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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4678 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 10 May 2022**

**at 1pm**

**Prepared by:**

**Council and Committee Liaison Office**

**Governance, Council and Committee Services**

**City Administration and Governance**

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## PRESENT:

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

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

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

## OPENING OF MEETING:

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

Chair: Please be seated.

I declare the meeting open.

Are there any apologies?

## APOLOGY:

**586/2021-22**

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor Seven HUANG, and he was granted a leave of absence from the meeting on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

Chair: Confirmation of minutes, please.

## MINUTES:

**587/2021-22**

The Minutes of the 4677 meeting of Council held on 3 May 2022, copies of which had been forwarded to each Councillor, were presented, taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair: Councillors, we have a public participant here with us today. I’d like to call on Mr Tenzin Doring, who will address the Chamber on Tibetan culture and life in Brisbane.

Mr Doring, the orderly is showing you to your seat. Thank you. Mr Doring, you can stand or sit, depending on your preference, and your five minutes starts when the microphone is turned on. Thank you. You have five minutes.

**Mr Tenzin Doring – Tibetan culture and life in Brisbane**

Mr Tenzin Doring: Thank you. Mr Chairman, LORD MAYOR, and members of the Council, my name is Tenzin Phuntsok Doring. I was born in the capital city of Tibet called Lhasa. Unfortunately, I didn’t have the fortune of living there in the last 27 years. It is really a great honour to be present and speaking in this great hall of Brisbane City Council (BCC). It feels even greater as a Tibetan refugee to have this opportunity of speaking to the people’s representatives of the city.

Having been born in Tibet but brought up most of the time in India, and then finally settled in Australia since 2018, I have great pride in being a resident of this city. I fled Tibet when I was just four years old—nine years old, having separated from my mother, and had my father succumb to injuries inflicted from the Chinese Communist Party Government when he participated in the political activism, which made me stay away from them in the last 27 years. However, Brisbane City and Australia made me feel like a home here, which we call a home away from home, and thank you so much for that.

When I left Tibet, and later India, and having come here, I still meet a lot of people from India and people from China, and it feels really great and amazing. It indicates how small the world is, how connected we are, and how interdependent we are to each other. As a Tibetan Buddhist follower, this is truly accepted not only in theory but also in real terms, which I have experienced in this great city. However, most of the Tibetans who have arrived in this country since 1997, most of them, were either former political prisoners or the children related to them, like me.

We have had 2,500 Tibetans estimated in Australia. All of them have come under the global humanitarian scheme visa, and many of them live in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane. This year, we had a lot of Tibetans coming to Brisbane, and most of them have chosen Brisbane as their city, as their residence, as their home. This shows how this city is welcoming the Tibetans. I myself arrived in 2018, and it’s almost three-and-a-half years since I arrived.

Tibetans continue to arrive in the city and we have a community called Tibetan Community of Queensland. We manage to preserve our culture, our language through different activities, and some of our Councillors in this hall have evidenced and witnessed that in the past. We celebrate—every year, we celebrate Tibetan New Year. Some of them have been a guest to us.

We also have our Tibetan school because we are very, very strong and feel deeply about our language, which we have a problem in Tibet. Therefore, we try to preserve it as much as we can wherever we are, whether we are in Australia, whether we are in North America, whether we are in Europe, or whether we are in India. That’s so closely to us, therefore we have every Saturday a Tibetan language school. We are really thankful for Brisbane City Councillors for helping us and facilitating us at every opportunity that we can avail of.

Finally, before I finish, I would like to thank Jonathan SRI, Councillor for The Gabba, and Vicki HOWARD, Brisbane City Councillor. We have been in contact with each other in the last three years, and I am sure that, as more Tibetans come, they will be living in other suburbs and other wards and we will still get more connections to other Councillors, and you will definitely feel the culture of us and we will have the opportunity to seek help from you. This is how we happily live in this great city.

Finally, before I wrap up, I wish on behalf of the Tibetans around the world—2,500 Tibetans in Australia, and of course, over 156 Tibetans in this city and Queensland, may I wish all the Councillors, including the Chairman and LORD MAYOR, all the best in your endeavour to make this city great for your own people and make this city shine under the Sunshine State of Queensland. Thank you so much.

Chair: Thank you, Mr Doring.

Mr Tenzin Doring: Thank you.

Chair: Please take a seat.

Councillor HOWARD, are you responding? Thank you.

Councillor HOWARD is responding to you.

**Response by Councillor** **Vicki HOWARD, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Committee**

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair, and it gives me a great deal of delight to respond to Tenzin, because as he says, we have known each other for a long time now, and I know that both Councillor SRI and I were in attendance at the most recent Tibetan New Year, and we really appreciate being part of those wonderful celebrations. Everyone always makes us feel so, so welcome. So, really, if you can take back our thanks to the community for their welcoming of us.

Can I say that it is always great to have speakers such as yourself address Council. Because it gives all of us then the opportunity to hear and to understand some of the issues that the community faces, but also to know about the positive impact that that engagement with the Tibetan community has had on the City of Brisbane. In particular, I was pleased that we had a Tibetan music feature in our recent BrisAsia Festival and, of course, it’s always beautiful, so it made such a difference to that particular festival.

I know that we have supported with advice on grants and sponsorship programs, and certainly, the potential for the Tibetan language school, and we know how important that is for the young people to retain their language. I know that we’ve had events in New Farm Park, and to see the children and to just share with you the wonderful spirit that is so inclusive of all of us is really something special. We are an inclusive city, and Brisbane prides itself on welcoming new residents, but we can’t do it without the leadership of people like yourself and people who are welcoming the Tibetans to our community.

It’s wonderful to have that link and for you to be able to connect them with others. So thank you for your presentation and to all that you do for the Tibetan community. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Thank you, Mr Doring. Billy will show you out. Thank you.

## QUESTION TIME:

Chair: Councillors, we move on to the next item, Question Time.

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

Councillor MACKAY.

**Question 1**

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, immediately following the recent floods, you announced that former Governor of Queensland, Paul de Jersey, would be tasked with conducting a review of the 2022 floods. With the review now complete, could you please update the Chamber on Mr de Jersey’s findings?

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, through you, Mr Chair, to Councillor MACKAY for that question, and I know that, as one of the many flood-affected Councillors with flood-affected wards, this is something that you are very interested in, as are all of us in this Chamber. It is true that today, we were presented with the final report into the—well, the review of Council’s flood response by former Governor Paul de Jersey. That report has included in it 37 recommendations across a range of different topics, but before I go into those, I just did want to say that it, in many ways, seems less than 10 weeks ago that we had the flood.

In many ways, it seems longer than 10 weeks ago. It’s interesting how time plays tricks on you when it comes to situations like this. Ten weeks ago, we saw 177 suburbs impacted by flood across Brisbane, more than 20,000 households. We saw the biggest flood clean-up ever conducted in the city’s history being carried out, but now, just 72 days after that event, we now have a blueprint going forward to help ensure that we are guided appropriately and independently in the decisions that we make in response to 2022 floods.

The other thing, though, that was reviewed as part of this was our response to the 2011 floods. Now, we had independent reviews into 2011 floods, and the first question we asked was, did we respond appropriately to those 2011 reviews? Then secondly, how do we respond to 2022? Thirdly, what can we learn from both of these events, but in particular, what can we learn from 2022? I made it clear right from the beginning that we must learn the lessons of 2022, and that’s what this document is all about and will help us to do. I can confirm that all 37 recommendations, we will accept and we will action all 37, lock, stock, and barrel, to make sure that we get on with them.

One in particular that is of very high priority is sorting out the problems with the early alert system, and as you know, the early alert system is federally-funded, it’s operated by State agencies, and it took far too long to get messages out to the people of Brisbane. We have two systems in play, one is the Council-controlled Weatherzone system, which is a voluntary sign-up system, and the other is the early alert system which goes to every single person with a phone. So, this is a system that, whether you’ve signed up or not, you get a message.

That early alert system was taking far too long. We have 1.2 million residents in Brisbane, and anyone with a phone had to get a message, and some of those messages were being received hours and hours later, after we had asked for them to be sent. This needs to be addressed before the next storm season, so one of the top priorities we’ll be doing is working to make sure we can get that system working smoothly.

Secondly, I think, and one of the recommendations also is that we need to work out ways to get more people on our voluntary system, as well. Currently, from memory, there’s around 200,000 sign-ups to our voluntary Weatherzone system, but as I said before, we have a population of over a million people here. We need more people in that voluntary system. I’d be keen to look at what kind of incentives can be offered to get people on, but certainly, we need to boost that Weatherzone system, as well.

Across the 37 recommendations, there’s a whole range of diverse things. Councillor ADERMANN, you’ll be interested to know number one relates to the Pullenvale Ward. Number two relates to Tennyson Ward, but these—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. These recommendations are all based on the independent assessment of what happened, but also based on the submissions of Councillors which are no doubt informed by their communities and community feedback. That is indeed our job, and going forward, we will be getting on with implementing every single one of these 37 recommendations. So, Mr Chair, I’d like to table this report. The report should be now live on Council’s website for anyone to see, both Councillors and members of the public, and so please do take the time to read through that report, to understand it, and I look forward to getting on with the important job of implementing all 37 recommendations. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 2**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, in your budget documents, you set aside $200 million for the purchase of Olympic sites and claimed to be negotiating with the Visy Glass factory, with the intention of purchasing that site for the Brisbane 2032 International Media Centre. Now, in typical fashion, you jumped the gun to get publicity without properly considering the impact that decision would have on hundreds of manufacturing jobs. You then completely botched that negotiation and, as a result, the Palaszczuk Government took the lead and bought that site outright.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Continue please, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. Now, luckily for manufacturing workers, the Labor State Government actually cared about them. You now have $200 million spare sitting in the budget, which has already been accounted for through rates increases. So, LORD MAYOR, now that the State Government has purchased this site, how will you be spending that $200 million?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, well, well.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: He’s always late to the party, and today, we see once again—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —days and days go by, and he tries to put a Labor Party political spin on everything, but can’t help himself. I can tell you, the Brisbane City Council and the State Government continue to work cooperatively together to make sure we deliver what is necessary for the 2032 Olympics. I made it clear that what I want to see out of 2032, one of the big legacies, is the creation of South Bank 2.0. Look, I will accept Councillor CASSIDY’s congratulations later for getting one of the critical things that we need to see out of the Olympics paid for by the State Government, because that is a rare thing, when the State Government pays for something instead of Council. Usually, it’s the other way around. Usually, it is the other way around.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Usually—

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

LORD MAYOR: —they withdraw from things they should be doing, like public transport, like housing, and they get other people to do it, but we have successfully engineered a situation where the State Government has paid for something they absolutely should pay for. So I am excited to see, after the Games, the creation of South Bank 2.0, and we will be working very, very closely to make sure that is a good community outcome. Councillor CASSIDY has demonstrated his serious misunderstanding or lack of understanding about how the Council budget works, and what that $200 million was that was referred to.

Every cent of that $200 million would have been borrowings—borrowings, not sitting in an account somewhere, against an asset. Basic economics here. I know Councillor CASSIDY doesn’t understand this, but if you get an asset and you’ve got borrowings against it, that’s the way you purchase something, like a house or a community asset. Now, we won’t have an asset coming out of this. The State Government will, but they will also have the borrowings, which is appropriate. So, that is what has happened here. There is no $200 million sitting in an account somewhere. It’s just $200 million that we wouldn’t have to borrow otherwise. Good thing, yes?

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Apparently not, according to Councillor CASSIDY, but I can assure him that it won’t in any way lessen the investment we’re making in the community and on critical infrastructure, because since we budgeted that $200 million as a potential fund for Olympic investment, there is something important that has come to light since that time, which we will now need to borrow money to invest in, and that is the Woolloongabba Metro station and transport improvements.

Now, a little bit of a history lesson. When we first proposed Metro, we proposed a station for The Gabba. What happened? Well, long story short, State said, rack off. We don’t want you building anything or doing anything in The Gabba because that’s ours. That is ours. Thankfully, that attitude has now changed and they want to work with us on Brisbane Metro, and the Brisbane Metro is now a joint project between the Council, the State Government, and the Federal Government, and jointly, we will be building transport improvements and a new station at The Gabba. The cost to Brisbane City Council and, indeed, the additional borrowings that we will have to make for this, is no less than $150 million.

So, certainly, there will be a significant investment being made, but I stress again, this is borrowed money. This is not money sitting in an account that we can just tap into. These are borrowings for investment in infrastructure. We will be investing, so we will be putting that $150 million towards The Gabba transport improvements, just as the State Government will be putting in $150 million and the Federal Government $150 million, as well. That will be a good outcome. It will support better transport. I know Councillor CASSIDY doesn’t support the Brisbane Metro, but Mark Bailey does, Anastacia Palaszczuk does, Steven Miles does. I’m not sure if—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I’m not sure if Cameron Dick does, but we certainly know that the key powerbrokers in the government do support this and it is a good thing. So, we’ll be getting on with doing that, and I just want to say again, it is a fantastic outcome that we see, South Bank 2.0 land secured by the State Government, finally investing in something they should.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor ADERMANN.

**Question 3**

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, thank you, Chair. My question is also to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, earlier this morning, you opened the Ozwater’22 Conference. With Brisbane being Host City for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, could you please inform the Chamber of the importance of having water security for a major scale event of this type?

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, through you, Mr Chair, to Councillor ADERMANN for the question. Now, with the current rainfall that we’ve had and that is expected over the coming days, and with the recent flooding that we’ve had, it would be easy when you’re focused on the future to be thinking more about flooding than other climate change challenges, but we need to be focused on all challenges, and one of those challenges that is very real for South East Queensland going forward is the challenge not only of flood or storm, but also of drought.

The climate continues to change, and in the last 30 years, we have seen a significant reduction in the rainfall that South East Queensland gets, to the point where we’ve seen almost a 10% reduction in average rainfall in South East Queensland. Now, obviously, this year is different to that, but we live in this world of a changing climate, but if you look at those last 30 years, there have been nine years that have been very wet years and that have had far more rainfall than normal, but out of the last 30 years, there’s been 14 years that are very dry, 14 years of drought.

So, we all remember the time when we had the millennium drought in the mid‑2000s, and this region very nearly ran out of water. Now, what nobody seems to be talking about when it comes to the legacy of the Olympics is an opportunity to create water security for our region. Yes, I want better sporting venues. Yes, I want better transport and roads. Yes, I want community parks and facilities like South Bank 2.0, but you know what I also want? Water security for South East Queensland, because I can tell you right now, for the last three years, the dam levels, the combined dam levels in South East Queensland dropped below 60% each summer.

It was only in October last year that Wivenhoe went down to 40%. So in October last year, it was 40%. By February, it was 120%. That is climate change and that is the way that our climate will continue to change. So while we must plan for drought and we must plan for flood, we must plan for bushfire, we must plan for security for our region, and so some difficult but important conversations need to happen. What is the future of improving water capacity and security in our region? Do we need new dams built in South East Queensland? Do we need new desalination plants built in South East Queensland?

Our population is growing. It is the fastest growing city which is at the heart of the fastest growing region in Australia, and so as more people come onboard, what are the plans to increase our water security and improve our water security? Also, I mentioned dams and desalination plants, but also, what about recycled drinking water? We have a network in place, it hasn’t been switched on. What is the future? We need to be asking these questions. We need to be having these debates, because in the next 10 years between now and the Olympics, we know one thing’s for certain, our population will continue to grow, more people coming here, more demand on water, but there are no plans for increased water storage or increased water security.

So that is a discussion we need to have, and I’m certainly happy to have it, just like I’m happy to raise issues that maybe other people don’t want to talk about, like daylight saving, water security. Some people don’t want to talk about it, happy to talk about it. We need to have this discussion because it is critical for our growing region. It is just as important as other types of infrastructure—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

LORD MAYOR: —and it is something that we need to discuss. What’s the plan going forward? How are we going to cater for the increased demand, the increased growth? Also, the last thing we want to see is the athletes turning up to the Olympic Village and being issued with those little four-minute egg timers saying, welcome to Brisbane, have a short shower, no more than four minutes. That happened in recent living memory. We don’t want it to happen again. Water security needs to be on the agenda. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor COOK.

**Question 4**

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, as I’m sure you are aware, May is Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Month. It has now been three years since Labor moved a motion in this place calling on Council to create a domestic violence strategy for the city. The strategy received bipartisan support and it has been acknowledged previously as a starting point, and was never intended to be a static document. LORD MAYOR, what steps have you taken to review and update the domestic violence strategy to reflect the current needs of our city?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Thank you, Councillor COOK, for the question, through you, Mr Chair. Obviously, this is something that is never far from all of our minds. It is never far, and as we do our work each week in the community and we continue to engage with so many of the charities that are at the front line on the war and the fight against domestic violence, and on the ongoing campaign to stamp out and say no to this scourge in our society. We will continue to support the amazing work that has been happening, and we will continue also as an organisation to do the necessary things that we need to do in the fight against domestic violence. That covers a myriad of different things.

We have a strategy. We are faithfully implementing that strategy. We are always looking for ways to improve. I also want to commend the Premier, as well, today, for taking action when it comes to coercive control and legislation on coercive control. I know that is one of the key things that came out of the tragedy that we saw with Hannah Clarke and her three beautiful children, this issue of coercive control and outlawing it and working in legislative ways to prevent it from happening. We now have a path forward on that, and legislation will be introduced into the State Parliament. We stand ready to continue doing our part, working as an organisation, but also supporting the community and working with other levels of government, because this is an ongoing battle. It will require continued push and focus, and we are absolutely determined to continue doing our part. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor HUTTON.

**Question 5**

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

DEPUTY MAYOR, the Schrinner Council is making sure there is more to see and do across our city. Could you please update the Chamber on what is on offer for Brisbane residents during the month of May?

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair, and thank you, Councillor HUTTON, for the question because May is one of the most exciting months on the event calendar. This May, even though it’s been a slower start to the year, is absolutely action-packed, proving once again that Brisbane is the home of major events and we are definitely leading the race as the sporting capital of Australia. This weekend, we are gearing up for the blockbuster showdown in the NRL (National Rugby League) Magic Round, bringing three jam-packed days full of football and celebrations to the heart of Brisbane.

All 16 NRL teams, playing eight games over three days here at Suncorp Stadium. It is a frenzy of fantastic football, no matter who you barrack for. This is now, in its third year, one of the city’s biggest and best events, and not only for footy fans, but for our local pubs, clubs, hotel operators, and everything in-between. No other city in Australia comes close to matching what we can offer here right in Brisbane, but we know they’re all lining up to take a bid at hosting the NRL Magic Round in future years.

We’ll be working very hard with TEQ (Tourism and Events Queensland), as we do in Brisbane Economic Development Agency, to make sure that we throw everything at it, as well, to urge our locals and visitors alike to get out there and enjoy the footy festivities. I recognise the Premier’s support yesterday to keep it here in Brisbane, which is absolutely fantastic. I hope she just doesn’t go claiming that it was her work that got us here for the next two years, because it’s already here for the next two years. It’s after that that we need to make sure it stays here in Brisbane, as well.

