made—

LORD MAYOR: —is misleading people.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Thank you LORD MAYOR.

Are there further speakers?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair, and I rise to enter the debate on items A and B of the Establishment and Coordination Committee. True to form, the Councillor for Tennyson is misleading, again. At the time the budget was published, we expected to receive a much greater amount of revenue from both the State and Federal Governments for flood recovery works than has been received to date.

Brisbane, unfortunately, has so far not received that predicted flood recovery allocations. As we know, we’ve been fighting with the State and Federal Governments to make sure Brisbane residents are getting their fair share of support. Despite being home to a significant proportion of Queensland’s population, Brisbane is still struggling to make sure we get our fair share.

That means that we haven’t been able to progress delivery on certain projects earmarked to be funded by State or Federal flood recovery works under Program 5. This is the main driver for the lower than anticipated capital expenditure in Program 5 and the lack of revenue received is reflected in the lower than anticipated revenue and capital works within this budget review.

However, Mr Chair, I would like to say that our capital expenditure is behind schedule but the magic-pudding economics of the Opposition doesn’t seem to understand that staff and operational cost is not capital expenditure. This is also time to remind them that Labor is the only one that ever demolished a library.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: We, on this side, have a strong track record of delivering new libraries and upgrading them. Just like the upgrade we’re currently delivering in Councillor CASSIDY’s ward at the Zillmere Library.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: We also have a mobile library at Pallara, so I’ll be very keen to hear Councillor STRUNK thanking us for that. On that note, I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes thank you, Deputy Chair. I rise just to speak on item B, the third review. Just for Councillor HOWARD’s benefit, Pallara is actually in the Calamvale Ward.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Anyway, that’s fine, I’m sure Councillor OWEN’s enjoying it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Yes but the mobile library does come. Sorry, if you indulge me, Chair, the mobile library does come into Forest Lake as well. Okay, I just want to talk about a couple of line items on the review. The first one, of course is the cost of finance. That this Administration keeps increasing the debt and of course guess what happens with the finance charges? They keep going up and up and up.

If we have a look at the revised one for this year so far, it’s gone up from $119 million to $121 million. So another $2 million increase. That probably doesn’t really reflect the increase in the cash rate which we’ve seen go up 11 times over the last few months.

Now we do have arrangements with Queensland Treasury in regards to borrowings and they’re pegged for a time. But that time is running out very quickly and I’ll tell you what, just looking through the forward estimates here for finance costs. It will jump supposedly next year to $131 million, then $152 million and then $155 million. I don’t believe those figures are going to reflect what the actual rates actually go—or the cost is actually going to be. Because I don’t think it’s reflected in the increase that we’ve already had. But I’ll stand to be corrected in that particular instance.

Of course what it’s related to, of course, it’s actually—sorry, I’ve got it upside down, my apologies—is the liabilities. So this is what we owe, basically and of course it’s made up of a number of items. But I just look at the headline figure here. So we’re looking, it’s increased in the third quarter, an increase from the original quarter, which was $5.871 billion to $6.030 billion.

Then looking through the forward estimates it’s going up to $6.331—which is $6.4 billion and it just keeps going. Unfortunately, the actual liabilities is not keeping—it’s outpacing our income with fees and charges and rates. If you just have a look at those two figures and then match them right through the forward estimates, we keep going backwards.

But unlike us who pay a mortgage, we actually pay our debt down. Yes, we borrow, we borrow a lot, but over a period of time we pay our debt down. But this Council, this Administration, for the last 20 years is just borrowing more and more and more.

You know when they came into governance, right, there was virtually no debt. The Soorley administration virtually left them with no debt.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Of course, they laugh and chuckle and all the rest of it but we know it’s true. So—and if I could—as I say, I just want to talk about that income that we’re not getting. So I’ll be really interested to see what the rate increase is going to be in this next budget. Yes, it’s capped, supposedly at seven per cent. But I know, like the Councillor from Tennyson, over the years, a lot of my suburbs—and these are not the ones at the base rate, we’re talking the ones that are not at the base rate—have been going up since I’ve been Councillor. In some cases four, five per cent.

This is when we had a CPI (consumer price index) which seems to be a relevant figure nowadays, by the way, of like one per cent or 1.5% or two per cent. So it was almost double CPI. So it will be really interesting to see how they’re going to pay for all this debt they’ve been accumulating with all these huge projects. I don’t know, it just seems to me that a thought bubble comes and yes, we’ll do Kingsford Smith, another thought bubble, yes, we’ll do a Metro, another thought bubble, we’ll do green bridges then we’ll do Victoria Park. With no responsibility when it comes to how we’re going to pay for this.

Honestly, I just think this Administration really has decided to just spend the money, who cares, someone else will be looking after that in the next administration. Unfortunately, it will probably be us. Thank you, Chair.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Are there any further speakers?

Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Oh yes, thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item B, the 2022-23 third budget review. Chair, in this third budget review, we have seen some rephasing of revenue, primarily related to the City Deal funding. Well you know they laugh at that, Chair, and we’ll get to their economic credentials in a little bit. But there has been some rephasing of revenue, as I mentioned, primarily related to the City Deal funding. We know that the Federal Government are committed to funding the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge as part of the South East Queensland City Deal.

We’ve been very glad to confirm that this funding is not being reconsidered as part of the recent infrastructure spending review and that commitment will be honoured by the current Government. So we welcome that. We have made some adjustments to reflect when we now expect to receive that funding. So that is a revenue reduction that’s now reflected in the current financial year, this is reflected with an equivalent increase in the forward years.

Likewise, Mr Chair, we have seen some rephasing of the capital expenditure in Program 1 to better align with our project delivery under the Brisbane Metro project. We have brought forward capital due to accelerated delivery in some parts of the project. So you know, for example, we’ve been reopening our flood‑damaged ferry terminals earlier this year. We’ve been able to get our new and upgraded ferry terminal program back on track as a result. So there have been some capital adjustments to align with that new program of work there as well.

What’s important is that these changes don’t reflect any reduction in the work that is being delivered, Mr Chair. Unlike what we heard from Councillor JOHNSTON, same work, rephased spending in this third budget review.

I just want to reflect on some of the comments from Councillor CASSIDY. Because I remember, Deputy Chair, literally just a year ago in this budget, when interest rates were low, we had Councillor CASSIDY lecturing us about the cheap price of borrowing and how we should be looking to borrow more, strategically.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: Invest in things like housing and all of these other things. That was Jared the Keynesian back then. You know we need to pump prime the economy. Then Labor’s won government Federally, now there’s a new Treasurer in town, Jim Chalmers, so Jared’s dropped the Wayne Swan Keynesianism and now he’s—

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY—

Councillor MURPHY: —Jared the conservative.

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: He wants us to pay down debt—

Deputy Chair: Can I remind you to address Councillors—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Councillor MURPHY: —through—

Deputy Chair: Can I remind you to address Councillors with their proper title and through the Chair.

Councillor MURPHY: Sure thing, Deputy Chair. Councillor CASSIDY is now an economic conservative, he’s a bit concerned that the debt levels are too high and that that’s affecting service delivery.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Councillor MURPHY: Well—

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Claim to be misrepresented.

Deputy Chair: Noted.

Councillor MURPHY: Well, Chair, look any—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: Okay, well that’s funny. Chair, any Councillor can go and get the minutes of the budget debate from 2022 budget and they will see Councillor CASSIDY talking about the need to borrow strategically and get more—hock the city’s finances up. Get us up to our eyeballs in debt so we can build things. Then he’s back in here, literally one year later, saying how much money we’ve got. Oh, there’s so much debt in this Council, no wonder rates are going up.

Is it any wonder, Chair, that the people of the City of Brisbane have no idea what this team opposite us stands for? Because they’ll play the line, each different budget that comes along. They’ll do the TikTok and they’ll get the cheap win at the moment, but they never build up any energy.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: They never build up any kind of force or mindshare in the public about what they stand for, what they want to do, what their alternative administration is. Look, the reality is, Chair, we’ll never see an alternative Labor administration. Because the next—if there is an alternative administration, it will be Labor and the Greens. We know who, in that relationship, will be calling the shots, Chair.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: We know no one would trust the Greens to run this city’s finances. So that is a very, very scary prospect, Chair. The reality is, rates will always be lower under an LNP Administration.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: Debt will always be higher under a Labor administration and when Labor were last in charge of this city, we spent two thirds of this city’s money on operational expenditure. Just keeping the lights on, just paying public servants. Today we spend the vast majority of our money on capital projects and on maintenance and on things out there in the suburbs that people really care about. That’s the reality, they won’t talk about it.

But look, wait and see what happens. The budget is just a few weeks away now, Chair, and we’ll get to see what is the third incarnation of Councillor CASSIDY. We go from the Keynesian to the economic conservative and then how is he going to present the next alignment with the Greens and Labor working together to form an administration of this city? I, for one, I’ve got my popcorn ready and I’m very interested to see what he comes up with.

Deputy Chair: Just one moment, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor CASSIDY, your misrepresentation.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Oh yes, thanks very much, Chair. I am absolutely not an economic conservative. I stand by my words from a year ago. I, in fact, think we should borrow to give a decent return for the residents living in the suburbs of Brisbane. My criticism and what I said in my debate was levelled at the kind of debt funded projects, pet projects of the LORD MAYOR that have now blown out by $1 billion in the inner city. That’s what I was referring to.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item A and B, the third budget review and also—well the financial reports that we have before us today. Can I just respond to Councillor MURPHY in terms of it’s very interesting the way not just Councillor MURPHY but everyone on that side of the Chamber does not mention that they’re members of the LNP. In fact they never want to say LNP.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes. Campbell Newman was another word that wouldn’t be mentioned by people on that side of the Chamber. So it was really—it has been really interesting to listen to the debate going backwards and forwards today. What I did pick up, and I’m—not sure if it was the LORD MAYOR or Councillor CUNNINGHAM, but the figure that was mentioned were that there were $48 million worth of delays on suburban projects, $48 million worth of delays. That was something that they were prepared to mention today.

Councillor MURPHY also let the cat out of the bag, he actually agreed with us. He actually said, you know what? Under Labor they used to spend more on delivery, on operational—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes. They actually delivered more, they delivered two thirds of the budget for the people of Brisbane.

Councillor MURPHY: Point of order, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Claim to be misrepresented.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I bet you do Councillor MURPHY.

Deputy Chair: Noted.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: It’s in the record there in black and white. Two thirds—two thirds of the budget was spent on delivery for the people of Brisbane. It is no wonder the people of Brisbane, in their surveys, in their polling, are finding that they’re not getting value for money from this Council.

But what are they getting? Well—and I keep hearing it week after week, after week and I keep repeating it to my residents. It’s all going to the inner city, it’s all going to the inner city. We have the Kangaroo Point bridge, we have the Metro, we have the Breakfast Creek bridge. We have another West End bridge, we have Kingsford Smith Drive, we have Victoria Park. We have millions and millions and millions of dollars going into the inner city—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —and the suburbs are forgotten about.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: The suburbs are forgotten about. I’ll take that—

Deputy Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

Councillor GRIFFITH: —I’ll take that interjection from the DEPUTY MAYOR. It’s the inner city you’re worried about. It’s those five kilometres of inner city that this money is being spent on. Anyone beyond that five kilometres of the inner city, you’re forgotten about. I know just recently I had a meeting with the residents of Rocklea, 50 of them showed up to meet with the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR was actually meant to be there, ah, ah, didn’t show. He didn’t show because—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —he was in—where was he? Egypt. The LORD MAYOR was in Egypt on a little goodness knows what, little flight of fantasy.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: In Egypt. He could not meet—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor GRIFFITHS, can I draw you back to the report, please?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, I’m coming back to the report. They wanted to meet about clearing their creeks out. They wanted to meet about getting flooding fixed.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Lovely stream of consciousness. The reports and to the report there, the relevance of this to relate specifically with item A or B.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: It relates to—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —drainage. It relates to drainage.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON. Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor GRIFFITHS, you’ve got the call.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Thank you. So what I would say is that my experience in this Council, and it’s been 20 years here, has been that this Administration has gone from providing services to cutting services in the suburbs. We’re not seeing new footpaths. We’re not seeing footpaths repaired, I’m not seeing drainage done, I’m not seeing drainage repaired. I’m seeing this constant lagging in the suburbs for direct services for the residents of Brisbane.

If I’m seeing it, other Councillors over there will be seeing it. There’s total silence from those Councillors, I don’t know what they say in their Party Room. They must just all sit there and comply. But it’s what I’m seeing as a Councillor who represents—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —a large chunk of Brisbane.

Deputy Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor GRIFFITHS, you’ve got the call.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Can I also say, last week we actually heard the LNP in this Chamber vote against—or not vote against—but speak against funding community facilities. Speak against funding and upgrading community facilities so they all met the same standards. They actually spoke against making all our community facilities accessible. They actually said that’s not something we, as a Council, should be doing. I challenge that view. I don’t believe that, I believe there is an alternative of what we should be doing with our community facilities in terms of accessibility, but also in terms of the standard we’re providing the residents of Brisbane.

The other thing I’d like to speak about and it has been mentioned as well in this report, is the buy-back. Yes, it’s a great thing we’re doing, the buy-back and it is wrong that this Council stopped funding buy-back in 2017 under the Lord Mayor and the LNP. We were leading the way in Australia then we vacated that space. Now it’s great—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Councillor GRIFFITHS, would he take a question?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: No.

Deputy Chair: No, I’m sorry, Councillor GRIFFITHS will not take a question.

You have the call, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Councillor has the opportunity to speak in her own time. I would suggest, with the buy-back, and once again, the LNP—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: You’ve got the call, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —the LNP voted against extending the buy-back so that we would actually buy back properties that are left isolated through this program. We had the opportunity of putting a program in place that captured homes that were left through this buy‑back program.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Will Councillor GRIFFITHS take a question to tell us where these homes were? Because no one would sell.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: No, I—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Will he take a question?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: No, I’ve said no.

Deputy Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS insists he is not taking a question.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes.

Deputy Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS, you’ve got the call.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, I think there’s great opportunities here for us to be involved more in this program. Rather than using it, as Councillor JOHNSTON said, as a fundraising exercise to pay for our staff. Unfortunately we’re charging the State and Federal Government to deliver this program, we’re actually not contributing. So I think it’s a real—it’s a missed opportunity.

I just repeat, in conclusion, I think this Administration, this Mayor, these LNP Councillors are all about the inner city. They’re all about big business and looking after the big end of town. What I keep hearing from residents is that they’re missing out. They’re not seeing value for money from this Council and they are really sick of it. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY, your misrepresentation please.

Councillor LANDERS: Mr—

Councillor MURPHY: Yes, thanks Mr Chair. So Councillor GRIFFITHS misrepresented me when he said that I said that I congratulated the Labor Party on spending two thirds of their money out in the suburbs. Where in fact I was admonishing the previous Labor administration and the Soorley Mayor for spending two thirds of money on wages and staff costs instead. We’ve actually inverted that equation, that’s the point that I was making.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **605/2022-23**  At that time, 3.06pm, 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 3.10pm. |

Deputy Chair: See you after afternoon tea.

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

*At that time, 3.27pm, the Chair, Councillor David McLACHLAN, assumed the Chair.*

Chair: Thank you, Councillors, and thank you, Mr Deputy Chair, for filling in for me during the first couple of hours of the meeting today.

We are in the E&C consideration and I’m calling on further speakers. Are there any further speakers in the E&C report? No further speakers?

LORD MAYOR, summing up.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Well, that’s been an interesting discussion. We’ve been on a rollercoaster where we thought for a minute that Councillor CASSIDY was an economic conservative and then he very clearly claimed that he’s not an economic conservative. I remember hearing some other Labor leader, or so-called leader, Kevin Rudd, claim to be an economic conservative and we know how that ended, but whenever a Labor leader claims to be an economic conservative, do not believe them. At least Councillor CASSIDY has come clean.

But there are some important things that need to be corrected in terms of what was said today. First of all, Councillor JOHNSTON made the outrageous and untrue statement that Council was somehow profiting from the flood. Did anyone else hear her say that? Yes. Profiting from the flood. Now, we’ve heard some serious lily-gilding happen in this place before but this is a new low. Let’s be very clear. Let’s be clear.

Let me be clear about the cost of the flood. When we went into the recovery phase for the flood, we estimated that the total cost of the flood would be 660 million—660 million of which only around 330 million would be recoverable through insurance claims, State and Federal disaster funding and any other funding sources. So, what does that leave? That leaves a gap of 330 million. So, 330 million. The idea that somehow Council is profiting from a flood which is going to hit the bottom line back on those original estimates of 330 million is an outrageous claim. It is an unfair claim and it shows no real understanding of what’s going on here.

Now, one thing that we have noticed, though—we’ve been working through the different funding sources and claims—is that we are getting in fact less revenue from the State and Federal Governments than we expected, not more. Less revenue. What we see here reflected in the documents today is merely a timing issue which is temporary but overall we expect to get less money back. Now, there will be final adjustments made in terms of overall costings of the flood and the recovery process as we get further down the track.

Obviously, we’ll be in a position to release any updates to those but I can give you the big tip: we are in no way going to be coming out of this without a significant hit to the bottom line of Council. So, any claim to the contrary is misleading and it shows a serious lack of understanding of the finances of this Council and also our flood recovery process.

But one other thing that I was interested to hear—and look, I know it is—their talking points. I know their talking points are about the claim that somehow the suburbs are missing out. We know that is a completely false, fabricated claim. We know that—is it 86%, Councillor CUNNINGHAM, of all the funding, or 68%? Maybe I’m dyslexic but it’s 86%, yes. I think I in the past have said 68%; I was undercooking it. It’s 86% of all the funding in the budget goes to the suburbs. Goes to the suburbs. Well, let’s—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Let’s talk about one of those selected areas.

Chair: Councillor MARX, please. No shouting out across the Chamber.

LORD MAYOR: Let’s talk about the Moorooka Ward. I’m going to use Councillor GRIFFITHS’ own social media post in recent times because he gets up here in the Chamber and claims there’s nothing happening in the suburbs, yet just four days ago he posted about all the great resurfacing happening in Archerfield, Coopers Plains and Rocklea. Is that because of him? No. It’s because of us. We funded it in the budget.

He then posts four days ago about works that are happening to kerb and channel in streets in Salisbury. Burgess Street, Elma Street and Debra Street, Salisbury. Is that because of Councillor GRIFFITHS? No. It’s because this Administration funded it. He then posts just a few days before that about traffic management works happening around the Junction Park State School, where there’s improvements in including street lighting upgrades happening. He posts about the kerbside collection coming to Nathan, Salisbury and Tarragindi. Is it because of the Labor Party or Councillor GRIFFITHS? No. It’s because we brought it back one year earlier than we said, that’s why.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Labor Councillors literally—they have so few runs on the board that they have to try and claim credit for other people’s activities, but we know this is business as usual. We see posts about tree planting in Annerley. He’s even posted about the Green Heart Fair, Councillor DAVIS. He’s excited about that. He posted about Acacia Ridge tree planting. Now, is this an initiative organised by Councillor GRIFFITHS? No. It’s part of the Greener Suburbs program which is an LNP budget initiative. He then goes to post about the Archerfield Park upgrade with the new fitness station.

He then talks about track restoration works through his ward in Toohey mountain track. Is this because of Councillor GRIFFITHS? No. He then—Councillor ADAMS, posts about Local Retail Activation Toolkit. Is this Councillor GRIFFITHS’ toolkit? No. No. This is Councillor ADAMS’ support for small business, which they were criticising just earlier in this meeting.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I could go on and on, but his own Facebook page proves that all the claims he made about a lack of suburban investment are false. Are false. In fact, I know some of the Councillors on our side of the Chamber are jealous about the amount of work happening in Councillor GRIFFITHS’ ward and so it is very interesting. Councillor STRUNK mentioned a comment about debt because we know that suddenly Labor’s against debt because the new Federal Treasurer has decided that he’s against debt and he wants to use that as an excuse to cut funding for roads and transport in Queensland. He wants to use that as an excuse.

Now, let’s have a look at the history of debt in Brisbane City Council because Councillor STRUNK mentioned that the Labor administration left little or no debt. That’s what he said, little or no debt.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors. Councillors, please.

LORD MAYOR: I have the budget here. This is Labor’s last budget. The 2003-04 budget. Apart from there being very little detail in here, what did it say? It says that debt peaked under Labor at $2,982 in today’s dollars. $2,982. So, this is in the Soorley years, per capita, peaked at $2,982. Despite our record investment in billions of dollars of infrastructure, today debt is $2,351 per capita. So, the Labor administration had more debt than we ever had but they actually didn’t deliver anything for that debt.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Let’s have a look at the assets as well. The assets at the moment, the community assets, are now approaching $30 billion, the net community assets, so that’s what effectively we’re borrowing against for the future of our city. We only borrow to invest in assets. $30 billion. We’re $29 billion at the moment. Back under Labor, when they had an even higher level of debt, $16 billion in assets. So, around half the assets and they borrowed more, so they had half of the assets but they borrowed more.

So, Councillor STRUNK, I wouldn’t be yelling so loudly, if I was you, because the facts speak for themselves. They are here in black and white in the budget documents which show Labor racked up—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Well, I would say that there are some fake facts in this green document which is Labor’s budget, but the reality is, Labor didn’t build anything yet they racked up more debt. This is the Labor way. We’ve seen it time and time again. Let’s finally talk about finance costs because in this document, in the last year of Labor Administration, what was their finance costs for the year? What were their finance costs for the year? $127 million a year in today’s dollars. So, that’s $10 million a year more than the finance costs today to build nothing. So, they borrowed more, they paid more in finance costs and they built nothing.

Actually, they did build something. They built a big dump at Rochedale. A big dump at Rochedale. That’s the only thing they built. So, Mr Chair, it’s been a fun discussion today and it’s been even more fun to point out Labor misrepresentations.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

Councillors, we now move to the vote on this report, the E&C report for items A and B.

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

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, 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 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 2023

**134/695/317/1325**

**606/2022-23**

1. The Divisional Manager, Organisational Services, provided the information below.

2. Sections 196(2) and (3) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) state that the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) must present financial reports to Council at least quarterly. The reports are to state the progress that has been made in relation to Council’s budget.

3. Section 166(3) of the Regulation states that the CEO must present a written assessment of Council’s progress towards implementing the Annual Operational Plan to Council at regular intervals of not more than three months.

4. The Annual Operational Plan Progress and Quarterly Financial Report March 2023 (refer Attachment B, submitted on file) includes:

- Section 1 – Quarterly Financial Report

- Section 2 – Annual Operational Plan Progress Report

- Section 3 – Commercialised Businesses.

5. The previous financial report for the period ended 23 December 2022 was presented to Council on 21 February 2023. The current report relates to the period ended 24 March 2023.

6. The Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

7. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL RESOLVE AS PER THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, hereunder.

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 2023**

As:

1. sections 196(2) and (3) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* require that the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) present financial reports to Council at least quarterly
2. section 166(3) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* states that the CEO must present a written assessment of Council’s progress towards implementing the Annual Operational Plan to Council at regular intervals of not more than three months,

then:

1. Council directs that the Annual Operational Plan Progress and Quarterly Financial Report for the period ended March 2023, as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file), be noted.

**ADOPTED**

#### B 2022-23 BUDGET – THIRD REVIEW

**134/135/1164/851**

**607/2022-23**

8. The Divisional Manager, Organisational Services, provided the information below.

9. Section 162(2) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* provides that Council’s budget for a financial year may be amended at any time before the end of the financial year.

10. The 2022-23 Budget – Third Review has been prepared and considers:

- emerging issues requiring funding and changes to income and expenditure for 2022‑23 through to 2025-26

- contractual cost escalations and price escalations across a number of key materials and services

- impacts from supply chain disruptions associated with world events, economic conditions and market volatility impacting Council’s cost of operations and capital program delivery

- a tight labour market impacting Council labour and contracted works

- the ongoing financial impacts from the South East Queensland Flooding and Rainfall Event 2022.

11. The Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

12. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL RESOLVE AS PER THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, hereunder.

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**Draft resolution To approve tHE 2022-23 Budget** – **THIRD Review**

As:

(i) Council proposes to amend the budget to address emerging issues and changes to income and expenditure for 2022-23 through to 2025-26

(ii) section 162(2) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* provides that Council may, by resolution, amend the budget for a financial year at any time before the end of the financial year,

then Council:

(i) resolves to amend the Annual Plan and Budget 2022-23 by adopting the amended budget allocations for Programs 1 to 8, and Businesses and Council Providers in accordance with Attachment B (submitted on file).

**ADOPTED**

Chair: LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee report of 22 May 2023, please.

### 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 22 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Item A and the only item on this special report is the appointment of a new Councillor representing the Australian Labor Party, and that Councillor is Sara-Ann Whitmee, as the Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward to replace former Councillor Peter Cumming. So, this particular submission appoints Sara as the Councillor for Wynnum Manly but also appoints her to the City Standards and the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committees.

This appointment is being made under the City of Brisbane Act where the appointment of a Councillor can be made 36 months after the last election was held. So, obviously this has happened before in recent times and I want to say to Sara, welcome. The job of a Councillor is never dull. It is a challenging but also rewarding experience and I certainly wish Sara-Ann all the best for her time during the period serving in Council. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on this item. Firstly, and I think for the last time—not in a bad way—put on record our thanks for the 29 years of service for the former Councillor for the Wynnum Manly Ward, Peter Cumming, in his service to the city. He leaves behind a legacy of engagement and action for his community, which I know will be continued. We are very proud to support the item before us in appointing a new member of our team, Sara Whitmee, who is with us today in the Gallery and will be declared shortly after this meeting as the new Councillor for the Wynnum Manly Ward.

Sara’s a proud bayside local and is keen and ready to represent them in getting their fair share. Sara’s mum raised six kids in social housing so she understands the challenges the people face in raising a family and keeping a roof over their head. Her previous experience as an employee at the United Workers Union fighting for some of the lowest paid and hardest working people in our community and her career in real estate is also an exceptional sounding board for what’s happening in the real world and out and about in her community.

People want for their Council to be focused on the basics in the suburbs of Brisbane and on service delivery. They’re sick of being forgotten in the outer suburbs of Brisbane. Having spoken with Sara, she will tell you she loves the Wynnum Manly Ward and the bayside community. She’ll tell you that it’s a beautiful place to live, almost as beautiful as the northern bayside, of course. Sorry, I had to chuck that one in there. She also knows, though, that for too long this LORD MAYOR and his LNP team have focused—we’ve just been discussing that—focused on themselves and the inner city.

The LNP have been in power for 20 years and residents across Brisbane know it’s time for change. Sara’s ready to hit the ground running, to listen to and engage with her community and represent her community. I know she wants to see more equitable access to housing, better services in the suburbs, better waste management, like FOGO (food organics and garden organics), better public transport, more accessible footpaths and action on suburban congestion. Importantly, she’ll work hard every day as a strong voice for her community as a proud member of the Labor team to make sure residents know that they deserve much better than this LNP Administration gives them.

She will be a strong voice for her community in City Hall, not City Hall’s voice out in her community.

Chair: Further speakers? No further speakers?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Well, I was gracious and welcoming for the new Councillor. Unfortunately, Councillor CASSIDY, true to form, tried to play party politics here. So, it is a real disappointment but I will use this opportunity to point out the incredible delivery that’s happened in the Wynnum Manly Ward under the LNP. It has happened despite the absolute long-term neglect of successive Labor Councillors over a long period of time. So, the things that have been claimed as Labor achievements are all in fact LNP achievements.

Whether it is the creation of new revitalisation in the Wynnum town centre—this was an issue of this Administration and its predecessors—whether it’s the construction of a new library in Wynnum—this was our side of politics that delivered—whether it was the upgrading of the foreshore to make it in fact one of the most popular parts of Brisbane for people to come and visit and spend some time.

These were all things that were done by this Administration and its predecessors. So, anything else is a completely false rewriting of history and Councillor CASSIDY knows this. He should stop playing petty politics. I think we should all, at a time like this, put those party politics aside and welcome a new Councillor in a non-partisan way, Councillor CASSIDY. Thanks.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

We move to the vote on this item.

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.

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 APPOINTMENT OF SARA-ANN WHITMEE AS COUNCILLOR FOR WYNNUM MANLY WARD AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL’S STANDING COMMITTEES

**137/225/37/14**

**608/2022-23**

1. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

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

3. Former Councillor Peter Cumming tendered his resignation as the Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward to the Chief Executive Officer with effect from 12 May 2023.

4. As:

(a) this resignation takes effect during the final part of Council’s term (more than 36 months after the last quadrennial elections were held); and

(b) former Councillor Peter Cumming was elected as a nominee of the Australian Labor Party, then section 166(3) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* requires Council to seek the nomination of a qualified nominee from the Australian Labor Party, and upon receipt of that nomination, formally appoint that nominee by way of Council Resolution.

5. Under section 166(4) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*, the Chief Executive Officer wrote to the registered officer of the Australian Labor Party on 15 May 2023 requesting advice of the name and address of a qualified nominee to fill the vacant Councillor position for Wynnum Manly Ward.

6. By letter dated 16 May 2023 (refer Attachment B, submitted on file), the Australian Labor Party advised of the nomination of Sara-Ann Whitmee to fill that vacancy.

7. Sara-Ann Whitmee has provided the Chief Executive Officer with a completed Statutory Declaration (refer Attachment C, submitted on file) confirming they are qualified for appointment to the position of Councillor in accordance with sections 152 to 156 of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*.

8. Anticipating the appointment of Sara-Ann Whitmee as Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward, it is proposed they be appointed as a member of the City Standards Committee and the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee.

9. The Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL RESOLVE AS PER THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, hereunder.

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO APPOINT SARA-ANN WHITMEE TO FILL THE VACANT POSITION OF COUNCILLOR FOR WYNNUM MANLY WARD AND TO ALTER THE MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL’S STANDING COMMITTEES**

As:

(i) former Councillor Peter Cumming, Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward, resigned as a Councillor by signed notice of resignation given to the Chief Executive Officer with effect from the closure of 12 May 2023

(ii) this resignation takes effect during the final part of Council’s term (more than 36 months after the last quadrennial elections were held)

(iii) former Councillor Peter Cumming was elected as Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward as a nominee of the Australian Labor Party

(iv) section 163(4) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* requires that vacancy be filled within two months of that vacancy occurring

(v) section 166(3) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* requires that vacancy to be filled by a nominee of the Australian Labor Party

(vi) upon receipt of that nomination, Council is to formally appoint that nominee by way of Council Resolution

(vii) under section 166(4) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*, the Chief Executive Officer wrote to the registered officer of the Australian Labor Party on 15 May 2023 requesting advice of the name and address of a qualified nominee to fill the vacant Councillor position for Wynnum Manly Ward

(viii) by letter dated 16 May 2023, the Australian Labor Party advised of the nomination of Sara-Ann Whitmee to fill that vacancy as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file)

(ix) Sara-Ann Whitmee has provided the Chief Executive Officer with a completed Statutory Declaration confirming they are qualified for appointment to the position of Councillor in accordance with sections 152 to 156 of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*,

then:

1. Council resolves to appoint Sara-Ann Whitmee of [Privacy-in-Confidence], as Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward with immediate effect, and approves, effective from the day after the approval of this resolution, that Sara-Ann Whitmee be appointed as a member of the City Standards Committee and the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee report, 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 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair, and as I do every week, I’ll be speaking about lots of things in my portfolio and particularly what is being held at the Brisbane Business Hub through the workshops and mentoring program which we now know has helped over 20,000 businesses since 2020, those businesses that are run by mums and dads, right throughout every suburb in this city. Every suburb in this city.

Who else do they hire in these businesses? Mums and dads and the kids and the students from every suburb in the city. So, in the Business Hub this week, we saw a pulse check—or which are coming up, sorry, on the 25th—is the pulse check, Business Chamber Queensland’s (BCQ) latest business sentiment data being directed by Hai Pham and Michael Merlo, talking about how timely and a comprehensive snapshot of Queensland Business sentiment can give some critical insights into the opinions of business owners and how BCQ—as CCIQ (Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland) is now named—how BCQ can support them.

Also on the 25th from nine, we have Improved Productivity and Profitability for Your Business. This workshop helps everyone at all levels in their business to feel empowered to identify and eliminate inefficiencies. That is being delivered by our partner, Steven Kassulke. Then on the 30th at 12pm, Decision-Making for Personal and Professional Success. If you want to cruise through your day—wouldn’t that be nice—easily making decisions, feeling energised and authentically connecting with people, come and listen from Belinda Chapman, our business expert, on how to set yourself up for success by aligning your multiple brains.

That’s just this week in the Business Hub where everybody is welcome. Of course, it is a drop-in centre from nine to four every weekday as well for anybody who wants to come in and drop in. We also have the Northgate Suburban Business Hub as well. I am very pleased to be able to stand and talk about our Committee report that we had last week in Committee. It is the only thing on the agenda, Mr Chair, as every other Committee has been since the City of Brisbane Act, is you have a Committee report and that’s what you talk about.

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’ll take the interjection from Councillor GRIFFITHS on shame. I’m not quite sure what else he wants us to have on the agenda other than the Committee report?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Chair: Excuse me, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Point of order to you, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, it wasn’t me.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I apologise, Councillor GRIFFITHS. Maybe it was Councillor STRUNK. I apologise. I presumed it was Councillor GRIFFITHS usually yelling across the Chambers at me. Whoever interrupted, I’m not quite sure what else they expect except the Committee report in a Committee report, but more than happy—I’m happy to take a question if they could tell me what else they want to see on the report that I could add to it. We only do one report a week; it comes to Council the week later. So, the report last week was a presentation on our biggest dining event for CBD restaurants.

It’s being held through June, supported by BEDA (Brisbane Economic Development Agency), Dine BNE. So, it was actually started three years ago in 2021 after we were just coming out the worst of COVID-19 and we had so many people still working from home. We still have that but the numbers are coming back. We really needed to think how we could support our food and beverage industry within the CBD who were struggling without the feet on the street from the CBD businesses.

So, Dine BNE was a way to come up with fantastic experiences at a very, very reasonable price so people from all over the city, right out to Deagon and Wynnum, Pullenvale, could come in and experience one of the many fantastic offers that are there at a variety of price points. There is this year 110 experiences that they can pick from. There is lunches, there is supper clubs, there’s feasts, there is dinners. The lunches start from $19 and a three-course dinner with a drink starts from $40. A very reasonable experience for a CBD restaurant. There is something for everyone.

I see the Opposition wants to keep making the lurid suggestions that this is about champagne and caviar. This is about supporting our local businesses in the CBD who hire local residents from outer Brisbane. Believe it or not, ALP Councillors, through you, Mr Chair, but the food and beverage industry is jobs for Brisbane people. It is jobs for Brisbane people. What we’ve seen in May already this year is $70 million into the economy from events like NRL Magic Round, the Truck Show which saw a 20% increase in foot traffic, Paniyiri coming back again. It’s about supporting local business.

They are laughing hysterically to my right through you, Mr Chair, because they don’t get it. We just heard the Strunkonomics on how it works when you have debt and now we’re hearing how we don’t support businesses if they’re in the inner five kilometres because they’re not in a suburb. It is ridiculous. Absolutely ridiculous. Because if you understand how GDP (gross domestic product) works when the most of the turnover is in the heart of the city, you need to support the heart of the city so the rest of the city does well.

Hospitality is jobs and hospitality is jobs for locals and when restaurants close down in the city, they close down jobs to our locals. So, I make no apologies for being the Chair of Economic Development to support events like this is for June, coming off the back of a huge month, to try and keep people coming in, running over school holiday period, come in and join on the school holidays. There is a price point for everybody. No, you do not need to pick the $65 Donna Chang. It may not be your cup of tea, but a $40 for three courses and a drink is not a bad option for a couple if you’d like a night out and to try something different.

The hypocrisy of them thinking that they have the economic credibility to run this city and then have this argument against me—supporting the inner city is amazing. Surprisingly, most of the stuff I look after is the inner city because my portfolio is the Olympics and Paralympic Games which is predominantly happening within the inner five kilometres and my portfolio and my responsibility is the planning within the inner five kilometres. So, that is my job.

Just it is like Councillor MARX’s job to look after waste and resources and Councillor HOWARD who does so much in our community events but couldn’t do both between those, between economic development and the community events. That is what we do on this side of the Chamber. We share the load; we work for the city and we make Brisbane a better place tomorrow than it is today. I recommend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON was first.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh yes, sorry. I just—right, I rise to speak on item A, the only item in the report before us today. It’s really, really incredibly sad to see that the LNP Administration is so out of ideas and now out of the Chamber. The DEPUTY MAYOR has left. I—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON, you have the floor.

Councillor MARX, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I am astonished that what I heard earlier today was responded to in the way it was as part of this presentation. I wasn’t at this Committee report but if somebody was promoting champagne and caviar and oysters using Council funding, that is wrong. It is wrong. It is absolutely wrong. I understand that we need to support businesses and the unfortunate problem with the LNP is the brain space appears to be that small that they don’t get that you can support businesses but you don’t have to support it the way the LNP say it should be done.

So, let me be very upfront with this and here’s some advice for the DEPUTY MAYOR, who has a responsibility to the whole city, not just the inner five kilometres, as she’s just kept telling us over and over and over again. I mean, does she even know that there’s an Olympics venue out in my ward in the middle ring suburbs? I mean, is that just going to be forgotten, that there is actually Olympic stuff outside of the CBD ring, because she doesn’t seem to know, which is disappointing.

However, there’s only one item on the agenda because this is an LNP Administration that has lost all energy for the job, that has no fresh ideas, that has no vision and has utterly failed, utterly failed, to support the city. Now, Councillor ADAMS—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Councillor ADAMS has—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s all right. We can add him to the list of turn your back, click your fingers, shout. It’s all fine. You can tell from what the LNP is saying that their only interest is about spruiking up the CBD businesses. Now, out my way, local shops and cafes actually employ people, people who can walk to work or ride to work and take the pressure off the inner city congestion that we’re facing. Is there any support from the LNP during Dine BNE city? Is there any support for any food-related activities out in my ward? No. Is there any support for any free food activities as part of this proposal for the city, either in the CBD or outside the CBD? Not that I’m aware of. It’s not mentioned in here.

In fact, the DEPUTY MAYOR has simply reconfirmed that you can have lunch for $19. So, does she think, does the DEPUTY MAYOR think, that the ordinary worker in Brisbane has $100 a week to spend lunching in the CBD? How out of touch is somebody that thinks that’s how people spend money? They don’t. People are bringing sandwiches from home. They’re not eating. Having a piece of fruit. Maybe their work’s supplying food for them. There are some people, obviously, who can afford to do this, without question, and I’m sure these are great options for them, but there are people who are doing it tough and the problem here is the LNP does not recognise that.

It just does not compute, either from the question and the answer we heard earlier today from the DEPUTY MAYOR that was frankly staggering. To defend such a tone deaf response in the middle of a cost of living crisis in the way that she did was appalling. But here’s some ideas for the LNP who are out of ideas and out of time. Fund some free activities for people in the city. Make sure that they can get good quality food on the way through to work. Have some activities out in the suburbs where small businesses are shutting down because they can’t get enough staff, the rents are too high and where people can actively participate in their local community and take pressure off the congested roads network that we have in this city.

I mean, you can’t get to the city on a bike from my area because there’s no bikeways anywhere. Not a sausage. Not one. It’s interesting, isn’t it? We’ll get to that when we debate the bridge in a minute. It’s clearly recognised in the material. There’s no bikeway infrastructure. People in my area can barely get to Indooroopilly. The tone deafness of this Administration and their defence of the indefensible here is shocking. So, let’s just give the DEPUTY MAYOR a few ideas here. You don’t just need one thing on your agenda and if that’s what she thinks her job is, she should quit now. She should quit now.

Other Chairs manage to bring forward lots of other things, whether it’s petition responses—there’s plenty of things that you can be doing. The DEPUTY MAYOR, of course, is not doing any of these things. Are we seeing her leading any petitions? No, we’re not. Are we seeing any other ideas coming through from her? No, we’re not. We’re seeing her defend her own agenda, which is out of touch with the values and the needs of this city and that is what is so disappointing. I don’t think Dine BNE is necessarily a bad thing but the problem with the LNP Administration is the scope of it is all wrong.

It is supporting the wrong initiatives and if the DEPUTY MAYOR thinks that everyday workers are spending $100 a week on lunch, then she’s really, really out of touch with what’s going on in the city. So, I just say to the LNP, you have failed yet again on something that’s supposed to be a positive for the city. It only funds inner city restaurants. It only funds expensive options. It doesn’t fund anything free or low cost. There is absolutely nothing in here other than what the DEPUTY MAYOR says, which is about pumping money into CBD businesses. That is not the only way to support the city.

We can have a thriving city when we focus on neighbourhoods that are strong and resilient and the LNP is systematically destroying them all over Brisbane. This is another great example of it.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, thanks very much, Chair. I thought other Councillors might speak on this, particularly Councillor HUTTON, who was very, very interested in some of those lunch deals. Last week, we were discussing this in Committee—

Councillor HUTTON: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Claim to be misrepresented from that disgusting behaviour across the Chamber.

Chair: You haven’t spoken, Councillor HUTTON, unfortunately, but Councillor CASSIDY, if I can ask you to come back to the report, please.

Councillor CASSIDY: Oh yes, when we were discussing the report, the LNP Councillors were extremely interested in those lunch deals. It’s a public meeting; I don’t think they could dispute that. I guess Councillor COLLIER and my disinterest in this program that the DEPUTY MAYOR brought has led to the DEPUTY MAYOR levelling a charge of class warfare against us today. That’s the DEPUTY MAYOR’s response to us saying this probably isn’t the most appropriate thing for this Administration to be bringing here in the midst of a cost of living crisis and a housing crisis.

The DEPUTY MAYOR has claimed today, Chair, that her job in Council is to just look after the CBD and the inner five-K ring. The DEPUTY MAYOR said that as part of the Economic Development part of her portfolio and the Olympics part of her portfolio, so as if nothing to do with the Olympics all happen outside of the five-K ring of the CBD. Yes, that’s right, even Holland Park Ward isn’t even included in the Economic Development portfolio of Brisbane anymore, and yet today we were educated about things happening in Nundah as part of the Economic Development portfolio.

I’m pretty sure that’s a bit further than five Ks from the CBD and yes, she mentioned Wynnum too, which I think is more than five Ks out of the CBD. Morningside as well, the week before. So, I think DEPUTY MAYOR’s a little confused about what her role is here, but in the years since this Committee was set up—I think it was 2021—and the LORD MAYOR and the DEPUTY MAYOR claimed this Committee had to be set up in preparation for the Olympics.

They added on Economic Development, took that from the Finance portfolio and added Economic Development to this new Committee, but this was all about preparation for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2032. That’s what we were told. This Committee is costing the ratepayers of Brisbane $250,000 a year to exist. So, $250,000 a year to have an extra Committee here in Council, Chair—

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I don’t believe the economics of this Committee is mentioned in this report. Can I bring you back to the report, please?

Councillor CASSIDY: Sure. So, the report before us today, Dine BNE, of which the DEPUTY MAYOR said is exclusively about the inner city, is—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order. Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Point of order. Misrepresentation noted, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes. The Olympics Committee, I think, has had two, maybe three presentations about the preparation for the Olympics since 2021. So, what we get from the DEPUTY MAYOR are presentations about fancy lunches in the city. We had one about bins in Queen Street Mall, I do recall that one. Unemployment rates, a data set from the ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) presented to us in that Committee, of course, the best lobster lunch in Brisbane. That’s what the DEPUTY MAYOR’s brought to us today. So, we do get a sense from this presentation before us today about the priorities of the LNP and the priorities of the DEPUTY MAYOR. In her own words, it’s the CBD of Brisbane.

Chair: Please refer to Councillors by their title, please.

Councillor CASSIDY: In the DEPUTY MAYOR’s own words, the DEPUTY MAYOR’s priorities are the CBD only.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Again, thank you.

Councillor CASSIDY: So, right now, Chair, it’s undeniable that we are in the midst of a cost of living crisis that is hitting families right across Brisbane, in every suburb of Brisbane, and in the CBD as well, every day of the week. People can’t afford a rental property, even if they can find one. They can’t afford to fill up their cars to drive around. They are struggling to live in the most basic way, day in, day out, and the DEPUTY MAYOR thought the most appropriate thing to bring to Council was a presentation around lobster lunches and champagne and caviar and good deals for lunch, one of which was $130 for a lunch deal.

I’ve heard some pretty harrowing stories over just the last few days, in fact, from families having to make that choice between paying their rent and putting food on their table. Their food story isn’t about where they can get a good lunch deal in the CBD. Their food story is about whether they can feed their kids or keep a roof over their kids’ heads. I was talking to an organisation in Councillor ALLAN’s ward just last week, and they’ve seen a massive increase in the number of families who have a rental home coming to secure weekly food for their families because they have to make that tough decision as to whether they pay the rent or whether they put food on their table.

So, we know from so much today, but this is just such a clear example of the LNP’s priorities for the residents of Brisbane. It’s themselves, it’s the inner city, but it’s never just ordinary people. When we raise these issues and when we raise the fact that the DEPUTY MAYOR’s not bringing important things to the DEPUTY MAYOR’s Committee and the LORD MAYOR’s not leading on critical issues, we are accused of being class warriors. Well, okay, if we want to engage on that then, they clearly just believe in 1980s trickle-down economics. If you look after the very, very top, maybe someone out in the suburbs gets a crumb.

That’s the argument that the DEPUTY MAYOR has levelled today. So, I’m not sure whether those families who are struggling in their decisions, those thousands of families, as to whether to buy groceries this week for their families or to pay the rent this week, care much about a $130 lunch deal. I’m sorry, I just don’t think they do. I just don’t think they do. I think the DEPUTY MAYOR has lost touch with the real world. To get up here and to say that her job is the CBD of Brisbane—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor CASSIDY: —it’s a real shame that the DEPUTY MAYOR of Brisbane thinks that this is the highest priority for this LNP Administration. I get that the DEPUTY MAYOR can’t decide what goes to E&C, that’s a decision for the LORD MAYOR to bring those decisions. All those Committee Chairs have to participate in those discussions. But what comes as a presentation to these Committees is a decision of the Chair of those Committees. It’s about the only thing they really do, under the City of Brisbane Act, really.

To control what comes through that Committee, to show what the values are and the priorities are of this LNP Administration and the best that the DEPUTY MAYOR could come up with was a long lunch. I think that’s a real shame for the people of Brisbane.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, your claims of misrepresentation. You have three.

DEPUTY MAYOR: There was three. The first one was that Dine BNE is only about the city. I did not say that, I said it’s in the city. It’s about everybody who may be employed in the city and anybody who may be employed in those businesses. He also said twice that I claimed my job is only about the CBD. I said the CBD is important for our economy and I said I oversee the planning within the CBD area.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further debate?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you. Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on this item and there’s three words that occurred to me three times and that was, equity, equity, equity. There is no equity for those suburban eateries that are not going to be able to participate and I agree with Councillor JOHNSTON that this isn’t a bad program, to promote an area of eateries, but what about those eateries out in the suburbs that actually pay rates like the ones in the city? They deserve the same opportunities to participate in a program like this. So, why not roll it out?

If this is such a great program, now that COVID’s over and numbers are coming back, if this is such a great program, why not roll it out across the city in some fashion or form? Because I can assure you the more than 30 Vietnamese restaurants in my ward, not to mention all the other cultural-type restaurants in my ward—and they’re increasing as development happens—they deserve the same equity as those here in the CBD. They pay their rates and they should have the same opportunities.

This is not about class warfare, quite frankly, and I really take exception to the fact that the DEPUTY MAYOR has labelled that on our side of the Chamber as class warfare, because it’s not. It’s equity for those restaurants that should have the same opportunities as the ones here in the CBD and inner city suburbs. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

DEPUTY MAYOR, summing up?

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you. I’d love to sum up and just get some of this hyperbole sorted out. What I heard—thank you, Councillor STRUNK and also from Councillor JOHNSTON—not a bad program, but I’d do it differently. I think I heard from Councillor JOHNSTON that it’s not a bad program as long as the DEPUTY MAYOR has nothing to do with it, but that’s her personal problem, not mine.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’ll take—

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Noted.

DEPUTY MAYOR: That’ll be interesting. Look, this is ridiculous. The spin they’re trying to get out of this to somehow make that we’re out of touch and we don’t understand that these meal deals and lunch deals is not a great thing to get people into the city—I agree somebody said, yes, some people will be able to afford it, but not everybody. Absolutely not, because guess what? We’re not forcing people to go to lunch and we’re not forcing people to dinner and if they don’t want to go, they don’t have to go. But it is a way that we can encourage people to come and support our businesses in the city.

But I can assure you one thing, if it comes down to the choice of having to pay your rent or your businesses being shut down, if you’re employed in one of these restaurants and they shut down, you won’t be able to pay your rent. So, it is about employment and that is the part that Councillor CASSIDY and Councillor JOHNSTON are not hearing. This is about keeping these restaurants, these businesses, the food and hospitality in this one-month program in the CBD.

We have been running local business partnership initiatives across the city for the eight years that I have been in Council and some of those programs have had restaurant package deals. We gave a grant to The Terraces, when Councillor MATIC’s program in 2017-18, they decided what they wanted to do was exactly what we’re talking about in Dine BNE and they did that program. Wynnum CBD will have the same opportunity if that’s what they’d like to do. We are out in the suburbs delivering that through economic development.

I never said my role is the inner city. I said my role through the Olympics and Paralympics is planning within the five Ks. Planning. We’re talking city planning, planning. But there are venues right across the city, but as soon as you become planning outside the five Ks, we have a Planning Chair who is doing amazing things in suburban renewal. But this is the nuance they don’t understand, that as a team, we are delivering for the whole of the city. I did take the—I’ll take the comment that we were commenting about some of the lunch deals that looked okay.

We try and keep it light and friendly in our Committee, however Councillor CASSIDY never speaks and one thing he never speaks in his General Business, which I ask every single week, is there any further General Business? All he has to do is ask what in my portfolio would he like a report on. Because I have always, always presented—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I have always presented a Committee report when a Councillor from either side of the Chamber has asked for that report. You can go back and check over the last 10 years. I have always presented a report if something was asked within my portfolio that I could do that presentation, but it is crickets. They don’t ask questions. Councillor COLLIER has asked, and that’s the first questions I’ve had from the Opposition in four years. They don’t ask questions. I’ll take the interjection from the Councillor of Tennyson, apparently, it’s Councillor CASSIDY’s job.

I didn’t say it was his job, but don’t whinge that he doesn’t get what he wants if he doesn’t ask for what he’d like to see, through you, Mr Chair. It’s very simple. I present every—oh, sorry, now it’s my fault, through you, Mr Chair, that I can’t mind read.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I was speaking to Councillor CASSIDY, actually. It’s his fault.

Chair: I don’t think that was a point of order, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Every term I do a presentation from the four areas in my portfolio, which is economic development, international relations, BEDA, which is what this one was, and from the Olympic Host City. We’ve still got two—I hear a do not interjecture from Councillor CASSIDY, he can go back and check. Go back and read the minutes, Councillor CASSIDY. Every session has at least one presentation from each of those areas. It’s as simple as that. They can make up the lies as much as they like in this place, but they can’t actually produce it with the facts.

If there is something that the Councillors in my Committee would like to see a presentation which is in my portfolio, more than happy to present it.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: But I will not be shamed—and that’s what they’ve been trying to do here. Talk about bullying a female Councillor. What I’ve been called this afternoon is—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s the second time I’ve been misrepresented and I certainly haven’t bullied anybody here today so I’d ask that that’s withdrawn.

Chair: I didn’t hear your name being mentioned, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I spoke earlier today and Councillor ADAMS is misrepresenting what I said in my speech earlier today, so I’m claiming misrepresentation.

Chair: Well, you’ve got a claim of misrepresentation. You can make that point then.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you. I’m also now asking you to get her to withdraw the statement that I—somebody who’s spoken here today—has been bullying her in some way because—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, the DEPUTY MAYOR did not mention your name.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —that is not the case. She did. That is exactly—well, it’s everybody.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON. Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m sorry. No, it is not okay for Councillor ADAMS to throw out a claim that people are bullying here when we are talking on a report here today and I spoke on the report and gave ideas about how it could be better. Now, that is not bullying. It needs to be clear from you, Mr Chairman, that speaking to a report is not bullying.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I don’t uphold your point of order.

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. How people perceive themselves being bullied are very different because we get it thrown back at us all the time. I clearly heard that I am shameful, I am out of touch and I’m appalling from various Councillors on the other side. I feel bullied and there’s all there is too it and I will not withdraw it.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: At no point did I say any of those things about Councillor ADAMS and she is misrepresenting what I have said in this place.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I don’t uphold your point of order. You have a point of misrepresentation.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I haven’t finished.

Chair: Oh, sorry. My apologies, Councillor. DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I was just being polite and sitting when there is a point of order. Sorry, Mr Chair.

So, that’s how it is. I’ve been yelled at and screamed at across the Chamber today. I wasn’t here, but I heard it and I felt bullied. But it apparently doesn’t matter when you’re the DEPUTY MAYOR, how you’re treated in this place. It only matters how they’re treated, not how we’re treated. But I will not be shamed into saying I won’t support an event that happens in the CBD that has the opportunity to bring in millions in economic development and return in the city, supply jobs and employment for residents right across the city.

This is one program of a myriad that we propose and I look forward to some suggestions in General Business on what they would like to hear if they feel like they’ve been missing anything in my Committee in the future. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you. Councillor JOHNSTON, your point of misrepresentation?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, there are two. Firstly, Councillor ADAMS said that I said that this portfolio—she’s leaving again—would be better if she wasn’t in it. I made no such statement about that whatsoever. I spoke to the need to do this better by making free events and more events in the suburb. On the second point of misrepresentation, Councillor ADAMS has claimed that me and other Councillors on this side of the Chamber bullied her. She said vile and false things about us. It is outrageous that she is able to stand up and do that when no such statements were made.

No such statements were made by me or by anybody as far as I’m aware. It’s just outrageous that she is doing this.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON. You’re now debating. Thank you.

We 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 Lucy Collier.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Steven Huang.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – DINE BNE CITY 2023

**609/2022-23**

1. The General Manager Marketing, Brisbane Economic Development Agency (BEDA), attended the meeting to provide an update on Brisbane’s Dine BNE City 2023 campaign. He provided the information below.

2. Dine BNE City was created by BEDA in 2021, to support the city centre’s hospitality providers in their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and to encourage locals and visitors to return to the city’s restaurants.

3. In 2022, nine special events and 93 offers were provided across 68 participating venues. Approximately 798,900 people were reached through website sessions, website users and ‘book now’ click-throughs. In 2023, 16 special events and 107 offers will be provided across 77 venues.

4. Dine BNE City is made up of four categories.

- Let’s Do Lunch is targeted to city workers providing mid-week lunch options.

- Bar Safari highlights Brisbane’s bar and mixology scene.

- Supper Club includes set menu dining at some of the city’s finest restaurants.