Of course, this weekend, there is a bit of impending wet weather. That won’t dampen our spirits. Saturday tickets to the premiership, heavyweights Melbourne and Penrith, are already sold out. Friday and Sunday night matches, not far behind, and the biggest sale we’ve ever seen on three-day ticket events. So, a huge cash bonanza for Brisbane, with the aim to inject more than $20 million into our local economy. Over 100,000 bed nights filling our hotels in previous years, so we’re expecting more this year, as well.

While there’ll be plenty of action on the field at Suncorp, there will also be plenty of things to see and do around the city if Rugby League isn’t quite your thing. If you step out of the stadium, you can discover what else Brisbane has to offer. This weekend is the first of the big run of weekends for the Stradbroke season for Brisbane Racing Club. This Saturday is the Doomben 10,000 where we’ll see the fastest sprinters in Australasia compete for the chance to triumph in one of the top 100 races in the world, possibly a dead track at the rate we’re going at the moment.

If you prefer to immerse yourself in the best food and drink on offer, head down to South Bank Parklands for Regional Flavours Festival, bringing together some of Australia’s most renowned chefs, local producers, winemakers, brewers, and distillers to showcase the flavours of their region. This year’s event has taken on a fresh look, exploring a new theme of the ultimate grazing table, where you can spend a day or even just an afternoon lazing and grazing with exclusive experiences catering for all. There are free and ticket events to attend, where you can meander through a dozen different market stalls or participate in a range of masterclasses for whatever suits your culinary likings.

The month of May extends on this, as well, and just gets better for the foodies as the ever-popular Dine BNE City is back, bigger and better in 2022. This extended month-long program is packed with more than 100 exclusive offers and dining experiences, giving you more than 100 reasons to dine out this month, with the selection of more than 65 participating restaurants and bars banding together to entice you into Brisbane City to experience the culinary delights. From $25 lunches to after-work drinks and tapas pairings, whisky nights, 10-course degustations, there is definitely something for everyone. This is your chance to throw your support behind the city and help our local restauranteurs get back on track.

Rounding out the action-packed month of May—but wait, there’s more, there is the steak knives at the end—we’ve got the Sea to the City which will return on Sunday 29 May for its fourth year, stretching along the stunning City Reach from Eagle Street Pier to Customs House, pop-up sites with market stalls, live music, entertainment, as you feast your way on the best seafood in town. Think Moreton Bay bugs, fresh oysters, all along a dedicated *al fresco* food trail. Smart to get in there this year, because of course, we’ll see Eagle Street under a bit of construction next year, but it has been a tough year for the start of the year for so many, including our restauranteurs, hoteliers, and bars.

Please remember, campaigns like these are important to keep our local economy ticking and they’re a reminder to keep Brisbane residents to get out and about and experience their own backyard.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 6**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, recently, Federal Labor Leader Anthony Albanese announced plans to build electric buses in Perth for Perth. Over on this side of the country, the Labor Government is getting electric buses manufactured here in Queensland and trains built here, too, of course. Meanwhile, your LNP Administration tears up a 30-year manufacturing partnership with local Brisbane bus builders and buys electric buses from China and Europe when they could be made here. The comparison between your LNP leadership and Labor leadership could not be more stark. Labor supports local jobs and you and the LNP snub them. LORD MAYOR, what do you hope to achieve by snubbing local manufacturing jobs?

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, as usual, and as we’ve come to expect, there is a lot of misinformation in that question, but that’s not unusual. We’ve heard, for example, Councillor CASSIDY in the past, both here in the Chamber and in the media, saying that jobs have been lost at Volgren. Jobs have been lost. I wonder, Councillor CASSIDY, how many jobs have been lost at Volgren?

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Because I’m not aware of one single job that has been lost at Volgren, and when I was out there—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —at the manufacturing facility the other day, where they were fitting out the Metro vehicle, I didn’t see a single job that has been lost. I didn’t see a single bit of evidence that any jobs have been lost. So please, tell the truth, Councillor CASSIDY. Tell the truth. We are committed to supporting public transport and also modernising our fleet. We have a trial of four buses—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —four buses—

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

LORD MAYOR: —where we went out to a national and international tender. How many—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: How many complying local buses came back in that tender? One, two, three?

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: None, not one. Not one local company—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

LORD MAYOR: —could provide a compliant bus at the time we went out for this trial.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Same thing happened with the Brisbane Metro when we went out to tender for that vehicle. How many local companies could provide what we were asking for? Five, six, seven? Not one. Not one, but you know what?

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: The good news is, Volgren is involved in the Metro vehicle. Volgren is part of a joint venture arrangement to provide these vehicles for Brisbane Metro, and the Volgren workers were supporting us when it comes to doing all the necessary fitting out and technical work that had to happen on the Metro pilot vehicle.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So, this claim that jobs are being lost or jobs are somehow under threat is absolute rubbish. It is rubbish. Now, we know that the Leader of the Opposition—the Federal Leader of the Opposition probably doesn’t know what the unemployment rate is, but it is four per cent. Now, that would indicate that there are not a great deal of people out of work at the moment across the country—that would indicate. Now, we are every day supporting local jobs when we do our procurement, which is why now over 80% of our contracts go to local companies, and also companies that are based here locally. When we go out to tender for our next bus building operations, we’re looking forward to being able to hopefully—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —Councillor MURPHY, award the contact to suitable local manufacturers, but what we have got now is—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Would you think, according to what Councillor CASSIDY says, we’ve ordered 100, 200 buses from overseas? No, at the moment, five. Five.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: There are four on trial and there’s one Metro pilot vehicle. Why? Because we went out to tender, no local companies could provide what we need. When we go out to tender in the future—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —I have every confidence they will be.

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

LORD MAYOR: So, let’s stop the dishonest misinformation, the fear campaign.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: We know—we know that when it comes to Labor’s agenda, it’s all about fear and smear, but there is no basis to it. There is absolutely no basis to it. They talk about loss of local manufacturing jobs. No jobs have been lost when it comes to our contracts, particularly when it comes to public transport or Volgren. No jobs have been lost at Volgren. I would actually challenge Councillor CASSIDY to provide any evidence that any jobs have been lost at Volgren. There is no evidence. It’s a busy factory over there.

Chair: Silence on all sides, please.

LORD MAYOR: It’s a busy factory with lots of people working hard on different buses for different places, and including the Metro pilot vehicle. It’s just like this misinformation that we hear—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —from Labor all the time about outsourcing—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —when they were the biggest outsourcers of all.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, don’t test my patience.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: They were the biggest outsourcers of all.

Chair: Excuse me, LORD MAYOR. Excuse me for a moment.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I consider you are displaying unsuitable meeting conduct and, in accordance with section 21(4) of the Meetings Local Law, I hereby request that you cease interjecting during the response that the LORD MAYOR is providing to your question.

Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, but Councillor CASSIDY suggests that his Labor State Government has only purchased local electric buses. I would ask whether that is entirely true. I would ask whether that is entirely true, because there’s a line of questioning here and strong evidence around the place to support that that is not, in fact, the case.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Yes, so—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

Further questions?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY.

**Question 7**

Councillor TOOMEY: My question is to the Chair of City Standards, Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX, the Schrinner Council’s food waste recycling pilot has seen thousands of Brisbane residents reduce the amount of food waste going to landfill, helping keep Brisbane clean, green, and sustainable. Could you please update the Chamber on the latest in this pilot?

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Thank you, Chair, and through you, I thank Councillor TOOMEY for the question. The Schrinner Council has a strong record of taking action to reduce waste and pollution, so food waste in Brisbane currently makes up around a quarter of the household’s general waste bin and has significant impacts on our limited landfill, natural resources, the economy, and our environment. That is why it is important that there is a tailored action to assist our city’s future waste and resource recovery service.

The food waste recycling pilot is about diverting food waste such as fruit and vegetable scraps out of the general waste bin, away from landfill, and disposing it through our green waste bin program. What better way to support the environment and take the next step in improving our recycling efforts by delivering a program with an immediate impact in our communities? So, this pilot is not only an opportunity to explore how we can provide a service to minimise food waste, but also to educate residents on how they can reduce this at the same time.

I’m pleased to share with the Chamber that, across the trial wards, there’s been a high level of positive feedback reported to date, and this is something—a trial that the residents are excited about. I want to acknowledge those Brisbane residents who have been participating in the pilot since March. It is clear that Brisbane residents engaging with this pilot are keen to do their best to reduce landfill. Preliminary reports suggest that the levels of contamination have also been extremely low, which is extremely important. Council will undertake an audit on the amount of food waste received in the coming months, and I’ll bring the results back to the Chamber when they become available in a future update.

Mr Chair, you may be wondering how the food waste recycling program works? Well, each participating household received a kitchen caddy and an education pack prior to the service commencing in early March. Residents can place their food waste, including fruit and vegetable scraps, along with their garden waste into their green bin, and then the green bin is collected as part of, obviously, the normal fortnightly bin collection process.

The Schrinner Council is absolutely committed to making sure that the pilot program evaluates all feedback received from stakeholders. Officers will also use this feedback to ensure that the full-scale program will deliver the best possible service for the residents of Brisbane. Residents can engage with Council to provide their feedback via form or join our online community of participants via the Council’s EngagementHQ platform, where like-minded users can help troubleshoot and share tips.

As our food waste pioneers, these households are going to play a vital role in providing us with all the feedback, information, and data we need to deliver the best possible food waste recycling service for our city. This pilot will add to the work we’ve already done when it comes to recycling food and garden waste, including the free kitchen waste caddies and rebates of up to $70 when you purchase a compost bin or a worm farm. The Schrinner Council wants to help residents divert food waste from landfill, and our food waste recycling program will help build a cleaner, greener future for Brisbane. Brisbane is going to become the home of the nation’s biggest ever food waste recycling service.

I am aware that there are calls for full—what is referred to as FOGO (food organics and garden organics) to be rolled out across Brisbane. At this point in time, we are trialling this food waste recycling program, and that is purely so we can do a number of things. We can ensure that there is a very low contamination rate, which having visited a site where food waste goes to from Ballina, there is a fair bit of contamination happening down there which is not great. Our residents have been 100% on track with very low contamination.

The other issue with turning on something across a city of our size is, where is it all going to go? We have to make sure we have an end market for the product. At the moment, we’re talking a few thousand tonnes. We’re going to ultimately talk about some hundreds of thousands of tonnes of food waste. It all needs to go somewhere, so we’re working with industry to get that end product placement happening. The other situation we have, of course, is the rental properties and what we call our MUDs, our multi-unit developments.

We are working on both of those issues, because ultimately, we would like the whole city involved in this program, but as I said, for us—personally, as Chair of City Standards, we do it once, we do it right. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MARX.

Further questions?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

**Question 8**

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, my question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, just a few weeks ago, you and your LNP Council moved a motion amending my motion, saying that Council not fund the backflow valves recommended out of the 2011 flood report. Today, in the report issued by Councillor—sorry, by former Chief Justice Paul de Jersey, he recommends that Council continues to assess and prioritise the installation of backflow valves as part of Brisbane’s flood mitigation strategy.

You described these backflow valves as going blindly. The DEPUTY MAYOR described them in even worse terms, and you voted against installing them. Now that Paul de Jersey has recommended they be installed, will you ensure that they are fully funded in the budget and delivered as recommended, both in 2011 and in 2022?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you for the question, Mr Chair. Well, I suggest that Councillor JOHNSTON should properly read the report before she asks a question like that, because as we pointed out before, we took the recommendations after 2011. We assessed the high‑priority locations and we rolled out the backflow valves, and there are 66 devices in those high-priority locations. Let’s just read what the report—let’s not worry about speculation, let’s read what the report says here.

The AECOM report identified 51—although it speaks of 52—drainage systems, for which installation of backflow valves was feasible. AECOM foresaw that, in working out a priority for installation, Council would consider a cost-benefit analysis, the number of properties impacted by floods, the cost of installation, operational issues, and previously programmed drainage network upgrades of flood-impact infrastructure. Having, on that basis, identified 12 priority stormwater systems, Council installed devices in them and three others.

In all, there are 66 backflow devices installed along the Brisbane River. Of the 15 devices installed post-2011, seven demonstrably mitigated the effect of flooding in 2022. The effect of the rest could not be gauged, either because the river levee overtopped, rendering the device ineffectual in five cases, or because the device being passive, meaning manual intervention was not needed for activation and there were no nearby monitoring gauges in four cases. From the evidence currently available to Council, no properties were worse off during 2022 as a consequence of the installation of a backflow device.

Council has a detailed, dedicated webpage relating to backflow devices, which explains the concept of backflow flooding, lists locations where they’re installed, and provides information and responses to questions frequently asked about backflow. Council estimates that, of the backflow device locations referred to above, flood heights reduced between 0.9 and 0.99 metres, and 1,275 properties benefitted, which is obviously a very good result. The backflow devices installed since 2011 serviced 13,376 properties at a cost of approximately $19.2 million.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Mr Chairman.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I appreciate the history lesson. My question was, though, it’s been recommended in the de Jersey review that they are prioritised and installed, and will the LORD MAYOR be ensuring that they are fully funded, was my question, not what happened in 2011.

Chair: The LORD MAYOR is addressing the de Jersey report, thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Look, the Councillor may not want to hear from the independent report, but it is relevant and it is appropriate. It has been urged by respondents to this review that Council should proceed to install devices at all of the determined locations identified as feasible. That is, another 37. Is this relevant to what we’re talking about?

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: That’s what Councillor JOHNSTON is asking, all. Council estimates that this would cost in the order of $21.6 million—at 2011 costs, so double or triple that—for an expected benefit of only 252 properties. So, let’s go back, our current devices protect 13,376 properties. We could spend $20, $30, $40 million to protect 252 properties. That’s what Councillor JOHNSTON is suggesting we do blindly.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: What I can say we will do is we will assess the priority going forward and we will provide appropriate funding to put the devices where they will have the most—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —difference and provide the most benefit. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor OWEN—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Sorry? Councillor—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you.

**588/2021-22**

At that juncture, Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by Councillor Kara COOK, that the Standing Rules be suspended to allow the moving of the following motion⎯

*That Brisbane City Council prioritises and funds backflow prevention devices as recommended in 3.1 of the de Jersey 2022 Flood Review.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Just under two hours ago, Justice Paul de Jersey handed down—well, actually, I don’t know when he handed it down, but we were publicly told about the 2022 Flood Review. One of the recommendations, which the LORD MAYOR did not address—he just read out a whole heap of stuff, which I don’t have a problem with, he just literally read it out of the report, but the thing that he ignored was the recommendation from Justice de Jersey. It’s on page 59 and other pages, but I’m going to read it out.

The recommendation from the independent Flood Review is 3.1 Backflow Prevention Devices, ‘that Council continues to assess and prioritise the installation of backflow prevention devices as part of its flood mitigation strategy’. Now, currently, the Brisbane City Council position, which the LORD MAYOR and the DEPUTY MAYOR voted for just a few weeks ago, was to not install backflow prevention devices—to not install them. It was a very deliberate decision to not install them, as Councillor ADAMS spent quite some time explaining to us.

Now, let me be clear here, the recommendation by Justice de Jersey is that they are assessed and prioritised. Now, we know that the LORD MAYOR says he’s going to implement these recommendations, but when he was asked about funding them as a matter of priority, he did not say that he would. Not a single backflow prevention device in my ward is actually included on any capital works list for this Council or any infrastructure list or the long-term infrastructure list. They are just not listed. If they’re not listed, they’re not going to be funded.

Now, Justice de Jersey has certainly acknowledged that they worked well where there was data available. He has acknowledged that, where they were in, they prevented flooding for people. He has acknowledged that there are some where we didn’t have that information. Obviously, we need to make sure that the telemetry is put in those devices to make sure we can track how they work, as well, but it is critically important that the LORD MAYOR and the DEPUTY MAYOR don’t gloss over this review that acknowledges the importance of them in our flood mitigation strategy, that says that they will work, that recognises that they would only cost about $20 million to deliver.

I mean, this is an Administration that only spends $30 million all up on drainage every year, so of course that looks like a lot of money, but the LORD MAYOR would spend more on advertising than he spends on backflow devices; 3.1 says ‘that Council should assess and prioritise the installation of backflow prevention devices as part of the flood mitigation strategy’, and the current position of this LORD MAYOR and the DEPUTY MAYOR and every LNP Councillor is they not be installed. We need to send—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —a clear message that we will do this.

Chair: —has expired.

The motion before us is for the suspension of standing rules.

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

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, can you—

**589/2021-22**

At that juncture, Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by Councillor COOK—

*That Brisbane City Council prioritises and funds backflow prevention devices as recommended in 3.1 of the de Jersey 2022 Flood Review.*

Councillor LANDERS: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor LANDERS.

**590/2021-22**

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

At that juncture, it was moved by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that debate on the motion now before the meeting, be adjourned until the conclusion of business on today’s agenda.

The Chair submitted the motion to the Chamber and it was declared **carried** on the voices.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 19 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRI and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: That ends Question Time.

LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee report of 3 May 2022.

## 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 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before I move on, I just wanted to point out that the recommendation of the de Jersey review on backflow valves says this, ‘that Council continue—continue, as in it’s doing it already—to assess and prioritise the installation of backflow prevention devices as part of its flood mitigation strategy’. Yes, we will be doing that.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I can tell you, we will be doing that. So any such motion, I think, is unnecessary, but—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —having said that, we know that what Councillor JOHNSTON was wanting us to do is to blindly just sign off on everything without an appropriate priority assessment. We’re not going to do that. We’re going to continue doing the assessment on priority and building where you get the best results.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Moving forward, this week—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

LORD MAYOR: —I’d like to update you on the great community causes we continue to support as a city. Last night, the Victoria Bridge, Reddacliff Place, Story Bridge, and Tropical Display Dome were lit up in the colour teal, and it wasn’t for the election, I can tell you right now. The colour teal was to mark Allergy Awareness Month. Australia has one of the highest rates in the world of people with an allergy, with more than five million Australians living with allergy.

Tonight, those same assets will be lit up in blue, not for the election again, sorry to say, but to celebrate the Anywhere Festival. This artistic festival is about public performances in all locations other than a theatre. Milton, Morningside, Woolloongabba, Windsor, St Lucia are just some of the Brisbane suburbs participating in the Anywhere Festival.

Tomorrow night, the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge, Reddacliff Place will be lit up in blue again, but this time to support the eve of Fibromyalgia International Awareness Day, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome. There are about 250,000 Australians living with this disease and the effect can last more than six months at a time.

On Thursday, all our assets will be lit up in the colour blue again, but this time for a different reason, Do It For Dolly Day. Do It For Dolly Day is about bringing the community together to celebrate kindness and unite in taking a stand against bullying. The suicide of young Dolly was a national tragedy which we all remember, and brought on this issue of online bullying to the front pages of the paper. There’s been a lot of discussion about it ever since, but we need to continue doing more in the space.

This Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, we’re lighting up City Hall, Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge, Tropical Dome, and Reddacliff Place in green to support the NRL Magic Round. I know Councillor ADAMS is not here, but she is very excited about this. This event is a staple in Brisbane’s event calendar and is the world’s largest festival of Rugby League, which is here in Brisbane. Now, there’s been speculation about whether other states are going to steal this off us. Not going to happen. Not going to happen. We won’t let that happen, and neither will the State Government.

Just moving forward to the items in front of us. The first one, item A, is the approval to grant a trustee lease for the Queensland Police Memorial. The Queensland Police Memorial pays tribute to the memory of police officers who have died in duty or on duty, with records dating back as far as 1859. The previous memorial was located in front of 80 George Street and was decommissioned to make way for the Queen’s Wharf development project. Following this, a new memorial was constructed in the City Botanic Gardens in 2018 and was opened on 24 November 2018.

The City Botanic Gardens is identified as reserve under the *Land Act 1994*, and Council is the trustee of the land. QPS (Queensland Police Service) wish to retain ownership and management of the memorial. They require a trust lease from Council to do this. The trust lease has been drafted for the maximum term allowed under the Act, which is 30 years, which allows them to provide for the ongoing management and maintenance of the memorial, which we think is appropriate. As QPS is a State Government department, it meets the exemption criteria under the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*, and this enables Council to directly grant a lease with the QPS without undertaking a tender process.

Item B relates to approval for the DEPUTY MAYOR to travel to the meeting of the World Union of Olympic Cities, as Brisbane is now a new member of that organisation. They are also, at the same time, celebrating their 20th Anniversary. As Host City for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Brisbane was invited to become a member of the World Union of Olympic Cities, joining previous Host Cities to those that are on the path to hosting at future Games.

Now, obviously, there’s a lot of learnings from every city that has hosted the Games, and this is one of those important forums that we can make those engagements and have those relationships, and to learn those learnings. Membership of this association gives Council access to invaluable tools and resources, connecting with former and future host cities, as well as the IOC (International Olympic Committee) and the world of international support. We will be or we are the 44th and newest member of the union. Union proud, union strong. We’ve been invited to attend the 20th Anniversary, and so the DEPUTY MAYOR will be travelling to be part of that important event and also to accept the membership for the City of Brisbane. So, that is before us.

Finally, item C is the Eagle Street Pier and Waterfront Place surrender and granting of subleases and partial surrender of lease. This relates to what some people would publicly know as the Dexus proposal or the Dexus redevelopment down in the waterfront, in that Eagle Street Pier precinct. By approving these various leases and subleases and the tenure arrangements, we’re supporting the revitalisation of the Brisbane waterfront, which will help transform this iconic Brisbane location and ensure that it’s not only a premium destination for business and offices, but also to enhance the precinct from a lifestyle perspective, as well.

We know that we have many great sections of riverwalk along the waterfront, but this particular section is, I guess, underdone and overused when it comes to the amount of space that’s available. So what we’ve made it clear we want to see there is a significant improvement in the public realm, and also when it comes to the ability for people to walk and cycle and scooter through that area. This proposal, and what we’ve insisted through the Dexus development proposal, will help achieve that outcome.

Most importantly, it will help achieve that outcome through private investment into the public realm, which I think is a really positive thing. We know that the people of Brisbane love the Brisbane waterfront, and this will take a significant section of the Brisbane waterfront and invest tens of millions of dollars in upgrading the public realm, in providing wider and safer paths for people to walk along, and providing an enhanced experience for the people of Brisbane. So, these subleases facilitate that outcome.

The current leases date back to 1990, when we saw the first work being carried out there. The subleases were due to expire in 2065, and to enable this investment to go ahead, we’re obviously putting this arrangement in place. The Deputy Premier and Local Government Minister, Steven Miles, provided the required exemption to go directly to Dexus on this arrangement and to make this happen. The riverbed lease is being approved today, ensuring that millions can be invested into public open space on the river’s edge.

The City Reach Boardwalk will be rebuilt and extended, and will be at least six metres wide and up to 15 metres wide in its widest point. Currently, it is a three‑metre path, so we’re seeing at minimum a doubling of the pathway space, and obviously, the number of people using it and the conflict that’s happening there at the moment between different modes of travel necessitates this. We get this outcome through private investment, as I said, which is a good outcome. The project will also create up to 1,000 jobs during construction and 900 ongoing jobs once complete. Construction is expected at this point in time to commence later this year.

We ask for Councillors’ support for this surrender and granting of subleases. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair.

**Seriatim - Clause B**

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause B, OVERSEAS TRAVEL — ATTENDANCE AT THE WORLD UNION OF OLYMPIC CITIES 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PROGRAM, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. On Clause A, we support the granting of the trustee lease for the Queensland Police Memorial. I remember when the Queensland Police Service, supported by the Queensland Police Union of employees approached Council initially about having this memorial placed in the City Botanic Gardens, the LNP Mayor at the time kicked up a big stink and didn’t want this memorial in the City Botanic Gardens. I recall that Graham Quirk, the LNP Mayor at the time, supported by most of these LNP Councillors still here, had to be dragged kicking and screaming to have a memorial in the City Botanic Gardens, memorialising all of those men and women of the Queensland Police Service and their predecessors in the Queensland Police Force who have died in the line of duty.

I do remember some spurious arguments about turning the City Botanic Gardens into a graveyard by having a memorial like this. Well, the memorial that is there is a very fitting tribute to those officers who have served and died. We supported it from the outset, Labor Councillors, and certainly support the granting of this trustee lease to the QPS to ensure that they can appropriately manage and maintain this memorial in an appropriate way, so we’ll support this item.

Clause B is the overseas travel. It’s a part of the Olympics consolation prize, I think, because what we have is the DEPUTY MAYOR, who’s not a member of the OCOG (Organising Committee for the Olympic Games), the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games OCOG. We know that the DEPUTY MAYOR did want to be part of that, but is not part of the Organising Committee for the Brisbane 2032 Games. The two nominees this Council did have for that committee that the LORD MAYOR could nominate was himself, of course, and the Mayor of Redlands, Karen Williams. So, perhaps we should be sending someone to this forum that is actually a member of the Organising Committee.

We know there’s some internal LNP politics at play, some internal politics at play when it came to who the LORD MAYOR could and couldn’t choose. We know there was a preselection going on down in the Bayside suburbs, and certain consolation prizes had to be given out left, right, and centre. The DEPUTY MAYOR couldn’t get a guernsey on the OCOG, so this Committee was set up in Council that the DEPUTY MAYOR could Chair, which really has no practical way of organising or implementing anything to do with the Olympics, it has become very, very clear for us as members of that Committee, but it certainly looks like this is a consolation prize and the DEPUTY MAYOR probably isn’t the appropriate person for Council to be sending to this forum. It probably should be the LORD MAYOR himself.

So, we won’t be supporting this item before us today because we don’t think these little prizes should be doled out as deals done behind closed doors. We think that everything about the Olympics should be open and transparent.

Clause C, the Eagle Street Pier and Waterfront Place leases, we’ve been broadly supportive of this project from the outset, as well. As the LORD MAYOR described, people know it publicly as the Dexus project. I know the LNP have gone hot and cold on it over the years. I met the proponents early on and listened to what they had to say about what they wanted to achieve down at that site, including the giving back of some road space to active transport users for pedestrians and cyclists, and more open space on either side of the development. I know the LNP have baulked at that along the way, but in terms of the leases and the subleases being renewed to ensure that this project goes ahead, it’s something that we’ll be supporting.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair, and I rise to speak on item A, the approval to grant a trustee lease for the Queensland Police Memorial. Of course, the Schrinner Council recognises the importance of memorials, monuments, and plaques in commemoration of our city’s history, of its culture, environment, people, organisations, and events. The Queensland Police Service recognises the unique nature of the police service and the dangers that police face daily serving our community.

As the LORD MAYOR said, the former police memorial was located in front of 80 George Street, but was decommissioned to make way for the Queen’s Wharf development, and Council worked with the State Government and the Queensland Police Union, along with the Heritage Council, to consider potential new sites. In 2018, the construction of the new memorial commenced in the City Botanic Gardens and was formally dedicated in November 2018. Mr Chair, the Queensland Police Service wish to continue ownership and management of the memorial, including maintenance and upkeep. To enable this to occur, a 30‑year trustee lease arrangement has been recommended to Council today.

Mr Chair, the memorial is a very special place dedicated to the memory of fallen police officers. Each pillar represents a rank within the Queensland Police Service, from Constable to Commissioner. The layout of the pillars in relation to the light that comes through creates a bit of a chequered effect, which really subtly represents the blue and white chequered iconic band of the Queensland Police Service. It is a place of reflection for families and friends of officers who have died during their service to the Queensland community, and I encourage all Councillors to support this recommendation. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. I rise to speak on all items in the E&C report.

**Seriatim - Clause C**

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| Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON requested that Clause C, EAGLE STREET PIER AND WATERFRONT PLACE – SURRENDER AND GRANTING OF SUB-LEASES AND PARTIAL SURRENDER OF LEASE, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. Firstly, item A. I support item A, no problems there. It’s reflecting a request from the police. Item B. I think it’s quite interesting that, over the last few weeks, right in the middle of flood recovery, we’ve seen a lot of meetings and junkets to Sydney, now overseas, about the Olympics. We’re not really seeing a lot of focus on flood recovery. It is really concerning to me that, yet again, the priority is for the DEPUTY MAYOR to go off on another overseas trip with very little value to Brisbane. She is not a member of the Organising Committee.

This is—and I quote, an Anniversary Celebration Program. I mean, with the fairy lights in—where was that, Taiwan? You remember that one, about a decade ago? That’s probably pre-you, Councillor COOK. That was a really good one. She went off to see the fairy lights in—I think it was Taiwan, I might have the country wrong, but that was a great trip. She needed to go and do that, she had to look at the fairy lights. This time around, she has to go because there’s a party on for the Olympics and Councillor Krista ADAMS is essential to the party for the anniversary celebrations for the Olympics.

I’m not quite sure how that’s going to help us deliver on our Olympics responsibilities here in the City of Brisbane, and I’m definitely not sure about how that’s going to help us deliver on the business of the City of Brisbane, and I’m definitely sure that it’s not going to help us deliver on flood recovery, although now, having just said that out loud, it might be a good thing that she’s not here working on those issues, but I am appalled that, in the middle of a debate about how our city recovers from a catastrophic natural disaster, where every single cent that we have and time and effort should be going into flood recovery, the DEPUTY MAYOR is going off on a junket overseas for the 20th Anniversary Celebration Program in Athens in Greece in a couple of weeks’ time.

I look forward to the extensive report that Councillor ADAMS brings back about the wonderful meetings she attends and the hobnobbing she does in Greece, and I look forward to her coming back and explaining to us how going to a party in Greece that is irrelevant to this city, to the delivery of the Olympics Games program, is anything that this city should be doing. It’s not acceptable, it is not acceptable that the DEPUTY MAYOR accepts the funding that is being provided to go to this event. It is not acceptable that she sees this as a valuable use of her time, as something that needs to be done.

The City of Brisbane is groaning under serious problems, serious problems, and the person who is apparently in charge of the economic development of this city is going to go to Greece to see how to have a party. It’s not a good use of the DEPUTY MAYOR’s time. It’s not an acceptable thing for her to be accepting. You can politely say, thank you for the kind invitation but we won’t be attending. I really don’t think the Olympic movement is going to take the Olympic Games off Brisbane if the DEPUTY MAYOR decides she’s not going to go to the party in Greece. I’m not aware that the party in Greece has anything to do with the delivery of the Olympics here in Brisbane.

I do not support this item and I do not support the decision by the DEPUTY MAYOR to go. I suggest, a bit like Councillor WINES who’s fled from any discussion about going overseas, he’s missing in action, no one wants to remind—he doesn’t want to remind anybody about being missing in action, as well. This is not an acceptable thing for the DEPUTY MAYOR to go to, and it just shows that her judgement about these things is fundamentally flawed. Going to a party in Athens that has nothing to do with the Olympics in Brisbane—which are still 11 years away—is absolutely a misstep, flawed judgement.

It indicates pretty much everything that’s wrong with this LNP Administration, that they’re more focused on delivering junkets for themselves than they are in delivering flood recovery for the city. Keep in mind that approving the junket for Councillor ADAMS is more important than talking about the flood recommendations in Justice Paul de Jersey’s Flood Review. This is more important. I don’t support what’s going on here. I do not support this decision. I think that Councillor ADAMS needs to rethink it.

I know they’re going to hop on to say, oh, we’re not paying for it. Yes, we are. When this city pays out billions of dollars to run the Olympics, how do you think all this stuff is being funded by Host Cities that have contributed to it? It’s going to cost every single ratepayer for you to go on this trip, because this is the way that these junkets get funded through the Olympics’ organisations and associations. It’s by the contributions that the cities and the businesses make towards the running of the Olympics. This is a bad decision and I don’t support it.

I also don’t support item C. This is just going to be a schemozzle. I just don’t want to have anything to do with this. Thanks.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise tonight to speak in support of item A. As Councillors in this place know, this Police Memorial is of personal significance to me and my local community because I have a personal connection. Somebody who I worked very closely with for a number of years is named on that memorial, and there can be no greater reflection on the service of our police officers than to remember them in this way. This memorial is very important, not only to our city, but also our State. It sends a very clear message to all of the police officers who have served, who have continued to serve and will continue to serve, but also those who have been lost in the line of duty.

There is not a Police Remembrance Day that goes by that I don’t pay homage to the service of the wonderful police officers that go to work every day to protect everyone in our community. Their dedication can never be understated, and every Police Remembrance Day, I will continue to pay honour to my friend, Daniel Arthur Stiller. In fact, we have the Sergeant Dan Stiller Memorial Reserve and Memorial in my ward to reflect his dedication to road safety and to the work that he did in our local community.

This Police Memorial was very much a project of passion of the former Police Commissioner, Ian Stewart. I know the many conversations that I had with the former Commissioner in regard to this Police Memorial, because he knew that I understood the importance of it and the significance of it. It is something that, when it was unveiled, I had the privilege of being there for that unveiling and seeing it come to fruition.

It is a small way that we as a city and that we as a Council can honour the service for those who have given their lives in the line of duty, but it also does reflect all of those police officers who have passed away whilst they have been in service, but not specifically at work. I think today’s lease and the granting to the QPS is something that solidifies that security for the Queensland Police Service. It sends a message to all our hardworking police officers that we are supportive of them and we are also recognising the memory of each and every name that is not only on that memorial, but is read for those in service who also passed away, but not necessarily in the line of duty.

Sadly, I’ve been to a number of police funerals of officers who have passed away in the line of duty, and whilst they are very sombre and significant events, what it does show us all is the significant bond that is there, the significant sense of family that those in the police service have for one another, and the support that they continue to give to each other. So I take this opportunity tonight, Mr Chair, to say that it is heart-warming to know that this lease is going through this Chamber, but also for all of the families, for all of the colleagues, and for all of the friends of those officers listed on this Police Memorial, this is also for you.

This memorial is a reflection of the dedication of those officers and that their memory will continue in this city for many, many years to come. Our gratitude as a city will be unwavering, in part by the granting of this lease. I think it is very important tonight to make sure that we all take a moment to reflect and honour those who have served and those who continue to serve in our Queensland Police Service. We thank them for their service. We thank them for protecting our community and our city, and we will remember them.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Yes, thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item C. This item is the surrender and granting of subleases and partial surrender of lease at Eagle Street Pier and Waterfront Place. As the LORD MAYOR has mentioned, this is all about helping to facilitate the $2.1 billion redevelopment of this precinct by Dexus. It is better known as the Waterfront Brisbane project. Waterfront Brisbane will ensure the Golden Triangle of Brisbane shines brightly into the future. It will be a top Brisbane lifestyle and business destination in years to come.

The item seeks to approve various lease and sublease tenure arrangements for the precinct, which will allow for an expanded riverfront boardwalk. Council currently has a perpetual lease from the State over an area of land between the City Botanic Gardens and Boundary Street. In 1990, Council entered subleases on two lots with Dexus and Perpetual Funds Management. These subleases were due to expire in 2065. As is common for projects with this scale of proposed investment, longer-term tenure and certainty is required, and we can understand that.

Dexus, Council, and the State Government have been working together on this for some time. This project was first announced by Dexus with the State Government and Council as a market-led proposal. In December 2019, the State Government announced the signing of a facilitation agreement with Dexus, enabling the company to commence the detailed design and development application process. In 2020, the Dexus proposal went through Council’s development assessment process. This next step involves clarifying the lots and leases for the Waterfront Brisbane project.

The existing Lot 11, subleased by Council to Dexus, and Lot 12, subleased to Perpetual, will be surrendered. Council will partially surrender our perpetual lease from the State in the amount of 1,800 square metres from Lot 11. The Deputy Premier and Local Government Minister, Steven Miles, has provided the required exemption for Council to sublease directly to Dexus and Perpetual on the new proposed Lot 11 and Lot 12. The new leases will be for 95 years, and we have allowed for a market review in rent calculation along the way.

As the LORD MAYOR has said, this project will improve our public spaces on the riverfront with millions of dollars of investment proposed. The riverbed leases being approved today unlock this investment. The City Reach Riverwalk will be rebuilt and extended, and the precinct will become much more pedestrian and cycle-friendly. It will support hundreds of jobs, both during construction and, of course, more permanently once complete, and I commend it to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Further speakers?

Any further—Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Thanks, Chair. I rise just to speak really briefly on all items. I’ll just read this passage. ‘Relative to our own, the Newspeak vocabulary was tiny, and new ways of reducing it were constantly being devised. Newspeak, indeed, differed from most all other languages in that its vocabulary grew smaller, instead of larger, every year. Each reduction was a gain, since the smaller the area of choice, the smaller the temptation to take thought. Ultimately, it was hoped to make articulate speech issue from the larynx without involving the higher brain centres at all.’

Chair: Councillor SRI, you’ll need to get to relevance pretty quickly.

Councillor SRI: It is relevant. ‘This aim was frankly admitted in the Newspeak word duckspeak, meaning ‘to quack like a duck’. Like various other words in the B vocabulary, duckspeak was ambivalent in meaning. Provided that the opinions which were quacked out were orthodox ones, it implied nothing but praise, and when *The   
Times* referred to one of the orators of the party as a doubleplusgood duckspeaker, it was paying a warm and valued compliment.’

Chair: Councillor SRI. Excuse me, Councillor SRI. You haven’t yet established a connection—

Councillor SRI: I’ll leave it there.

Chair: —with any of the items before us.

Councillor SRI: I’ll leave it there, Chair.

Chair: Thank you. Good.

Further speakers? Any further speakers?

LORD MAYOR?

No further speakers? Thank you. We now move to the vote on these items, which are effectively all in seriatim. So, we move to the vote on item A.

**Clause A put**

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

Chair: Item B.

**Clause B put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

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

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRI and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: We now move to the vote on item C.

**Clause C put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 22 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS and Charles STRUNK.

NOES: 2 - Councillors Jonathan SRI 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 APPROVAL TO GRANT A TRUSTEE LEASE FOR THE QUEENSLAND POLICE MEMORIAL

**161/445/439/241**

**591/2021-22**

1. The Divisional Manager, City Planning and Sustainability, provided the information below.

2. On 7 May 2018, the Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP, Queensland Premier, announced that in consultation with the Queensland Police Union, Queensland Police Service (QPS), Brisbane City Council (Council) and the Queensland Heritage Council, a new Queensland Police Memorial (memorial) would be built in the City Botanic Gardens (CBG) to replace the former memorial, which was decommissioned to make way for the Queen’s Wharf Brisbane redevelopment.

3. The CBG, described as Lot 597 on SP317627, is identified as a Reserve under the *Land Act 1994* (Act) and Council is the trustee of the land. Attachment B (submitted on file) contains an aerial view of the location of the memorial within CBG.