- Special Events include exclusive dinners, a ticketed wine walk and the inaugural FIRESIDE: Food & Wine event, held on the grounds of St Stephen’s Cathedral.

5. FIRESIDE: Food & Wine is collaborative event produced by Dap & Co. Hospitality Group. The event will have a winter theme with a focus on warmth and comfort. Guests are welcomed to St Stephen’s Cathedral from 6pm, discovering the event hidden at the rear of the cathedral grounds. The cathedral will be dramatically lit, with smoke and the smell of cooking food wafting across the space whilst music is played in the background until 10pm.

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

7. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thanks, Chair. Last week in Transport Committee we heard from representatives from Transport for Brisbane (TFB) about the rollout of full bus driver barriers in our buses. Councillors will remember that in January, the State Government committed funding to improve the safety of drivers across the South East Queensland bus network. This announcement followed an increase in, what I would call, safety incidents reported by bus drivers, particularly on routes 100 and 110, which is the city to Forest Lake, and the city to Inala.

It’s of course horrifying for any of us Councillors to hear of attacks in these numbers occurring on our bus networks. Our drivers have reported a number of youths, particularly, yelling, verbally abusing drivers and passengers as well, spitting, throwing and smashing objects on the bus, as well as fare evasion, Chair. We know right now there is a youth crime wave happening across the State and, clearly, we’re starting to see this spill over into our public transport network. Since 2017, Council has enhanced safety on Brisbane’s bus network.

We have included upgrades to emergency exits, we’ve added additional signage, emergency response vehicles, we have extra security guards and we’ve installed bus driver protection barriers on all of Council’s 1,200 buses. Other safety measures that we have implemented include CCTV, duress alarms, anti-shatter windows, as well as training and support programs. We like to teach our drivers how to de-escalate situations, rather than to get involved in them and we certainly don’t train our drivers to do the job of police or security. That’s not what they’re there for.

They’re there to drive the bus, quite simply, Mr Chair, and that’s what we want them to be doing. But in the wake of increased safety incidents in the wake of these—I would say this crime wave, which is occurring across the State, we have taken some extra steps to drive change and to make sure that our bus drivers are safe when they’re out there on the network. We know, because we’ve been calling on the State Government for many, many years now to increase the number of senior network officers, that is essentially, Chair, the transit police, on our network on a permanent basis for many years.

It’s the State Government senior network officers who have the power to issue fines, to detain offenders, and to take people’s details down. In January, we finally saw a response to those calls. Another safety feature that can be added is, of course, full driver barriers, that is, barriers that enclose the driver in a separated compartment. Part of the State Government’s announcement included $2.6 million in funding to install full barriers in some of our bus fleet and we very much welcome that support from the State Government.

Although our fleet is already fitted with partial barriers, we have already trialled full barriers in our electric buses so we could not only gauge the level of protection that they provide for drivers, but also the impact on the drivers’ comfort and their ability to safely operate the bus. Feedback from drivers was initially quite mixed, but we’ve worked collaboratively with drivers and the union, the RTBU (Rail, Tram and Bus Union), to resolve issues such as glare and reflectivity, and I’m pleased to say we have landed on a design that our drivers support.

We made a number of modifications to the vehicles themselves to accommodate the barriers, Mr Chair, 23 vehicle modifications, in fact. For example, to combat glare, we installed cameras on the vehicles to support the rear and side mirrors to make sure the drivers have full visibility around the vehicles. We also had to design solutions to door access and the positioning of ticketing machines and cash trays. We have said for some time, Chair, that we plan to make full barriers standard in our future bus procurement. That is absolutely something that we plan going forward.

However, thanks to this additional funding, we will be able to fast-track that process and retrofit barriers into some of our existing fleet. We’re not exactly sure, but it will be between 150 and 200 buses, which will be a really great outcome for those buses. As Councillors saw in the presentation, we’ve been using the full protected barrier and the rear-view camera system installed in our electric buses as, I guess, the basis for this rollout, the baseline of where we want to get to, but we must understand that retrofitting barriers to existing buses is not an easy task.

We have 13 different types of bus in our fleet and that means it will take us some time to custom design barriers for each different bus and we are, of course, at this stage not even aware that we will be able to fit these barriers to every bus. In fact, at this point we’ve only been able to complete the design on the MAN gas buses, so there is a lot of work that yet needs to be done on this, Mr Chair. But I will say, the good news is we’ve already started work on retrofitting those buses that service the route 100 and the route 110, which operate out of the Willawong depot.

We’ve produced a number of prototypes. We’re continually engaging with drivers and the union on feedback on that barrier and on Sunday we actually closed consultation with those barriers and they’ve completed a number of questionnaires. We’re still in the process of collating that final feedback, but the early support is very good for these new barriers, Chair. So, we’ll start to progress to manufacturing and I hope that we’ll be installing these barriers in the coming up months to complete that rollout by the end of the year. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there further debate?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on this item before us today. From the outset, I want to congratulate our hardworking Council bus drivers, the RTBU, their union, and my Labor colleagues for keeping up the fight on this here in Council and the State Labor Government for funding this, 100% of this rollout.

Drivers and their union have been crying out for barriers for years and years and years, a full barrier—full driver protection. The horrific attack that sadly took the life of Manmeet Sharma shook Brisbane’s driver workforce. This tragedy would—you would have thought at the time, resulted in immediate action. But here we are almost seven years later now, finally seeing some outcomes on driver protection and their safe work environment.

As we saw patronage go down during the COVID pandemic, assaults and abuse continued to rise. Drivers are continuing to be punched, kicked, spat on at alarming rates. There is still a very long way to go. While it does pain me to say something like I told you so in a situation like this, it feels like we have to say that a lot lately. We have to see this LNP Administration dragged kicking and screaming to an outcome. Councillor MURPHY and before him, Councillor SCHRINNER in that role—in the Public Transport role—said drivers didn’t want full barriers. Consistently for years LNP Public Transport Chairs said drivers did not want full barriers. But now we have heard how overwhelmingly positive the consultation with drivers has been about the rollout of full driver barriers.

The presenter in the Committee remarked that he had never seen the kind of support during this driver consultation on any other proposal ever before. These full driver barriers received the highest level of support from Brisbane bus drivers. So I think either Councillor MURPHY had no idea previously or he did and he was lying about it—one or the other. I hope we’ll find out—I hope in his summing up he will clarify and he will correct the record on that. Let’s not forget as well Councillor MURPHY did describe bus drivers as having cosy jobs in Brisbane through the COVID pandemic. The LORD MAYOR, when he was the Public Transport Chair previously, claimed at the time when we first started raising this, that driver barriers would cost $200,000 per bus to retrofit an existing bus.

So the LNP said it couldn’t be done on existing buses operating on trouble routes because they said it would cost far too much. Councillor SCHRINNER said it would be up to $250,000 per bus. We now know that after they actually did the work to find out how much it would cost, it’s about $15,000 per bus. At the time, they made a tangential sort of argument that driver safety was a bit too expensive at $200,000 to $250,000 a bus. Well now we know the truth. It was actually only $15,000 a bus. So all those drivers over all those years gone by now who have been punched, who have been kicked, who have been spat on, all for $15,000 a bus, that’s all. So either the LORD MAYOR had no idea and did no work or he was lying at the time. It has to be one or the other of those two.

So meeting after meeting when we’ve raised over the years driver safety and full driver barriers, the LNP treated it like it was a joke. They were laughing in drivers’ faces every time we raised that. Our Labor team has consistently worked alongside drivers, their union, the RTBU, whether it be on petitions for driver safety upgrades, public rallies, meetings. But the LORD MAYOR and the LNP continued to refuse to act. It has now taken State Government funding to make this a possibility. We’re still seeing this LNP Council not put anything into this. So it is confirmed I think that the LORD MAYOR—the current LORD MAYOR and Councillor MURPHY—had no idea or lied all those years ago, which is really disappointing.

This really shows the lack of care and commitment and compassion to our front line workers that this LNP Council has, when seven years ago they could have started this process. They could have started rolling out full driver protection barriers for a cost of $15,000 per bus. One of the reasons, Chair, that it has been proven to be so affordable and so achievable is because our amazing in-house Council staff in Transport for Brisbane have completed this work. So they did the consultation, the design and the delivery of this project in-house—so Council workers doing their work, totally supported by the State Government of course through funding. So that also meant that all these barriers got up and running months and months and months ahead of the private sector delivering this.

That was confirmed as well by the presenter, who was really proud of that work. We passed on our congratulations as well, that when you do that kind of basic work in-house and you have a skilled workforce, like we still do clearly in Transport for Brisbane—not so much other divisions within Council because they’ve been gutted—have the ability to rollout those basics. There’s nothing more basic than providing a safe work environment for a Council employee. It can be done. It can be done and it should have been done years and years ago. They are now ahead of schedule. What a novel scenario. When you do the basic Council work in-house and deliver projects, you can deliver them on time and on budget. Congratulations again to that team in Transport for Brisbane. They beat external contractors at every single turn when it comes to delivering this important safety upgrade for Council employees.

If only we had a LORD MAYOR and Administration that would extend that benefit to other parts of Council as well, but, unfortunately, we know that after two decades of contracting out, privatisation and casualisation that isn’t the reality for most of Council. This is a really good outcome. To know that with that State Government funding we’re going to see 150ish or so buses on routes that start and finish primarily in Councillor STRUNK’s area that have been known for a very long time to be of a real safety concern to drivers and passengers on those routes. All those years the LNP said it was too hard, they couldn’t afford it, lo and behold we’ve got an in-house team working on an innovative solution backed by the State Government. We’re getting an outcome.

What does that tell you about this LNP’s commitment to the people of Brisbane and to our workforce? It tells you everything you need to know. This is a great outcome. We support it. It’s something we’ve been calling for, for the better part of a decade now.

Chair: Further debate?

Councillor MURPHY summing up.

Councillor MURPHY: Thanks, yes. Just quickly, Chair, on some of Councillor CASSIDY’s comments there. You would think for a second that he was comparing our record to his record or something like that. But what he is comparing is our record to our record. We’re the ones who are actually doing this program. We’re the ones who have designed the program. We’re the ones who are executing the program. We’re the ones who are fitting the barriers to the bus. It’s not his administration that’s doing it. I don’t—what I heard there was quite unreal. It was as if Councillor CASSIDY had through force of will alone, channelled the decisions that were made in Transport for Brisbane to undertake the design process to instal these fully frameless barriers, but that’s not the case. That’s not the case. It’s us who have done that.

Yes, we have been supported by the State Government financially. That’s because the State Government, I would hazard a guess Councillor CASSIDY, probably think that it’s cheaper to retrofit these barriers to existing buses than to fund the ongoing operations of senior network officers on problematic routes in our city. Because the reality is they’ve missed every single target that they have tried to hit when it comes to senior network officer recruitment. We wouldn’t have this problem if we had transit police on our network. But the reality is you would be luckier to win the lottery than to find a senior network officer on the bus network as you go out there in Brisbane day-to-day on the bus network. I’ve been catching buses as a Councillor—I’ve been catching buses as a Councillor for maybe, oh nine years, since after my first year as a Councillor. I’ve never seen a single senior network officer on the bus network.

Catching trains, they’re everywhere. You can’t miss them. Catching buses, nowhere to be seen. So that’s the problem that is being—that is sought to be addressed by this program. Now the other thing that Councillor CASSIDY said was, were we lying about whether drivers supported full encapsulation. Well the reality is that the consultation that we did with drivers was undertaken by TFB in consultation with the union. The results are there, mixed results. Many drivers in different parts of the city that maybe don’t experience the same issues with safety or maybe they work different shifts—many drivers did not support full encapsulation. Many didn’t like the options for full encapsulation. It may have been, Chair, and I’ll grant Councillor CASSIDY this, it may have been that the full encapsulation solutions that were presented to them years ago were more akin to what you’ll find in Perth, on the buses in Perth, where the driver is essentially in a metal cage.

That is not something that operators in Brisbane have ever really supported because our drivers really love that interaction that they have with the travelling public. But what we have worked—what we have developed here—is a fully frameless design that uses tempered glass instead of a cage. So it’s no wonder that drivers support this design, that they like this design. We’ve also used technology that wasn’t available seven years ago, Councillor CASSIDY. We have used high‑resolution digital cameras for real-time mirror technology inside the cabin. Again, technology that is only included now on Brisbane Metro and leading-edge new buses, but that wasn’t available for retrofit seven years ago. So there are a number of reasons why we’ve been able to innovate and come up with solutions to some of the problems that presented themselves with encapsulation all those years ago.

But I want to just stress this is a great success on one bus type and with bus drivers in one depot who have experienced issues of verbal abuse and physical assault. That doesn’t mean necessarily that this will be something that every driver in every depot will be supporting. It doesn’t mean that it’s something that will be easy to rollout on every single bus and every single fleet type. So there’s still a lot of work to be done here, but the first results are good. I would just say to you Councillor CASSIDY through you, Mr Chair, there is no reason for you politicise this. This is a really good outcome that we have got here. Again, there is no need for you to compare our record to our record. We know because we are the ones who have achieved this for our drivers. This is a fantastic outcome.

Chair: Thank you.

We move to the vote on this 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, Trina Massey and David McLachlan.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Angela Owen (Deputy Chair).

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – RETROFIT FULL DRIVER BARRIERS TO TRANSPORT FOR BRISBANE FLEET

**610/2022-23**

1. The General Manager, Engineering and Asset Management, Transport for Brisbane, attended the meeting to provide an update on the full bus driver barrier trial. He provided the information below.

2. On 25 January 2023, the Queensland Government announced it would be investing $2.6 million to install full bus driver barriers (the barriers) on Brisbane City Council buses. Approximately 150 to 180 full barriers will be installed across Council’s bus fleet. Buses from Willawong bus depot servicing the 100 and 110 bus routes will be prioritised due to the high number of incidents that occur on these routes. The design of the barriers is based on a similar version that has been successfully trialled in a new electric bus fleet. Modifications to the original design were made by Council to compensate for the vibration of petrol and diesel-powered buses, which causes reflectivity issues with the barrier glass in some situations. The vibrations were found to compromise driver visibility and decision-making abilities. A Smart-Vision rear-view camera has been incorporated into the design to ensure drivers have a clear vision of the road and other vehicles at all times.

3. The full barrier design aims to protect drivers from physical assault while seated. The design includes:

- anti-shatter and impact safety glass

- wide-angle rear-view camera with improved night and wet weather visibility

- door access guard

- emergency exit modification

- reinforced barn door and front dashboard area.

4. The barrier design process has been completed by Council’s Transport for Brisbane technical staff. Testing of the barrier’s design features has been conducted using full prototypes. The Committee was shown images comparing the new and previous retrofit barrier designs. The retrofit barrier will require 23 vehicle modifications and 136 unique parts. Installation of each barrier will take approximately three days per bus. The new barrier design considered factors such as:

- Australian Design Rules

- existing door and cabin design

- location of mirrors and cameras

- position of key equipment

- height of the glass barrier.

5. Consultation for the design of the barrier has been an important part of the design process. Council has engaged bus drivers and other stakeholders throughout the process to ensure driver safety and occupational needs are met. Work health and safety representatives and members of the bus design and security committee conducted several consultation sessions with drivers between 3 February and 14 April 2023. The feedback received during these consultation sessions was used to design the prototype that is currently being tested in a five-week trial at the Willawong bus depot. Drivers have been asked to participate in a survey during the trial to help identify any areas for improvement. Initial feedback has been very positive, with drivers reporting they feel safer in the new design. After the trial ends on 21 May 2023, Council will finalise the consultation phase and design of the barrier with drivers.

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 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 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week we had two items, the first of which was a presentation on the Chelmer to Indooroopilly river crossing pre-feasibility study which Councillors can read about extensively in the report. Some highlights of important points that should be made are that initial scoping and investigations began in mid-2021. Community consultation occurred from November 2021 until April 2022. It is important to remember that there were two extensions of time requested by the local Councillor for the southern side—for the Chelmer side—both of which were granted. That feedback provided a whole range of insights into how people moved around, how they viewed themselves moving around that district, but also conversely how the science of traffic matched with that.

We have a number of responses that were sought through that survey process. I must stress that the way that information was sought was through a text box unprompted, unled, voluntary offering of information. So when you see certain answers, that is not what Council asked people to say. It’s what they volunteered themselves in an unprompted way. So I think that’s important when you look at the types of responses we were getting and the sorts of things people would say. For example, people would say that they would like to see heavy rail, in the written response. Well, Mr Chair, there is heavy rail. So those sorts of things were there—were coming through in the responses. But there was a very clear concern about traffic congestion in that area, that the limited choices for motorists in that area was a contributor to that issue.

How that would be addressed was a question. Many people saw the logic in expanding the bridge, building a new bridge. People proposed options to include increased public transport. Again, though increased public transport would have to operate on the existing road network. So that would have to be addressed at the time as well. It’s important to remember the age of this bridge. This bridge is coming on—I want to say it’s 100 years old. It was a privately-funded toll bridge that—if memory serves, was opened in the 1920s. So typically a piece of infrastructure would—you would expect to last about 100 years. So we’re sort of at that point, what are we to do next? What are we to do next?

So we engaged this pre-feasibility study. I think it’s important—I must admit it took me a little while to understand that difference between a pre-feasibility study and a feasibility study. But this one is a study that occurs before the feasibility study to determine whether it’s worthwhile to even spend the time and effort and money on the actual feasibility study. So the features were the local residents identified that congestion is a very high—of great concern in that area. But they were of the view that a duplication of the bridge would create an infrastructure draw to that area. What our research shows is that more than 80% of local traffic—local trips—use that particular bridge either generate or terminate within a very, very small area. So what it means is that the bridge itself does not act as a draw to outside the district.

In fact, most sane people—myself included—avoid that part of the world on a Saturday because it could take you 20 minutes to try to drive across the bridge. It’s actually easier to go through Councillor HUTTON’s area and back around or up through Fairfield Road. So there is some sort of issue there. Our research also found that a full duplication of the bridge would not actually eventuate in a traffic draw either. It would merely satisfy local demand. So we may hear arguments later on about things like induced demand and things. Well that horse has well bolted. There is existing current demand that has to be addressed in some manner. So what we’ve determined through this, is that there is an issue. The locals believe there is some sort of issue. Duplication of the bridge would not necessarily increase the draw of traffic from outside the district into the district.

But then once you get past those hurdles, I suppose, the reality of engineering comes to the fore. That’s when it becomes difficult and expensive to be able to achieve this sort of thing. Some people suggested for example widening the Walter Taylor Bridge. Well from and engineering point of view, you can’t widen a suspension bridge. From a physical point of view, it can’t be done. So that means you have to duplicate the bridge. Well if you were to duplicate the bridge you have options to the west of the existing bridge or to the east of the rail bridge and the bikeway bridge. Well, all of them call on significant engineering projects beyond the bridge itself. So what we have here is considerations of those sorts of things.

There’s been a number of claims made, but I think it’s important to remember that the potential costs identified in the pre-feasibility study for a potential bridge duplication are in the range of $800 million to $1.3 billion and the project would typically include a bridge over the river and then another bridge over the rail line or a very significant structure of some variety to draw motorists back into the principal transport system. Now I am of the view that you should do that as early as possible. I have heard some arguments that it should meet much later in the system. I don’t think that makes a lot of sense to the people who live in Indooroopilly if it were to go ahead. Structures of that size in those locations require deep and sincere—we’ll call it that—deep and sincere commitments from the State Government.

The State Government owns the river. The State Government owns the train line. The State Government has a lot more money than us. All of those things mean that they have to be a principal partner if not the lead on this one. So anyway that is the fundamental—that is the basic highlights of the report. I encourage people if they have time to review it, it’s quite an interesting proposal. Can I recognise the officers in both the community engagement space and also the engineering space who have put this together. It is a very good piece of work, but please don’t at any point think that this is a launch of something or a commitment to something. This is a study we’ve submitted to the State for consideration and discussion. Please no one feel it is beyond that at this point.

The Committee also considered a petition requesting a yellow line which was approved and supported by the local Councillor and all Councillors present. So I look forward to contributions.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I rise to speak on both items. Firstly, just on the yellow line for the corner of Menin Street. The only reason we’re having to do a petition is because the Council traffic engineers have over the last year, particularly, just said no to every single thing that we asked for, every single thing. It’s like that John Grisham book with the insurance companies, deny, deny, deny. So a huge retirement village and nursing home has been built in this part of Corinda. There is a massive problem with narrow streets and people parking right on the corners. This Council refused a request by local residents to put a yellow line in. They refused to do it. So we’ve done a petition. It’s taken another year to get a yellow line.

All of this to do something that should have taken Council 24 hours to say yes to and then another couple of weeks to actually deliver. So this is where I will say shame on Brisbane City Council for refusing to be proactive about responding to residents’ requests for traffic safety improvements in their local community. This is something that should have been done without the year-long—or longer—effort to try and get Council to do something. This is what I mean when I stand here and say this Council has become a management organisation, not a service delivery organisation. Their job is simply to trot out standard lines rather than deliver on good safety outcomes in suburban areas. So I thank the residents who have gone with me on this journey. I have alerted them to the fact that the yellow line is coming and it will be a good outcome that will improve safety.

What is not a good outcome is the hyperbole about the Chelmer to Indooroopilly river crossing pre-feasibility study. Now as everyone will recall, I asked the LORD MAYOR a question about this a few months ago because we were told in the middle of last year, that there would be a public report coming to residents about the outcome of the feasibility study and the community consultation. The LORD MAYOR got very angry with me and made a whole heap of claims that weren’t true. As it turns out he has been sitting on the pre-feasibility study for almost a year. The report was provided to Council in July 2022. This Council finished public consultation before that period as well. So for nine months, Council—almost a year—Council has been sitting on this report. Not saying anything to anybody, not updating me, not updating the community. I can see why.

I’m going to put a few things on the record that absolutely debunk the spin by the LORD MAYOR and this glossy flyer, because the LORD MAYOR has picked a winner. The LORD MAYOR has picked a winner. He said it in the Chamber here last week and the week before and in the media, that they’re going to progress a bridge. They want the State and the Federal Government to pay for it, but they’re going to progress a new bridge. Here’s what the report says—I’m just going to quote from a few pages in the report. It’s eye-opening. Firstly—I think I just want to go with the DEPUTY MAYOR says—oh sorry, the Chair says that there’s really no local—it’s all local traffic. So I just want to be clear about what local traffic is because perhaps he is unaware.

Local traffic is measured by Council as a journey that either starts in Indooroopilly and goes to the Gold Coast, or starts in Ipswich and goes to Indooroopilly, or starts at North Lakes and goes to Corinda, or starts at Hamilton and goes to Sherwood. Council considers that to be a local trip—75% of what they call local is not a movement within the study area of those half a dozen suburbs that life revolves around the bridge. It can be somebody who comes from probably New South Wales and stops at Indooroopilly using the Walter Taylor Bridge. That is what Council says is a local trip. It either starts or finishes within the study area and you cross the bridge. Now that is not local by any stretch of the imagination.

When I tell my residents what Council says is local, they will laugh you out of the house. So the first thing—the first thing that we know is Council did not do a proper origin and destination study. We don’t know where the vehicles are coming from and we don’t know where they’re going to. The estimate is 25% of the traffic is through traffic.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor—please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: But we do not know where these cars are starting from and where they’re going to. It is a no-brainer that when you are undertaking a long term infrastructure plan, you do good research and gather good data. This has not been done. This is something I asked for way back. It’s the Chair himself sitting here that announced this secret feasibility study without even telling me as the local Councillor. So this idea, somehow, that Council are promoting in their glossy brochure that of course features the LORD MAYOR’s photo, that it’s all local traffic, is absolutely and fundamentally untrue. A trip from Ipswich to Indooroopilly over the Walter Taylor Bridge is not a local trip. A trip from Chermside to Corinda is not a local trip. No one would think that. The only people that do are the LNP.

Secondly, Council says that there’s not going to be any induced demand from a new bridge. I mean, have they not even read their own report? Their modelling—so this is modelling—Council’s best guess is traffic with a new bridge could increase up to 48%. Now when Councillor MACKAY’s residents in Indooroopilly and St Lucia find out about this they’re going to go nuts. Councillor MACKAY and the LORD MAYOR are supporting a new bridge. That is what they are doing. I don’t want to see up to 20,000 extra vehicles a day on Oxley Road and Honour Avenue. I don’t want to see thousands of trucks rolling through our suburbs. Because if there is a new bridge the markets are right there. All of those trucks now that cannot go over the Walter Taylor Bridge will have access to a new bridge.

Now just in case anybody is wondering, the figure of 48% is Council’s figure. It is on Page 19 of the Chelmer Indooroopilly river crossing—up to 48% increase. Now that is a figure they don’t want anyone to know. But it gets better, it gets better. Council essentially has considered two options in the pre-feasibility study, both of which are predetermined by the LNP in 2015. It’s all going to go back into Coonan Street. There’s no traffic going to turn right into Lambert Road and into the schools, into the university precinct where residents in my area want to go—that’s where they want to go. Indooroopilly State High’s catchment is Chelmer and Graceville. They want to get there, or St Peter’s or Holy Family or Brigidine—they can’t.

The big problem with all of this is Council has concocted this fantasy of some sort of overpass over the rail line feeding traffic back into Coonan Street which this own study says does not work. It is over practical capacity now. That is the issue. It then gets better. The report—so this is the experts—this is not me, this is not my view—the report says the following on Page 46, I’m going to read it out, what is evident—what is not evident is which of the options has the better overall performance. I’ll say that again, what is evident—what is not evident is which of the options has the better overall performance. So on the basis of a report that is inconclusive, on the basis of a report that goes on to say—that’s on Page 46. I’ll just pop over to page—also 46, here we go—both options—so these are the two bridge options that they considered—will operate close or at capacity in the future year based on a 10-year horizon.

So the minute the bridge is built, within 10 years of a new bridge—a second bridge—it will be close or over capacity. So this Council on the basis of an inconclusive study has decided there’s going to be a second bridge. They’ve decided that even though the bridge will only cope with traffic for 10 years they’re going to push ahead with it.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON your time has expired.

Any further debate?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

**611/2022-23**

At that point, it was moved by Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS, seconded by Councillor Charles STRUNK, that Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON be granted an extension of time.

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

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Trina MASSEY 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, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

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

Chair: Is there any further debate?

Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak about the potential Walter Taylor Bridge duplication. First up, can I thank the community for taking the time to give feedback during the consultation process. As with all Council projects, it’s not just interesting but important to get the views of the community. Thank you to the Council officers who have put so much effort into the consultation process and the report. What came through loud and clear was a desire for less congestion so travelling across the river can be faster. We know that respondents want less congestion, but the solution is not necessarily increased infrastructure. What we also learned was that a new bridge would cost more than $1 billion and a tunnel could cost a lot more. Also there’s no easy or great solution as to where the traffic goes on the northside.

I’m sure we can all agree that it is entirely unreasonable for Council to commit more than a third of our annual budget to this project. It simply does not represent value for money for the residents of Brisbane. The project would also potentially relocate congestion rather than resolve it. Saying that, I am prepared to work to find alternative solutions to alleviate traffic congestion in this section of Brisbane. Let’s acknowledge the growing concern of traffic congestion in our city. It affects our daily lives, wasting valuable time and impacting our overall quality of life. As a result, I work with Council traffic engineers to identify alternative measures around the Walter Taylor Ward that can address congestion and road safety effectively and efficiently.