4. Construction of the new memorial in the CBG commenced in 2018 and was dedicated on 24 November 2018. The memorial pays tribute to the memory of police officers who died while on duty, with records dating back to 1859. Photos of the established memorial can be seen in Attachment C (submitted on file).

5. Previous updates on Council’s response to the initial proposal to relocate the memorial within CBG and Council’s process for supporting the Queensland Premier’s decision have been provided to E&C on 18 January 2018 and 19 July 2018.

6. As QPS wish to retain ownership and management of the memorial, they require a Trustee Lease from Council. The Trustee Lease has been drafted for the maximum term allowed under the Act of 30 years and includes provisions for QPS to provide ongoing management and maintenance of the memorial (refer Attachment D, submitted on file).

7. As QPS is a State Government Department it meets the exemption under section 226(1)(b)(i) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) and this enables Council to directly grant the Trustee Leaseto the QPS without undertaking a tender process as required under section 217 of the Regulation.

8. The Divisional Manager, City Planning and Sustainability, provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A  
Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO PERMIT COUNCIL TO DISPOSE OF AN INTEREST IN LAND BY TRUSTEE LEASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 226(1) OF THE *CITY OF BRISBANE REGULATION 2012***

As:

(i) Council is the trustee of the land, being Lot 597 on SP317627, Title Reference 49022967 and more commonly known as the City Botanic Gardens (the Land)

(ii) Queensland Police Service has approached Council seeking a Trustee Lease over part of the Land for the Queensland Police Memorial for a term of 30 years

(iii) Section 226(2) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) requires that Council resolves that an exception set out in section 226(1) of the Regulation applies prior to disposing of a valuable non-current asset, such as a Trustee Lease, other than by way of tender or auction,

then Council

(i) resolves that the exception set out in section 226(1)(b)(i) of the Regulation applies to the disposal of the Land by way of a Trustee Lease to the Queensland Police Service, being a government agency for a term of 30 years, with the commencement to be as soon as reasonably practicable after the Minister for State of Queensland Administering the *Land Act 1994* approves the lease

(ii) approves entry into the Trustee Lease, more or less on terms, as set out in Attachment D (submitted on file), and otherwise on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, and the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance.

**ADOPTED**

#### B OVERSEAS TRAVEL — ATTENDANCE AT THE WORLD UNION OF OLYMPIC CITIES 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PROGRAM

**164/855/554/63**

**592/2021-22**

10. The Divisional Manager, City Planning and Sustainability, provided the information below.

11. On 21 July 2021, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) elected Brisbane City Council as the Host City, and the State of Queensland as the Host State, for the 2032 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.

12. As a Host City, Brisbane City Council was endorsed by the Executive Committee of the World Union of Olympic Cities (the Association) to become an Active Member on 7 March 2022. As an Active Member of the Association, Council has access to valuable insights and connections with past and future Olympic Cities.

13. Council is invited to attend the 20th Anniversary Celebration Program, including the Mayor’s Roundtable, in Athens, Greece, held from 22 May to 24 May 2022. This is an opportunity to meet with the Association Members and to discuss the Olympic legacy and long-term opportunities for Council through hosting the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

14. It should be noted that accommodation, visits, activities, food and beverages will be paid for by the Association and are covered under the Active Member membership benefits.

15. The Divisional Manager, City Planning and Sustainability, provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

16. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE DEPUTY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR KRISTA ADAMS, CIVIC CABINET CHAIR FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE BRISBANE 2032 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES COMMITTEE, TO TRAVEL TO ATHENS, GREECE, FROM 21 MAY TO 26 MAY 2022, TO ATTEND THE WORLD UNION OF OLYMPIC CITIES 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PROGRAM, AND PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKSHOPS AND ACTIVITIES, AT AN APPROXIMATE COST OF $10,000.**

**ADOPTED**

#### C EAGLE STREET PIER AND WATERFRONT PLACE – SURRENDER AND GRANTING OF SUB-LEASES AND PARTIAL SURRENDER OF LEASE

**112/445/444/1357**

**593/2021-22**

17. The Divisional Manager, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the information below.

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

19. Council is the lessee of perpetual lease 0/233517 (perpetual lease) granted by the Queensland Government Department of Resources (the Department) for the City Reach Boardwalk of the Brisbane River between the City Botanic Gardens and Boundary Street, Brisbane City. Two of the lots included within the perpetual lease are Lot 11 on CP SL12763 (Lot 11), more commonly known as Eagle Street Pier, and Lot 12 on CP SL12763 (Lot 12), more commonly known as Waterfront Place.

20. Lot 11 is sub-leased to Dexus Funds Management Limited ACN 060 920 783 as trustee for the Dexus Eagle Street Pier Trust under instrument no. 716835636 (Dexus) under registered dealing 713326396 which was transferred to Dexus under registered dealing 716835636. Lot 12 is sub-leased to Perpetual Trustee Company Limited ACN 000 001 007 as custodian of Dexus Office Trust ARSN 090 768 531 and Perpetual Trustee Company Limited ACN 000 001 007 as custodian of Dexus Wholesale Office Trust ABN 28 427 173 134 care of Dexus Funds Management Limited (Perpetual) under registered dealing 713333975 which was transferred to Perpetual under registered dealing 716841828. The sub‑leases to Dexus and Perpetual commenced in 1990 and expire on 9 March 2030, each with an option for a further 35-year term.

21. Dexus and Perpetual are looking to undertake a $2.1 billion redevelopment to revitalise the Eagle Street Pier and Waterfront Place precincts and create a premium business and leisure destination. The proposed redevelopment will include a new boardwalk along the riverfront for the areas that fall within Dexus and Perpetual’s sub-leased premises. [Commercial-in-Confidence]. As part of the proposed redevelopment [Commercial-in-Confidence] approximately 1,800 square metres of Lot 11, which is to be excised from the perpetual lease. Due to the extent of the proposed redevelopment, Dexus and Perpetual are seeking longer sub-lease tenure [Commercial-in-Confidence]. Given Dexus and Perpetual’s desire for longer term tenure, the existing sub-leases must be surrendered and new sub-leases granted on the basis that the *Land Act 1994* does not permit the terms of sub-leases to be extended by way of amending the existing sub-leases.

22. It is proposed to enter into a [Commercial-in-Confidence] Agreement outlined in Attachment B (submitted on file), that sets out the steps, timeframes and key elements of the proposed transaction that involves Council:

- approving the surrender of the existing sub-leases granted to Dexus and Perpetual over Lots 11 and 12

- partially surrendering the perpetual lease to excise approximately 1,800 square metres from Lot 11, [Commercial-in-Confidence]

- granting a new sub-lease to Dexus over the Proposed New Lot 11

- granting a new sub-lease to Perpetual over Lot 12.

23. The proposed sub-leases will be for a term of up to 95 years and will expire one day prior to the anniversary of the commencement date in 2117. The sub-leases will commence one day after the last of the following occurs:

- the surrender of the existing sub-leases

- the perpetual lease is partially surrendered

- the Department consents to the new sub-leases being granted to Dexus and Perpetual by Council.

24. The redevelopment of Eagle Street Pier and Waterfront Place will necessitate the temporary closure of the City Reach Boardwalk at Lots 11 and 12 during the redevelopment. This requires the approval of the Department as it is a condition of the perpetual lease that the boardwalk remains open. Under the proposed sub-leases Dexus and Perpetual must obtain the Department’s approval for the temporary closure of the boardwalk during the redevelopment. The development approval for the proposed redevelopment also requires a minimum three‑metre-wide alternate access path to be provided around the precincts for the use of pedestrians and cyclists during the redevelopment. Under the proposed new sub-leases Dexus and Perpetual will pay the same rental as payable under the current sub-leases, less the necessary abatement for the surrendered portion of Lot 11.

25. On either 10 March 2030 or the day the boardwalk is reopened to the public, whichever date is earlier, the rentals under both sub-leases will be subject to a special rent review to determine the ‘site value’ of the premises*.* For the remainder of the sub-lease terms the rental will be charged at eight per cent of the site values, that will be reviewed as follows:

- every three years, on the anniversary of the special rent review date, the site value will be adjusted based on the movement in the site value of Dexus and Perpetual’s freehold lots, currently known as Lot 50 on RP817615 (Eagle Street Pier) for Lot 11 and Lot 40 on RP817615 (Waterfront Place) for Lot 12

- every nine years, on the anniversary of the special rent review date, the site value of the premises will be subject to a market review.

26. Council has obtained an exemption from the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning pursuant to section 226(1)(f) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation* *2012* (the Regulation) from complying with the lease tender requirements under section 217 of the Regulation at Attachment D (submitted on file). The Department’s approval of the sub-leases is still required.

27. The Divisional Manager, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

28. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL RESOLVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, hereunder.

**Attachment A  
Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A** [Commercial-in-Confidence] **AGREEMENT TO PARTIALLY SURRENDER PERPETUAL LEASE 0/233517, SURRENDER THE EXISTING SUB-LEASES TO DEXUS FUNDS MANAGEMENT LIMITED ACN 060 920 783 AS TRUSTEE FOR THE DEXUS EAGLE STREET PIER TRUST UNDER INSTRUMENT NO. 716835636 (DEXUS) AND PERPETUAL TRUSTEE COMPANY LIMITED ACN 000 001 007 AS CUSTODIAN OF DEXUS OFFICE TRUST ARSN 090 768 531 AND PERPETUAL TRUSTEE COMPANY LIMITED ACN 000 001 007 AS CUSTODIAN OF DEXUS WHOLESALE OFFICE TRUST ABN 28 427 173 134 CARE OF DEXUS FUNDS MANAGEMENT LIMITED (PERPETUAL) AND TO GRANT A NEW SUB-LEASE TO DEXUS OVER THE PROPOSED NEW LOT 11 TO BE CREATED FROM THE RETAINED PORTION OF THE LAND CURRENTLY KNOWN AS LOT 11 ON CP SL12763 AND TO GRANT A NEW SUB-LEASE TO PERPETUAL OVER LOT 12 ON CP SL12763**

As:

1. Council is the lessee of perpetual lease 0/233517 (the perpetual lease) with the Queensland Government Department of Resources (the Department) along the City Reach of the Brisbane River
2. Lot 11 on CP SL12763 (Lot 11) and Lot 12 on CP SL12763 (Lot 12) are included under the perpetual lease and sub-leased to Dexus Eagle Street Pier Trust under instrument no. 716835636 (Dexus) and Perpetual Trustee Company Limited ACN 000 001 007 as custodian of Dexus Office Trust ARSN 090 768 531 (Dexus) and Perpetual Trustee Company Limited ACN 000 001 007 as custodian of Dexus Wholesale Office Trust ABN 28 427 173 134 care of Dexus Funds Management Limited (Perpetual) respectively
3. Dexus and Perpetual are looking to undertake a $2.1 billion redevelopment to revitalise the Eagle Street Pier and Waterfront Place precincts and are seeking to vary their sub‑lease tenures to facilitate the proposed redevelopment within their sub-leased premises
4. Council has obtained an exemption from the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning pursuant to section 226(1)(f) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation* *2012* (the Regulation) from complying with the lease tender requirements under section 217 of the Regulation

then Council resolves to:

1. enter into the [Commercial-in-Confidence] Agreement generally in the form set out in Attachment B (submitted on file)
2. subject to the terms of the [Commercial-in-Confidence] Agreement:

- surrender the existing sub-lease to Dexus over Lot 11

- surrender the existing sub-lease to Perpetual over Lot 12

- partially surrender the perpetual lease to excise out approximately 1,800 square metres from Lot 11 [Commercial-in-Confidence]

1. subject to approval of the sub-leases by the Department, approve the granting of a sub‑lease to Dexus over [Commercial-in-Confidence] Lot 11 and to grant a new sub‑lease to Perpetual over Lot 12 in accordance with the terms set out in Attachment C (submitted on file)
2. authorise the Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure to manage the [Commercial-in-Confidence] Agreement and to do all things reasonably required to ensure Council’s obligations as sub-lessor under the [Commercial-in-Confidence] Agreement and proposed sub-leases are met.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, the Economic and Development and 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 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ADAMS.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. As always, our first Committee presentation for the session is delivered by Chris Isles, the Economic Development Manager, on the update of our economic activity over the last quarter. The focus for this one was on job growth and recovery in Brisbane, with the current data showing our unemployment rate is approaching record lows at 4.3% or around 30,000 unemployed, levels which have not been seen since 2003. I mean, it’s a good sign that people are re-joining the workforce and businesses are taking on more staff.

The number of jobs advertised still hovering around 30,000 jobs at any one time with little movement on that since the end of last year. So, what this is—what we’re actually seeing is dealing with a shortage of workers across all industries, not just hospitality and tourism, but expected and seen in larger, professional services and managerial roles in Brisbane, as well. What we’re hearing from the industry, through the Business Hub and our connections, is that the mismatch of skills to jobs and the growing need for employment and training programs are desperately needed to combat these vacancies.

We’re still seeing high migration rates with Greater Brisbane topping the list with the highest net internal migration to a capital city in Australia, most of which are coming from New South Wales and Victoria. The rate is comparable to the rest of Queensland, albeit slightly higher than Brisbane as more people are choosing a scenic change, so we’re seeing more of our tree changes and our sea changes, the Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay, and the Scenic Rim.

Our domestic travel through the airport is off to a strong start this year, but still a while off pre-COVID levels, sitting at around 50%, while of course international travel still hasn’t quite taken off, with limited overseas flights at the moment. We are hoping to see these increase as further easing of testing and vaccination requirements over the coming months, and airlines putting on more flights, as well. Our foot traffic in the Queen Street Mall is on the rise, with pedestrian counters currently sitting at around 65% of pre-COVID levels, having recently hit a high point on the first week of Easter with 71% over that period.

With the city coming back online, as I mentioned in Question Time today, there is so much to see and do locally. We are hoping that we can encourage everybody to get out and about and help that recovery. As we were saying, what we are hearing from the corporates and businesses is that the skills that we need, the jobs for our growing employment, and the training programs are really desperately needed to get the people back into these vacancies, which is why I can report that the Brisbane Business Hub is well and truly back on track.

It was there for a while as the Business Recovery Hub for the flood there with Moorooka and Nundah, as well, but they continue to provide their programs. Over the last week, we’ve seen an Email Marketing Automation Masterclass, we’ve seen Grow and Activate Customer Communities on Facebook. If we can get businesses to grow, we can get more people into businesses, as well. Some of the On The Couches that we’ve had and the feedback has been absolutely fantastic.

Libby Trickett was one of our recent On The Couches, which people were absolutely loving, as well, and also a Mental Resilience Mastery Session with David Nair coaching. The feedback was his coaching content was excellent. It was a great use of time for the business, and I know I will benefit greatly from applying what I learnt. Coming up is Sharon Davies, Founder and Managing Director of Sales 2 Success, very, very popular, as well.

So please, if you’ve got businesses that need support, send them to the Business Hub in town or over to the village one at Nundah Village, to the Suburban Business Hub, as well. We want to support them, and even people that are looking for business and upskilling themselves, as well, the Business Hub is there for them, as well. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on the presentation. I just really wanted to drill down into this discussion about unemployment figures. It’s really interesting to me when statistics were being presented which seemed so detached from the lived reality and material experiences of people, because on the one hand, we’re hearing from all levels of government that unemployment is really low, but on the other hand, on the street I’m hearing from lots of people who are really struggling to find enough work, and feel like it’s a really rough time to be looking for work.

This was drawn out in some of the discussions during the presentation, where our presenter acknowledged that, for someone to count as being employed, they really only have to be employed for one hour a week. What I think we’re seeing at the moment across the economy is widespread underemployment, and a situation where lots of people need more work and they’re not getting enough hours or they’re not getting enough shifts, but they’re still being counted as employed.

So governments and the Council are telling us, oh, things are good, unemployment’s really low, there’s lots of work available, but in fact, people are having a really hard time getting enough hours, particularly in industries like hospitality and tourism and entertainment, but it seems like it’s a wider problem. I’m not disputing that the overall statistic is correct, but it’s just important to highlight that, when we’re counting how many people are actually employed, according to this approach, we’re counting someone who only has a few hours of work a week as being employed.

I don’t think that’s particularly good methodology, and I think we need to be looking at the unemployment rate alongside those underemployment stats, as well, which paint a much more nuanced and very different picture. Thanks.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor SRI.

Any further speakers?

Councillor ADAMS?

Thank you. We now move to the vote on this report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Steven Huang.

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

**594/2021-22**

1. The Economic Development Manager, City Planning and Economic Development, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on Brisbane’s economic development. He provided the information below.
2. The Committee was shown graphs that demonstrated Brisbane’s weekly payroll employee jobs index. This data is an indicator of job growth and recovery in Brisbane. Current data shows job growth is above pre-COVID levels and the unemployment rate is approaching record lows, which were last seen in 2003. Data from 2022 indicates the employment sector is recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. This was demonstrated by the minimal impact the end of Christmas casual employment for the 2021/22 festive season had on employment data in comparison to figures for 2019/20 and 2020/21. Unemployment in Brisbane remains at approximately 30,000. This figure is in line with long-term unemployment levels for Brisbane.
3. The number of jobs advertised in Brisbane in March 2022 was over 31,000. This number has remained consistent since November 2021 and indicates difficulties with skills and training and a shortage of workers across industries, including hospitality and tourism.
4. The Committee noted graphs representing the net internal migration to capital cities for the 2020/21 financial year. Greater Brisbane had a net internal migration gain of 15,000 which was the highest net internal migration to a capital. Most of the internal migrants came to Brisbane from New South Wales and Victoria. Greater Brisbane’s net internal migration of 58.1% was relative to the rest of Queensland net internal migration of 51.9%.
5. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in Queensland and across the country, Brisbane Airport is starting to see a rise in the number of international passengers. Although there is minimal overseas travel currently, this is expected to increase as COVID-19 testing and vaccination requirements continue to ease over the coming months.
6. The Committee noted graphs that showed the annual change in Greater Brisbane consumer expenditure. Data from March 2022 showed that household spending on transport, food, housing and health has increased. This is consistent with other cities across Australia.
7. Pedestrian traffic in Queen Street Mall is currently at approximately 65% of the pre-COVID average. During the recent Easter school holidays, pedestrian traffic increased to 71% of the pre-COVID average. It is hoped that pedestrian traffic will increase over the coming months as isolation rules for close contacts ease.
8. The Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Economic Development Manager for his informative update.

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor OWEN, Transport Committee report, please.

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Angela OWEN, Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week, the Committee was provided with an overview of Council’s Network Coordination Centre, or as we affectionately refer to it as, the NCC. As part of the Brisbane Metropolitan Traffic Management Centre, the NCC is the central hub for our public transport operations. Now, this is very important in our city, because Council operates the centre from within our offices at Brisbane Square, and we run this centre in conjunction with the State Government’s Transport and Main Roads Department to support our very, very busy busway network.

As we all know, Brisbane City Council’s buses are at the centre of the city’s public transport, with two-thirds of public transport trips taken on buses. We all know that, over the past couple of years, COVID-19 has severely impacted patronage on our buses, and generally, on average, there are about 70 million bus trips in Brisbane every year. These trips are taken over 200 scheduled routes, with another 200 district school bus routes also operated by our Brisbane City Council buses.

Now, the NCC plays a vital role in delivering these services, helping to manage incidents on the road and busway network. From first service to last service each day, and sometimes 24 hours a day, the NCC acts as a constant support line for our wonderful bus drivers. I do take this opportunity, Mr Chair, through you to acknowledge the work of all of our frontline bus drivers and all of our support personnel in Transport for Brisbane, because they do an amazing job every single day.

There is also a team on the ground who not only assist drivers in the field when incidents occur, but also help to manage our bus stop assets, install customer notifications, and also complete many route inspections. Support for our bus drivers covers everything from a flat battery to a full bus or a passenger emergency, and these situations can be very varied, and the bus drivers go through a comprehensive training program to be able to identify these circumstances and the best way to communicate those through.

Mr Chair, during the presentation at Committee, we were told that in 2021 alone, over 162,000 calls were made and received between the operators and the NCC, showing just how important a resource it is for our bus drivers. On the technical side, every single bus is connected to the NCC via Tait radios. These radios were recently upgraded to improve the reliability and service coverage, especially in the CBD, where city buildings could sometimes interfere with the connection.

This organisation-wide program transitioned our buses and ferries from older, analogue radios to more reliable and newer digital radios. These new radios, the Taits, have been deployed for the London Bus Network, Queensland Rail, the Brisbane Airport Corporation, Tasmanian Railway, and the Dublin Bus Network, just to name a few other, similar transport organisations that they are operating within. In each bus, drivers have a radio receiver that categorises different calls in order to make it easier for the bus drivers to get the help that they need at the time that they need.

The calls are received by the team in the NCC across seven consoles, and are received by an experienced team of network coordination officers. These officers are at the frontline and help guide the driver through whatever scenario they may be facing. In most instances, calls are responded to in one minute or less, which is very impressive considering the call volumes received every single day. All of the data and insights that are collected about each incident, no matter how small, also means that the NCC is constantly reviewing and improving the response process for the many different scenarios which may occur.

I would also like to particularly thank the officers within the NCC for their work during the recent flood event. Over the weekend, when the floods first hit, roads were closing quickly and unexpectedly, and the NCC was at the centre of keeping our drivers and our many bus passengers safe out on the road. Widespread flooding and road closures, debris, and damage to the road surface forced the suspension of some bus services as the severe weather set in.

The heavy rain caused issues with the road network, as well as impacts to our bus depots and operator facilities, all of which affected our ability to deliver bus services for Brisbane residents. However, the connection to the NCC helped to ensure that drivers could report flooding or damage as and when it occurred, and also allowed the NCC to proactively report up-to-date information out to drivers as they were on their routes.

Mr Chair, in Brisbane, it is common to hear the words, ‘thank you, driver’, as passengers leave the bus, and we all know the wonderful work that our operators do in getting Brisbane commuters home sooner and safer, but this week’s Committee presentation gave us just a glimpse into the enormous effort that goes on behind the scenes to help keep our bus network running. I commend this report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers? No further speakers?

I now move 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), Councillor Angela Owen (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Jared Cassidy, David McLachlan and Jonathan Sri.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Steven Huang.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – NETWORK COORDINATION CENTRE OPERATIONS

**595/2021-22**

1. The Operational Performance Manager, Transport Operations, Transport for Brisbane, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Network Coordination Centre operations. He provided the information below.

2. The Network Coordination Centre (NCC) operates from Brisbane Square within the Brisbane Metropolitan Traffic Management Centre (BMTMC) in alliance with Queensland Government’s Department of Transport and Main Roads, TransLink’s Busway Operations Centre and Council’s Transport, Planning and Operations branch. The NCC has oversight of the daily operations of Transport for Brisbane’s transport network. Throughout 2021, 3,105,493 bus trips were undertaken, comprising 69,760,425 kilometres of travel. The NCC is responsible for ensuring that all incidents affecting Transport for Brisbane services are managed effectively and efficiently.

3. The NCC operates console duties from Monday to Thursday from first bus service at 4am to last bus service at 1.30am and 24-hour operation from Friday to last bus service at 1am Monday. Mobile Unit Response Operation support bus operators on the road, such as assisting with flat batteries. The Queen Street Bus Station (QSBS) operates from Monday to Friday and manages morning and afternoon peak periods.

4. Resourcing of the NCC includes:

- a Operational Performance Manager (contactable 24-hours per day)

- three Team Leaders (one on-call outside of shift hours)

- 21 full Network Coordination Officers (NCO) working across the three sections of the NCC

- a project officer to plan diversions for events which impact the bus network

- a systems officer

- three support staff members

- up to 26 software packages are used to maintain network performance.

5. There are seven consoles used by the NCC within the BMTMC, comprising a new radio system which is used to receive and make calls from bus operators. All buses are connected by radio to the NCC for bus operators to report any incidents which affect their service delivery. The NCO takes appropriate action to address service issues and minimise customer impact. All calls are recorded and logged in the Incident Management System.

6. Mobile response vehicles are operated by NCOs and attend on-road and critical incidents, manage fixed assets such as bus stops and provide network support such as route inspections or provision of customer notifications.

7. NCC Consoles utilise a new radio system to receive and make calls from bus operators and include call types which are categorised as follows:

- 1. Emergency

- 2. Stop bus

- 3. Stop service

- 4. Late – urgent

- 5. General enquiry

- 6. After hours sign-on

- 7. Event operations

- 8. Bus full

- 9. QSBS

- 0. Respond to open call.

8. During 2021, a total of 162,558 calls were made and received. The Committee was shown a table of the average weekly call quantities and the average response times to answer calls and a graph of the 2021 incoming and outgoing call quantities.

9. The Committee was shown a flow chart in relation to management of incidents on the network. The NCC have implemented procedures to assess and manage incidents, escalate issues, and conduct a debrief following an incident. The NCC communicates with TransLink as required and considers opportunities for continuous improvement.

10. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Operational Performance Manager for his informative presentation.

**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 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. I just wanted to make some comments about the report that was presented to and the presentation made to the Committee last week. It was on the topic of narrow street signage. The Council has been undertaking a trial. Many Councillors would have experienced or been aware of concerns around motor vehicles being parked legally, but in narrow streets, and sometimes that narrowness of the street limits motor vehicles being able to use those streets to travel through. This is a feature not only predictably of older suburbs or suburbs cut and populated before motor vehicles, but it’s also a feature of a whole range of suburbs of different eras in our city.

We did this trial and there were two options presented to the public of two types of signs. There was a consultation made with those residents who lived nearby. An opportunity was there to vote electronically and allow information to be passed through other means to determine which of the two they preferred. Now, one of the options was much preferred to the other. One made it clear that you couldn’t park on the other side, and the other one was probably closer to what it says in the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), but sometimes you need to be a little bit of an insider to understand what they’re getting at. The one that was more legible and clearer was preferred.

Now, from the response, the overall positive community feedback was received and there was a reduction in customer complaints for the trial, or in the trial area, 88% of feedback was positive, and Council has received requests for a further 48 locations, including locations requested at last week’s Committee meeting. Noting the success of the trial, we will continue with that and will look for new locations for these information signs, now they are information signs, but the trial has been determined to be a success and we are looking for further and future opportunities to be able to improve the local traffic network in these narrow streets with this new device.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you. Thank you, Chair. Is this microphone on? There we go. Listen, I wanted to—I was quite interested in the presentation last week in regard to the new temporary signage that had been erected in some wards. It would be remiss of me not to talk about this, because I probably—certainly, most of the new developments that actually happened around the city since Forest Lake was developed have had a number of very narrow streets, down to five metres in some instances.

I’m a bit lucky, I live in one that’s about seven metres wide, but we still have the same issue in regard to parking. When two cars park parallel to one another in the same street, in the same space or just across from one another, it’s virtually—it’s not impossible to get by them, but you’re really threading a needle for a lot of people, especially people driving big, four-wheel drives and things like that, even though they’re not supposed to be much wider, but they just seem to be.

I was interested in the signage, and I think they’ve picked the right sign of the two that were designed, but I think, for me, they shouldn’t really be temporary. They really should be permanent, which would then probably eliminate having to paint yellow lines everywhere. It certainly—I would say half of the streets just in the Forest Lake suburb alone would probably—you could put up one of these signs. A lot of them are cul-de-sacs and things like that, so you may not have too much of that.

Anyways, I’d say probably half the streets would benefit from a permanent sign, so my recommendation is that we go beyond the three-to-six month temporary ones to try to educate people and just make it permanent, which would, I think, give a better long-term outcome for something that has really become part of the development right across Brisbane. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor MATIC.

Councillor MATIC: Yes, thank you, Mr Chairman. I just rise to speak in regard to this item. A number of these locations are in the ward, and I certainly welcomed the opportunity for this. A lot of these streets are pretty much glorified laneways, and so over time, obviously, with the number of homes, number of families, and number of vehicles, the challenge has always been around making sure that there is enough space for a car to pass by. For a lot of people, having this signage there is a really effective way of just reminding them not to park parallel to another vehicle that’s already parked, and you can see that the result has been really positive.

So, I greatly welcome this and the continued rollout of this program to further alleviate those challenges for residents in our local streets, and as Councillor STRUNK has rightly said, hopefully, this will also minimise the requests for the number of yellow lines that we constantly get, that ultimately, it is about driver behaviour, and if people are made aware of it through signage like this, then we can get better outcomes. Thank you.

Chair: Thanks, Councillor MATIC.

Any further speakers?

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. I just want to thank the contributions of my colleagues in this matter, and just point out that the points that I made earlier, that these narrow streets, while you might suspect they’re more likely to be found in Paddington, which you would expect, they can be found in all the generations of development across the city. Can I just thank the meaningful contributions of all Councillors? I look forward to this program continuing to be able to make our streets safer for motorists and pedestrians. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

We now move to the vote on this report, the Infrastructure Committee 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), and Councillors Steve Griffiths, Fiona Hammond, Sarah Hutton and Charles Strunk.

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Peter Matic (Deputy Chair)

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – NARROW STREET SIGNAGE

**596/2021-22**

1. The Manager, Transport Network Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on Council’s Narrow Street signage trial. She provided the information below.

2. It is a Queensland road rule that motorists must maintain a minimum three metre clearance from another vehicle parked on the opposite kerb. Some motorists are either unaware of this rule, or not following it. Parking on both sides of a narrow street can cause access issues for emergency vehicles and waste trucks. Streets that are narrower than seven metres are considered narrow streets.

3. Transport Network Operations have used three approaches to address this issue:

**-** typically, the first measure used to resolve an issue is to educate residents on road rules regarding parking. A parking factsheet is sent directly to local residents which provides guidance on where a vehicle can be legally parked. However, it does not have the reach to inform commuters or motorists residing in other suburbs who park on the street.

**-** parking enforcement is requested for the street to discourage illegal parking. It is noted that enforcement cannot be undertaken for two vehicles parking opposite on narrow streets, as attending officers from Compliance and Regulatory Services (CARS) are unable to determine which vehicle parked last (the offending vehicle).

**-** parking restrictions are only undertaken if education and enforcement prove ineffective. Formal parking restrictions (e.g. yellow lines) are implemented for the street to clearly define safe and legal parking. Implementation of restrictions is subject to resident support via community consultation. In some cases, the proposed restrictions are put on hold due to objections or lack of community support which results in access issues persisting without a resolution. These approaches were seen as not being effective.

4. To assist with the ongoing management of parking issues in narrow streets, Council is currently trialling new information signs to encourage drivers to leave space when parking on a narrow street. The Committee was shown a picture of two options for the new information signs.

5. The following eight sites were selected based on the number of complaints received:

- Cunningham Street, Taringa

- Adsett Street, Taringa

- Princess Street, Taringa

- Queens Road, Taringa

- Federal Street, Red Hill

- Rusden Street, Kelvin Grove

- Little Street, Kelvin Grove

- Ranley Terrace, Paddington.

6. A trial period for these signs ran from July to October 2021. QR codes were embedded on signs for residents to provide feedback and a “Have your say” website was developed. The trial is considered successful if positive community feedback is received and there is a reduction in customer complaints. Findings from the evaluation are expected to provide an understanding of the benefits and limitations of this sign and allow for targeted placement in future.

7. The Committee was shown a graph of the feedback received on the sign design and effectiveness. It was noted that 69% preferred sign design option two and 88% of responses were of a positive nature for sign effectiveness, indicating the trial was successful.

8. Signs have now been requested for an additional 48 locations and Council officers will conduct assessments for each location to ensure that they meet the criteria.

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

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### CITY PLANNING AND SUBURBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Adam ALLAN, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. In the Committee last week, we received a presentation from our Development Services Manager on the new superyacht facility at the Rivergate Marina in Murarrie, which I believe is in Councillor ATWOOD’s ward. It’s a very impressive facility indeed. The $200 million expansion approved by Council over two development applications (DA) includes the construction of a $35 million state-of-the-art ship lift system with the capability of lifting vessels of up to 3,000 tonnes and 90 metres long, 10 times the current capacity; a new hardstand space for maintenance and repairs; and additional refit sheds and berthing facilities to service up to 12 superyachts at one time, with an estimated 60 additional superyachts each year.

This is really an excellent example of Brisbane being able to support sophisticated industry. In addition to these facilities, there is, I guess, a centre that’s called the Trade Centre, so we’ve got the servicing facilities and maintenance facilities as one DA, and then the second DA is a Trade Centre for Excellence. This includes training rooms aimed at the marine industry. It includes office facilities, and it also includes crew accommodation and supporting food and beverage offerings.

This project is unique in the fact that the accommodation for the crews and workers is provided onsite, with 14 units available to house crew members while their vessels are moored and undertaking repairs. The development was conditioned to limit the length of stays and is strictly only available for guests associated with the marine industry’s activities, and this is an appealing facility for a superyacht service and maintenance operation because often, when the service activities are taking place, they need to quickly refer to people who are familiar with the vessels. If they are onsite, it makes that process a lot easier.

I would also note that the facility has good access for the public. The waterfront area is open. The projects, once completed, will make Brisbane the largest superyacht hub in the Asia-Pacific region, creating more than 2,000 new jobs for construction, marine, and tourism industries, the majority of which will benefit local Brisbane businesses and close to $1 billion in wider economic benefits for Brisbane and Queensland. It’s a big win for Brisbane, especially in the lead-up to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games as we look to capitalise on growth and investment, and capture a larger share of the tourism market.

Both applications were approved in April, and the project is essentially shovel‑ready. I look forward to seeing the completion of this world-class facility and the many benefits it will bring to Brisbane and Queensland. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

|  |
| --- |
| **597/2021-22**  At that time, 2.57pm, 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 3pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Thank you, Councillors. We’re up to further speakers on City Planning and Suburban Renewal.

Any further speakers? No further speakers?

Thank you, we can now move to the vote on this report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Adam Allan (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Fiona Hammond (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Lisa Atwood, Kara Cook and Charles Strunk.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Peter Matic.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – SUPERYACHTS: 7 RIVERGATE PLACE, MURARRIE

**598/2021-22**

1. The Manager, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on the superyacht development at 7 Rivergate Place, Murarrie (the site). She provided the information below.
2. The Committee was shown an aerial view of the site and the surrounding area and a zoning map for the site. The site is zoned as General industry C (IN3) under *Brisbane City Plan 2014*.
3. The development application was approved as it:
   * capitalises on the area’s strategic location
   * is in close proximity to the Port of Brisbane and Brisbane International Airport
   * has access to deep waters of more than 11 metres at low tide
   * will benefit the 21 marine-based businesses located in the area
   * is below regular cyclone latitude.

Two project applications were submitted for development of the site, Application A and Application B.

1. The project overview of Application A includes a:
   * ship lift and vessel transfer system, increasing ship lifting capacity to 3,000 tonnes with an underwater conveyor belt and pulley system

* hardstand area for boat maintenance and repairs
* car parking area
* ‘superyacht refit centre’ consisting of 3 sheds totalling 4,100 square metres and a height of 35 metres.

The development can accommodate up to 12 superyachts at any one time and a maximum of 60 superyachts per year.

1. Application B relates to the development of a Trade Centre and includes:

* floor space for food and beverage services
* office floor space for marine industry workers
* 14 short-term on-site accommodation units for crew.

No submissions were received throughout the assessment for Application B.

1. The Committee was shown an aerial view of the current site and a perspective of the approved development.
2. The economic benefits of the development include:

* a total of $154.6 million for local businesses and 433 local jobs during construction
* 1,458 jobs post-construction
* $459.4 million to the local economy post-construction that includes $167.3 million in revenue from superyacht repairs, with 75% going toward small businesses
  + - an additional $525 million economic benefit to local tourism creating more than 500 jobs in the industry.

1. The community benefits of the development include:

* short-term accommodation for crew members attracting ship captains to Brisbane
* contributing to the development of Brisbane as a lifestyle and prosperous city
* Brisbane having the largest superyacht hub in the Asia Pacific region
* Preparing Brisbane with superyacht facilities for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games
* increased superyacht visitation to Australia by approximately 60 superyachts per year
* ensuring Brisbane benefits from a recent policy change that now allows superyachts to charter in Australia.

1. Key assessment matters for the development include:

* short-term accommodation is only provided to a maximum of 14 crew members for a period of no longer than three months while vessels are undergoing maintenance or repairs
* acoustic treatments are conditioned to ensure acceptable amenity is achieved, including the implementation of solid doors and walls
* altering building height of refit sheds to 35 metres to accommodate for the size and scale of superyachts
* the Trade Centre scaling up to 18.8 metres high, in relation to the sheds
* ensuring the car park (totalling 114 car parking spaces) is compliant with *Brisbane City Plan 2014*
* ensuring the development complies with the flood overlay code and achieves flood immunity.

1. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Manager, Development Services for her informative presentation.
2. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor DAVIS, the 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 Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week the Committee received a detailed and historical presentation on Newstead Park and Newstead House. The park was the original farm setting for Newstead House, which was established in 1846 and was the first heritage property in Queensland to be protected by an Act of Parliament. It’s also Brisbane’s oldest surviving residence, being the home to some of Brisbane’s most notable figures.

They include Patrick Leslie who built the house and named the original cottage Newstead, after Newstead Abbey in England. Captain John Clements Wickham who was the first police magistrate and government resident for the Moreton Bay district. The Honourable Ratcliffe Pring who was the first Attorney-General in Colonial Queensland. George Harris who was a member of the Queensland Legislative Council and lived in the house for almost 20 years with his wife. The Heaslop Family, Thomas Heaslop was a member of the South Brisbane Council from 1888 to 1896, including Mayor from 1901 to 1903.

Mr Chair, it was in 1918 that the City of Brisbane purchased Newstead House. Harry Moore, Brisbane Superintendent of Parks moved into the house and began redesigning the gardens. His efforts culminated in the opening of Newstead Park in 1921 and as we know today, Newstead Park is one of Brisbane’s key inner city park spaces.

From 1934, the house was leased to the Royal Historical Society of Queensland to be used as a museum and research library. But when the Second World War broke, the American Armed Forces took over the house and occupied it from 1942 until early 1946. During this time, the park contained a gun emplacement near the bandstand, raid slit trenches and a concrete air raid shelter.

In 1951 the Australian American Association erected the first American War Memorial in Australia at Newstead Park. I know you have a very strong interest in that, Mr Chair. It represented the military significance of both the house and park and the role that they played during the time that the Americans were stationed there. Further plaques were added to the memorial in 1988 and 1995.