It is crucial for us to take a holistic approach to address traffic congestion in our city. Merely adding another bridge may not effectively solve the problem and could lead to bottlenecks elsewhere. In conclusion, we will continue to investigate effective and sustainable solutions to alleviate traffic congestion. We understand the concerns of our residents and we are working towards more efficient and accessible transportation. We are working to create a city where commuting is easier, congestion is reduced and the quality of life is improved for all. Thanks, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers? Any further speakers?

Councillor WINES, summing up.

Councillor WINES: Yes, thanks, Mr Chair. Just a couple of comments on reflection. Can I thank all contributors and just reflect upon some of the points made. Can I just remind all Councillors that this bridge carries more than 30,000 trips a day over two lanes which is well beyond what we would accept in a single lane north or single lane south environment. It is probably—it is almost double what we would tolerate. As there has been a long discussion, I am of the view that if a trip generates or terminates within the confines of a very limited area that is a local trip. It may generate or terminate beyond that. But if people are beginning or ending their journey within it, then I am completely comfortable with it being deemed a local trip.

That being said, the reflection says 80% of these trips are generated by—with a generation point beyond the local area, excludes the University of Queensland. It excludes the major high schools east of Indooroopilly and it excludes places as far away as Toowong or Sherwood, such vast locations from this particular area. So I am very comfortable to say that the vast majority of Brisbane residents who do not want to go to the—we’ll call it Walter Taylor and district—so we’re talking Indooroopilly in the north to Sherwood in the south—unless you have to go in there, you are not going in there. One of the reasons is this bridge.

So we’ve done the work here to say well potentially there’s a way, if you have major contributions from other levels of government, that you could alleviate—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON please, you had your say.

Councillor WINES: —that you alleviate the traffic congestion now.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNTON.

Councillor WINES: You could alleviate the traffic congestion improving the way of life for people who live in there. Some Councillors, particularly the southside representative, the Councillor for Tennyson, has made it clear that she’s very comfortable with the level of congestion. That is a choice that her and her voters can make. I am always committed to improving transport and traffic options whether they be private or public or scooters or cycling or whatever. As long as it gets—as long as we have incremental improvement over time, we will get improvement to the way of life for people all across the city. So I am more than happy to have a discussion with the people of that inner west, that inner south-west, inner west community about how they want to move around.

But right now—even Councillor JOHNSTON identified in her comments—that even if we duplicated the bridge that capacity that we would be addressing within 10 years, the extra capacity would be eliminated. Which means that, as I said at the start, the latent demand argument is always a silly one. Because when you have current demand of something like 135% at the moment then when you do—when you create a new option you just address the local, existing demand. You don’t draw people in. The thing that would draw people in is actually the Centenary Bridge duplication, not the Walter Taylor Bridge duplication or the potential upgrades we’re talking about in Ipswich Road. They will be significant enough to draw people to them.

But a bridge—a doubling of the capacity of a bridge to address existing demand will not draw vehicles meaningfully or in a way that would reflect negatively on the way of life of locals beyond the awful congestion they live with today. There’s a discussion that’s occurred that somehow the amount of congestion in that neighbourhood is tolerable and acceptable. I don’t think it really is, quite frankly. I hope that the State Member for Miller, who is also the Minister for Transport seriously considers what options are available. You can’t—one of the things we haven’t touched on is if you’re in the western suburbs a lot of your sporting facilities are actually kept in, I would call it that Sherwood peninsula. So if you live in Pullenvale Ward and Walter Taylor Ward and you play netball or rugby a lot of that occurs south of the river.

So people who live in that Kenmore-Brookfield area, but they want to go to Wests Netball, they have to use this bridge too. So what I’m saying is—and mind, that would be deemed a local trip by us because you end up somewhere within the zone. I think that we should always be looking to make life better for people. I’m always reluctant to accept the status quo as being good enough if we have an opportunity to do things to meaningfully improve people’s way of life. So I’m more than happy to submit this to the State Government for their consideration. I don’t think the level of traffic congestion generated by the Walter Taylor Bridge is acceptable. I’m more than happy to have discussions with the Minister and the local Member for Miller about that and we proceed with interest to see what will come of this. Whether this now or 10 or 20 years in the future, but this is an interesting discussion point that I think that many people in the south-west and inner west would appreciate is occurring at all.

Chair: Thank you.

We 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 – CHELMER TO INDOOROOPILLY RIVER CROSSING – PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY

**612/2022-23**

1. The Program Director Civil and Transport, Project Management, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the Chelmer to Indooroopilly river crossing pre-feasibility study (the study). He provided the information below.

2. The purpose of the study is to:

- assess the strategic merit of additional cross-river transport capacity

- identify potential options with the expected costs, benefits and impacts

- seek community feedback on current travel patterns, issues and suggestions for improvements

- identify key risks and opportunities

- recommend the next stages of planning required.

3. The study commenced in 2020 with initial scoping and preliminary technical investigations. Further technical investigations, which included problem definition, transport planning, transport modelling, cost estimation and initial option assessment, as well as a review of the problem definition with consultation input and next steps, commenced in mid-2021 and concluded early 2023. Community input was extended twice, due to COVID-19 and the 2022 Brisbane flooding event, with pop-up consultation sessions on both sides of the river. Following a consultation analysis, the community was provided a newsletter and a key findings report was completed.

4. The existing vehicular river crossing between Chelmer and Indooroopilly is the Queensland Heritage‑listed Walter Taylor Bridge (WTB). The WTB is a two-way, two-lane bridge which carries more than 30,000 vehicles per day with motorists experiencing congestion during morning and afternoon peak travel periods. Other river crossings include the Indooroopilly and Albert rail bridges and the Jack Pesch pedestrian and cycle bridge.

5. The study outlined many constraints in the key findings.

- Queensland and Brisbane Local Heritage Places, including WTB, Albert Bridge, the rail corridor on each side of the river, and Witton Barracks (the barracks), Tighnabruaich and Keating Residence heritage places in Indooroopilly.

- Geometric issues arise due to topography, with the Indooroopilly side of the river being hilly and the Chelmer side being lower at the water line.

- Rail corridor clearances and overpasses and bridges on each side of the river.

- Development sites of mixed use and medium density residential on each side of the river.

6. Outcomes of community consultation key findings included:

- 63% of respondents cross the river three or more days in a typical week

- 79% of respondents said congestion, travel time or reliability are the main challenges when crossing the river

- 85% of respondents want to see infrastructure improvements to the district and river crossing.

7. Respondents were able to provide feedback on how travel across the river could be improved. This included the following themes:

* build another bridge – 410 responses
* improve WTB to increase capacity – 220 responses
* improve public transport – 210 responses
* improve the local traffic network on the Indooroopilly side – 175 responses
* improve active transport – 145 responses
* improve the local traffic network on the Chelmer side – 105 responses
* not construct another bridge – 67 responses.

8. WTB is predominantly used for travel starting, ending, or starting and ending in the vicinity of the bridge, suggesting WTB travel is mostly generated by local land uses. Alternative river crossing routes are not viable or practical with current travel demand for WTB exceeding capacity. Even with bridge duplication in the future, broader network constraints limit the increase in regional traffic volumes getting to a new river crossing. The additional demand is forecast to come from the local catchment.

9. Options for a new river crossing have significant risks and issues with an alignment near the barracks and crossing the rail corridor. Further options were developed and high-level assessments undertaken. All options are challenging to deliver, costly and high impact. The options are not exhaustive and should be considered as a starting point only for any subsequent all-inclusive feasibility study.

10. The Committee was shown the following indicative bridge crossing options.

- A new four-lane downstream bridge and overpass over rail:

- an anticipated cost of $1.3 billion

- difficult to design and construct a bridge over Indooroopilly train station and Coonan Street, Indooroopilly, and to fit between the barracks and rail corridor

- feasibility of integrating with the rail bridges on Westminster Road, Indooroopilly

- property impacts along Coonan Street, north of Westminster Road

- poor connectivity to Indooroopilly and St Lucia

- poor visual amenity of an elevated structure

- provides greater capacity and priority for Oxley Road, Chelmer, which is likely to reduce demand for Honour Avenue, Chelmer.

- A new four-lane downstream bridge and tunnel under rail:

- an anticipated cost of $1.3 billion

- difficult to construct a tunnel portal in Coonan Street and to fit between the barracks and rail corridor

- property impacts along Coonan Street, north of Belgrave Road

- poor connectivity to Indooroopilly and St Lucia

- provides greater capacity and priority for Oxley Road, which is likely to reduce demand for Honour Avenue.

- A couplet with two inbound lanes on WTB and a new two‑lane outbound downstream bridge:

- an anticipated cost of $777 million, which is the lowest cost option

- difficult to construct Coonan Street and Westminster Road bridge widenings over rail

- easier to fit between the barracks’ cell blocks and rail corridor

- property impacts along Coonan Street, north of Westminster Road and east of Indooroopilly rail station

- minor re-routing will likely be required between Westminster Road bridge and Clarence Road

- concerns with long-term maintenance of WTB with workers operating under traffic

- provides greater capacity and priority for Oxley Road, which is likely to reduce demand for Honour Avenue

- removes bottlenecks on and near river crossing.

- A new four-lane upstream bridge:

- an anticipated cost of $930 million

- no impacts to the barracks

- significant property acquisitions along the western side of Coonan Street, from the river to north of Westminster Road

- reduced connectivity to some local streets such as Ragnor Street, Indooroopilly

- an approved development approval for a major multi-storey development could commence imminently resulting in a high cost to Council

- difficult to construct a road under rail, south of the bridge

- provides greater capacity and priority for Oxley Road, which is likely to reduce demand for Honour Avenue

- removes bottlenecks on and near the river crossings.

- A couplet with a new two-lane inbound upstream bridge and two outbound lanes on WTB:

- an anticipated cost of $865 million

- no impacts to the barracks

- significant property acquisitions along the western side of Coonan Street, from the river to north of Westminster Road

- reduced connectivity to some local streets such as Ragnor Street, Indooroopilly

- an approved development approval for a major multi-storey development could commence imminently resulting in a high cost to Council

- provides greater capacity and priority for Oxley Road, which is likely to reduce demand for Honour Avenue.

11. The study concluded that further detailed planning is required due to the strategic need for more vehicular river crossing capacity and risks of on-going development increasing future project costs and impacts. The study area is highly complex with competing challenges including the interface with the rail corridor and potential for high capital costs. As such, Council has sought support from the Queensland Government to collaborate on identifying a preferred option which will inform a funding model. Subsequently, Council will seek formal support from the Australian Government.

12. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Program Director Civil and Transport for his informative presentation.

12. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL INSTALL YELLOW LINES AT THE CORNER OF MENIN ROAD AND WALKER STREET, CORINDA

**137/220/594/171**

**613/2022-23**

13. A petition requesting Council install yellow lines at the corner of Menin Road and Walker Street, Corinda, was received during the Summer Recess 2022.

14. The General Manager, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following information.

15. The petition contains 30 signatures. Of the petitioners, 23 live on Menin Road, two live on Walker Street, and five live on other streets in the Tennyson Ward.

16. Menin Road and Walker Street have speed limits of 50 km/h and are classified as Neighbourhood roads in Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014* road hierarchy, providing access to local residential properties. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows a locality map. Council installed a yellow line on the inside corner of this intersection, outside 1 Menin Street, in mid‑2022.

17. The petitioners’ request for a yellow line to be installed on the outside of the corner of Menin Road and Walker Street, to improve visibility, is noted. Council will install approximately 15 metres of yellow line on the outside of the corner of the intersection, from the driveway of St Vincent’s Aged Care Corinda. It is expected the yellow line will be installed by the end of July 2023.

Consultation

18. Councillor Nicole Johnston, Councillor for Tennyson Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

19. The submission will respond to the petitioners’ concerns.

20. The General Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed.

21. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE DRAFT RESPONSE, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A,** hereunder**,** **BE SENT TO THE HEAD PETITIONER.**

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/171

Thank you for your petition requesting Council install yellow lines at the corner of Menin Road and Walker Street, Corinda.

Your concerns for visibility at this corner is noted. Council will install approximately 15 metres of yellow line on the outside of the corner of the intersection, from the driveway of St Vincent’s Aged Care Corinda. It is expected the yellow line will be installed by the end of July 2023.

Please forward this information to the other petitioners.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Kiran Sreedharan, Senior Network Officer, Transport Network Operations, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 1178.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**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 Fiona HAMMOND, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Item A was a Committee presentation for an approved development at 36 Warry Street, Fortitude Valley. The approved development is designed to complement the surrounding urban landscape around one of Brisbane’s oldest original bakeries established by Thomas Keating in 1878. The heritage buildings on this site will be retained and have been properly considered with a setback that allows continued visibility of these buildings. The inverted podium ensures sufficient clearance is achieved from the heritage place and proposed materials respond to the industrial aesthetics.

The proposed development at 36 Warry Street enjoys a highly advantageous location, making it a desirable place to live and work. It is conveniently situated within a five-minute walk from the Fortitude Valley Train Station, providing residents with easy access to public transport. Furthermore, the development is near the King Street precinct and restaurants and is a 15-minute walk to Howard Smith Wharves.

The development’s inclusion of a laneway and plaza, five basement levels and a rooftop garden adds to the functional aesthetic and appeal of the project. There are a total of 111 dwellings in the approved development carefully designed to meet the varied needs of Brisbane residents.

The distribution of dwelling configurations is as follows. There’s 16 one-bedroom units, five one-bedroom units with a multipurpose room, 25 two-bedroom units, 22 two-bedroom units with a multipurpose room and 43 three-bedroom units, also with multipurpose rooms. Additionally, 357 square metres will be split into three commercial tenancies offering a balanced mix of commercial and residential uses.

This combination fosters the lively and diverse community where residents can conveniently access commercial amenities and services within close proximity to their homes. 36 Warry Street includes a total of 160 car parking spaces catering to the parking needs of residents and 19 car parking spaces for visitors. Additionally, 147 bicycle spaces for residents and visitors have been allocated to promote sustainable transport options and encourage cycling within the community.

Aligning with Council’s vision for buildings that breathe, the façade of the development has been designed to facilitate natural ventilation to all habitable floors. Furthermore, the design incorporates shading devices to windows, balconies and the pedestrian entry.

One of the key reasons for the approval of the development is its commitment to preserving the heritage place. Through careful architectural design, 36 Warry Street is a testament to the Schrinner Council’s commitment to heritage preservation as the development integrates into the surrounding area while ensuring the protection and conservation of the heritage elements.

Item B refers to two petitions about a development at 32 Maclean Street at Brighton. I’ll leave further debate on that issue to the Chamber.

**S****eriatim - Clause B**

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| --- |
| Councillor Adam ALLAN requested that Clause B, PETITIONS – REQUESTING COUNCIL PLACE A MORATORIUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT AT 32 MACLEAN STREET AND 121 AND 131A SPEIGHT STREET, BRIGHTON (APPLICATION REFERENCE A005967268), be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I just rise on—to speak on item B which is a petition by residents in my ward and beyond but about a development that is in my ward at 32 Maclean and 121-131A Speight Street, Brighton. I realise that by the time this petition was lodged, the horse had well and truly bolted on this development, given it was code assessable.

But I didn’t support the recommendation on principle and in support of my community because they raised throughout the application process hundreds of submissions. Thousands of people signing the petition raised some really valid concerns that they have with both this development and a lot of other development that we’re seeing in isolation in the outer suburbs of Brisbane.

It is a pretty major change to what occurred at the end of a very short, quiet street in Maclean Street. There was no notification because it was code assessable and people’s submissions did not have to be taken into account and there were no appeal rights. That’s no reflection on the assessment officers, I know that all of those submissions, in talking to them, were taken on board but they are of course working within the confines of the City Plan and the neighbourhood plan which allowed both the type of development we’re seeing there but also the building practices which we will see which includes a whole lot of fill to be put onto a site that was waist deep in water in the February 2022 floods.

Obviously that flooded but it wasn’t—you know, the zoning wasn’t changed in the 15 months since then and certainly not in the months since that event where the application was made. So those assessment officers had to make that assessment based on what the Administration City Plan recommended for that site. So people had a lot of concerns about what it would mean for not only immediate neighbours but also downstream. The Brighton Creek catchment which is currently undergoing an assessment, a flood study, at the moment and I’m told that will be completed by the end of this financial year.

This development site is upstream from a lot of houses. Hundreds of houses that flooded in that Brighton Creek catchment area so you can understand when the community saw what was happening here, they had really serious concerns about it and I share them but unfortunately, in the 15 months since the February 2022 flood disaster, we still haven’t seen any action on re-zoning of places that are clearly inappropriate for development and also changes to building practices.

Which is something I’ve raised with the staff within Development Services and city planning as well. They will regularly tell you that whether they’re sympathetic or not to the issue and take no issue with them, they are bound by what is in the City Plan. They have to assess based on that. This is one of those situations where I think a different outcome for that community would have been much more broadly supported on that site. Smaller-scale development and real community input when it comes to traffic and it comes to the loss of vegetation on Council‑owned road reserve, also around flooding concerns.

So while I realise the Council can’t put a moratorium on this development legally because it was approved under the LNP’s City Plan and by design, exactly how they wanted it to look, I do stand with the community and say there is a broader issue here and all the issues they raise need to be looked at when it comes to standalone suburban development in isolation that is largely unplanned in a holistic way.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further debate?

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair, I—

Chair: No—no further debate?

Sorry. No further debate.

Councillor ALLAN. Summing up, please.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. I just wanted to touch upon this particular development application. The application as Councillor CASSIDY has indicated, was code assessable. It was approved on 7 October 2022, well before most of these petitions came into Council but what’s bearing in mind is that the subdivision, it was a low density residential lot surrounded by low density residential homes and surprise, surprise, we’ve ended up with a one into nine outcome with low density residential lots on it.

It is a perfect site for low density residential housing, particularly when we’ve got a housing crisis on our hands. So this subdivision gives rise to nine family homes on, as I mentioned, low density residential land. Surprise, surprise.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor ALLAN: Now, the road reserve, which is actually State owned, it is not Council owned, is road reserve and guess what that’s used for? Roads. So surprisingly, that’s exactly what’s going to happen with this development. The nine lots are there. They’ll be serviced by a road and in that road reserve, there were, unfortunately, some trees that were growing in that road reserve. Arborists inspected those trees and a decision was made that they had to be removed in order to construct the road. Now, there was a bit of misinformation, unfortunately, in the local community, where they believed the road reserve was part of the wetlands. It wasn’t. It was State Government road reserve. It was never part of the wetlands.

So I think it’s worth bearing in mind that what’s happened here is exactly what was intended to happen here. The application was code assessable but as I said, what we’re putting here is a residential outcome in an area that’s residential. I’ll leave further debate.

Chair: Thank you.

We move to the votes on these two items.

**Clause A put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 20 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS and Charles STRUNK.

ABSTENTIONS: 2 - Councillors Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Councillors, we move to the vote on item B in this report. Vote on item B.

**Clause B put**

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

Thereupon, Councillors Jared CASSIDY and Lucy COLLIER 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 Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – 36 WARRY STREET, FORTITUDE VALLEY (A006020142)

**614/2022-23**

1. The General Manager, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on 36 Warry Street, Fortitude Valley (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 Fortitude Valley train station, Bedford Playground Park, Brisbane Central State School and St Pauls Terrace. In accordance with *Brisbane City Plan 2014*, the zoning map demonstrated that the site is zoned Mixed use (Inner City). The applicant for the development is Urbis Pty Ltd.

3. Thomas Keating established his Brisbane bakery on Ann Street in 1878 moving the business to Warry Street the following year. It grew to become one of the major bread making companies in Brisbane. While the development will impact recently constructed buildings located within the Heritage overlay, such as a courtyard space, a modern brick building and a car park, it will not affect the local heritage place.

4. The site has an area of 4,390 m2, which will be reconfigured into Multiple Dwelling, Food and Drink Outlet and Shop land use areas. The development will be 15 storeys in height and include:

- a plaza/laneway

- a 15-storey tower

- five basement levels

- a rooftop garden

- 357 m2 of gross floor area for commercial space across three tenancies operating between 6am to 10pm

- 160 resident carparks and 19 visitor carparks

- 119 resident bicycle parks and 28 visitor bicycle parks.

5. The residential levels will include:

- 111 dwellings consisting of:

- 16 one-bedroom apartments

- five one-bedroom plus multi-purpose room apartments

- 25 two-bedroom apartments

- 22 two-bedroom plus multi-purpose room apartments

- 43 three-bedroom plus multi-purpose room apartments.

6. The site will be designed for natural ventilation to all habitable floor levels, include shading devices to windows, balconies and the pedestrian entry. Proposed materials respond to the industrial aesthetics of the site.

7. The development was approved for the following reasons.

- The development does not detract from the cultural heritage significance of the heritage place.

- The development provides for the future protection of the heritage place.

- The proposal protects the fabric and setting of the heritage place while providing for its use.

- The development maintains a mix of higher density mixed-use facilities in the Spring Hill east precinct of the Spring Hill neighbourhood plan.

- The proposal provides a mix of commercial and residential uses in a high-quality urban environment.

- The building locates higher density development in the centre close to major public transport and amenities.

- The development is consistent in height, scale and form with the character and amenity, community expectations and infrastructure assumptions for the precinct.

- The building adds to the variety of residential options in the area and takes advantage of the area’s proximity to public transport options.

- The building contributes to the overall structure and integration of the site with the local area and does not negatively impact adjoining sites.

- The development provides safe and accessible on-site vehicle parking.

- The development provides an active frontage and integrated streetscape interface that creates a comfortable and safe public realm for pedestrians.

- The proposal provides setbacks and building separation which contribute to the amenity of adjoining properties, streetscapes and public spaces.

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

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITIONS – REQUESTING COUNCIL PLACE A MORATORIUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT AT 32 MACLEAN STREET AND 121 AND 131A SPEIGHT STREET, BRIGHTON (APPLICATION REFERENCE A005967268)

**137/220/594/195 and 137/220/594/197**

**615/2022-23**

10. Two petitions requesting Council place a moratorium on the development at 32 Maclean Street and 121 and 131A Speight Street, Brighton (application reference A005967268), were presented to the meeting of Council held on 14 March 2023 by Councillor Jared Cassidy, and received.

11. The Divisional Manager, City Planning and Sustainability, provided the following information.

12. The petitions contain a total of 1,310 signatures. Of the petitioners, 997 live in Deagon Ward, 206 live in other suburbs in the City of Brisbane and 107 live outside the City of Brisbane.

13. The petitioners’ concerns include the following:

* the community does not agree with Council’s decision to approve the development, which involves extending a road in the waterway corridor of Brighton Wetlands
* the area where the road extension is proposed provides important linkages between habitat areas for native wildlife
* under the *Natural Assets Local Law 2003* (NALL), all vegetation in a waterway corridor is protected
* development into wetlands seems out of step with Council’s *Brisbane Vision 2031*
* development results in the unnecessary removal of five significant trees that support birds and mammals, whilst providing shade across the greenspace utilised by locals
* Maclean Street has already witnessed biodiversity loss as part of a previous subdivision which resulted in fauna being displaced
* the area where the road extension is proposed, takes water from existing homes during a rain event
* homes in the area flooded in February 2022, and the waterway corridor helps to capture, store and move water
* the stormwater outlets for the development and the road extension are likely to increase future flooding events, and no assessment or modelling has been carried out of the additional hard surface construction (new homes)
* the road extension will offer zero benefit to the community and sets a dangerous precedent for future incursions into Brighton Wetlands
* the potential development of other reserves in the local area
* code assessment has locked residents out of the development application process.

14. The petitioners request Council place a moratorium on development occurring on the site so that issues identified with the development application can be resolved. Petitioners advise Council can then begin the process of un-gazetting Queensland Government (State) owned road reserves and applying conservation zoning so the wetlands are better protected.

15. The subject site is zoned Low density residential in *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan) and is located within the Sandgate district neighbourhood plan but is not in a specific precinct. The site is a large land holding in an otherwise established residential area of freehold lots.

16. On 11 March 2022, an application was lodged for Reconfiguration of two lots to create nine residential lots ranging in size from 417 to 968 square metres. The lots achieve the minimum size of 400 square metres anticipated for the Low density residential zone and are consistent with the existing residential lot sizes in the area. Access to five of the lots is proposed via an existing access on Speight Street. Access to the remaining four lots is proposed via the existing unformed gazetted roadway extending Maclean Street.

17. On 7 October 2022, the proposed development was approved by Council’s delegate after being assessed against the requirements of City Plan and in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act 2016* (the Act).

18. The application was code assessable and, therefore, formal public notification was not required under the provisions of the Act*.* However, Council received representations from 53 residents regarding the proposed development. The residents’ concerns were carefully considered during the assessment process.

19. To facilitate the forming of the road in the Maclean Street extension in gazetted roadway, it was determined the removal of a number of trees was required to conform with the necessary standards of road design to provide safe and efficient pedestrian and vehicle access, and collection of refuse. The Maclean Street extension will be generally consistent with the grades and crossfalls of the existing Maclean Street, although the road extension will have a reduced width due to its function providing access to only six lots. The road infrastructure elements, including the carriageway, verge crossfall (to drain to the pavement and not back to the lots), access driveways to lots, provision of bin collection points and multiple service alignments directly through the root zones of the existing street trees, would be incompatible with the retention of the trees. Incidentally, removal of the trees may assist in managing bushfire risk at this residential location.

20. During the application, the applicant submitted an ecological report to evaluate the impacts of the proposed development. The vegetation removal as part of this proposal would have a minimal impact on fauna. The development approval provides new street tree planting on the Maclean Street frontage of the subject site, which is consistent with City Plan requirements that apply to all subdivisions across Brisbane.

21. The applicant has obtained the required permits for the removal of vegetation under the NALL and NALL permits do not require public notification.

22. The inclusion of sites in the Flood overlay or the Waterway corridors overlay of the City Plan do not mean development is not able to occur, although there are cases where development would result in unacceptable impacts. The applicant submitted a response to the stormwater, earthworks and flooding elements of the Stormwater code that was certified by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland. This assessment found the proposed development to be acceptable, with no material stormwater impacts on surrounding properties. The application assessment factored in building pads and earthworks for future houses. In accordance with Council assessment practices, the applicant’s response was assessed by Council’s own engineers, who agreed with the findings.

23. Brisbane is built on a floodplain, which means we will never be able to prevent flooding. As such, our city needs to move comfortably with and manage the risk of flooding, ensuring flooding is expected, designed and planned for. Council officers are well aware of the extent and impacts of the 2022 flood event, and other historical events, and the assessment of this application took into account that knowledge.

24. The applicant has received development approval and they are now lawfully able to carry out stormwater drainage, traffic functional layout, signs and line markings and roadworks, as well as subsequent Operational Works permits. Approvals for tree removal have also been obtained. There is no mechanism for approval to be revoked and where there is no breach of approvals, Council has no grounds to issue stop work or enforcement notices.

Consultation

25. Councillor Jared Cassidy, Councillor for Deagon Ward, has been consulted and does not support the recommendation.

Customer impact

26. The submission will respond to the petitioners’ concerns.

27. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed, with Councillors Lucy Collier and Charles Strunk dissenting.

28. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS SUBMISSION BE NOTED AND THE DRAFT RESPONSE, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A,** hereunder, **BE SENT TO THE HEAD PETITIONER.**

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition References:** 137/220/594/195 and 137/220/594/197

Thank you for your petitions requesting Council place a moratorium on the development at 32 Maclean Street and 121 and 131A Speight Street, Brighton (the site) (application reference A005967268).

It is noted you have identified several concerns with the proposed development including:

* ecological impacts
* flooding impacts
* vegetation removal
* community consultation
* precedent.