Another feature of the park is the Newstead Tram Substation No. 5, which was designed by Council architect and construction engineer Roy Rusden Ogg and opened in 1928. It was one of 10 substations built to supply power from New Farm Powerhouse Station to Brisbane’s electric tram network. In 1969 it became redundant with the discontinuation of the Brisbane Tramway System. In 1977 was transferred to the Newstead House Board of Trustees and converted to a resource centre.

Mr Chair, it’s important to protect, conserve and invest in places that play an important role in creating community identity and contribute to our local, cultural heritage. There are four related projects in the park precinct and they include Newstead House Conservation project, which is a joint restoration and conservation project to protect and present Newstead House as it was in the late 1800s; the temporary works depot relocation; toilet block replacement and the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge, which will link the Lores Bonney Riverwalk along Kingsford Smith Drive to Newstead Park, it will maximise the accessibility, activation and connectivity to both the park and the house.

Item B is a petition, the Committee received a petition with eight signatures, requesting that Council name the Wynnum Manly District Meals on Wheels facility at 880 Manley Road Wakerley, as ‘The Ken Edwards Centre’. The Committee supported the recommendation that Council consider the naming in accordance with our Naming Parks, Facilities and Tracks procedure. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CUMMING.

Councillor CUMMING: Thank you, Mr Chair, I refer to item B, the petition requesting Council name the Meals on Wheels facility at 880 Manly Road, Wakerley, as ‘The Ken Edwards Centre’. I am very strongly supportive of this. Ken worked in the Post Office. He retired early and then he devoted himself to community life. He’s been Meals on Wheels President for several decades would be the closest I could come to it. He was State President of Meals on Wheels for a while. Only just recently—only in the last week or so—as I received information to indicate that Ken would be resigning as President of Meals on Wheels due to ill health.

He’s living now up in the Sunshine Coast hinterland with one of his daughters, but he’s done a tremendous amount of work. Of course, his greatest claim to fame is the efforts he put in to get the Meals on Wheels Centre built on Manly Road. He worked hard to get land donated to the Meals on Wheels from the Marching Girls’ Association. In fact the President of the Marching Girls’ Association who was part of that process, had the park in front of the Meals on Wheels named after him about a year ago, Bill McFarlane.

Then Ken who was a bit of a wheeler and dealer, he managed to get 100 grand donation out of the local developer BMD towards the project. He got several million dollars from the Brisbane City Council, Council provided services to the site. Then at the end when they actually—I think it might have been the—sorry the Meals on Wheels money had run out. The Council stumped up for a further substantial amount of money to finish off the freezer room. That was the final part of the project.

So it’s a state-of-the-art Meals on Wheels facility. I haven’t been round Queensland but I’d say it would be up there with anything in Queensland. The Meals on Wheels facility is going very well, delivering high-quality meals. I actually deliver them myself with the local Rotary team and they do a great job. It’s a very competitive environment these days. There’s competitors for Meals on Wheels who also can get the subsidy that is received from government, but they all say ‘oh, of course you can’. These days frozen meals are very commonly available from the supermarket. So it does make it tough, but there’s still plenty of demand for Meals on Wheels.

Ken would be a very worthy person to have the kitchen named after him for all his efforts over the years. I should mention in passing that Ken’s daughter Shirley is a very hard working, long-term BCC employee. Who is very proud of her dad and rightfully so, thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CUMMING.

Any further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair, and thank you Councillor CUMMING for speaking about Ken. Listening to you, I think I have actually had the great opportunity to meet Ken when I was serving in another role and I agree. I don’t know that he’s a wheeler and dealer, I didn’t see that side of him, but I certainly saw that this was a gentleman very passionate about Meals on Wheels and making sure that those more vulnerable people in our community were well served. So thank you very much, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you Councillor DAVIS.

We now move to the vote on this report. The Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee 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 – PARK ACTIVATION WITH A FOCUS ON NEWSTEAD PARK

**599/2021-22**

1. The Parks and Natural Resources Manager, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on projects and proposals conserving and enhancing Newstead Park. He provided the information below.

2. Newstead Park, House and Tram Substation No.5 (the Substation) are some of the oldest and most significant public assets in Brisbane and are State and local heritage listed. Council is committed to conserving and enhancing this iconic and significant park.

3. Newstead House was established in 1846 and is Brisbane’s oldest surviving residence. It was the first heritage property in Queensland to be protected by an Act of Parliament. Council purchased Newstead House in 1918 as the first public park and residence of the park’s superintendent, before leasing it to the Royal Historical Society of Queensland from 1934 to be used as a museum and research library. It has since served a variety of functions.

4. Newstead Park was the original farm setting for Newstead House and from 1878, the land surrounding the house was reduced through subdivision for smaller house lots until Council acquired the land and house in 1918. Since then, Council has slowly reclaimed and returned the lots to open space.

5. Harry Moore was the Superintendent of Parks from 1918 to 1939 and was the initial designer of the park and resident of the house. Henry Oakman, the next Superintendent, had the next largest influence over the park design. Newstead Park officially opened in 1921 and in 1957 the north‑west corner of the park was resumed for the Breakfast Creek bridge.

6. The Substation is situated within the parkland precinct of Newstead House. It was designed by Council architect and construction engineer Roy Rusden Ogg and opened in 1928 as one of ten substations built to supply power from New Farm Powerhouse Station to Brisbane’s electric tram network. It became redundant in 1969 with the discontinuation of the Brisbane tramway system and in 1977 was transferred to the Newstead House board of trustees and converted to a resource centre.

7. Newstead House and Park are both popular event spaces for weddings, picnics, cultural events and war related commemoration. Between 2015 and 2018 Newstead Park supported over 180 events and was the ninethmost popular park for proposed events in Brisbane.

8. Current and future projects at Newstead Park and House include the following:

- Newstead House Conservation Project – in progress

- temporary works depot relocation – completed

- Breakfast Creek Green Bridge – contract awarded

- toilet block replacement – in design.

9. The Newstead House Conservation Project is a Queensland Government funded and managed $5.8 million restoration and conservation project to protect and present Newstead House as it was in the late 1800s. It also involves the management of the Newstead House Collection, which is comprised of 6,000 historical items and the conservation of the Substation for its future use.

10. Contracts for the Newstead House Conservation Project have been awarded and detailed design is underway. The Newstead House Collection has been decanted and audited, and initial site preparations including fencing and test pits have been completed.

11. For many years, maintenance of Newstead Park and the surrounds have been conducted from an on-site depot located within the Substation footprint. In order to better utilise the area, the depot was relocated during the Newstead House Conservation Project and a temporary demountable structure fenced off and screened from the park has been installed. Once a permanent off-site solution has been completed, the temporary structure will be removed.

12. The existing toilet block facilities in Newstead Park are unsuitable due to its age, accessibility and safety requirements, capacity for events and visual amenity. A concept design for a replacement has been completed with construction proposed for next financial year.

13. The Breakfast Creek Green Bridge is expected to be completed by early 2024. Consultation and concept design has been completed and the construction contract has been awarded. Detailed design is currently in progress, with the project team working in collaboration with Council’s Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability branch to achieve:

- minimal disruption to Newstead Park users

- maximum accessibility, activation and connectivity between Newstead Park and the Lores Bonney Riverwalk

- value added to Newstead Park and the current active transport route.

14. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Parks and Natural Resources Manager for his informative presentation.

15. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL NAME THE MEALS ON WHEELS FACILITY AT 880 MANLY ROAD, WAKERLEY, AS ‘THE KEN EDWARDS CENTRE’

**137/220/594/29**

**600/2021-22**

16. A petition from residents, requesting Council name the Wynnum Manly District Meals on Wheels (WMDMOW) facility at 880 Manly Road, Wakerley, as ‘The Ken Edwards Centre’ was received during the Spring Recess 2021.

17. The petition contains eight signatures.

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

19. Council records show the WMDMOW moved into the new kitchen at 880 Manly Road, on 20 May 2020. WMDMOW has previously operated under a sub-user arrangement at Council’s Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre in Wynnum. WMDMOW offer hot, chilled, and frozen meals to its customers and services Wynnum, Manly, Lota, Wakerley, Gumdale, Tingalpa, Belmont, Cannon Hill, and parts of Hemmant.

20. Mr Ken Edwards received an Order of Australia Medal in 2016, due to his commitment to the Wynnum Manly community and his dedication to the establishment of the new facility for WMDMOW.

21. Council will consider the naming of the WMDMOW building ‘The Ken Edwards Centre’ in accordance with Council’s *OSO3 Naming Parks, Facilities or Tracks Procedure.*

Consultation

22. Councillor Ryan Murphy, Councillor for Chandler Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

25. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/29

Thank you for your petition requesting Council name the Meals on Wheels facility at 880 Manly Road, Wakerley, as ‘The Ken Edwards Centre’.

Council has completed an onsite investigation and considered your request.

Council will consider the naming of the Wynnum Manly District Meals on Wheels facility at 880 Manly Road, as ‘The Ken Edwards Centre’, 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 Tamarah Knox, Sports and Recreation Officer, Healthy and Vibrant Communities, Connected Communities, Lifestyle and Community Services, on (07) 3403 0873.

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 Steven TOOMEY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. We had a Committee presentation on the asphalt production, maintenance and innovation. It was quite an interesting presentation, because I had done a site visit out to Riverview to the asphalt plant there to have a look around and see what’s going on and what we do in that space. I noticed this really large, round drum-like thing on the ground. I asked about it and they said that was a new drum that was due to replace the old one in the Riverview plant. It was something that happens over a number of years.

So I said to them, well that would be a really cool Committee presentation. If they could take a time-lapse video of the replacement as well, that would be really good. So it was fortuitous to have a visit out there at that time and to be able to then bring that to the Committee as just one of the things that we do as far as Council goes.

There was two petitions requesting Council to deal with some maintenance on a median strip out at Alderley. This was another one where I had a site visit with a local Councillor. It’s one of those really difficult sites, what I call the high-low roads. A number of Councillors have them in their wards. I don’t have any but I know there’s quite a few people across the city do. They are particularly difficult to manage.

What we’ve asked officers to do, is to come back to us and see if they can come up with some sort of a good solution on how to deal with these high-low road maintenance things. That officers can manage to maintain at a reasonable level of safety and obviously cost-effective as well.

Then there was a petition about Council removing trees in Holland Park. Some of which were removed, the rest were maintained and pruned. I’m happy to leave the debate to the Chamber, thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers? Any further speakers on the City Standards report? No.

I now move 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 Steve Toomey (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Peter Cumming, Sarah Hutton and Nicole Johnston.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – ASPHALT PRODUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND INNOVATION

**601/2021-22**

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

2. Council currently operates two asphalt plants located at Riverview (batch plant), which can produce material at approximately 160 tonnes per hour (tph) (100 kilotonnes (kt) per year), and Eagle Farm (continuous drum plant), which can produce material at approximately 260 tph (300 kt per year). The Committee was shown images of vertical integration equipment and the asphalt plants.

3. Council’s asphalt production involves:

- an asphalt mix that:

- consists of 70% aggregates, 20% recycled asphalt, 5% sand and 5% bitumen

- has 109 different asphalt mix designs

- is produced at 165 degrees Celsius

- can be transported to a site for paving

- asphalt mixing plants that:

* are highly automated
* have high efficiency industrial burners (using natural gas)
* can heat asphalt up to 1,200 degrees Celsius (indirect heat)
* contain batch plant and continuous drum plants.

4. The asphalt plant maintenance team comprises of four fitters and two boiler makers or metal fabricators. Maintenance is conducted to a variety of equipment, such as weigh systems, pumps, screens, pneumatics, burners, exhaust fans, cable skips, dryer drums, filter systems and control systems. The team is also involved in high-risk works (elevated work platform, working at heights, confined spaces and crane lifts). They also produce safety management plans, permits to work, rescue plans, safe work method statements, induction and contractor management.

5. Planned maintenance is identified through:

- routine plant inspections

- Council’s SAP maintenance records

- known wear rates

- third party inspections

- condition assessments.

The Committee was shown images of plant equipment requiring unplanned maintenance.

6. The previous drum at the Riverview asphalt plant:

- was at the end of its serviceable life and needed replacement

- had an outer shell that was beyond repair

- involved a tender process to be undertaken for replacement.

The Committee was shown images and a video of the drum replacement process at the Riverview asphalt plant.

7. The purpose of the Asphalt Innovations Committee (AIC) is to advance the investigation and implementation of asphalt surfacing technologies, networking with numerous external stakeholders with an objective to find new cost-effective pavement solutions. Some of the topics that the AIC have investigated include sustainability, pavement design, new products, recycled content, construction compliance, testing, trials and feedback from technical presentations/conferences. Currently, membership of the AIC involves Council officers from Asset Management (convenor/secretariat), Asphalt and Aggregates (quarries and recycling, asphalt plants and laboratories and road surfacing), City Projects Office (pavement designers and pavement testing laboratories), and Program Planning and Integration (customer interface) teams.

8. Innovations in asphalt production include:

- warm mix asphalt

- asphalt recycling

- crushed recycled glass

- recycled tyres (crumb rubber)

- EME (Enrobés à Module Elevé) asphalt

- advanced laboratory testing

- new Council Type-3 design

- trackless tack coat

- recycled plastic waste.

9. Council has two NATA (National Association of Testing Authorities) accredited technical asphalt laboratories which:

- comprise of nine staff, three nuclear-density gauges and two core drill rigs

- issue 3,000 test reports per year on average

- issued 9,086 in-situ voids tests in 2021

- conducts:

- substantial engagement with local universities to foster innovation and asphalt performance knowledge

- four-point beam fatigue testing for developing an asphalt ‘strength versus fatigue’ relationship

- asphalt performance testing, providing rich input data for future asphalt pavement designs.

10. Council is a leading asphalt producer of 100% recyclable material, which allows for many complimentary recycling activities. Council routinely collaborates with universities, industry associations and other roading authorities to advance the asphalt industry.

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

12. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL INCREASE MAINTENANCE OF THE MEDIAN STRIP AT WELBECK STREET, ALDERLEY

**137/220/594/61**

**602/2021-22**

13. A petition requesting Council increase maintenance of the median strip at Welbeck Street, Alderley, was received during the Summer Recess 2021-22.

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

15. The petition contains 47 signatures.

16. An inspection on 20 December 2021, found the vegetation on the median strip at Welbeck Street, was clear of pedestrians and vehicles, provided protection against rain drop impact erosion and comprises primarily of long grass. The embankment is on Council’s regular grass cutting schedule and due to the steep embankment and safety reasons, Council crews can only cut the vegetation from the top and bottom. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows a picture of the median strip at Welbeck Street.

17. The embankment was found to be stable and there is no evidence of unstable rocks which would be considered a hazard to the public. No further clearing of the embankment is deemed warranted and therefore, Council does not support the request to increase maintenance of the median strip at Welbeck Street.

18. Due to the difficulty in maintaining this site and the extreme embankment, options are being considered to modify the landscape in this space.

Consultation

19. Councillor Andrew Wines, Councillor for Enoggera Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

22. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/61

Thank you for your petition requesting Council increase maintenance of the median strip at Welbeck Street, Alderley.

Council has completed an onsite investigation and considered your request.

An inspection on 20 December 2021, found the vegetation on the median strip at Welbeck Street was clear of pedestrians and vehicles, provided protection against rain drop impact erosion and comprises primarily of long grass. The embankment is on Council’s regular grass cutting schedule and due to the steep embankment and safety reasons, Council crews can only cut the vegetation from the top and bottom.

Due to the difficulty in maintaining this site and the extreme embankment, options are being considered to modify the landscape in this space.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Petar Lazarevic, Regional Coordinator Civil Engineering, West Region, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3407 0013.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### C PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL REMOVE TUCKEROO TREES LOCATED AT 64 MAR STREET, HOLLAND PARK, AND REPLACE WITH SUITABLE TREES

**137/220/594/44**

**603/2021-22**

23. A petition requesting Council remove tuckeroo trees located at 64 Mar Street, Holland Park, and replaced with suitable trees, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 16 November 2021, by Councillor Krista Adams, and received.

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

25. The petition contains 16 signatures.

26. There are a total of 64 trees located within Mar Street with 31 of these being tuckeroo trees which is the dominant species. A recent inspection of the trees in Mar Street found them to be in good health and structure.

27. Council records indicate that since September 2014, a total of 17 tree trimming and five tree removal requests have been received from residents in Mar Street. Of these, two tree removal requests and one tree trimming request were received for trees located at 64 Mar Street due to concerns about leaf and seed litter.

28. A Council arborist assessed and approved the removal of two tuckeroo trees at 32 and 33 Mar Street on 2 December 2021 due to poor health and structure as the trees were found to be in significant decline and were unable to be saved.

29. Council’s Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, inspected the tuckeroo trees located at 64 Mar Street on 2 December 2021, and they were found to be in good health and structure, therefore, not meeting Council’s tree removal criteria and for that reason, the trees be retained. (Attachment B (submitted on file) shows the location of tuckeroo trees at 64 Mar Street as well as tuckeroo trees at 32 and 33 Mar Street which are scheduled for removal).

30. Tree trimming works have been programmed for 39 various trees located within Mar Street which will be completed by the end of April 2022.

Consultation

31. Councillor Krista Adams, Councillor for Holland Park Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

34. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/44

Thank you for your petition requesting Council remove tuckeroo trees located at 64 Mar Street, Holland Park, and replace them with suitable trees.

Council has completed an investigation and considered your request.

Council values the trees in our city as they contribute significantly to the environment both ecologically and aesthetically. These values are supported by Council’s tree policy which ensures the preservation of Council trees.

A recent inspection of the trees located at 64 Mar Street by a Council arborist found them to be in good health and structure and not meeting Council’s tree removal criteria. Subsequently the trees will be retained.

Tree trimming works have been scheduled for 39 various trees located within Mar Street, which will be completed by the end of April 2022.

Leaf fall, seed pod production, flowering and fruiting are all natural processes of the growth cycle of a tree. Mature healthy trees are not removed indiscriminately, and it is Council policy to retain trees wherever possible. Generally, if a tree is found to be in good health and structure, if it complies with Australian Standards and there are no arboriculture or public safety concerns, the tree will be retained.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr David Ballesteros, A/Regional Coordinator Arboriculture, East Region, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3407 1477.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: I understand we have, joining us in the Public Gallery, Mayor Andy Ireland, Councillor Nigel Hutton and Councillor Glenda Mather from the Livingstone Shire Council, welcome. Thank you for joining us for this afternoon’s meeting here in Brisbane.

Now, Councillor HOWARD, the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee report please.

### COMMUNITY, ARTS AND NIGHTTIME ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Councillor Vicki HOWARD, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. Now I know it’s been a little while since I’ve updated the Chamber on all of the fantastic things that happen in and around Brisbane. On this occasion, not necessarily all at nighttime, but I think that it is worthy just to mention a few of the things that have started to happen in and around the city. Of course there’s more to see and do and it’s fantastic after not only COVID but the flood events also, to see that we are slowly coming back to life.

So this morning I had the pleasure of going along to Regional Flavours, our DEPUTY MAYOR has already talked about Regional Flavours. It was fantastic to see—I think that they’re called—people who help you get the word out about what’s happening, there were lots of them taking photos. We had a couple of chefs, we had a couple of TV cameras and it’s fantastic. So that’s happening this weekend from 13 to 15 May.

I really encourage—in the past we’ve had 40,000 people attend this event at South Bank and it really is something that I encourage all Councillors to encourage their residents to come along to. Because many of the events are free, there are some ticketed, but it would be a great opportunity to support, not only some of our local chefs but also the local producers in and around South East Queensland.

I also had the great pleasure of attending the Teneriffe Festival launch and that will be held this year on 28 May. Now many of you will be saying hang on, it doesn’t seem that long since we had the last one. It’s not, because what they’re trying to do is to have their annual Teneriffe Festival now on 28 May. So the last weekend in May, to allow more people to attend. So again that’s another great opportunity for people to get along and see a local festival that has really become iconic across Brisbane.

Speaking of iconic festivals—and the LORD MAYOR mentioned this one—the Anywhere Festival was also launched this week, which will go for most of this month. Again, anywhere, everywhere and so important to support our local artists, our local creatives. It was a great event, it certainly—we had a little bit of a taste of some of performances that would be happening. Again, that was a great opportunity for us to support local talent.

On Friday, we had the Croquet Association Queensland 100-year celebration civic reception. I know that there were a number of Councillors, I think Councillor LANDERS was there. I know that Councillor CUMMING, I think you were there, also the Councillor from Tennyson was there. So it was fantastic to see so many people there to support the Croquet Association celebrate their 100th year within croquet. So a great opportunity.

On Saturday night, I went along to the Women in Brass concert. You’ve got to say that very carefully, but the Women in Brass concert was run by Marissa Clarke and it was held at the Old Museum Concert Hall. Can I just say it was the most fantastic evening to see these women assembled from the different bands around Brisbane to entertain us. It was a fantastic evening of bringing that talent together.

Sunday, of course, was Mother’s Day. So I want to thank Councillor DAVIS for providing the Mother’s Day on the Green at Victoria Park, on my side of the Victoria Park. Thank you very much. It was a bit overcast, we weren’t sure that we were going to be able to have this, but it was fantastic. We had local families sitting out on picnic baskets and being entertained, again, by local artists. So another opportunity.

It was also the end of the Brisbane Writers Festival and I really want to give a big shout out to Sarah Runcie and her team for the fantastic effort that they’ve made this year for the Brisbane Writers Festival. The last event was held at Customs House and it was a high tea that was completely sold out. It was those two girls interviewing Sally Hepworth. So again, fantastic local—for the people—well Sally’s not local, she’s from Melbourne, but we brought her—she came up anyway. But can I just say that it was fantastic to see the Brisbane Writers Festival doing so well and really supporting, again, some of our local writers.

Then finally I went along to the Masonic Centre on Sunday evening for Four Seasons of Vivaldi. That we had the Sinfonia of St Andrew’s and a soloist who was quite amazing, Robert Smith. Again, this was an opportunity for the Masonic Hall to help with some fundraising for Headspace. As many of you might know, it’s a beautiful, beautiful building. It was a fantastic afternoon and all for a good cause.

So that’s some of the things that have been happening around Brisbane. I hazard a guess that there’s been a whole lot more than that but they’re the ones that I got along to.

So moving to the report, last week we had a Committee presentation on the Contact Centre, Beyond a Call. Of course we had the wonderful Manager of Customer Services who’s now taken himself off to Redlands, but it was a great way for Shane to say farewell to us. It was a great presentation and one of the things, of course that we always celebrate, is the fact that the Contact Centre has a 94% customer satisfaction score. That is really a great sort of compliment, not only to Shane but the entire team and all of the people who work in the Contact Centre.

I think I can speak on behalf of everyone in this Chamber, when I say that we are constantly having compliments provided to us about the Contact Centre and how it operates. So thank you to each and every one of you. One of the things that Shane mentioned, which I took on board, was he says that they strive for outstanding service. He says that outstanding means much better than usual. So I think that we can all say that each and every one of our officers within the Contact Centre is outstanding. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you Councillor HOWARD.

Any further speakers? No further speakers.

Now move to the report on this Committee report. Sorry, to the vote on this Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – CONTACT CENTRE – BEYOND A CALL

**604/2021-22**

1. The Manager, Customer Services, Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide an update on Council’s Contact Centre. He provided the information below.

2. The Committee was shown the customer call journey demonstrating how the initial call taken by the Contact Centre consultant is sent to the relevant work unit to action and provide a response to the customer.

3. The Contact Centre is supported by the Solutions team who provide scripting and technology updates, improvement projects and event responses.

4. In 2021 the Contact Centre achieved an average call handling time of five minutes and received:

- 783,329 calls

- more than 300,000 requests for information

- more than 500,000 requests requiring work unit involvement.

5. In addition to phone calls, customers also contacted Council via the following interactions:

- social media – 79,125

- face-to-face – 40,196

- online forms – 343,026

- SMS – 4,644

- searches and certificates – 53,155

- online apps – 13,149

- postal – 3,885

- email – 17,237

- Business Hotline – 52,454.

6. Social media and face-to-face interactions are both handled in an average of 6.3 minutes. Common enquiries on social media include e-scooters, parking and waste collection. Common enquiries received face-to-face are related to lost property, rates, residential parking permits and dog registrations.

7. Service requests and civic duty requests are often received via Council’s online forms and applications. Enquiries received through the online forms have an average handling time of 5.5 minutes, and those received through applications are handled within 5.5 minutes. Property settlement enquiries are commonly received through email or post and have an average handling time of six minutes.

8. Council’s Business Hotline (133 BNE) is a specialised liaison point for the following:

- Festival and Events Liaison Office

- Filming Approvals Liaison Office

- city activations

- commercial activities on Council land.

9. The Contact Centre takes after hours calls for other service providers such as the State Emergency Service (SES), Moreton Bay Regional Council and Logan City Council. After hours consultants refer to content on OPTIMISE, a customer relationship management program, to accurately send requests and reports to external duty officers and service providers for SES requests and other Council enquiries. The Contact Centre also proactively contacts residents for outbound campaigns such as reporting barking dogs and the Good Neighbour Clean Up campaign.

10. The Contact Centre has a 94% customer satisfaction score. The Committee was shown examples of positive customer feedback

11. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Manager, Customer Services, Lifestyle and Community Services for his informative presentation.

12. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 3 May 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. Just before I get to the report, I wanted to update the Chamber on the latest information from our City Resilience branch on the current weather. Council has been in regular contact with the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), most recently this afternoon. The latest advice from BoM for the Brisbane Local Government Area, is that Brisbane will experience persistent showers from today through to Friday, with peak days being tomorrow, Wednesday and Friday.

Rain is expected to come in from the north-west from tomorrow. Rainfall should start to increase tomorrow morning and is expected to be slow and steady over the next three days. However, BoM had advised it’s unlikely the Brisbane Local Government Area will see gusty or damaging winds. Also importantly they’ve advised this afternoon that they will not be issuing a flood watch for the Brisbane River.

To the report now, Mr Chair. Our presentation and first Committee report was the Net Borrowings report, which included an economic update from the Corporate Treasurer. At the Corporate Treasurer’s last presentation in February, things were looking more positive for the global economy and moving back towards pre‑pandemic GDP (gross domestic product) trajectory. Since then though, of course, the war in Ukraine has had a dramatic impact on the global economy.

Of course, inflation is still a major concern globally and here at home. We also had the Bank and Investment report for February, with the Chief Financial Officer on hand to answer any questions of the Committee. I’ll leave the rest to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I wasn’t going to speak on this item and I’ll just make a few minor points. Now this—I’ve been here 14 years, this comes through ever week, sorry every month with details of Council’s everyday expenditure. I know Councillor STRUNK follows this through. However, I think it’s drawing a very long bow to be talking about how the war in Ukraine is impacting on the City of Brisbane’s finances. If there was any really quantifiable measures in there along these lines, it would be very good to know because I think it’s a bit of a reach.

However, the one thing that isn’t coming from this Finance Chairperson, the person responsible for disaster management in this city, is anything to do with how disaster management is being handled. We know, for example, that there are major changes to the budget that are happening because the LORD MAYOR stuffed up his Olympics buy-back. He factored in $200 million to buy back a property in West End that he couldn’t do, then the State had to buy it back. So there’s $200 million sitting in the budget that we don’t know what they’re going to use it for. It will just disappear into the ether.

We know that flood recovery is costing this Council money but we don’t know where that money’s coming from. We don’t know how it’s being funded, we don’t know what, if any, projects are being cut. I know projects in my ward have been delayed, they’re just not happening. Are we seeing anything useful from the Finance Chairman about the state of the finances in Brisbane? No, we are not, but I’m so hopeful she could share with us how the war in Ukraine is impacting on Brisbane’s finances. Very insightful.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM?

Thank you, we now move to the vote on this report, the Finance and City Governance Committee report.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption 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, Angela Owen, Jonathan Sri and Charles Strunk.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Steven Huang (Deputy Chair)

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION AND REPORT – NET BORROWINGS – CASH INVESTMENTS AND FUNDING – MARCH 2022 QUARTER

**605/2021-22**

1. The Corporate Treasurer, Financial Analysis and Treasury Management, Corporate Finance, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to present a report to the Committee on Council’s net borrowings for the March 2022 quarter. The report details the corporate cash holdings invested and the status of Council’s funding activities.

2. The report provided a market and economic review, and a summary of the following issues in relation to Council’s investments, including:

- cash position

- review of cash activity

- earnings on investments

- funding capability

- borrowings

- facility performance

- leases.

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

4. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B COMMITTEE REPORT – BANK AND INVESTMENT REPORT – FEBRUARY 2022

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

**606/2021-22**

5. The Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Finance, Organisational Services, provided an overview of Council’s cash and cash investment positions as at 25 February 2022.

6. Page 1 of the report (submitted on file) outlines Council’s cash and investments with financial counter parties as recorded in Council’s financial systems.

7. The increase of cash and investments of $96.1 million in February was usual based on Council’s business activities during the period and largely due to:

- receipts:

- $100 million receipts of residential rates consistent with the usual quarterly rates billing cycle

- $31 million monthly receipts from TransLink

- $63.8 million receipt of Urban Utilities dividend

- partially offset by:

- decrease in Swiss Francs (CHF) bank account balance due to invoice payments during the period

- decrease in the Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) investment due to adverse markets movements in the value of the investment.

8. Explanation of the significant items include:

- Cash at Bank in Australian Dollars (AUD):

- transactional banking account with Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) – this is Council’s operational bank account for receipts and payments for day‑to-day transactions in Australian Dollars

- the variance between the balance as per the General Ledger and the balance as per bank statements relates to timing differences in recognition

- Swiss Francs Bank Account – AUD Equivalent:

- AUD equivalent of CHF held in a CBA account which is solely used for Brisbane Metro project hedge settlements and invoice payments in Swiss Francs

- Cash investments:

- surplus cash is invested with Queensland Treasury Corporation for higher rates of interest

- the variance between the balance as per the General Ledger and the balance as per the investment statements relates to the accrued interests and fees which have not yet been processed to the bank statement

- QIC Investment:

- the QIC investment account is set up to provide asset backing for Council’s self‑managed insurance Fund.

9. Page 2 of the report (submitted on file) outlines the cash investments as recorded in the financial counter parties’ statements and provides a high-level explanation of variance between Council financial systems records and the financial counter party statements.

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

11. Page 3 of the report (submitted on file) includes amounts held by Council in trust as well as petty cash balances. The trust amounts are largely associated with monies held for infrastructure development commitments.

12. Trust balances are substantially unchanged from the previous month.

13. Page 4 of the report (submitted on file) includes a reconciliation of the CBA bank account between Council’s financial records and the CBA statement. The majority of unreconciled bank transactions at the end of the period have since been reconciled.

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

15. Page 5 of the report (submitted on file) details the movement in trust balances and the reconciliation with trust ledger and statements.

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

17. Page 6 of the report (submitted on file) details the petty cash balances and movement during the month.

18. All relevant general ledger accounts were reconciled and analysed.

19. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTION:

*(Notified motions are printed as supplied and are not edited)*

**607/2021-22**

The Chair, Councillor David McLACHLAN, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed on the agenda, and called on Councillor Kara COOK to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Kara COOK moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY, that—

*Brisbane City Council creates a new Homelessness Strategy for the City of Brisbane.*

Chair: Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair. The housing crisis, homelessness and cost of living are some of the biggest challenges facing our city today. This motion is the opportunity for all Councillors in this place to publicly support the creation of a new homelessnessstrategy for the city. That will ensure that Brisbane City Council has a coordinated, targeted and measurable strategy to support some of the most vulnerable in our community.

I cannot think of a more pressing issue for this Council to address than homelessness. It’s a complex problem with complex causes. It reflects poverty, inequality and a growing housing affordability crisis in our city. Despite Australia’s prosperous economy, almost one million Australians are living in housing stress. Like other cities around the world, our local community faces a homelessness crisis.

Becoming homeless is a devastating experience that can happen to anyone. At its most acute, it means having to sleep rough on the streets or live in unsafe housing. Brisbane’s housing affordability crisis has been driven by high private rental prices, the lack of affordable housing, residential properties being left vacant and inadequate social housing.

The 2016 census reported over 116,000 people who were homeless in Australia, 5,813 of those were in the City of Brisbane. The census figures include people living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out, in supported accommodation for the homeless staying temporarily with other households, living in boarding houses or other temporary lodging or living in severely crowded dwellings.

Providing access to safe, affordable and secure housing and services for those who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, is critical to ensuring that Brisbane’s economic growth as a city is inclusive and delivers opportunities for all. It is time for Brisbane City Council to develop a new homelessnessstrategy that includes key actions to reduce homelessness and its impacts in Brisbane by closely working with community members, services and other agencies.

We are the largest council in Australia with a $3.6 billion budget and we should be leading the way when it comes to social issues like homelessness. It is critical to remember as part of this debate that we will have today that people do not choose to become homeless. Often homelessness is a culmination of a lack of housing and accumulated experiences of disadvantage. Its causes are complex and involve a number of interacting factors that play out in different ways from person to person.

Someone’s pathways into homelessness is impacted by a number of structural drivers, risk factors and protective factors. Structural drivers include housing affordability, labour market forces, reliance on income support and intergenerational poverty. Risk factors include unemployment, financial stress, family breakdown, domestic and family violence, trauma, mental health issues, drug or alcohol dependence and a history of contact with State services.

Some of the protective factors include employment, financial security, involvement in school or community, healthy family relationships and access to an integration of services. These factors can all affect a person’s risk of homelessness and their resilience if it occurs.

Homelessness can affect people of all ages, from any section of the community. While for some it may be a temporary situation, for others it can last many, many years or even a lifetime. When most people think of someone being homeless, they think of someone sleeping rough on the streets. I think we have all witnessed this, particularly in the inner city. Anecdotally there appears to be a large number of young people in the inner city who may not be captured by official data channels.

In Australia rough sleepers only represent actually about seven per cent of all people who are homeless. A person who is homeless may not necessarily be living on the streets. While not as visible, there are an increasing number of people who are experiencing secondary or tertiary homelessness. They may be living in temporary accommodation such a refuges, or staying in accommodation that falls below minimum community standards, such as some of our older boarding houses or overcrowded homes.

The common factor for people who may be homeless is their lack of access to stable, secure and affordable housing, leading to much poorer outcomes in life. Mr Chair, homelessness is a complex issue with no single set of causes and no single solution. However, homelessness and its impacts could be dramatically reduced in Brisbane with commitment and leadership from all levels of government. It is timely for Brisbane City Council to now formalise its commitment through a publicly available, comprehensive homelessnessstrategy.

We have already seen the benefits in our city of a domestic violencestrategy which was initiated by Labor three years ago and formally adopted by this Chamber two years ago. At the time, that strategy was considered by this Chamber, I discussed the benefits of a homelessnessstrategy to complement the existing domestic violence strategy.

This morning I asked the LORD MAYOR a question in Question Time about his intentions in terms of reviewing and progressing that strategy. This would also be a timely thing to do if there is a consideration today of a new homelessnessstrategy for the city.

I hope that a homelessnessstrategy for the City of Brisbane will receive bipartisan support from this Chamber this afternoon. It could also incorporate a commitment to working collaboratively with both the State and Federal Governments, non‑government services and the community. A new strategy for our city could see a continuing of investment in an advocacy for services and supports to reduce homelessness, like Homeless Connect.

A continuation and expansion of the Pathways out of Homelessness grants, which are due to come to an end this financial year, but which has seen 11 community organisations funded to provide new and innovative solutions to create collaborative and sustainable pathways out of homelessness. Those grants have had a particular focus on women and children escaping domestic and family violence, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, single men and women experiencing homelessness, women over 55, young people aged 12 to 25 years and families impacted by homelessness.

Also a priority could be service coordination at a street level, this could include greater support and funding for mobile voluntary services that operate in our city like Beddown, Orange Sky Laundry, Rosies and 4 Voices. At a strategic level, advocating for policy changes and contributing to funding to increase social and affordable housing in Brisbane, is another opportunity for a homelessnessstrategy.

It could also include Council piloting a Tiny Homes program like Noosa City Council achieved in 2021. Of course seeing a continuation and expansion of the Community Housing Partnership project and for the Brisbane Housing Company, which would be critical parts of any new strategy.

Nationally there are some excellent examples from the City of Sydney, City of Melbourne, as to the development and implementation of a homelessnessstrategy. Other cities like Adelaide are currently drafting a homelessnessand a housing affordabilitystrategy and the Gold Coast are developing a homelessness action plan. It is well and truly time for Brisbane City Council to develop a new homelessnessstrategy for our city.

We have an obligation to ensure that we do all we can to help those most in need in our city. We need to ensure our residents are safe and have secure housing. People are what makes a city, we must do all we can, as a city, to support them. A homelessnessstrategy is the first step in that process and I hope all Councillors in this place support the motion today.

Councillor SRI: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Will Councillor COOK take a quick question?

Councillor COOK: Can we wait until the end? Not right now.

Councillor SRI: Later, okay.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor LANDERS: Thank you, Chair, I rise to speak on this motion. Housing and homelessness is a very topical subject at the moment with the vacancy rate in Brisbane being just one per cent. Low interest rates, as well as the interstate migration our State has seen, has been a perfect storm to create this situation.

While there are signs of this cooling off, it doesn’t mean that it shouldn’t be addressed. That’s why it was so encouraging to recently see the Queensland Government release their Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025. Having read the document, it is a very comprehensive way of addressing, not only housing but homelessness in this State.

From the outset, the government is clear that they have established a coordinated housing and homelessness response across nine priority locations, which includes Brisbane. Additionally the strategy commits $12.5 million to fund 162 projects under the Dignity First Fund. This is to support new, innovative ideas that prevent and reduce homelessness and help people experiencing homelessness to live with dignity.

On top of this, the strategy talks about the recently commenced Build-to-Rent projects underway in both Newstead and the Valley. Brisbane City Council is very supportive of these projects and facilitated the development approval for the 750 apartments, of which up to 240 dwellings will be provided as affordable housing.

The State has a clear and strong responsibility for its capital city and we are happy to see five key action items under the heading Towards Ending Homelessness. The actions recognise that responding to housing needs and moving towards ending homelessness, means supporting each other to work together to improve outcomes of individuals and the community as a whole.