The application was approved by Council on 7 October 2022 after being assessed by Council’s Development Services (DS), City Planning and Sustainability, in accordance with the requirements of *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan) and the provisions of the *Planning Act 2016* (the Act). Council’s delegate took all assessment matters into account, and concluded the application was in accordance with the requirements of City Plan.

From the time the application was lodged, Council has been aware of the significant community interest in the development. The application was code assessable and, therefore, formal public notification was not required under the provisions of the Act. Notwithstanding this, Council received numerous submissions and enquiries from the community during the course of the application. All issues raised by submitters were taken into consideration during the assessment. However, ultimately the development complies with the planning intent for the Low density residential zone by providing freehold residential lots of an appropriate size.

Six of the proposed lots will be accessed via Maclean Street, utilising an existing gazetted, but unformed road, extending Maclean Street. The area of land that will comprise the road extension is not Council‑owned land and is not part of the Brighton Wetlands. This area of land is designated road reserve and is owned by the Queensland Government. While the extension of the road will result in a change to Maclean Street, Council cannot prevent road reserve being used for road purposes. Given the area of road extension is not part of the Brighton Wetlands, this development does not set a precedent for development in Brighton Wetlands.

As part of the submissions received during the assessment of the application, many residents asked why Speight Street could not be used to service all proposed lots, which would negate the need for the extension of Maclean Street. Speight Street is unable to be used to service all proposed lots due to the irregular alignment of the site access handle to Speight Street. Access via this handle currently has severely limited capacity for vehicle movements in general, and for the collection of refuse from the proposed new lots (particularly those fronting Maclean Street). It would not be considered safe or efficient for a refuse collection vehicle to service the 18 mobile bins (for the proposed 9 lots) from the existing access handle from Speight Street.

To facilitate the forming of the existing gazetted road for the Maclean Street extension, it was determined the removal of a number of trees is required to conform with the necessary standards of road design to provide safe and efficient pedestrian and vehicle access and collection of refuse. The Maclean Street extension will be generally consistent with the grades and crossfalls of the existing Maclean Street, although the road extension will have a reduced width due to its function providing access to only six lots. The road infrastructure elements, including the carriageway, verge crossfall (to drain to the pavement and not back to the lots), access driveways to lots, provision of bin collection points and multiple service alignments directly through the root zones of the existing street trees, would be incompatible with the retention of the trees. Incidentally, removal of the trees may assist in managing bushfire risk at this residential location.

During the application, the applicant submitted an ecological report to evaluate the impacts of the proposed development. The vegetation removal as part of this proposal would have a minimal impact on fauna. The development approval provides new street tree planting on the Maclean Street frontage of the subject site, which is consistent with City Plan requirements that apply to all subdivisions across Brisbane.

The applicant has obtained the required permits for the removal of vegetation under the *Natural Assets Local Law 2003* (NALL). NALL permits do not require public notification.

The inclusion of sites in the Flood overlay or the Waterway corridors overlay of the City Plan do not mean development is not able to occur, although there are cases where development would result in unacceptable impacts. The applicant submitted a response to the stormwater, earthworks and flooding elements of the Stormwater code that was certified by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland. This assessment found the proposed development to be acceptable, with no material stormwater impacts on surrounding properties. The application assessment factored in building pads and earthworks for future houses. In accordance with Council assessment practices, the applicant’s response was assessed by Council’s own engineers, who agreed with the findings.

Brisbane is built on a floodplain, which means we will never be able to prevent flooding. As such, our city needs to move comfortably with and manage the risk of flooding, ensuring flooding is expected, designed and planned for. Council officers are well aware of the extent and impacts of the 2022 flood event, and other historical events, and the assessment of this application took into account that knowledge.

The applicant has received development approval and they are now lawfully able to carry out stormwater drainage, traffic functional layout, signs and line markings and roadworks, as well as subsequent Operational Works permits. Approvals for tree removal have also been obtained. There is no mechanism for approval to be revoked and where there is no breach of approvals, Council has no grounds to issue stop work or enforcement notices.

Petitioners can view a copy of the development approval online at developmenti.brisbane.qld.gov.au by entering application reference number ‘A005967268’.

Please advise the other petitioners of this information.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**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 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair. Mr Chair, before I go to the Committee report, I’d like to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of Gillian Duncan. Gillian, who was known in the Brisbane offroad cycling community as the godmother of mountain biking sadly lost her long battle with cancer last week. Several months ago, I had the great opportunity to meet Gillian onsite at Mt Coot-tha when we officially renamed Gap Creek Circuit as ‘Gillian Circuit’ in her honour.

*At that time, 5.21pm, the Deputy Chair, Councillor Steve TOOMEY, resumed the Chair.*

Councillor DAVIS: In the presence of family and friends, it would be fair to say that she was extremely humbled by the recognition of her peers for her commitment to and involvement in the mountain bike community which she started back in the year 2000. Gillian had worked closely with Council, not only to establish mountain bike trails in Mt Coot-tha Reserve but also to improve and maintain trails.

She will be remembered as a leader in lobbying for sanctioned trails and trail care, through her work as a volunteer and as president of the Mountain Bike Association of Australia for many years. We thank Gillian for her passionate advocacy and commitment to the mountain biking community and our thoughts are with her family at this time.

Mr Chair, last week’s Committee presentation was on birds of Brisbane. As you are aware, Mr Chair, Brisbane is renowned as Australia’s most biodiverse capital city but what the Chamber might not know is that Brisbane is home to over 390 bird species. We have 80 ecosystems across the city and each of these ecosystems provide habitat for a diverse range of bird species from honeyeaters to birds of prey and also to international migratory birds.

The Committee was introduced to a variety of species living in wetland areas, both fresh and saltwater species in our dry forests and in rainforests. We also heard about bird species that live on the ground and in grassland areas. Some of the birds well known to the Committee members but there were many that were new to us. It would be fair to say that Committee members were much better at identifying birds onsite but our skills at identifying birds by call needed quite a bit of work.

Deputy Chair, Council invests in the protection of bird habitat by managing and restoring habitat—and corridors. We also invest in research, monitoring and community awareness. We are so lucky to have such a diversity of bird species and I’d like to take the opportunity to thank our creek catchment and habitat groups for their continued commitment to working with Council in restoring habitat so that together, we can ensure that Brisbane remains the most biodiverse capital city in the country.

Mr Chair, we also considered two petitions. The first requesting a road reserve in Kelvin Grove renamed ‘Bill Mateer Reserve’, and a second petition requesting a section of Coorparoo Creek Reserve, Coorparoo be named ‘Wallace Place Park’. Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair, and I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

Any further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes. Thank you, Mr Chairman. I rise to speak on this report and in particular the birds of Brisbane. I really enjoyed this presentation. I always find I love the Environment Committee and what we can learn about Brisbane’s environment. It’s a fantastic resource for us as a city but also for our nation. In terms of this particular report and Lachlan gave that. He was—he is obviously very passionate about this, the way he spoke about it, but the diversity of bird life is actually, what I learnt from that, that report, is that the diversity of bird life in Brisbane—or greater Brisbane, is much more than what you’d find in Kakadu National Park.

So we are very lucky to live in such a diverse environment and such an environment that still has so many of our feathered friends still living and surviving and thriving in our communities across Brisbane.

For me and where I represent, the Moorooka Ward, it covers a number of interesting sites that are key birdwatching sites for the city. One of them is the Archerfield Wetlands and also Oxley Common which we’re doing up. It’s bushland that we are protecting. A creek way that we are protecting and trying to highlight the amount of birdlife that is there. My understanding is that with that area of Brisbane, that is actually the greatest concentration of birdlife within our city.

There was recently a show on the ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) which I’d encourage everyone here, I’d encourage all residents of Brisbane to watch. It’s the *Secret Lives of Birds*. It’s done by Dr Ann Jones and it had Professor Hugh Possingham in it as well. They actually showed you some of the amazing wildlife. Some of the amazing birdlife that is in our city. In particular, it concentrated on Brisbane. So if you get the opportunity to see that, please watch it and know that we are trying to preserve and improve that area as a Council. That is a good outcome for our city.

The other site I’d like to speak about is Griffith University. This is one of the great unsung resources of our city. Griffith University sits within Toohey Forest. I’ve done a lot of work with the EcoCentre there, the environment hub. In fact, I’ve tried to get this Administration, the LNP, to consider working with the eco hub so that we actually run it as one of our own eco centres on weekends. Certainly Griffith University had approached me with that idea and were very keen to give it a go. Unfortunately, LORD MAYOR and none of the LNP has picked up on that idea.

*At that time, 5.26pm, the Chair, Councillor David McLACHLAN, resumed the Chair.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: But it is a resource that is sitting there, seven kilometres from the city that is all set up. It caters for 20,000 children a year. Students a year. It’s all set up so that it’s accessible so that people can go around and look at the wildlife that’s right on our doorsteps. One of the big things they have that’s really going for them is they have a very healthy, happy and breeding koala population that is right on our doorstep and we have the LORD MAYOR who says he is—he loves koalas but he won’t do this.

Anyway, I think that’s such a missed opportunity but anyway, I went along to their launch and they, strangely enough, two weeks ago, launched this book, *Birds of Nathan Campus*, Griffith University*.* Once again, an amazing field guide for us and for our city. They talk about 127 varieties of birds or species of birds being in Toohey Forest and in the university campus. Some of them, I didn’t realise we had in Brisbane. It was a terrific presentation.

I will continue to work with Griffith University and the environment centre there because they are doing such leading work. They are doing leading work in terms of what they’re offering our city and what they’re offering our environment. We as a Council, I just plead again to the Administration, we as a Council should not be missing the opportunity to work with such a talented resource for academic institutions as Griffith University. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, just very briefly. One of the most significant places for birds which is actually just on the wrong side of the boundary for me but it was in Tennyson Ward for a long time is now in Moorooka Ward, is the Oxley Creek Common. There are over 210 species of birds in this very significant environmental area and that’s about 55% of all the bird species in Brisbane.

I think this would have been something useful that I could have contributed to the Committee if Councillor DAVIS and her colleagues hadn’t been too scared to appoint me to the vacancy. So I’m very disappointed that I don’t have the opportunity to share these kind of interesting facts about what’s locally in the area as part of a Committee member on the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee.

Chair: Further speakers? Any further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item C and add my support to naming a section of Coorparoo Creek Reserve, Wallace Place Park. This started as an initiative of the Coorparoo and Districts Heritage Group. In particular, its president, Ron Baker, who has been collecting signatures in its support. Wallace Bros have been part of Coorparoo for nearly 80 years. The plumbing firm began in a family home in Leicester Street in 1931. It then operated from 226 Old Cleveland Road from the early 1970s and the site is now a parkland reserve.

During its operation, Wallace Bros saw three generations of the Wallace Family involved. Two generations, Doug and Bruce, served as presidents of the Master Plumbers’ Association of Queensland and as members and former presidents of Stones Corner Rotary Club. John Francis Wallace, the founder, served on the Coorparoo and Districts RSL Sub-branch Committee and the board of Master Plumbers’ Association from 1941 to 1946.

Another Wallace, Cliff, he had a long involvement with the Eastern Suburbs Rugby League Club for over 50 years. The site of Wallace Bros was resumed by Brisbane City Council in 2013 for parkland and it is fitting to acknowledge this prominent local family. The section of the parkland was one of the first priority projects undertaken by Council as part of the Norman Creek Master Plan. Of course, the Chamber only knows too well about the other high-profile priority project at Stones Corner, which was Hanlon Park and Bur’uda.

Coorparoo Creek once connected Coorparoo Junction to Norman Creek but over time, the tidal waterway slowly disappeared under homes, factories, shops and streets. These days, Coorparoo Creek Park forms a green corridor between Old Cleveland Road and Barnes Avenue at Coorparoo. The park directs stormwater away from homes and properties and helps to manage local floodwaters in the area. I’m pleased to be able to support the Coorparoo and Districts Heritage Group with this suggestion to recognise the Wallace Family.

I’d also like to acknowledge, in particular, Bruce Wallace, who I have come to know through Stones Corner Rotary and Coorparoo RSL. I want to personally thank him for his service to our community, I commend it to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair, and can I thank Councillor GRIFFITHS for his comments about the presentation? Lachlan is very passionate as a presenter but particularly on those—in those areas of which he has a particular interest and that is birdwatching. For the benefit of the Chamber, he came with his looking glasses and all sorts of additional things for us to—props for us to have a look at and made it a very interesting Committee meeting.

I am amazed though that Councillor JOHNSTON has made those comments about her interest in the EPS Committee because in all the time that I’ve served as Chair of the Committee, I can’t recall on any occasion that Councillor JOHNSTON has taken the time to actually turn up to a Committee meeting—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: —and hear what was happening. So I guess yesterday’s resignation has re-inspired her. But in saying that, I was remiss in not acknowledging the resignation of Councillor CASSIDY from the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee. Mr Chair, he didn’t give a reason and didn’t raise any concerns with me but I guess in not saying anything, he says much. In resigning, he—the Leader of the Labor Party has sent a very clear message. That is, that the Australian Labor Party really doesn’t care about the environment.

They don’t actually care about our parks and our natural reserves. They don’t really care about our wildlife. They don’t care about flood resilience and recovery. They don’t care about dealing with the effects of climate change. They don’t care about our waterways. They don’t care about drainage. Nor do they care about flood resilience and recovery, as I said.

So how do we know this? Well we know this because what I’ve just mentioned is the remit of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, which we now know is apparently not important enough to warrant Councillor CASSIDY’s interest. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillors.

We 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), Councillor James Mackay (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Jared Cassidy, Steve Griffiths, Sandy Landers and David McLachlan.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BIRDS OF BRISBANE

**616/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Parks and Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the birds of Brisbane. He provided the information below.

2. Brisbane’s biodiversity can be attributed to its location on the Macleay-McPherson overlap; an area in which a combination of climate and geography have resulted in the co-occurrence of both temperate and subtropical ecosystems. As Australia’s most biodiverse capital city, Brisbane and Moreton Bay has 394 species of birds across 81 different ecosystems including open forest, freshwater and estuarine wetlands, mudflats and mangrove communities.

3. The birds of Brisbane can be categorised by the following habitats.

- Wetlands, salt marsh, rivers, creeks and temporary waterbodies: species include ducks, rails, crakes, herons, storks, cranes, cormorants, darters, ibis and egrets.

- Drier forest ecosystems: species range from cockatoos, rosellas, cuckoos, robins, honeyeaters, fantails and flycatchers. Included in this category are Brisbane’s two types of butcherbird, the Pied butcherbird and the Grey butcherbird.

- Rainforest: species include the Eastern yellow robin, Catbird, Emerald dove and Superb fruit dove. Birds in this habitat predominately eat insects, fruit or foliage.

- Grasslands and open vegetation: species include wrens, finches and mannikins, with a predominant diet of grass seeds or insects.

- Ground: species include the Noisy pitta, Spotted quail thrush, Speckled warbler and Common bronzewing, which feed on seeds and insects across habitats from rainforests through to drier eucalypt forest. One of Australia’s rarest ground-dwelling birds is the Black-breasted button-quail, due to cat predation and habit loss.

4. Australian honeyeaters belong to the Meliphagidae family and include Australian chats, Myzomela, friarbirds, wattlebirds and miners. Many have a brush-tipped tongue to collect nectar from flowers and eat insects, pollen and berries. Honeyeaters can be aggressive in their search for food and prefer the sugar provided by Eucalyptus and other native trees. They occur across habitats from mangrove communities through to rainforest ecosystems. One of Australia’s rarest birds is the Regent honeyeater, found mainly in the western parts of Brisbane when it migrates during winter.

5. There are numerous birds of prey in Brisbane:

- diurnal birds including kites, flacons, kestrels, goshawks, eagles, sparrowhawks and harriers

- nocturnal birds such as owls

- tawny frogmouths and owlet nightjars.

6. Migratory birds such as the Grey goshawk and Rufous fantail migrate from the D’Agular Range during winter. Other Australian migratory birds include:

- Rainbow bee-eater

- Red-capped robin

- Swift parrot

- Swamp harrier.

7. International migratory birds include the Chanel-billed cuckoo and Brood parasites. After the breeding season in March and April, these birds begin to migrate northwards to their wintering grounds in New Guinea and Indonesia. Sandpipers, plovers and other shorebirds such as oystercatchers are collectively known as waders which comprise of 10% of Australia’s bird species. Most species migrate from northern China, Mongolia, Japan, Alaska and Siberia.

8. The Committee was played numerous bird calls including those of:

- the Koel

- Striated pardalote

- Pale-headed rosella

- Tawny frogmouth.

9. Council ensures the survival and prosperity of Brisbane’s birds by:

- protecting specific habitats through the *Natural Assets Local Law 2003*, *Brisbane City Plan 2014* planning scheme, and Bushland Acquisition and Wildlife Conservation Partnership programs

- managing and restoring habitat through the Habitat Brisbane program, Creek Catchments program, Wildlife Conservation Partnership program, conservation reserves and offsets

- researching and monitoring species through university collaborations, supporting citizen science programs, such as the Atlas of Living Australia, BioCollect and iNaturalist, and species‑specific programs

- building community awareness about species and Council’s Environment Centres

- supporting community groups through grants.

10. The Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Manager for his informative update.

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL RENAME THE ROAD RESERVE, PROSPECT TERRACE PARK, LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF PROSPECT TERRACE AND KELVIN GROVE ROAD, KELVIN GROVE, AS ‘BILLY MATEER RESERVE’

**137/220/594/155**

**617/2022-23**

12. A petition requesting Council rename the road reserve, Prospect Terrace Park, located at Prospect Terrace and Kelvin Grove Road, Kelvin Grove, as ‘Billy Mateer Reserve’, was received during the Spring Recess 2022.

13. The Executive Manager, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following information.

14. The petition contains 26 signatures.

15. In 1893, Brisbane experienced its biggest flood in recorded history. Mr Billy Mateer a skilled stockman was visiting the homestead of Henry Somerset when he volunteered to ride eastward to Petrie to notify the Postmaster General in Brisbane of the massive flood on its way to Brisbane. The ride was more than 40 miles, in cyclonic conditions, over rough mountainous terrain to warn the residents of Brisbane.

16. Mr Mateer was a local resident of the Paddington/Red Hill area and a former Brisbane City Council tram driver. Mr Mateer’s tram route stopped outside of the WWII bomb shelters formerly located on the corner of Prospect Terrace and Kelvin Grove Road, Kelvin Grove.

17. As a gateway to the CBD from the northern suburbs, this non-descript precinct forms a part of Brisbane’s history and is currently named ‘Prospect Terrace Park (Road Reserve)’.

18. A recent paper titled ‘Unpacking a legend’ compiled by Ms Margaret Cook and Brisbane City Council archivist Ms Annabel Lloyd, documents the heroic ride and Mr Mateer’s links to the local community. Furthermore, Mr Mateer’s efforts have been documented in a feature length film, *Deluge,* directed and produced in Queensland.

19. Greenspace Planning, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, will consider renaming Prospect Terrace Park, Kelvin Grove, as ‘Billy Mateer Park’, in accordance with Council’s *OS03 Naming Parks, Facilities or Tracks Procedure*.

Funding

20. Funding can be obtained for a new sign from Program 6 – Community Health and Safety.

Consultation

21. Councillor Peter Matic, Councillor for Paddington Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

22. The submission will respond to the petitioners’ concerns.

23. The Executive Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed.

24. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE DRAFT RESPONSE, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A,** hereunder**,** **BE SENT TO THE HEAD PETITIONER.**

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/155

Thank you for your petition requesting Council rename the road reserve, Prospect Terrace Park, located at the corner of Prospect Terrace and Kelvin Grove Road, Kelvin Grove, as ‘Billy Mateer Reserve’.

Council has completed an onsite investigation and considered your request.

Council will consider renaming Prospect Terrace Park, Kelvin Grove, as ‘Billy Mateer Reserve’ in accordance with Council’s *OS03 Naming Parks, Facilities or Tracks Procedure*.

The above information will be forwarded to the other petitioners via email.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Shannon Clarke, Parks Planning Coordinator, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 0403.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### C PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL NAME A SECTION OF COORPAROO CREEK RESERVE, CURRENTLY NAMED HOLDSWORTH STREET PARK, AT 226 OLD CLEVELAND ROAD, COORPAROO, AS ‘WALLACE PLACE PARK’

**137/220/594/161**

**618/2022-23**

25. A petition requesting Council name a section of Coorparoo Creek Reserve, currently named Holdsworth Street Park, at 226 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo, as ‘Wallace Place Park’, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 25 October 2022, by Councillor Fiona Cunningham, and received.

26. The Executive Manager, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following information.

27. The petition contains 64 signatures.

28. Wallace Bros. Pty Ltd has a long association in the Coorparoo Ward. The plumbing firm commenced operations under the family home in 1931, at 59 Leicester Street, Coorparoo. In July 1973, due to the expansion of the business, they decided to move to a purpose-built facility located at 226 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo. The business remained at this premises until it ceased operations on William Wallace Day, on 23 August 2008.

29. On 30 September 2013, Council took possession of Lot 12 on RP152616 which was formally owned by Wallace Bros. Pty Ltd. The two-storey office block was demolished in 2015, and the land was rezoned for use as a district access/recreation corridor.

30. Greenspace Planning, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, will consider renaming a section of Coorparoo Creek Reserve, in accordance with Council’s *OS03 Naming Parks, Facilities or Tracks Procedure*.

Funding

31. Funding can be obtained for a new name sign from Program 6 – Community Health and Safety.

Consultation

32. Councillor Fiona Cunningham, Councillor for Coorparoo Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

33. The submission will respond to the petitioners’ concerns.

34. The Executive Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed.

35. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE DRAFT RESPONSE, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A,** hereunder**, BE SENT TO THE HEAD PETITIONER.**

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/161

Thank you for your petition requesting Council name a section of Coorparoo Creek Reserve, currently named Holdsworth Street Park, which is located at 226 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo, as ‘Wallace Place Park’.

Council has completed an onsite investigation and considered your request.

Council will consider renaming a section of Coorparoo Creek Reserve, located at 226 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo, as ‘Wallace Place Park’, in accordance with Council’s *OS03 Naming Parks, Facilities or Tracks Procedure*.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Shannon Clarke, Parks Planning Coordinator, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 0403.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**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 Steve TOOMEY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. We had a presentation as is our Committee’s warrant to, on—one presentation. It was on the asphalt production. It was a lengthy presentation presented by our Divisional—sorry, our General Manager, Mark, who is very passionate about what he does and he’s a very good manager in that space. The Committee had quite a number of questions and had a great deal of interest in the space. We talked about the two plants that we had.

One is the Eagle Farm Asphalt Plant which I’ve been to on a number of occasions. Then the other one is the Riverview Asphalt Plant which I’ve been to a couple of times as well and that was where we talked because there’s the new drum has just been replaced there at that—at the particular Riverview. I call that the bespoke asphalt plant because they can do small batches that are bespoke to a customer’s request which is more readily available and easier than it is for the Eagle Farm one.

There were—like I said, there was a number of questions from the Committee and I’m happy to leave any debate to the Chamber. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any debate from the Chamber? 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 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, Sarah Hutton and Nicole Johnston.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – ASPHALT PRODUCTION

**619/2022-23**

1. The General Manager, Asphalt and Aggregates, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on asphalt production. He provided the information below.

2. Asphalt is an engineered composite material that is typically produced at between 150°C to 170°C, laid into layers and compacted. It is commonly used to surface roads, airports and car parks. The composite material can consist of bitumen, aggregate, natural sand, filler, recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) and other recycled products. Council currently operates two asphalt plants located at Eagle Farm and Riverview.

3. The Eagle Farm Asphalt Plant opened in 1992 and is a continuous drum mix plant. The production of asphalt involves various equipment and processes, such as gravimetric feeders and conveyors, a drying/mixing drum, a certified industrial burner, finished product storage, exhaust gas filtration, heated bitumen tanks and filler silos.

4. The Riverview Asphalt Plant opened in 1999 and is a batch mix plant. The plant:

- has a production capacity of 160 tonnes of asphalt per hour

- produces approximately 110,000 tonnes of asphalt per year

- contains four 100-tonne bitumen storage tanks and four 100‑tonne asphalt storage silos

- has aggregate supplied by Mt Coot-tha Quarry

- delivers a consistent high-quality product.

5. During the 2021-22 financial year, a total of 442,961 tonnes of asphalt was produced at Eagle Farm and Riverview plants.

6. A number of improvements to asphalt production are currently being investigated by Council, including high recycling capability, alternate fuel types (bio-fuels and solar), improved energy efficiency/lower temperatures, crumb rubber blending and liquid additive systems.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy 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 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair, and Mr Chair, I do have quite a lot of things to talk about before moving to the report this evening. So I hope that the Chamber is going to be very interested in all of the wonderful things that have been happening right across Brisbane this week.

It was my privilege to represent the LORD MAYOR at the 65th anniversary of St Andrew’s War Memorial Hospital. This is an amazing hospital that of course was set up to remember those who sacrificed their lives for us. It was a particularly moving experience because it was also the opportunity to recognise and thank Pixie Annat for her amazing contribution to this hospital where she served as the matron for more than 30 years.

Pixie sadly passed away last year and it was a fitting memorial that we had her nephew there to talk about his wonderful Aunty Pix and to talk about the enormous amount of effort that Pixie Annet provided to the City of Brisbane. Not only at St Andrew’s War Memorial but also through the Nurse’s Memorial, through the Centaur. Pixie was just such a vibrant human being and we all miss her dreadfully but it was a great event.

I also attended the Riverland launch party and it’s very fitting that I should talk about that when the DEPUTY MAYOR has been talking about economic development within the city. Some of you have probably attended Riverland in the past will just be amazed at the renovations that have occurred there and also the fact that we have provided employment opportunities through this particular renovation to many, many people right across Brisbane. It was one of the things that the new operators were very keen to explain to me that we were able to have so many fantastic job opportunities as a result of that.

We also saw National Volunteer Week last week and so I was privileged to meet with our Brisbane Greeters and to thank them for the enormous amount of work that they do right across Brisbane. Now, we also—we know just how valuable the Brisbane Greeters are to our city but it is also just fantastic to be able to—thank you. Thank you. It’s also wonderful for us, I think, as a Council to really thank the Brisbane Greeters for what they do. I was able to hear some of the new walks that they’re working on and to understand the importance of what they’re doing to take us all across Brisbane.

Now, some of you might not know that I am the patron for the Queensland Musical Theatre and I am very, very proud of that. They put on the most amazing *Cats* performance just last week. This is a group that have been operating for more than 30 years. Through you, Mr Chair, I know that they were part of your area in the past and I know that you’re a very strong supporter of them but the work that Deanne and her team do out there is just superb. It was a fantastic event. It was held, of course, at the Twelfth Night Theatre. Which, again, is a superb evidence of private enterprise providing some of the things that we really think that the State Government should be stepping up and giving us, e.g. some more theatres for community theatres.

We know that there’s some fantastic new theatres coming across the way but we certainly need performance spaces for some of our community arts areas. So that was wonderful that we did that.

We—I also represented the LORD MAYOR at Dancing CEOs and through you, Mr Chair, I know that the DEPUTY MAYOR is a big fan of that particular fundraiser. They actually raised over $570,000 on that night. You know, we are very proud to support those groups through our—providing some funding for the hire of the hall and it was a really—again, a wonderful event and something that was really important to the citizens of Brisbane to understand that.

On the weekend, I was able to attend the Motor Neurone Disease, Walk to d’Feet MND. Now, this turned into a really special occasion because I thought it was just going to be the local State Member and myself but the Premier and the new Health Minister turned up to make an amazing announcement that they were going to provide $250,000 as a one-off contribution to the Motor Neurone Disease. Look, the people there were just so thrilled with that announcement. I would very much like that to be a continuation. Apparently in other states, the State Government very much provides ongoing funding to the Motor Neurone Disease people but I can tell you that it was a fantastic event and to have the Premier come along and make that announcement was really well received by all.

After that, the Premier and I again went to the FICQ (Federation of Indian Communities of Queensland Inc) 25 years of community service. So we had the City Hall filled up—I know the Leader of the Opposition was there and also Councillor STRUNK. I got to sit next to Councillor STRUNK so we were able to enjoy the event while we were there. It was again another amazing opportunity to—and of course the Premier was there as well. So the Premier and the Leader of the State Opposition. Everybody got to have a say and it was fantastic to really thank these people for the 25 years of community service that is so important. Then just last night, I was off to the Rotary Club of Brisbane’s Centenary Week civic reception. Again, what a fantastic opportunity that was for us to do that.

Now, Mr Chair, I am coming almost to the end of my preamble but there is something that I really, really—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: That was a preamble because now, because now—

Chair: Pre-feasibility.

Councillor HOWARD: Because now, I am going to tell you about the wonderful event that we celebrated last week, which was the IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia) flag raising. I want to—I’m actually going to read some of the information that was provided to me by Luke Nixon, who was the Principal Inclusion Coordinator for Brisbane City Council.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: This Council Chamber needs to be eternally grateful that we have people such as Luke—

Chair: Yes.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: —who are doing this job. He has made such a huge difference and I really want to mention some of the things that he has—Luke tells me he’s got 10,000 followers so they were able to see photos of the LORD MAYOR and myself and all of the River City Pride people raising the progressive rainbow flag outside of City Hall. It really was a very extra special morning.

So what I want to say to you is that Luke tells me that last Wednesday, 17 May, the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia, IDAHOBIT, was celebrated in over 130 countries around the world. It is more commonly referred to as IDAHOBIT, as we know, and it commemorates the decision to remove homosexuality from the International Classification of Diseases of the World Health Organization in 1990.

On the day, River City Pride employees were encouraged in their work areas to host informal events and that was to raise money for the Open Doors Youth Service. With over 25 events held across Council’s office and depot locations, they raised an amazing amount of over $7,000 and this is a significant increase on the $3,500 raised in 2019. So I want to say a big thank you to all of our River City Pride and also all of our officers right across Council who took the opportunity to make sure that we were recognising this important date.

River City Pride and the LORD MAYOR woke up bright and early in the morning to raise the progressive rainbow flag on City Hall. River City Pride were joined by Councillor CUNNINGHAM, Council’s Executive Management Team and representatives from a number of LGBTIQ+ community groups, not-for-profits and the leads of the LGBTIQ+ employee resource groups from across Brisbane. It was a morning of celebration, reflection and agreement that despite the progress made, there is still work to be done.

So, to close out IDAHOBIT, our city landmarks including the Story Bridge and the City Hall were lit up in rainbow colours. This act has not only celebrated our local LGBTIQ+ community but it has been publicised across all forms of social media, sending a clear message to the world that Brisbane supports its LGBTIQ+ community. So thank you, Luke and thank you to River City Pride.

Moving to the report. We had a presentation on the aquatics overview and again, it was fantastic. I want to—I do want to thank Councillor GRIFFITHS for raising an issue that we’re currently investigating and I will leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Is there any further debate?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Well you had five seconds to spare.

Any further debate?

Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Yes, thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on the presentation and Councillor HOWARD always makes a point that the job titles in the Community, Arts, Nighttime Economy section are quite wordy but we had a presentation from the Manager of the Venue—Manager for Venue and Cemeteries, Community Facilities, Lifestyle and Community Services, Richard.

I wanted to congratulate Richard on his first presentation. Also happens to be a neighbour of mine so extra special but it was a very interesting presentation because I learnt some stuff that I didn’t know. Council manages 22 pools and attendance was up over eight per cent year-on-year through the summer period. It was interesting to note that Sandgate Pool was the most popular over the financial period—summer period—summer, this financial period.

There were more than, wait for it, Chair, 300,000 people attended the Sandgate Pool in that one period. So that’s fascinating. I will note that just for the record, Jim Soorley did shut the Toowong Pool which is a bit disappointing—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MACKAY: So we don’t have a pool in Walter Taylor anymore but I do—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MACKAY: I do want to acknowledge the pool out at Jindalee that was very badly hit in the flood. I understand it was a lot of work from everyone involved in Council and the lessee and the local Councillor, Sarah HUTTON, who all banded together to pull that pool back to its state. But what I did find really interesting was that many of our pools are now accessible and many have ramps so people of all abilities can access our wonderful pools. That’s all I wanted to say. Thanks, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate?

Yes, Councillor HAMMOND.

Councillor HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr Chair, I rise to speak on item A and even though Sandgate has got the top numbers of pools, Chermside is not far behind and why wouldn’t it be? It’s a great space there with the play area for the little ones to learn to swim. The aqua aerobics, therapeutic area and also many—many, many schools at summertime for their—which my kids went to many—many and many, end of year celebrations at the Chermside Pool. It’s perfectly located in the Chermside area near the higher density. Also next to my office, the wonderful library there at Chermside.

This Administration, I’m so proud of this Administration because as Councillor MACKAY said, we’ve never closed down a pool. In fact, we’ve invested millions and millions of dollars in new pools. I know everything happens in Bracken Ridge—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HAMMOND: —Councillor LANDERS, but I know that your pool is also very, very popular on the northside of the area and you’ve got some very talented swimmers, I hear, that have come from the pool there at Bracken Ridge.

But, Chermside, I think, has one of the best swim coaches that we could ever hope for. He actually taught my children how to swim back when he was at Stafford Pool actually but now he’s at Chermside. Some of the kids that he has nurtured and taught to swim, I believe, will be at the Olympics in 2032. They’re very, very talented and I’m so proud.

Thank you—I didn’t see the presentation, Councillor HOWARD, but I thank you very much for bringing this through to the Committee and making us all aware of the importance of our pools. Chermside is not far behind Sandgate but Sandgate is beautifully located at the foreshore there. Thank you very much.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. Just very briefly on the aquatic centre overview. I’m just wondering whether the first pool the LNP might actually be shutting down would be the Jindalee Pool? I’ve heard some information and I’ll say that it’s unconfirmed. I’d be very helpful—it would be very helpful if Councillor HOWARD was to confirm whether this is true or not but my understanding is, the local Councillor out that way, Councillor HUTTON, has been promising a new aquatic centre for her ward and she wants to take over the local golf course which is leased by Council to a community-based—I’m on the money. How’s this? That she wants to take over a community-leased golf club to build this new aquatic centre.

So I’m just wondering if that’s something that Councillor HOWARD wants to come clean about now because we’ve just heard from the Councillors opposite that they don’t close down pools but are they planning to close down the Jindalee Pool after spending I don’t know how much, millions of dollars, to fix it after the floods? Would there be a pork barrel election commitment coming for an aquatic centre out there in Jamboree Ward? Would—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Would—yes, just it’s interesting, isn’t it? Would Councillor HOWARD like to come clean now about why Council has spent all this money fixing the pool at Jindalee Pool if they’re just going to go and build a brand shiny new aquatic centre out there and kick out the local golf club? So perhaps either the local Councillor or Councillor HOWARD might like to come clean about this. Again, I say this is a rumour that I’ve heard. I’ve heard the surveyors—the surveyors have been out there but I’d be very interested. If I’m wrong, I’d love them to stand up and deny it. That’d be great.

Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you. Thank you, Mr Chair, because it does allow me to say a few more words. Look, I really want to thank those that—from this side of the Chamber, that contributed to the debate given that the report was very interesting and I want to say a big thank you to Richard for really laying out all of the things that we are currently doing across those pools.

Some of the information that is in the report—and I really encourage the Councillor for Tennyson to actually read the report because it says Bellbowrie and Jindalee Pools were also significantly damaged in 2022. Extensive works were completed throughout both sites including electrical rectifications, plant equipment, replacement and building repairs. The pools re-opened in September and December 2022, respectively.

Now, Mr Chair, through you, I would also like to just mention that the attendance rates across the portfolio have increased by eight per cent since the last financial year with 10 of our facilities now exceeding 100,000 visits. Six facilities exceeding 200,000 visits and one facility exceeding 300,000 visits. You’re quite right, through you, Mr Chair—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: —Councillor HAMMOND is only coming second in the Chermside Pool and of course Sandgate Aquatic Centre was at the top of the pool. But I have to say, all of the work that’s being done at Newmarket, watch out both of you Councillors because I think that Councillor—

*Councillors interjecting*.

Councillor HOWARD: I think Councillor WINES is on his way. On his way to trying to sort of do what we can. We were—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: We were actually updated on the refurbishment of the 50-metre pool and the plant at Newmarket Olympic Swimming Pool, one of Council’s busiest facilities in the portfolio and the works also included a filtration and pump upgrade to the 25‑metre pool and two children’s pools that were damaged during the 2022 Brisbane flooding event. Now, that pool re-opened on 10 December 2022 and through you, Mr Chair, I think that that will be something that everybody in that area will be looking forward to. So thank you to those who contributed and I recommend the Committee report to the Chamber.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you.

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 Steve Griffiths, James Mackay and Steven Toomey.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – AQUATICS OVERVIEW

**620/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Venues and Cemeteries, Community Facilities, Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide an overview of Council’s aquatic facilities. He provided the information below.

2. Council maintains 22 public swimming pools across Brisbane, each providing a unique offering to the local community. These facilities support recreational and educational opportunities, along with an extensive range of aquatic and fitness-based programs. Council’s swimming pool portfolio includes:

- 13 50-metre pools

- 14 25-metre pools

- 17 program pools.

3. Attendance rates across the portfolio have increased by eight per cent since the last financial year, with 10 facilities now exceeding 100,000 visits, six facilities exceeding 200,000 visits, and one facility exceeding 300,000 visits. Attendance rates vary due to the facilities available, programs offered, location and patron demographic. In the 2022-23 financial year, the pools with the highest attendance rate over the summer period were:

- Sandgate Aquatic Centre

- Chermside Pool

- Yeronga Park Memorial Swimming Pool

- Langlands Park Memorial Pool, Stones Corner

- Parkinson Aquatic Centre.

The Committee noted a graph on attendance trends and a breakdown of attendance statistics by facility.

4. The increased performance of the aquatic facilities is largely due to the ability to cater to a range of different user groups and the ongoing improvement of services and facilities. In recent years, Council has undertaken major refurbishment works and used facility upgrades, such as gyms, to attract more attendees. Strong growth in adult and children learn to swim programs have shown a combined increase of 9.73% since 2018. Squad programs have also seen an increase in attendance with children’s squad classes growing 5.21%.

5. The Committee was updated on the refurbishment of the 50-metre pool and plant at Newmarket Olympic Swimming Pool, one of Council’s busiest facilities in the portfolio. The works also included a filtration and pump upgrade to the 25-metre pool and two children’s pools that were damaged during the 2022 Brisbane flooding event. The pool reopened on 10 December 2022.

6. Bellbowrie and Jindalee Pools were also significantly damaged in 2022. Extensive works were completed throughout both sites including electrical rectifications, plant equipment replacement and building repairs. The pools reopened in September and December 2022 respectively.

7. Council relies on the experience and professional business acumen of nine different lessees to deliver day-to-day operations to millions of visitors each year. In the past year, Council’s lessees have delivered and improved on the services offered to residents. Notable highlights include:

- installation of rooftop solar at Parkinson, Runcorn and Colmslie pools

- installation of two newly tiled indoor pool basins at Newmarket Olympic Swimming Pool

- opening a new fitness centre at Manly Pool

- kiosk refurbishment at Ithaca Pool, Paddington

- implementation of new activities such as customer surveys and mystery shoppers to gauge customer experience and respond accordingly.

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

9. **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 Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 16 May 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. Item A was a presentation on Council’s domestic and family violence awareness, prevention and support initiatives. We all know and I’ve said before, how it has been a difficult few years for our community in Brisbane. From a pandemic that locked us away to a flood and now a housing and cost of living crisis. For a moment, just put yourself in the shoes of someone who is dealing with all of that while also dealing with the trauma of DFV (domestic and family violence).

When I talk to the officers at my local police station at Coorparoo, which is still open, I might add, I know that the calls for help will continue and are increasing. All year but especially during the month of May, there are a number of internal and community-facing initiatives which Council is supporting to raise awareness, create change and directly assist victims.

On Friday 5 May, we were proud to provide over $30,000 in community support funding for the LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Foundation’s Light Up the Night Gala here at City Hall. We know that domestic violence is prevalent in LGBTQ+ relationships, just as it is in heterosexual relationships so it was a great night and joined many of my colleagues from this Chamber at the event as well as other advocates and supporters who work in this space.

Two weeks ago, Mr Chair, I opened the Understanding Pathways to Safety forum at the Convention Centre which Council sponsored. The event brought together over 20 different DFV organisations to present their services and programs available in the Brisbane region to those seeking to work or volunteer in the DFV support sector, arming them with the information that they need to support victims. This is a critical information sharing forum where attendees received invaluable insights into the pathways to safety for those affected by DFV.

I’m incredibly proud that Council continues to support this event which offers practical support to our community. Later in the month, Challenge DV is hosting the Darkness to Daylight run. Last year, over $400,000 was raised to help Challenge DV, develop and roll out new DFV prevention programs. This year, Council is proud to be a sponsor of the event and our employees have also put together a team to take part.

As a major employer, we care deeply about the wellness, safety and health of our people at work and at home. Of course, we seek to provide a safe workplace for everyone and support the right for all people to live free from violence, intimidation and abuse.

We continue to partner with WorkHaven to deliver the Fresh Start For Me program at Council. This 10-week program includes engaging directly with an expert to take practical steps to create the right environment to rebuild and to support and maintain momentum to track their progress. As a large Council, we’ve also taken the opportunity to provide this program to two smaller Councils in our region free of charge. This is being done in partnership with WorkHaven.

We also work with LGAQ (Local Government Association of Queensland) to exchange learnings across the local government sector here in Queensland. Jo Mason, the CEO of WorkHaven, has been a close partner of ours in Council in helping to shape our DFV response and I want to take this opportunity to thank her. There are also a number of other DFV initiatives. For example, Councillors will recall that the LORD MAYOR committed $300,000 over three years to the Women’s Legal Service to fund a telephone support service for women and their children who have experienced domestic family and sexual violence.

All levels of government have a role to play, Mr Chair, and while there has been a lot of momentum, Council will continue to take action for many years. I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: 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 Finance and City Governance Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Fiona Cunningham (Civic Cabinet Chair), and Councillors Lisa Atwood, Trina Massey and Charles Strunk.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillors Steven Huang (Deputy Chair) and Angela Owen.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – COUNCIL DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE AWARENESS, PREVENTION AND SUPPORT INITIATIVES

**621/2022-23**

1. The Chief People Officer, Human Resources, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to provide an update on Council’s Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) awareness, prevention and support initiatives. She provided the information below.

2. Council is a Zero Harm organisation and is committed to promoting a culture of safety among all employees. Council supports the right for all people to live free from violence, intimidation and abuse at work, at home and at leisure. Council actively promotes free and confidential support resources and materials for those experiencing DFV.

3. Each year in May, it is DFV Prevention Month in Queensland. In 2023, Council is actively participating in the initiative through a range of events and programs that aim to raise awareness of and support those experiencing DFV. This includes:

- sponsoring the Challenge DV Darkness to Daylight event and Understanding Pathways to Safety forum hosted by Women’s Health and Equality Queensland

- providing community support funding for the LGBTQ Violence Awareness Foundation’s Light Up the Night Gala at City Hall

- hosting webinars and face-to-face information sessions

- distributing materials to Council officers on abusive power and control in relationships from the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council and Allison Baden-Clay Foundation.

4. Council is continuing to develop resources and materials to assist Council leaders in supporting team members who may be suffering from DFV. This includes hosting information sessions and developing comprehensive guides for Divisional and General Managers on managing and identifying team members who may be experiencing DFV. Council will also continue to deliver resources and programs through the Employee Assistance Program service, which provides counselling, financial coaching and legal referrals that all employees and their families can access. Council also delivers the Fresh Start for Me program, which has been developed to support employees to rebuild after DFV. Council is proud to share access to the program with the Gympie Shire and Lockyer Valley Councils.

5. Council’s Executive Management and Divisional Leadership Teams have developed and signed a statement confirming their commitment to DFV prevention. Council will continue to build connections with other local Councils to share learnings as part of its membership to the Local Government Association of Queensland’s Domestic and Family Violence Community of Interest group, and the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council’s Champions Network.

6. Council is also involved in several other initiatives focusing on DFV awareness and prevention including:

- supporting the delivery of free domestic violence awareness workshops

- allocating funding to Women's Legal Service Queensland to provide a hotline service offering free information and referrals to women reaching out for help

- delivering the Pathways out of Homelessness Grant Program

- partnering with the North Brisbane Safety Alliance

- providing exemptions and financial concessions for eligible charities and not-for-profit service providers in Brisbane.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

|  |
| --- |
| **622/2022-23**  At that time, 5.59pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the meeting adjourn for a period of one hour, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors had been locked.  Council stood adjourned at 6.05pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Councillors, welcome back from the dinner break and welcome Councillor WHITMEE. Assume you’ve been sworn in successfully. Excellent.

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTION – INDIGENOUS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT:

*(Notified motions are printed as supplied and are not edited)*

**623/2022-23**

The Chair, Councillor David McLACHLAN, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed on the agenda, and called on Councillor Jared CASSIDY to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Jared CASSIDY moved, seconded by Councillor Lucy COLLIER—

*That this Council:*

*Reaffirms its support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart. This generous proposal from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people calls for a Constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament which all Australians will vote on later this year.*

*Brisbane City Council recognises the self determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and actively supports a yes vote in the referendum.*

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor CASSIDY, debate.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you very much, Chair. On 4 June 2019, I read into the official record of this place the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full. This week marks six years since that seminal document was gifted to the Australian people. This year marks 15 years since the Prime Minister said sorry. This month marks 25 years since Lord Mayor Jim Soorley led the nation in saying sorry. Fifty-six years ago Australians overwhelmingly voted in favour of a referendum which was a turning point in our national story. We all know the significance of these moments in our history in making strides to heal and move forward together. We have another big opportunity to do that again; history is calling on us all.

As the Minister for Indigenous Australians, Linda Burney, said just yesterday, this vote this year is one based on hope, hope for a better future, hope built on the aspirations of Indigenous Australians embodied in that statement. On the election of the Labor Government just over a year ago, it was clear as a country the time for change had come, a change in government and a change in the way our First Australians were recognised and empowered. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people invited Australians to join with them in advancing a better future for the nation in a concerted effort towards reconciliation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. I’m proud that our team brought the original motion for the support of the statement to this Council.

Later this year Australians will vote in a referendum. They will be asked to answer a question: do you agree that the country’s constitution should be altered to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice? For me the Voice is a simple proposition. It’s about recognition and about respect. Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First People in our founding document and respecting their self‑determination in decision-making.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been left out of the decision‑making process for too long. Decisions about their future and policies relating directly to them are made in isolation without them. Their voices have not been listened to. When you empower communities, outcomes improve. A nine‑year gap in life expectancy, higher infant mortality and the future of so many young people robbed as they languish behind bars, we can do so much better and why wouldn’t we actively listen to the community in finding solutions.

We are blessed in Australia to have two of the world’s oldest continuing living cultures in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It’s time to give them their voice. Sporting clubs and codes, multinational companies, other state and local governments and many community leaders have indicated they will support a yes vote in the referendum. Every Liberal leader in Australia supports the Voice referendum at the moment except for Peter Dutton. I cannot state my support and the Labor team’s support for both the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the introduction of a Voice to Parliament through a referendum changing our constitution more strongly.

First Nations people must be able to speak and have their goals and aspirations acknowledged and understood. First Nations people must feel empowered to speak their truth and be believed. First Nations people must be free to have their culture and heritage protected with the understanding that it is a genuine gift to all of us. The Voice isn’t about politicians, it’s not a Canberra voice. This generous proposal came from the people, people wanting to have their voices heard. Their voices will be heard at a national level but based in the community, just like where this statement emerged from.

Aunty Rob, a Mununjali and Birri Gubba woman, says the Voice is about Aboriginal people getting up and having their say and as a community they need to have that voice because otherwise they’ll get talked over again. Ken Wyatt, the Minister for Indigenous Australians in the last Liberal government, said he would be deeply saddened if the Voice was defeated at the referendum. He said Indigenous people had made a huge contribution to building the modern Australian nation. Their contribution to build the foundation of our economy, our country and our way of life should be acknowledged by reciprocating and saying, hey we want to give you the opportunity to sit at the table and express your views.

A leader in this movement, Eddie Synot, my brother in so many ways, summed it up beautifully for me recently and he said this about the Voice. ‘The Voice is 235 years in the making. Finally after such a long time, we as Australians get to correct the failure to recognise the rightful place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, while also doing something practical about the issues that too many Indigenous people continue to face. But for me there are three people I think of most when it comes to the Voice. My nan born in 1930 at the height of the New South Wales protection regime, at a time when the policies of the day were that my people would be bred out and no longer exist. To think of the change she has seen in her lifetime, but to also think she will live to see this day, is hard to fathom.

I also think of my two children, to think they won’t have to fight for these basic rights and recognition in 20 to 30 years’ time is unimaginable. But they shouldn’t have to and that’s what I look forward to. Moving beyond this impasse has plagued our relationship for too long and building a better future for all of us I know those two children are going to be extremely proud of their father.’

As the largest local government in this country, what we say and do matters. We showed our support for the Statement, now let’s show our support for the vote. As Uncle Bob Anderson says, sing it loud and sing it proud, make your voices heard. I urge all Councillors to vote for this motion today. History is calling us all.

Chair: Further speakers?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak to this motion. 2023 is, as we know, a pivotal year for our country, the land that we all call home. This year Australians will be asked to make an important and a relatively rare decision and I say rare because it is not often that we are asked to consider changing our constitution and in a healthy democracy, as we are, this is not something that should ever be taken lightly or done without careful consideration and history shows that this is not something that Australians themselves have ever taken lightly.

Of the 44 proposed changes to our constitution since Federation, only eight have ever been supported and approved. In fact the last time that a referendum was successful was in 1977, the year of my birth, 47 years ago. Anyone who understands the gravity of constitutional change and the need to take the entire community along the journey would understand that you have to ensure that the community has a clear understanding of what is being proposed.

I’ve spent a significant amount of time talking to people across our community in recent times about the Voice and as I’ve talked to more and more people, I’ve learnt a lot. Here’s what I’ve discovered as a result of many, many conversations in our community of Brisbane. Firstly and this should be self-evident, but it is important to acknowledge, there are many different views on the Voice and that includes amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities themselves. You talk to our own One Mob in Council, there are different views within Council’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees and there are different views amongst the Elders of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as well. So it is fair and accurate to say there is not a single unified position amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, either here in Brisbane or across Australia. I’ve heard very strong opinions both for and against the Voice, both in the wider community and from First Nations representatives.

The second thing that has become very obvious, Mr Chair, is there’s a huge hunger for more information. Once again, shouldn’t be surprising, this is an important decision we’re all facing. A desire to understand what the Voice is and importantly how it will work and that’s perfectly reasonable. You’re making a big change like this and it is a significant milestone change for our nation. It is only reasonable that people understand what it is they’re being asked to vote on and how it would work. Now this is an opinion that was recently expressed by our own Queensland Premier, Annastacia Palaszczuk. Finally, there is a huge desire to understand how the Voice will deliver better outcomes. I think that really is the heart of it. It is an important symbolic gesture to change the constitution, but really people want to know it’s going to make a difference. They want to know what that difference will be. How will it help to close the gap? How will it help the day-to-day lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities? Once again, that is a fair and reasonable question to ask.

As the leader of this city, I would like to ask a further question, how will the Voice ensure that local communities such as the Jagera people, the Turrbal people and the Quandamooka people have a voice in the Voice? To me this is critical. I have searched high and low for this information and what I’ve been able to find out, I have to say, raises more questions than it answers. The Government and even just in the break that we had, I saw an ad on TV and it was the Government’s website on the Voice, promoting or encouraging people to visit this website to find out more information on the Voice, so this is where the Government is pointing people to the voice.gov.au, if you want to find out more information, go there, it’s got questions and answers. So looking on that website, the question about how will the Voice be formulated and created and how will the representatives be chosen, critical question I think and it says on that website, the Voice will be representative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, gender balanced and will include youth. Well that seems reasonable. That’s obviously a step in the right direction.

But how will it be representative? How are we going to ensure that it is representative? It says then, going on further on the website, members will be chosen from each of the states and territories, the Voice will have specific remote representatives as well as a representative for the mainland Torres Strait Islander community. Okay, tell me more. There is no more information on the website about how the Voice will be chosen and how members and local groups like the Jagera, Turrbal and Quandamooka people could possibly be represented. So I went searching for more information and the report that I was led to was referenced by the Prime Minister on a number of occasions. It was the Indigenous Voice Co‑design Report prepared by Professors Langton and Calma and so this is the report that the Prime Minister said all the answers are in there.

So what does that report say? It says the national Voice will have 24 members, with gender balance structurally guaranteed. The base model includes two members from each state, the Northern Territory, the ACT and the Torres Strait, a further five members would represent remote areas due to their unique needs, one member each from the Northern Territory, Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia, New South Wales and an additional member would represent the significant population of Torres Strait Islanders living on the mainland. In Queensland, so to summarise, what the representation for Queensland will be, will be one member from a remote area and two members from the remainder of the State. So out of the 24, that’s what we’re talking about.

So it’s rightful to ask the question how will the Jagera, Turrbal and Quandamooka people be represented on the Voice when there are only two members from the rest of the entire State of Queensland to be selected? This is a question I think a lot of people would want to know the answer for. So Mr Chair, I propose an amendment to the motion in front of us.

**MOTION FOR AMENDMENT TO NOTIFIED MOTION:**

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| **624/2022-23**  It was moved by the LORD MAYOR, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR, that the notified motion be **amended** by the removal and insertion of such words so that the motion would read as follows:  *That this Council:*  *Reaffirms its support for the consideration of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which includes calls for a Constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament which all Australians will vote on later this year.*    *Brisbane City Council recognises the self determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and calls on the Federal Government to “step up into that space and explain it” as requested by the Queensland Premier, to allow informed consideration of a yes vote in the referendum.*  *This information must include a detailed explanation about how the Jagera, Turrbal and Quandamooka peoples will each be individually and fairly represented on any Voice to Parliament.* |

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: All right, well I’ll go.

Chair: Okay, point of order Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: The motion before us today has been outrageously changed by the LORD MAYOR. The paragraph that Brisbane City Council recognises self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and actively supports a yes vote in the referendum has been removed altogether. This substantially changes the nature of the motion from one calling for support for a yes vote to not calling for support for a yes vote and on that basis, the change is too extensive, does not meet the Meetings Local Law and should be ruled out of order.

Chair: Thank you.

I’ll take other, the other, your point of order too, Councillor CASSIDY, before I respond.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes sure, yes, no, I was going to say the exact same thing and I think legal advice should be sought on this because this substantially changes the motion. It’s clear, this now, if this is voted on and supported, now would mean that Brisbane City Council does not actively support a yes vote that is substantially different to the motion I moved. If the LNP wanted to vote against it and not support it, they could have, they could easily do that, or bring their own motion, but this does substantially change that. If you’d like me to move a motion for an adjournment, Chair, to seek legal advice on this, I’m happy to do it, but I’ll leave that at your discretion, Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON, thank you, Councillor CASSIDY. Reading the amendment, I am of the opinion it doesn’t change the intent of the original motion, so I don’t support your motion, Councillor CASSIDY and I don’t uphold your point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON. In my read of this, it doesn’t substantially change the nature of the motion that’s being considered.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor.

Councillor CASSIDY: Could you just expand on your ruling then and tell us how this amended motion before us today, which does not call on Council to actively support a yes vote in the referendum, the original motion to now not doing that, which is a fundamentally different position, is consistent? Could you explain that a bit more?

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I don’t need to. I’ve made a ruling. You can rule dissent in my ruling if you’d like to.

**Procedural motion – Motion of dissent**

**625/2022-23**

Councillor Jared CASSIDY moved, seconded by Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON, that the Chair’s ruling be dissented from.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion of dissent was declared **lost** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Jared CASSIDY and Lucy COLLIER 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, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 18 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Ultimately this information that we’re asking for is not unreasonable and I think if you actually asked this same question to the wider community, they’d say it is reasonable for people to know our First Nations people in Brisbane will have a say on the Voice. Because in the end, if you really want it to be effective, that’s something that you really want to know, that’s a question that you really want to have answered. So when you’re asking people to make an informed decision, my fear is that in the current absence of information that’s out there, this referendum will go down. That’s the way I see it going unless there is more information urgently provided.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: The interesting thing is, it’s almost as though the Federal Government doesn’t want to answer these questions because they’ve been asked again and again and again to provide answers and they’ve got this website which has next to no information, you have to go digging through reports to find out that it’s 24 members for the whole of Australia when there are hundreds of different groups of First Nations people across the country, hundreds. How do you possibly make sure that there is fair and appropriate representation with 24 representatives on the Voice? I think people would like to know the answer to this question because this will determine whether it works or not, this will determine whether we get the good outcomes from it or not that people want to see. I think people are genuinely open to supporting this, but it is not unreasonable to have some basic information about what it is they’re voting for, what it will mean, who will be represented on it.

I think it’s not too late for the Prime Minister to clear this up. Just step forward, just like the Premier has asked him to do and answer these important questions because you don’t want to go into this with all of these questions unanswered. If you go into it with questions unanswered, as we’ve seen in the past with a record of only eight out of 44 referenda getting up, I fear that this one will not get the support that it needs to, to cross the line. What will that do to our nation? It will tear it apart and I don’t think anyone in this Chamber wants to see that. There is a chance to save this thing and that will only be saved by providing answers to basic questions like this.

We want to see a cohesive, united community that moves forward towards genuine reconciliation, towards closing the gap and real improvements for First Nations people, especially Jagera, Turrbal, Quandamooka, here locally in Brisbane. I think we can achieve this but that basic information needs to be provided as a matter of priority.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate on the amendment?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: This is outrageous, Chair. What the LORD MAYOR has now confirmed is that he is on a unity ticket with Peter Dutton, the Nationals and Pauline Hanson and One Nation, that’s what he has done.

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Councillor CASSIDY: That’s what he has done. He is peddling some of those, the worst, the worst of that dog whistle politics on this issue, the very worst of it.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you. DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Can we debate the amendment not the LORD MAYOR please?

Chair: To the amendment, to the amendment, Councillor CASSIDY.

I don’t uphold your point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR, but please, to the amendment.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, I’m discussing what the LORD MAYOR has just entered into the debate around his amendment.

Chair: I understand, I understand.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair, yes, no, thank you. Consistent, consistent research has shown that over 80% of First Nations people support this approach because they know and I think the LORD MAYOR does in what he has said, they know that what we have been doing to date isn’t working. So we talked about things like closing the gap just then, but that hasn’t worked. Decisions have been made about the futures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, specifically about them as a people, we’ve seen that time and again, around specifically around Aboriginal communities, specific government policies that are made in isolation from them. They have not been part of the decision-making process.

As I said, it’s a really simple proposition, the referendum. The question is very simple, the proposition is very simple, it’s about recognition and about respect. The LORD MAYOR knows that there is information out there, Chair. He knows that there is information out there and he’s peddling this line that we’ve heard from Peter Dutton and the Nationals—

Councillor MURPHY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Will Councillor CASSIDY take a question?

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY?

Councillor CASSIDY: No.

Chair: No, Councillor CASSIDY won’t take a question, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor CASSIDY: So Peter Dutton had an opportunity to sit with the working group on many occasions and do you think he asked one question of them, all those eminent people? He didn’t ask one question. Lo and behold, every Liberal leader in Australia, every opposition leader, granted in Western Australia the opposition leader is a member of the Nationals, the Tasmanian Premier, the former New South Wales Premier at the time, every Liberal and National leader, apart from at a Federal level, supports a yes vote. So I don’t understand where that disconnect has occurred now where the LORD MAYOR of Brisbane and Peter Dutton and the Nationals and Pauline Hanson’s One Nation have come together and are now engaging in dog whistle politics.

The Co-design Report, which was commissioned by the Morrison Government that the LORD MAYOR has referenced, the Calma/Langton report, does talk about models and the LORD MAYOR has been selective.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: He’s picked a little bit, very, very, very selective, which is actually really troubling, Chair, extremely troubling in this debate when we’ve got a LORD MAYOR who is sort of dancing around the edges of saying no but disguising that in saying he needs more information and gone to a report that has hundreds and hundreds of pages of information, that Co-design Report, which, LORD MAYOR, through you Chair, was developed working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities all around Australia, all around Australia. The Uluru Statement from the Heart was the culmination of regional dialogues, the Co-design Report was as a result of consultation directly with First Nations communities. But apparently this LORD MAYOR knows better. That’s what he’s told us tonight. He’s been extremely selective with what he’s talked about coming from that Co‑design Report, because what he hasn’t talked about are all the local and regional voices which feed into the national voice as well. He left that out. I wonder why, because he claimed, he said tonight he’d read that report, those hundreds of pages. He said to us just tonight that he’d read that and the one thing he pulled out of that was that number.

This is not the legislation, that’s not what is included in the vote, in supporting a yes vote. That’s not included. That will be the subject of legislation once a vote hopefully is carried in a referendum. So that legislation will be informed by the Co-design Report, but of course all Members of Parliament and Senators and I’m sure the LORD MAYOR can do this, he sits on the LNP executive with Peter Dutton, he can talk to him all the time about this I’m sure, they get to design that legislation based on community feedback.

I just really don’t understand what changed for the LORD MAYOR from 2019. I know they amended that motion at the time and they wanted to praise Ken Wyatt as the first Indigenous Minister for Indigenous Australians and we supported that amendment at the time because it still put a stake in the ground. It still said, yes Brisbane City Council is a progressive council and we do support the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which at its core talks about a constitutionally enshrined voice. That was the first step in that process, followed by treaty and truth telling as well. I don’t know what’s changed in the last four years for this LORD MAYOR. I can’t quite figure it out. He hasn’t really given us much of an indication other than the fact that he’s now on a unity ticket with Peter Dutton on this, before us today.

So when it comes to wanting more information, there is more than enough information out there. The fact that every Liberal and Labor leader and the Greens at a national level now support this approach, every day of the week we’re having national bodies, whether it’s the Australian Olympic Committee or the Commonwealth Games, Rugby Australia, Cricket Australia, the AFL, big, big organisations that have a social conscience are supporting a yes vote. They’re not going around saying, oh geez, I’ll play this dog whistle over here and say, oh hedge your bets, maybe, maybe not, we need some more information, when you get more information, that’s not enough. When you get a 400 page report, that’s not quite enough. When there’s detail in that report, you just pick one thing out.

This is the Peter Dutton playbook and I thought, the LORD MAYOR gets up here and says he is a progressive leader in Brisbane and he gets upset and the LNP in here get upset and they say we’re attacking them personally when we repeat that line *The Courier-Mail* ran about the LORD MAYOR last year that he was a conservative leader and they protest a lot. But obviously a bit much, because to have the LORD MAYOR of Brisbane, a progressive city, coming in here today saying he got his lines from Pauline Hanson and Peter Dutton and David Littleproud, there’s a definite conservative Queensland, Queensland conservative unity ticket emerging now on this and this is a seminal moment in our nation’s history. This is an important vote and people will be looking to their political leaders to take a stand and to explain. The LORD MAYOR apparently has read through all this, explain how important this is.

It’s about recognition and it’s about respect. It’s about recognising that our first people were excluded from the drafting, specifically excluded from the drafting of the constitution. Wasn’t until 1967 that they were even recognised as members of our society. It’s about recognising their special place in our founding document and it’s about empowering them. Why wouldn’t we? Why wouldn’t we listen to those voices? Why wouldn’t we say—we’re not, you know, the argument’s not been about funding, it’s not been about programs, it’s been about the delivery of those and the decisions that that has—that has been made about and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to the exclusion of them. It’s about recognition and it’s about respect and I am deeply disturbed at what we’ve heard from the LORD MAYOR tonight. We won’t be supporting the amendment.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, claim for misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: Councillor CASSIDY claimed that my amendment puts me on a unity ticket with Peter Dutton. In fact it puts me on a unity ticket with Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk who said exactly the same thing.

Chair: Further speakers? Further speakers to the amendment?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Mr Chairman. I rise to speak on the amendment moved by the LORD MAYOR and presumably supported by very single LNP Councillor here before us today. It is extremely disappointing to see the tricky way in which the LORD MAYOR has gone about killing off this motion that’s been put forward by the Leader of the Opposition. It is quite unbelievable that the LORD MAYOR wants to play the role of spoiler in the way in which this country is going about having a national conversation about how to change the constitution to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is astonishing to me that he is using parochialism to try and drive a wedge and confusion and division into how our community participates in this debate.

The things he has stood up and said here today aren’t even close to half the story and the motion that he has moved forward today basically says this Council does not support a yes vote on the referendum because it removes it. It removes it from the motion. So let’s just address a couple of those issues. Firstly, I support a yes vote. I’d be very proud to vote yes. It’s a simple proposition being put forward to the Australian people and the LORD MAYOR is seeking to make it complicated, divisive and tricky by claiming all sorts of problems that exist. The referendum does two things. One, recognises the first inhabitants of this land in the constitution. They’re not recognised now; we’re going to recognise them. And two, sets up a process by which Indigenous peoples can advise government, Parliament and the executive. That’s it. It’s not hard. It’s not tricky. It’s actually very straightforward.

The people who are seeking to make it tricky and divisive are the people spreading misinformation out there in our community about the purpose of this Voice. Now I’ve been speaking to many groups about this in my community and I know there are people who are concerned about it. But when you have a conversation with them about what this means and you talk about the language that’s actually in the amendment and in the constitutional change, they’re quite shocked to hear how simple it is. Quite shocked to hear how simple it is and instead of actually taking a leadership role and standing up and saying to our community that we should vote yes because it is the right thing to do to recognise people in this country who don’t have any recognition at all in our constitution, the people who were here first, who have been here the longest, instead of saying today and sending a clear message to our community that we vote yes, this LORD MAYOR has been weak and wants to play the role of spoiler.

What’s his argument? What’s his argument? That oh my goodness gracious me, the Turrbal, Jagera and Quandamooka people don’t have a say. Now that’s fundamentally untrue. The structure that has been set up has multiple representative components and the LORD MAYOR has failed, he either didn’t keep reading down the report or he’s deliberately deceiving the people of Brisbane by not properly explaining that there are multiple representative bodies that form part of the Voice. Firstly, the national body that the LORD MAYOR did outline and secondly, what he is ignoring altogether, he has failed to even mention, is that there is a recommendation that there are 35 regional voice communities that are set up, 35, that they should be along the lines of local communities and regional areas.

Now what the LORD MAYOR should be doing is saying, yes, we want to see this, we want to vote yes and we want to make sure that Brisbane is one of those representative communities, absolutely. This is the way the LORD MAYOR, if he wanted to play a leadership role in this debate, this is what he could have done. He could have added to the motion by saying: and we call on the Federal Government to ensure that one of the 35 regional voices is representative of the Brisbane Indigenous peoples. And it’s not just those three communities either. They’re the Traditional Owners here but Brisbane is home to people from Indigenous lands all around Brisbane. I don’t want to see their voices ignored either.

So this LORD MAYOR, who could have taken a positive and constructive approach to making sure that Brisbane was actually represented in the Voice process, has failed to do that. Instead, he is trying to be deceptive to the community about what the Voice representative bodies will look like. He’s told people half the story and put fear into the hearts of Brisbane residents, when a simple yes, we should support this and we are going to advocate for our local Indigenous people, is the right response. That’s the right—that’s what a leader should do, that’s what someone with courage and conviction should do. That’s what someone who represents all of Brisbane should do. That’s what we should do in this Council Chamber.

But this LORD MAYOR wants to strike division into this community, just like the Federal leader. I heard Peter Dutton’s speech and it was appalling. I cannot believe that the LORD MAYOR of this city does not want to support the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the constitution. That is what the amendment he is moving today—

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Point of order, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor JOHNSTON: You can’t be more misrepresented than taking out the following words, this is what the LORD MAYOR wants to remove. The LORD MAYOR wants to remove the following statement: Brisbane City Council recognises the self determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and actively supports a yes vote in the referendum. That is the motion, the amendment motion the LORD MAYOR has moved, to remove that provision. He’s taken out that this Council supports a yes vote, that is what he has done. Instead of being constructive and taking a leadership role to make sure that Brisbane Indigenous communities are recognised, he has gone down the path of division. That is not, that is not the moral conviction of someone who should be leading this city. I’ve been saying it for well over a year now, this LNP Administration has got to go and this is just the tip of the iceberg about what’s wrong with this LNP.

Instead of seeing a way to advance the national debate, to make it better, to be constructive, the LORD MAYOR is instead changing an incredibly sensitive and good motion to support the Voice and to say this Council supports the referendum, it’s saying no, we’re not doing that. That’s what this LORD MAYOR is doing tonight. It is incredibly disappointing, it is, to me, tricky, it is incredibly sad and I think that the LORD MAYOR has failed to recognise the importance of the referendum for our whole country. Is it perfect? Probably not. Can we do better in selling it? Yes, we can and we should have done that. So LORD MAYOR, I urge you to withdraw this amendment now. Let’s table this motion, let’s go away behind closed doors and have a discussion about a better form of words that can recognise Indigenous people in Brisbane’s participation in the process.

We can do that in a positive way that takes the leadership of this debate and the importance of the referendum question forward. What you are proposing is saying no, the LNP don’t support the Voice referendum and that is just appalling. It’s very simple, you could add one paragraph that calls to the original motion moved by the Opposition Leader, calling on one of the 35 regional voices to be constituted by the Indigenous owners of the land in the Greater Brisbane area. I think that there’s probably even others that should be recognised. But you could add one paragraph into this, it would remain positive, it would be clear that our community supports the yes vote. But what the LORD MAYOR is proposing is to play politics with an incredibly important issue. He’s trying to imply the Premier doesn’t support the referendum and the yes vote, which clearly she does.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s wrong what the LORD MAYOR is doing.

Chair: Councillor.

LORD MAYOR, your claim of misrepresentation?

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Councillor JOHNSTON inaccurately claimed that I don’t support constitutional recognition of First Nations people. In fact I haven’t made reference to that in my speech, but I can tell you I absolutely do support constitutional recognition of First Nations people.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Chair, before I begin, I wish to acknowledge the Kabi Kabi people, who have been omitted from the LORD MAYOR’s motion as well, the amendment. I just want to put my respect on record here today. I can list more than 20 organisations who have affirmed their public support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart and backed the Voice genuinely. Today we could have too, but unfortunately from the other side what we are seeing is they have gone so low it is genuinely quite shocking. But when they go low, Chair, we will go higher, we will speak the truth.

In my community, just next week I will be very pleased to welcome Noel Pearson, Grace Sarra, Joshua Creamer and Suzy Wilson. We are hosting—Di Farmer, the Honourable Di Farmer, State Member for Bulimba, is hosting a forum to help inform local residents about the Voice. That is what we do, that is what we do on this side of the Chamber. We are united and we could have today taken action to help lift up the most marginalised people in this country.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please allow the speaker to be heard in silence.

Councillor COLLIER: Every single Liberal leader in this country supports the Voice. Today we could have shown who we really are and what we really stand for. Governments for too long have made decisions—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

Councillor COLLIER: Governments for too long have made decisions about First Nations people that have resulted in the outcomes we see today. For many First Nations people, life is hard, short and poor and simply things must change. In my family, I have family members who their fathers could not be on their birth certificate because of who they were. That is not acceptable. This referendum is a moment in history and to close the gap, First Nations Australians need a voice. This is an issue that is simply too important to sit back on. So my question is, is there ever going to be enough info to satisfy you? Because I genuinely don’t think there is.

We can send a message today, we could have, that we stand for justice, for fairness and making sure that no one is left behind, by affirming our support of the Voice with an open heart. We could be united as a nation with voice, with treaty and with truth telling. I support the Uluru Statement from the Heart. I support an Indigenous Voice to Parliament for our First Nations people. History is calling, so today we will not be supporting this amended motion, like we will not dignify it.

Chair: Further speakers on the amendment?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I want to speak on the amendment. The Voice, the motion moved by the Opposition Leader asked a simple question. The recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and for the leaders of this city, what is supposed to be and is actually a progressive city, to support this Voice, this vote. Instead what we have here is completely see-through attempts to use jargon, to use lies, used by the Liberal leader and the Nationals and One Nation, to take away any sort of meaning and support for what was the initially moved motion. Instead of collaboration, instead of engagement, instead of working and recognising the moment that this country and this city is in, we have delay, we have choosing to put on information, being selective with information, we have the creation of a tricky political amendment that takes away the functions of the initial motion and creates divisiveness.

What the Voice asks for is a simple thing, the history of this country’s colonisation, the situation that exists within First Nations communities across this country and in this city itself. I mean I see it first hand when I’m down on the streets in Musgrave Park, or at the Go Between Bridge and I see the population of homelessness. The overrepresentation of First Nations people in juvenile detention, the overrepresentation of young First Nations people in our foster care system. This has all been created by the lack of a voice, by a lack of treaty, by a lack of truth telling and the fact that we are here right now completely changing this motion to an amendment that delivers nothing is incredibly disappointing. I will not be supporting this amendment.

Chair: Further speakers to the amendment?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair and just in relation to the comments that have made, when the Premier asked for more information, perfectly okay, perfectly reasonable. When someone on the other side of politics asks for more information, then all kinds of terrible motives are attributed towards that person. You see the inconsistency here; you see the hypocrisy here. The reality is—and let me read exactly what the Premier said. The Federal Government really needs to step up into that space and explain it. I’m sure that’s going to be coming, the Premier told reporters on Thursday. What I would like to see is once we get that information, once we get that information, not before, First Nations people, business groups, community groups and supporting organisations getting out there and showing their support. Once we see that information.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Chair, point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Chair, supporting organisations, many organisations have affirmed their support.

Chair: That’s not a point of order, Councillor COLLIER, that’s not a point of order.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. The Premier said it herself, once the information is forthcoming, some basic information we’re talking about here.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Basic information about who will be representing our First Nations people—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: It’s in the report? Well the report tells you nothing of substance. The report tells you nothing. It raises more questions than it raises answers and what it makes clear is that the hundreds of First Nations groups right across Australia will all somehow be distilled down to 24 representatives. I think if the average Australian was put with that proposal, they would rightly ask well how is this going to work? What benefit will it have? These are not unreasonable questions to ask. So Labor Councillors, Opposition Councillors, Greens Councillors, Independent Councillors can criticise me for asking a question, I don’t mind, water off a duck’s back. But they’re also criticising all of the people out there who have that same legitimate question and they want to know more information than a few paragraphs on a government-funded website. They want to know answers. I’ve also—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor MURPHY.

Excuse me, Councillors.

Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor CASSIDY.

Please stop cross-Chamber discussion while the LORD MAYOR is speaking.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: I’ve also been accused today of parochialism. You better believe it. It’s my job to represent Brisbane, it is my job to put Brisbane residents first and Brisbane First Nations residents first. Councillor CASSIDY is interested in Federal politics, well Councillor CASSIDY, run for the next Federal election. I’m here, I’m here to represent the people of Brisbane and what is in their interest and if there are questions that need to be answered—and I can tell you, in the hundreds and hundreds of conversations I have with people out there in the streets, ordinary Brisbane residents, they’ve got these questions too, they have these questions too. In fact I was surprised by the number of people who when you asked them how they feel about the Voice, they think you’re talking about the TV show.

This is concerning, that the government has so little information out there, a website with nothing on it and in fact deliberately underfunded both the yes and no campaigns in what I see as a deliberate attempt to deny people access to information, in the hope that people will just vote yes on the vibe. Not based on any information of fact, but on the vibe. So asking these questions is purely a reasonable thing to do and it’s the same questions that a lot of Brisbane residents would have tonight. The same questions that a lot of Brisbane residents will have when they’re going towards the referendum and they’re thinking about how they’re going to vote and then they make up their mind on how they vote.

The Prime Minister can’t leave this to chance. He’s had extreme criticism from people within his own party. There was an interesting article the other day written by, I think it was Cameron Milner, who said along the lines of the Prime Minister is asking people to vote only on the vibe of it. No information, no details, just on the vibe and that is setting the country up to fail and that is setting this process up to fail. I think Mr Milner has a point. Unless these questions are answered, how can you expect people to make an informed decision? They’re basic questions, there should be basic answers provided.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

The vote will now be on the amended motion, which all Councillors have. Do you want me to read it? That this Council reaffirms its support for the consideration of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which includes calls for a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament, which all Australians will vote on later this year. Brisbane City Council recognises the self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and calls on the Federal Government to, quote, step up into that space and explain it, closed quote, as requested by the Queensland Premier, to allow informed consideration of a yes vote in the referendum. This information must include a detailed explanation about how the Jagera, Turrbal and Quandamooka people will each be individually and fairly represented on any Voice to Parliament.

**Amendment put:**

The Chair put the motion for the amendment to the notified motion to the Chamber resulting in it being declared **carried** on the voices.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 18 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Councillors, we now have a new substantive motion.

Any speakers? Any speakers on the substantive motion?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on the amended motion. I think that it’s important that we appropriately consider the motion before us today to ensure that this Council continues to unite rather than divide the residents of Brisbane and I note that the entire Opposition is no longer in the Chamber, just for the record. In this instance, I agree with the Queensland Premier when she says that more information is required to be provided by the Federal Government on what the Voice will look like. Unfortunately, since the Federal Government has released very little as it relates to how the Voice will operate, very few know what yes will look like in practice.

Importantly, it is unknown at this stage whether or not representatives of the Jagera, Turrbal and Quandamooka peoples will be represented through the Federal Government’s proposed Voice to Parliament. This crucial information is not known by Brisbane City Council, nor is it known by the members of Brisbane’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community that the LORD MAYOR and I met with earlier this month. I personally am concerned that the longer this information remains guarded and the more it risks important voices from Brisbane not being heard, the more the community will grow divided on this issue.

With this in mind, we believe that it is critical that the Federal Government release more information as it relates to what the final model of the Voice looks like. Specifically, it should include how representatives of the Jagera, Turrbal and Quandamooka peoples will each be individually and fairly represented on any Voice to Parliament. This Council has undertaken great strides to support members of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and we will continue to walk together towards reconciliation in a collaborative manner. With this in mind, I urge you all to support this motion.

Chair: Thank you.

Are there any further speakers? No further speakers?

We now 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 **carried** on the voices.

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Councillors, Petitions. Are there any petitions?

Councillor WINES: I have a petition, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: I have a petition from the people of South West Mitchelton in regards to a development application in that location, outlining their concerns and seeking a number of remedies. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further petitions?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. I have a petition requesting that Council close access to Lytton Road from Geelong Street at East Brisbane.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further petitions?

Councillor ATWOOD.

Councillor ATWOOD: I have a petition on behalf of Councillor ADERMANN. It requests that Council resurface and seal Lake Manchester Road in Kholo.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further petitions?

Councillor LANDERS, motion to table, please.

**626/2022-23**

It was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the petitions as presented be received and referred to the Committee concerned for consideration and report.

The petitions were summarised as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **File No.** | **Councillor** | **Topic** |
| 137/220/594/223 | Andrew Wines | Requesting Council reject the Development Application for 92 housing lots on Kooya Road, Mitchelton, as it is not compliant with the Mitchelton neighbourhood plan. |
| 137/220/594/224 | Fiona Cunningham | Requesting Council close access to Lytton Road from Geelong Street, East Brisbane. |
| 137/220/594/222 | Lisa Atwood on behalf of Greg Adermann | Requesting Council resurface and seal Lake Manchester Road, Kholo. |

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

Chair: General business.

Councillors, are there any statements required as a result of an Office of the Independent Assessor or Councillor Ethics Committee order?

No one standing.

Are there any matters of General Business?

No one standing.

I 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 Nicole Johnston (received on 16 May 2023)**

**Q1.** In what year were repairs to the open stormwater drain running through Fehlberg Park and Leyshon Park Yeronga first listed for capital works?

**Q2.** What was the total cost of the Norman Creek Hanlon Park rejuvenation project?

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (received on 18 May 2023)**

**Q1.** How much financial support did Council pay towards the Rugby League Queensland magic round?

**Q2.** Please provide a breakdown of streets in each suburb and what footpath access they have:

| Suburb | Number of streets | Number of streets with footpath on one side | Number of streets with footpath on both sides | Number of streets with partial footpaths | Number of streets with no footpaths on either side |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Acacia Ridge |  |  |  |  |  |
| Albion |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alderley |  |  |  |  |  |
| Algester |  |  |  |  |  |
| Annerley |  |  |  |  |  |
| Anstead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Archerfield |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ascot |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgrove |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aspley |  |  |  |  |  |
| Auchenflower |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bald Hills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balmoral |  |  |  |  |  |
| Banks Creek |  |  |  |  |  |
| Banyo |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bardon |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bellbowrie |  |  |  |  |  |
| Belmont |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boondall |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bowen Hills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bracken Ridge |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bridgeman Downs |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brighton |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brisbane Airport |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brisbane City |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brookfield |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bulimba |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burbank |  |  |  |  |  |
| Calamvale |  |  |  |  |  |
| Camp Hill |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cannon Hill |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carina |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carina Heights |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carindale |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carseldine |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chandler |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chapel Hill |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chelmer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chermside |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chermside West |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chuwar |  |  |  |  |  |
| Clayfield |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coopers Plains |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coorparoo |  |  |  |  |  |
| Corinda |  |  |  |  |  |
| Darra |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deagon |  |  |  |  |  |
| Doolandella |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drewvale |  |  |  |  |  |
| Durack |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dutton Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eagle Farm |  |  |  |  |  |
| East Brisbane |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eight Mile Plains |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ellen Grove |  |  |  |  |  |
| England Creek |  |  |  |  |  |
| Enoggera |  |  |  |  |  |
| Enoggera Reservoir |  |  |  |  |  |
| Everton Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fairfield |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ferny Grove |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fig Tree Pocket |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fitzgibbon |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest Lake |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fortitude Valley |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gaythorne |  |  |  |  |  |
| Geebung |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gordon Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| Graceville |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grange |  |  |  |  |  |
| Greenslopes |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gumdale |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hamilton |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hawthorne |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heathwood |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hemmant |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hendra |  |  |  |  |  |
| Herston |  |  |  |  |  |
| Highgate Hill |  |  |  |  |  |
| Holland Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| Holland Park West |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inala |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indooroopilly |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kalinga |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kangaroo Point |  |  |  |  |  |
| Karana Downs |  |  |  |  |  |
| Karawatha |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kedron |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kelvin Grove |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kenmore |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kenmore Hills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Keperra |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kholo |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kuraby |  |  |  |  |  |
| Macgregor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mackenzie |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manly |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manly West |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mansfield |  |  |  |  |  |
| McDowall |  |  |  |  |  |
| Middle Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| Milton |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mitchelton |  |  |  |  |  |
| Moggill |  |  |  |  |  |
| Moorooka |  |  |  |  |  |
| Morningside |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mt Coot-tha |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mt Crosby |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mt Gravatt |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mt Gravatt East |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mt Ommaney |  |  |  |  |  |
| Murarrie |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nathan |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Farm |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newmarket |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newstead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Norman Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northgate |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nudgee |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nudgee Beach |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nundah |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oxley |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ransome |  |  |  |  |  |
| Red Hill |  |  |  |  |  |
| Richlands |  |  |  |  |  |
| Riverhills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Robertson |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rochedale |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rocklea |  |  |  |  |  |
| Runcorn |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salisbury |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sandgate |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seven Hills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seventeen Mile Rocks |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sherwood |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shorncliffe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sinnamon Park |  |  |  |  |  |
| South Brisbane |  |  |  |  |  |
| Spring Hill |  |  |  |  |  |
| St Lucia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stafford |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stafford Heights |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stones Corner |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stretton |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sumner |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunnybank |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunnybank Hills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Taigum |  |  |  |  |  |
| Taringa |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tarragindi |  |  |  |  |  |
| Teneriffe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tennyson |  |  |  |  |  |
| The Gap |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tingalpa |  |  |  |  |  |
| Toowong |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper Brookfield |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper Kedron |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper Mt Gravatt |  |  |  |  |  |
| Virginia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wacol |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wakerley |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wavell Heights |  |  |  |  |  |
| West End |  |  |  |  |  |
| Westlake |  |  |  |  |  |
| Willawong |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wilston |  |  |  |  |  |
| Windsor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wishart |  |  |  |  |  |
| Woolloongabba |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wooloowin |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wynnum |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wynnum West |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yeerongpilly |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yeronga |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zillmere |  |  |  |  |  |

**Q3.** How many times has Council been contacted by residents who have not had their bins emptied because trucks can’t access them due to cars parked on the street/across driveways?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2019/2020 FY | 2020/2021 FY | 2021/2022 FY | 2022/2023 FY to date |
| Number of reports |  |  |  |  |

**Q4.** How many official events has the Deputy Mayor attended in her capacity as the Chair of the Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee? Please list the events.

**Q5.** How many consultation sessions / meetings were held regarding the changes to Brisbane City Plan outlined in items B (MINOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS TO BRISBANE CITY PLAN 2014 – PACKAGE N) and C (AMENDMENT TO BRISBANE CITY PLAN 2014 – PACKAGE O) of the E&C Committee report dated 16 May 2023? Who was invited and how many attended?

**Q6.** What was the total cost of the Civic Reception held in the Balmoral Room for outgoing Councillors on the evening of Tuesday 16 May 2023? Please provide a breakdown of the costs.

**Q7.** How much has been spent to date on advertising for the Brisbane App, broken as below?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | TV Advertising | Online Advertising | Payments to Social Media Influencers | Print Advertising | Physical or any other medium. |
| Amount |  |  |  |  |  |

**Q8.** Since its launch, please list the month-by-month number of downloads of the Brisbane App.

**Q9.** Since its launch, please list the month-by-month number of uninstalls or deletes of the Brisbane App.

**Q10.** Since its launch, please list the month-by-month average time spent on the Brisbane App per use/session.

## 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 Steve Griffiths (from meeting on 16 May 2023)**

**Q1.** What is the cost for Brisbane City Council staff to install 1 sqm of concrete footpath, broken down into plant and equipment, labour, material etc.

***A1.*** *$345/sqm.*

**Q2.** What is the cost for external contractors to install 1 sqm of concrete footpath, broken down into plant and equipment, labour, material etc.

***A2.*** *Council does not subcontract small scale footpath maintenance works of this size.*

**Q3.** What is the cost for Brisbane City Council staff to resurface 1 sqm of bitumen road, broken down into plant and equipment, labour, material etc.

***A3.*** *$78.10/sqm. Costs can vary depending on the scope of work identified.*

**Q4.** What is the cost for external contractors to resurface 1 sqm of bitumen road, broken down into plant and equipment, labour, material etc.

***A4.*** *Council does not subcontract small scale road resurfacing works of this size.*

**Q5.** Total cost of external contracts for footpath maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A5.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$1,412,136* | *$1,462,184* | *$1,157,455* |

**Q6.** Total cost of external contracts for footpath construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A6.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$2,523,136* | *$8,634,609* | *$5,115,889* |

**Q7.** Total cost of external contracts for kerb and channel maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A7.*** *Nil.*

**Q8.** Total cost of external contracts for kerb and channel construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A8.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$0* | *$0* | *$67,432* |

**Q9.** Total cost of external contracts for road and pothole maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A9.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$0* | *$0* | *$7,000,000* |

*Note: An external pothole crew was engaged in 2021/22 to meet the high demand in potholes after the February 2022 floods.*

1. Total cost of external contracts for road construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A10.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$27,879,227.33* | *$51,259,322.30* | *$105,940,493.71* |

*Note: The spend on the contracts to date are contained to the financial year they were awarded. For example, the Moggill Road Corridor Upgrade was awarded in 2021/22 and is still in delivery in 2022/23. The actual spend on this project is recorded in 2021/22 only. (Owing to the way Council manages its contracts).*

1. Total cost of external contracts for road and pothole maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A11.*** *This is the same question as question 9.*

1. Total cost of external contracts for road construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A12.*** *This is the same question as question 10.*

1. Total cost of external contracts for tree trimming and maintenance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A13.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$6,897,199* | *$6,521,143* | *$5,770,959* |

1. Total cost of external contracts for tree planting.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A14.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$2,093,178* | *$2,092,760* | *$1,930,419* |

1. Total cost of external contracts for painting council assets.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A15.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to provide this information within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

1. Total cost of external contracts for landscaping and garden maintenance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A16.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$1,152,703* | *$948,850* | *$1,216,666* |

1. Total cost of external contracts for mowing parks.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A17.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$11,494,864* | *$12,425,175* | *$13,497,153* |

1. Total in-house costs for footpath maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A18.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$11,186,594* | *$12,830,361* | *$13,645,868* |

1. Total in-house costs for footpath construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A19.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$10,237,863* | *$11,280,903* | *$12,108,890* |

*Note: Totals include in-house costs for Footpath and Bikeway Reconstruction, Suburban Enhancement Fund, Safer Paths to School, and Safer Paths for Seniors.*

1. Total in-house costs for kerb and channel maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A20.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$7,703,408* | *$7,096,726* | *$7,524,750* |

1. Total in-house costs for kerb and channel construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A21.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$11,049,843* | *$7,562,096* | *$6,991,263* |

1. Total in-house costs for road and pothole maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A22.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$15,873,929* | *$13,757,558* | *$13,256,844* |

1. Total in-house costs for road construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A23.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to provide this information within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

1. Total in-house costs for road and pothole maintenance and repair.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A24.*** *This is the same question as question 22.*

1. Total in-house costs for road construction.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A25.*** *This is the same question as question 23.*

1. Total in-house costs for tree trimming and maintenance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A26.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$6,741,256* | *$7,022,305* | *$5,999,506* |

1. Total in-house costs for tree planting.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A27.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to provide this information within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

1. Total in-house costs for painting Council assets.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A28.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$2,005,092* | *$1,721,763* | *$2,147,033* |

1. Total in-house costs for landscaping and garden maintenance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A29.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$11,125,908* | *$11,087,485* | *$10,238,347* |

1. Total in-house costs for mowing parks.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Total Cost |  |  |  |

***A30.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Financial Year* | *2019/2020* | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* |
| *Total Cost* | *$0* | *$0* | *$0* |

1. What is the implementation plan for the Brisbane City Council Sustainable Growth Strategy.

***A31.*** *Brisbane’s Sustainable Growth Strategy is already being implemented.*

1. Please list all apprenticeships and traineeships currently offered by Brisbane City Council broken down by job title and number of employees in each job title, as well as any vacancies:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Apprentice/ Trainee Job Title | No. of Apprentices currently employed | No. of Trainees currently employed | No. of apprentice positions currently vacant | No. of trainee positions currently vacant |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

***A32.*** *Council’s Traineeship and Apprenticeship Pathway programs are midway through their program cycle and therefore, no vacancies exist.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Qualification* | *Number of Apprentices* | *Number of Trainees* |
| *Certificate III Heavy Commercial Vehicle Mechanical Technology* | *37* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Automotive Manufacturing Technical Operations (Bus/Truck/Trailer)* | *11* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Automotive Electrical Technology* | *6* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Electrotechnology* | *11* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Parks and Gardens* | *8* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Automotive Refinishing Technology* | *1* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Plumbing* | *4* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Arboriculture* | *3* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Painting and Decorating* | *2* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Signs and Graphics* | *2* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Carpentry* | *2* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Engineering - Fabrication Trade (Boilermaking/Welding)* | *2* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate III Sports Turf Management* | *0* | *N/A* |
| *Certificate II Civil Construction* | *N/A* | *8* |
| *Certificate III Business* | *N/A* | *9* |
| *Certificate II Horticulture* | *N/A* | *2* |
| *Certificate III Business (Customer Engagement)* | *N/A* | *4* |
| *Certificate III Urban Pest Management* | *N/A* | *1* |

1. What is the fee for businesses to receive yellow bin recycling services from Council?

***A33.*** *$6.60 per bin per service for 240L bin*

*$9.20 per bin per service for 360L bin*

*$20.60 per cubic metre per service for bulk bins 660 litres to 4.5 cubic metres.*

1. How many businesses are currently paying for the service?

***A34.*** *1,374.*

1. How many businesses are operating in Brisbane who are eligible to receive the paid recycling service?

***A35.*** *The paid recycling service is provided to businesses on request. As the question relates to businesses that are eligible to receive the service, Council does not hold this information.*

1. Of the $373,933.52 ex GST spending on TV and Broadcast Video on Demand to promote BrisBetter, how many individual adverts / pieces of advertising material were there?

***A36.*** *Council officers have advised this information is not readily available, and cannot be obtained within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

1. How many requests to stop having the Living for Brisbane brochure delivered to a particular address have been received via the Council’s Contact Centre since the 2019/2020 financial year.

***A37.*** *Council does not distribute a Living for Brisbane brochure. If the question relates to Living in Brisbane, the Contact Centre have advised this specific data is not available.*

1. How many clients were assisted by Homeless Connect in 2021/2022?

***A38.*** *1,323.*

1. How many clients have been assisted by Homeless Connect in 2022/2023 to date?

***A39.*** *884.*

1. Please provide a breakdown of the tonnage of waste collected by red general waste, yellow recycling and green waste bins.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 (to date) |
| Red general waste |  |  |  |
| Yellow recycling |  |  |  |
| Green waste |  |  |  |

***A40.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *2020/2021* | *2021/2022* | *2022/2023 (to date)* |
| *Red general waste* | *328,666* | *342,674* | *279,781 (14 May 2023)* |
| *Yellow recycling* | *71,668* | *72,231* | *51,130 (31 March 2023)* |
| *Green waste* | *31,383* | *39,130* | *32,895 (14 May 2023)* |

1. Please provide the tonnage of organic waste collected in red general waste bins for the following years.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 (to date) |
| Organic waste in red general waste |  |  |  |

***A41.*** *Council is unable to provide this data as it is not collected.*

1. Please provide a list of all free bus services and their cost to Council.

***A42.*** *The below costs are commercial-in-confidence and have been provided to Councillors separately.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Service*** | ***Cost*** |
| *Shuttle 27 Kangaroo Point – Eagle Street (temporary service while Dockside ferry terminal is closed)* | *[Commercial-in-Confidence]* |
| *Spring Hill Loop* | *[Commercial-in-Confidence]* |
| *City Loop Service* | *[Commercial-in-Confidence]* |
| *Temporary 86 – South Brisbane Loop* | *[Commercial-in-Confidence]* |

1. What is the average hourly cost to operate a bus on a weekday, accounting for fuel, driver pay, and any other costs?
2. What is the average hourly cost to operate a bus on a Saturday, accounting for fuel, driver pay, and any other costs?
3. What is the average hourly cost to operate a bus on a Sunday, accounting for fuel, driver pay, and any other costs?

***A43. to A45.***

*Due to the variability of the network, supplier agreements, the cost of fuel, consumption of fuel across different services, and labour operating requirements, Council officers advise an average daily cost can’t be determined.*

1. How many times has Council been contacted regarding bike lanes, cyclist safety, pedestrian safety, or road maintenance on Nudgee Road since March 2020?

***A46.*** *The general nature of the question covers multiple avenues through which residents can contact Council. As such, a response is unable to be provided within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001. Council’s Contact Centre has advised they don’t hold the specifics associated with this question.*

1. Please detail the total lease fees paid by Council on leasing non-Council owned assets for the 2021/2022 financial year and a list of those assets.

***A47.*** *$70,000,947.24. A list of the assets are listed below.*

|  |
| --- |
| *40 SCHNEIDER RD EAGLE FARM* |
| *34B AMESBURY ST KANGAROO POINT* |
| *39A NEWSTEAD TCE NEWSTEAD* |
| *69 ANN STREET, BRISBANE* |
| *BRISBANE SQUARE - 266 GEORGE ST BRISBANE* |
| *CENTENARY COMMUNITY HUB - 171 DANDENONG RD MT OMMANEY* |
| *CITY ARCHIVES - UNIT 15 - 115 MURIEL AVE MOOROOKA* |
| *GREEN SQUARE - SOUTH TOWER - 505 ST PAULS TCE FORTITUDE VALLEY* |
| *LEVEL 1 - 69 ANN STREET BRISBANE* |
| *LEVEL 17 - 69 ANN STREET, BRISBANE* |
| *MALLS OFFICE - LEVEL 3 - 117 QUEEN ST MALL* |
| *NORTHSIDE SUBURBAN BUSINESS HUB - 29 STATION ST NUNDAH* |
| *UNIT 1 - 112 CULLEN AVE EAGLE FARM* |
| *UNIT 4 - 112 CULLEN AVE EAGLE FARM* |
| *CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK, 105 INDOOROOPILLY SHOPPING CENTRE* |
| *ASPHALT PLANT - 260 CURTIN AVE EAGLE FARM* |
| *CITY FLEET - 16 INDUSTRIAL AVE WACOL* |
| *FLEET SOLUTIONS - 16 INDUSTRIAL AVE WACOL* |
| *PIPELINE AND WHARF LICENCE - PORT OF BRISBANE - 1 BULK TERMINALS DR* |
| *PORT OF BRISBANE - 1 BULK TERMINALS DR* |
| *RIVERGATE - UNITS 21,22 & 23 - 17 RIVERGATE PL MURARRIE* |
| *RIVERVIEW ASPHALT PLANT - 2B KENNETH ST RIVERVIEW* |
| *TRADE COAST LOT 10 - NORTHSIDE DEPOT* |
| *LIBRARY - CARINDALE - CARINDALE SHOPPING CENTRE - CREEK RD CARINDALE* |
| *LIBRARY - GARDEN CITY - TENANCY MM14 - WESTFIELD GARDEN CITY* |
| *LIBRARY - INDOOROOPILLY - 322 MOGGILL RD INDOOROOPILLY* |
| *LIBRARY - MT OMMANEY - 171 DANDENONG RD MT OMMANEY* |
| *LIBRARY - SUNNYBANK - CNR CALAM/COMPTON RDS SUNNYBANK HILLS* |
| *LIBRARY - TOOWONG - 9 SHERWOOD RD TOOWONG* |
| *LIBRARY - WYNNUM - L1/145 FLORENCE STREET WYNNUM* |
| *LIBRARY/WARD OFFICE - KENMORE/PULLENVALE - 9 BROOKFIELD RD KENMORE* |
| *RIVERGATE FERRY MAINTENANCE FACILITY - BERTHS GC, GD, HE & HF* |
| *POLICE BEAT - 275 BRUNSWICK STREET, FORTITUDE VALLEY* |
| *POLICE BEAT - 65 ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE* |
| *QR - BIKEWAY - NORTH BOONDALL - SANDGATE* |
| *REGIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE - NORTH - 375 HAMILTON ROAD CHERMSIDE* |
| *REGIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE - SOUTH - 681 FAIRFIELD RD YEERONGPILLY* |
| *CUSTOMER KIOSK NO K1.27 - 1151 CREEK RD CARINDALE* |
| *SES - DEPOT - TANGALOOMA - MORETON ISLAND* |
| *SOUTHSIDE TREASURE TROVE - 46 COLEBARD ST ACACIA RIDGE* |
| *TREASURE TROVE - NORTHSIDE - 27A PROSPERITY PL GEEBUNG* |
| *WARD OFFICE - CALAMVALE - 168 ALGESTER ROAD ALGESTER* |
| *WARD OFFICE - CENTRAL - UNIT 1 - 5 LAMINGTON ST NEW FARM* |
| *WARD OFFICE - CHANDLER - SHOP 8 - 14 MILLENIUM BLVD CARINDALE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - COORPAROO - 737 LOGAN ROAD HOLLAND PARK* |
| *WARD OFFICE - DEAGON - 2A / 47 BRIGHTON RD, SANDGATE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - DOBOY - SHOP 5 - 1181 WYNNUM RD CANNON HILL* |
| *WARD OFFICE - ENOGGERA - 102 SAMFORD RD ALDERLEY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - ENOGGERA - 9 SOUTH PINE RD, ALDERLEY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - HOLLAND PARK - L01-13/1290 LOGAN RD MOUNT GRAVATT* |
| *WARD OFFICE - JAMBOREE - SHOP 146A - 171 DANDENONG RD MT OMMANEY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MACGREGOR - SUITE 102 - 2072 LOGAN RD UPPER MT GRAVATT* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MCDOWALL - SHOPS 5 & 6 - 271 APPLEBY RD STAFFORD HEIGHTS* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MOOROOKA - SHOP 2 - 122 BEAUDESERT RD MOOROOKA* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MORNINGSIDE - 63 OXFORD ST BULIMBA* |
| *WARD OFFICE - PADDINGTON - 44 LATROBE TERRACE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - THE GABBA - 2/63 ANNERLEY RD WOOLLOONGABBA* |
| *WARD OFFICE - THE GAP - 477 WATERWORKS RD ASHGROVE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - WALTER TAYLOR - 70 STATION ROAD INDOOROOPILLY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - WYNNUM MANLY - 3A/212 BAY TCE WYNNUM* |
| *WET LEASE - HOWARD SMITH WHARVES* |
| *WET LEASE - HOWARD SMITH WHARVES* |

1. Please detail the total lease fees paid by Council on leasing non-Council owned assets for the 2022/2023 financial year (to date) and a list of those assets.

***A48.*** *$63,713,209.08. A list of the assets are listed below.*

|  |
| --- |
| *BUS DEPOT - EAGLE FARM 40 SCHNEIDER RD EAGLE FARM* |
| *34B AMESBURY ST KANGAROO POINT - 0/217304* |
| *39A NEWSTEAD TCE NEWSTEAD - 0/212258* |
| *BRISBANE SQUARE - 266 GEORGE ST BRISBANE* |
| *BRISBANE SQUARE - GROUND FLOOR, 266 GEORGE ST BRISBANE* |
| *BRISBANE SQUARE - LEVEL 20-21, 266 GEORGE ST BRISBANE* |
| *BRISBANE SQUARE - LEVEL 22-23, 266 GEORGE ST BRISBANE* |
| *BRISBANE SQUARE - MAIN LEASE 266 GEORGE ST BRISBANE* |
| *CENTENARY COMMUNITY HUB - 171 DANDENONG RD MT OMMANEY* |
| *CITY ARCHIVES - UNIT 15 - 115 MURIEL AVE MOOROOKA* |
| *GREEN SQUARE - SOUTH TOWER - 505 ST PAULS TCE FORTITUDE VALLEY* |
| *LEVEL 1 - 69 ANN STREET BRISBANE* |
| *LEVEL 17 - 69 ANN STREET, BRISBANE* |
| *MALLS OFFICE - LEVEL 3 - 117 QUEEN ST MALL* |
| *NORTHSIDE SUBURBAN BUSINESS HUB - 29 STATION ST NUNDAH* |
| *UNIT 1 - 112 CULLEN AVE EAGLE FARM* |
| *UNIT 4 - 112 CULLEN AVE EAGLE FARM* |
| *ASPHALT PLANT - 260 CURTIN AVE EAGLE FARM* |
| *FLEET SOLUTIONS - 16 INDUSTRIAL AVE WACOL* |
| *PORT OF BRISBANE - 1 BULK TERMINALS DR* |
| *RIVERGATE - UNITS 21,22 & 23 - 17 RIVERGATE PL MURARRIE* |
| *RIVERVIEW ASPHALT PLANT - 2B KENNETH ST RIVERVIEW* |
| *TRADE COAST LOT 10 - NORTHSIDE DEPOT* |
| *LIBRARY - CARINDALE - CARINDALE SHOPPING CENTRE - CREEK RD CARINDALE* |
| *LIBRARY - GARDEN CITY - TENANCY MM14 - WESTFIELD GARDEN CITY* |
| *LIBRARY - INDOOROOPILLY - 322 MOGGILL RD INDOOROOPILLY* |
| *LIBRARY - MT OMMANEY - 171 DANDENONG RD MT OMMANEY* |
| *LIBRARY - SUNNYBANK - CNR CALAM/COMPTON RDS SUNNYBANK HILLS* |
| *LIBRARY - TOOWONG - 9 SHERWOOD RD TOOWONG* |
| *LIBRARY - WYNNUM - L1/145 FLORENCE STREET WYNNUM* |
| *LIBRARY/WARD OFFICE - KENMORE/PULLENVALE - 9 BROOKFIELD RD KENMORE* |
| *MOORINGS - RIVERGATE FERRY MAINTENANCE FACILITY - BERTHS GC, GD, HE & HF* |
| *POLICE BEAT - 65 ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE* |
| *QR - ASCOT DOG PARK - 99 KITCHENER ROAD ASCOT* |
| *REGIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE - NORTH - 375 HAMILTON ROAD CHERMSIDE* |
| *REGIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE - SOUTH - 681 FAIRFIELD RD YEERONGPILLY* |
| *SES - DEPOT - TANGALOOMA - MORETON ISLAND* |
| *SOUTHSIDE TREASURE TROVE - 46 COLEBARD ST ACACIA RIDGE* |
| *TREASURE TROVE - NORTHSIDE - 27A PROSPERITY PL GEEBUNG* |
| *WARD OFFICE - CALAMVALE - 168 ALGESTER ROAD ALGESTER* |
| *WARD OFFICE - CENTRAL - UNIT 1 - 5 LAMINGTON ST NEW FARM* |
| *WARD OFFICE - CHANDLER - SHOP 8 - 14 MILLENIUM BLVD CARINDALE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - COORPAROO - 737 LOGAN ROAD HOLLAND PARK* |
| *WARD OFFICE - DEAGON - 2A / 47 BRIGHTON RD, SANDGATE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - DOBOY - SHOP 5 - 1181 WYNNUM RD CANNON HILL* |
| *WARD OFFICE - ENOGGERA - 9 SOUTH PINE RD, ALDERLEY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - HOLLAND PARK - L01-13/1290 LOGAN RD MOUNT GRAVATT* |
| *WARD OFFICE - JAMBOREE - SHOP 146A - 171 DANDENONG RD MT OMMANEY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MACGREGOR - SUITE 102 - 2072 LOGAN RD UPPER MT GRAVATT* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MCDOWALL - SHOPS 5 & 6 - 271 APPLEBY RD STAFFORD HEIGHTS* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MOOROOKA - SHOP 2 - 122 BEAUDESERT RD MOOROOKA* |
| *WARD OFFICE - MORNINGSIDE - 63 OXFORD ST BULIMBA* |
| *WARD OFFICE - PADDINGTON - 44 LATROBE TERRACE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - THE GABBA - 2/63 ANNERLEY RD WOOLLOONGABBA* |
| *WARD OFFICE - THE GAP - 477 WATERWORKS RD ASHGROVE* |
| *WARD OFFICE - WALTER TAYLOR - 70 STATION ROAD INDOOROOPILLY* |
| *WARD OFFICE - WYNNUM MANLY - 3A/212 BAY TCE WYNNUM* |
| *WET LEASE - HOWARD SMITH WHARVES* |
| *WET LEASE - HOWARD SMITH WHARVES* |

1. Please list all the Council programs, grants, events, receptions, ceremonies, projects and presentations that Brisbane City Council undertake with the “Lord Mayor” noted in the title or name.

***A49.*** *Lord Mayor’s Christmas Carols*

*Lord Mayor’s Seniors Christmas Parties*

*Lord Mayor’s City Hall Concerts*

*Lord Mayor’s Seniors Cabaret*

*Lord Mayor’s Children’s Program*

*Lord Mayor’s Photographic Awards*

*Lord Mayor’s Creative Fellowships*

*Lord Mayor’s Better Suburbs Grants*

*Lord Mayor’s Community Fund*

*Lord Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council*

*Lord Mayor’s Better Suburbs Grants*

*Lord Mayor’s Community Fund*

*Lord Mayor’s Environment Grant*

*Lord Mayor’s Sustainability Grant*

*Lord Mayor’s Cultivating Community Gardens Grant*

*Lord Mayor’s Native Wildlife Carer Grants*

*Lord Mayor’s Catchments Round Table*

*Lord Mayor’s Young Environmental Leadership Network*

*Lord Mayor’s Australia Day Awards*

*Lord Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast*

*Lord Mayor’s Awards for Excellence*

1. Please list the organisations that were funded under the Community Support Subsidy Program in the past 12 months and how much funding each organisation received.
2. Under which grant program are the community support subsidies?

***A50. and A51.***

*There is no program titled Community Support Subsidy Program.*

1. How much does Brisbane City Council charge an organisation for a replacement certificate of occupancy?

***A52.*** *Council doesn’t issue replacement certificates of occupancy.*

1. How many staff with plumbing qualification/licences does Brisbane City Council employee on a full‑time basis?

***A53.*** *37.*

1. How many plumbing contractors did Brisbane City Council engage over the last 12 months?
2. How many plumbing contractors were engaged in the last 12 months under labour hire?

***A54. to A55.***

*Three. These contractors were engaged to fill short-term unplanned vacancies.*

1. How many permanent employees have left Brisbane City Council over the last 12 months?

***A56.*** *684.*

1. Please list all the permanent employees that have left Brisbane City Council employment in the last 12 months including job title.

***A57.*** *Due to the Privacy Act 2009, names of employees cannot be disclosed.*

1. How many permanent employees that left Brisbane City Council in the last 12 months were replaced with another permanent employee?

***A58.*** *349 so far.*

1. How many permanent employees that left Brisbane City Council in the last 12 months were replaced with a contractor?

***A59.*** *Council data is unable to answer this specific question, as contractors are not assigned a Council employee number.*

1. How many permanent employees that left Brisbane City in the last 12 months were replaced with labour hire staff?

***A60.*** *Council data is unable to answer this specific question.*

1. How many labour hire staff have been engaged in the last 12 months by Brisbane City Council?

***A61.*** *374. Council engages labour hire where there are insufficient internal resources available. This work can include:*

*- emergency or urgent work*

*- when specialist professional or technical skills are required and cannot be obtained internally*

*- for special projects that are time limited*

*- to meet peaks and troughs in workload, or*

*- to cover leave.*

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 8.08pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Victor Tan (Council and Committee Coordinator)

Katie Edgley (Council and Committee Officer)

Billy Peers (Personal Support Officer to the Lord Mayor and Council Orderly)