Mr Chair, the outcome of this motion was that the City of Brisbane have in place a strategy to deal with homelessness.

**MOTION FOR AMENDMENT TO NOTIFIED MOTION:**

|  |
| --- |
| It was moved by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), that the notified motion be amended as follows:  *Remove the words, ‘creates a new homelessness strategy for the City of Brisbane’. Add the words, ‘notes the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland, which includes the City of Brisbane’.*  *The motion would now read, that—*  *Brisbane City Council notes the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland, which includes the City of Brisbane.* |

Councillor JOHNSTON Point of order.

Chair: Point of order Councillor JOHNSTON.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Mr Chairman—well, I’m sorry, I’ve been given the call Councillor ADAMS.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes but I’ve been given the call, Councillor ADAMS but thank you so much.

The motion, or the amendment to the motion that’s being proposed is fundamentally and substantially, not even a minor—it’s saying—it’s getting rid of creating a homelessness strategy at Council and saying we should follow something by the State Government.

Chair: Councillor—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Now the amendment under the Meetings Local Law must be in line with the motion that’s moved. This clearly and fundamentally changes it to something completely different and should be ruled out of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you for your opinion Councillor JOHNSTON.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: I’ve just received a copy of the proposed amendment and it reads—or asks that in the motion, removal of the words, ‘creates a new homelessness strategy for the City of Brisbane.’ Add the words, ‘notes the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland, which includes the City of Brisbane.’

So the amended motion would read that Brisbane City Council notes the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland which includes the City of Brisbane.

In my view it is consistent with the original motion—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: —which is that there is a homelessness strategy for the City of Brisbane and this would be under the auspice of the State Government’s policy.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: The motion is actually very clear for the City of Brisbane. The City of Brisbane had a homelessness strategy—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —as Councillor COOK outlined. This motion is calling on Council to create a new—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —homelessness strategy for the City of Brisbane. So what Councillor LANDERS’ amendment here does is talk about a State Government policy, not a Brisbane City Council policy, which was the intent of this motion. So I’d ask you to seek a short adjournment—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —to get some advice from City Legal about this one, because this really fundamentally changes the intent of this motion. They could argue all they want, Chair, that side of the Chamber if they don’t like what we have put up here. They can make their arguments to vote against it if they don’t believe that the City of Brisbane should have a homelessness strategy, but you can’t just go and change the intent of this motion to note that the State Government has a separate policy to the City of Brisbane.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So I think you need to get some legal advice, Chair.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, the intent of the motion is for the City of Brisbane to have a homelessness action plan.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Sorry, I’m just dealing with the first point of order. Can you please sit while I’m talking?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Yes, it does, while I’m talking it does. Thank you.

In my opinion, this does not change the intent of the original motion.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Mr Chairman, I’ll just draw to your attention that you are required to abide by the Meetings Local Law. The Meetings Local Law require you to not allow amendments that do not substantially reflect the original motion. That you’re doing this without seeking any advice means very clearly, in this case, that you are making a personal decision to ignore the Meetings Local Law and to allow the LNP to move a motion that has zero to do with the original motion that was moved.

I urge you, Mr Chairman, to seek legal advice, because I can tell you now, I will not be letting this go if you refuse to even seek advice about this and continue as you are.

Chair: Thank you, Councillors. I will take an amendment, I will seek an amendment to take further advice on this matter.

DEPUTY MAYOR, will you move a motion for an amendment—for an adjournment, please?

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **608/2021-22**  At that time, 3.59pm, it was resolved on the motion of the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the meeting adjourn for the Chair to receive legal advice on the amendment that has been presented, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors had been locked.  Council stood adjourned at 4pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Okay, thank you, Councillors, I’ve taken advice and agree that the intent of the amendment is inconsistent with the intent of the original motion. We didn’t get to a vote on that amendment, so I’m ruling on the point of order that was moved in relation to the proposed amendment.

Therefore, Councillor LANDERS, you have the floor on debate on the original motion.

Councillor LANDERS: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to add to the debate by referring to the State’s plan on page 14, where it outlines some of the steps towards ending homelessness. If I can just read them out, the five points that I referred to earlier, 6.1 is co-design homelessness and housing service system and practice improvements with service users and sector experts. 6.2, better integrate service delivery across government and community services, including through joint assessment, pathway planning, referral protocols and information sharing.

6.3, house people who are in crisis and transition them to longer term housing with on-site or mobile support. 6.4, enhance the coordinated housing and homelessness response in priority locations across the State to identify people experiencing homelessness and coordinate services for people with complex housing and support needs. 6.5, equip the government and community sector workforce to develop the skills, practice and tools needed to deliver person-centred, coordinated, outcomes-focused housing with support services.

So therefore, we are all committed to preventing homelessness and supporting vulnerable people in our communities, but I do believe the way to tackle this is with a unified and focused approach, through the State and Housing Minister’s recently compiled Action Plan 2021-2025.

**MOTION FOR AMENDMENT TO NOTIFIED MOTION:**

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| **609/2021-22**  It was moved by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the notified motion be amended as follows:  *Add the words ‘that is consistent with the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness action Plan for Queensland, as it relates to Councils’.*  *The motion would now read, that—*  *Brisbane City Council creates a new Homelessness Strategy for the City of Brisbane that is consistent with the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland, as it relates to Councils.* |

Chair: Councillor LANDERS, to the amendment?

Further debate on the amendment?

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’ll talk to it.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I think she just had the one speech. I would just like to double check, if it’s all right with you, Mr Chairman, that the amendment that we are voting on now, which will appear in the Council minutes, is the top portion of this piece of paper. That consistent with the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland as it relates to councils, that’s actually the amendment.

Chair: My understanding is that the amendment is the—as is the words below, the motion will now read—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, see that’s what happens if the amendment is accepted, but we’re asked at the moment to—because I’ve just noticed in the last couple of weeks in the minutes as well, that these amended motions are appearing where it says that there is an amendment. So the amended motion isn’t adopted until after we discuss and debate the amendment.

Chair: Fair enough.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So I’d just like to check as a matter of record that that is the amendment, because I will check the minutes again this week. I’ve noticed it the last couple of weeks, I queried it a couple of weeks ago as well. Thank you. So I’m speaking to the amendment, which is the top section. I just want to stand up—sorry, I’d just like to say that I commend Councillor COOK and the Labor Party for bringing through the motion before us today. It just says volumes, I think, that all the Liberal Party have to offer at this debate was to try and stop Council talking about developing a homelessness strategy.

Even now, when they know that they can’t do it, they’re still trying to amend the motion to imply that this is a State Government responsibility. I don’t know that Councillor LANDERS actually heard what she was saying, which is that all levels of government have a responsibility here, that we all have to contribute to homelessness strategies and solutions. It is fascinating to me that neither the Planning Chairperson nor the Communities and Lifestyle Chairperson nor the LORD MAYOR, they didn’t stand up to move amendments. It’s the Whip who’s standing up to move an amendment.

I find it staggering that when motions are brought up by others in the place, the LNP’s response to it is to send out a backbencher to try and stop it. Then when they can’t stop it, to try and change it so it fundamentally does not reflect the intent of the original motion. We’re not having a substantive debate about homelessness. Councillor LANDERS has just stood up and read out some sections of a State Government report.

Now I listened to what Councillor COOK said and there are a lot of issues within that that I strongly support. I think it’s a very good idea to be talking about homelessness, not just as a result of ongoing issues within Brisbane around cost of housing pressures, but also in the context of disaster recovery and the catastrophic impact that’s had on housing for people affected by the floods. But I want to put on the record a few things that I think would be worthwhile as part of this strategy. I think this is a very good motion and I certainly don’t see the need to add the amendment that’s been put forward here before us today, but I just want to put on the record a few things that I do support.

One, the Annerley Baptist Church has been the recipient of one of the grants that Councillor COOK referred to earlier and that funding finishes this year. Their homelessness and belonging project is going to be defunded if there is not more funding that comes forward from this government. They do provide tiny houses, Councillor COOK, you will be happy to know, in Annerley and it’s making a real difference on a temporary basis to people in extremely vulnerable circumstances. They’re provided with housing support, with food, with support to fill out paperwork that they need for employment and immigration and all those kinds of things.

It’s a brilliantly run project that’s being delivered with Community Plus, the Yeronga Community Centre and the Annerley Baptist Church. I was very pleased to launch it and Councillor GRIFFITHS was there with me when we launched it a couple of years ago. I certainly think the Administration needs to continue grant funding for projects like this that are innovative, that can deliver on providing relief for homelessness that government’s not good at doing, because the community sector has a very active role to play here.

Secondly, we should be working more with community housing providers. Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre provides emergency housing in my ward and they do a marvellous job. The only government support they get from Council is a little bit of rates rebate, that’s it. These people are providing emergency housing for people fleeing domestic violence, refugees, a whole range of people. It’s an extraordinary service they provide in my community and our Council basically does nothing to help them behind the scenes. So I definitely would like to see Council support the community sector in greater numbers.

I’d also like to see us having more of a discussion about the Brisbane Housing Corporation’s role in providing affordable and social housing. This is something I’ve mentioned several times in this place. I think that they are a vehicle that’s been set up by the State Government and Council and I don’t think we’re using them in the way that we could to deliver on greater housing outcomes in both the affordable and social housing spaces. Whether there are market mechanisms that we should be looking at as well, I think there should be.

I’m sure Councillor SRI will speak to some of this, I know he’s done so over many years in this place. But there are market mechanisms to ensure that the available accommodation that’s out there is actually being used. It might not be an issue at the moment but it has been in the past. So I guess for me, I don’t understand why the LNP feel like they’ve got to take something that’s a pretty straightforward motion, which is that we develop a homelessness housing strategy.

I don’t see why the Whip has got to stand up and try and say well, no, we shouldn’t be doing it. We can only do it if Big Brother, the State Government, says it’s okay. This Council stands up and criticises the State Government every second day of the week and I don’t understand why we can’t have a rational debate about our Council having a policy to talk about strategies that our city can do to help deal with homelessness.

It’s the LNP that cut the homelessness—the City Hall event. There used to be two a year, that’s back to one a year. It’s just there’s not a lot of focus on this. I appreciate Councillor SRI, it’s a major issue for him and I know that he’ll speak about this at some point as well. I appreciate that Labor are bringing forward a policy initiative and it’s just disappointing to see that the LNP’s response to a genuine initiative that is needed within the city is to try and stop it and then send the Whip out to spike it. I just don’t think that’s necessary. This is a big, mature Council and having a debate about having a homelessness policy, I think, is a good thing.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I just want to—

Chair: On the amendment, to the amendment.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, the amendment. I just want to get this straight. The LNP had 24 hours to think about this motion that Councillor COOK and I brought forward, to formulate a position on that and their position was to say no. The LNP’s position in this place is—their first and foremost position in Council is to have no homelessness strategy, that’s their first and foremost position. Then we have this adjournment to see whether that is in fact a competent amendment and it’s not.

So then they use that adjournment, that was supposed to be seeking legal advice, to come up with—using Council’s City Legal Officer to come up with an amendment that wouldn’t substantially change the original motion, which is really simple. It’s a really simple proposition about the values of this Council and about what kind of political party in Council do you want to be. Do you want to be an Administration that actually cares about addressing these fundamental issues of homelessness in this city? Or do you want to be a political party over there that quietly removes the original homelessness strategy from Council’s website and slowly winds back all of the support that Council used to have here in Brisbane for homelessness?

It was a Labor administration that worked with a Labor State Government to set up the Brisbane Housing Company. It was a Labor administration that brought in the homelessness strategy that we did have and built around that strategy a whole lot of resources and practical things that Council could do as a council to support the work of other levels of government. Because we’re the level of government, of course, that is most in touch with the community.

But what we see here today, in the original amendment and now this amendment is here that the LNP have had to back down on, is a real true statement of values. It’s Labor that has brought this policy to the Council and it’s the LNP that is trying to use mechanisms and rules of Council to shut down debate and to essentially say they don’t want to have a homelessness strategy in Brisbane, without being upfront about it, that’s right. So this approach is really disappointing from the LNP. We know this is what they’re all about at the moment because the LORD MAYOR, who’s not here, who won’t contribute to this debate about this fundamental issue.

If it’s not about the Olympics and it’s not about the Metro bendy-bus project, he won’t talk about it. It’s not important to him, it’s not flashy, it’s not newsy, he can’t put it on a brochure, so he doesn’t really care about it, but newsflash to the LNP, this will be an Olympic issue. In 10 years’ time what kind of city do we want to have? Do we want to have a city that people can find a home in? Or do we want to have a city that is unattainable for ordinary working people to be able to live here? What kind of Olympic legacy will we have as a city, as Australia’s largest city, if we don’t a homelessness strategy?

That’s a question this LORD MAYOR should be in here answering, but instead, as Councillor JOHNSTON has said, he’s rolled out his party whip to say no—to say no, the Brisbane City Council shouldn’t have a homelessness strategy. Well that’s not good enough and on this side of the Chamber Labor will continue to bring these ideas and these important policy initiatives to this Council. For Councillor LANDERS to come in here and originally say no and the amendment is that we don’t need one, the State Government’s doing something and now to sort of introduce this notion that what we were suggesting would be inconsistent with the State Government is disingenuous at best.

What our motion was all about was that Brisbane City Council develops a new homelessness strategy, given the LNP have deleted the old one and not replaced it with anything. We never said that it would be inconsistent with anything the State or Federal Government for that matter—quite the opposite, to actually work in concert with it, but just seeing how the LNP operate in here will, for people out in the community, confirm those worst held suspicions about this Administration.

They’re not your friendly local Councillors that are just these quasi-independent people that go around the community and go to community festivals and go to local schools, they are, at their heart, all LNP politicians and we’ve seen on display today a statement of very conservative LNP politicians. We’ve seen a statement of values today. Labor values a Council that wants to do something about homelessness in our city and the LNP don’t and that’s what we’ve seen on display today.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Thanks, Chair. I’ll just speak to the amendment, I look forward to making some more substantive comments on the motion as a whole. I did also want to thank Councillor COOK and the Labor Councillors for bringing this motion to the Chamber, I think it’s quite timely. I’ve certainly felt for a long time like this Council wasn’t doing enough to address the issue of homelessness. I think the subtext of this amendment and the initial response from the LNP speaks to an issue that I’m very concerned about, which is the Council Administration continues to try to position homelessness and housing as being primarily a State or Federal responsibility.

That’s the dominant narrative we hear again and again, this is a State issue, it’s a State issue. It’s not a State issue, it’s everyone’s responsibility. It’s fundamental to the work of local government, is to ensure that people have a roof over their heads. Now Council already does a lot in this space without even realising it and I’m not just talking about the Community Housing Partnership program and the somewhat tokenistic support for the Homeless Connect events, but Council controls zoning policy, Council is making all these decisions about where new development will be concentrated, about how land is used, *et cetera*.

So Council is a very active player in housing policy. In fact you could argue that Council probably has more direct levers over the supply of housing, over when new housing is delivered*, et cetera*, than the State or Federal Governments do. So it is extremely misleading and disingenuous for the LNP to say look, we’re just falling into line behind the State Government strategy, it’s a State issue. It’s not a State issue; it is a Council issue.

Above and beyond that though, this Council also plays an active role in persecuting the homeless very directly. I’ve seen this on numerous occasions, I’ve had numerous conversations with rough sleepers who tell me that they are hassled and moved on by Council employees. I’ve heard from rough sleepers who’ve been hassled and discouraged from sleeping in public spaces by Council cleaners. I’ve heard from rough sleepers who’ve been hassled and discouraged from using public spaces by the Council maintenance workers who are Council employees, not subcontractors, who are mowing lawns in parks, or who are brush cutting around the edges of parks.

I’ve heard from rough sleepers that they also get hassled by subcontractors of Council who are engaging in that kind of work. In particular, it sounds like CARS (Compliance and Regulatory Services) are pretty aggressive sometimes with some of these rough sleepers. Often it’s not a case of saying directly you’re not allowed here, you have to go straightaway. It’s hey, we’re here again, every week again, coming back to tell you that it would be nice if you could move soon. So that way the Council officers have a level of plausible deniability where they can say we’re not moving anyone. But you kind of are, because you’re going up to these rough sleepers on a regular basis and telling them that it would be better if they were somewhere else.

We did have one example, just after Christmas I think it was, when someone who was sleeping in their car in a park in Toowong was actually fined for the offence of camping, even though they’re homeless, they have nowhere else to go. I made some commentary about this at the time, so I won’t reiterate it, but it was really good that I think it was the Disputes Commissioner overturned the fine. But the fact that Council officers are fining people who are homeless for the apparent offence of camping in a public park, or for the offence of sleeping in their car, is pretty disgusting.

When the Council says homelessness is a State issue, it rings a little hollow if the Council is also fining people for being homeless. Not to mention the previous commentary we’ve had in this Chamber about the fact that it’s an offence to apparently sleep in the mall, it’s an offence to sleep in King George Square. The DEPUTY MAYOR has been very unapologetic about the fact that Council plays loud music from midnight onwards in Queen Street Mall and King George Square to discourage homeless people from sleeping in those spaces.

There’s a covered area, the covered platform at the back of King George Square. It’s one of the few covered public spaces in the city where it’s reasonably safe for someone to sleep, because they’re out of the weather but they’re also in a fairly central area where there’s maybe a few more people around late at night. Of all the places that rough sleepers could be sleeping, that’s probably one of the least bad. It’s never safe to be a rough sleeper, you’re always vulnerable, but at least there they’re in a central location where it’s easier for support staff to find them.

But Council makes it an offence to sleep there and plays loud music to discourage people from sleeping there and frequently sends in compliance officers or other Council workers to discourage people from sleeping in those spaces. So it’s not even a situation where Council is neutral in this space, or saying it’s none of our business. Council is making it its business to make life more difficult for people who are homeless. So I’m not even annoyed that you’re not being part of the solution; I’m annoyed that you’re actively exacerbating the problem.

When I heard from that guy who’d been fined for sleeping in his car, I called up the Council officers involved. We had a reasonable discussion about it and they explained to me that they don’t have many other tools to deal with this. Their only option is to issue a fine and we talked about how does issuing someone who’s homeless and struggling to afford rent somewhere, how does issuing them a fine make it easier for them to stop being homeless. They didn’t have a particularly good answer for that. But there are plenty of solutions out there and I look forward to speaking on that in a bit more detail when we get to the substantive motion.

But I do just think this amendment from the LNP is kind of pointless, but if it achieves anything it is a bad outcome, which is to signal that this is not a primary responsibility of Brisbane City Council, when it very much is. I know there are a few Councillors in the LNP who do personally care about this issue, on some level deep down they do feel bad about homelessness as a growing issue in this city. But unless you speak out, unless you’re putting pressure on the Administration to do something differently, you’re not actually helping anyone. You might be like I donate to charity occasionally, it’s really bad that people are homeless, but you’re not actually helping the situation.

So maybe now it’s time to step up when you’ve got that much power and influence. I’ve said this before, the Councillors in this Chamber are among the most powerful people in the entire city, arguably in the entire State of Queensland. You have a great deal of power and influence, perhaps more than you sometimes realise or care to use. But the city Councillors in this Chamber can and are and should be key players in terms of addressing the housing affordability crisis, in terms of addressing homelessness.

We know that for a long time the LNP’s dominant strategy has simply been to say we’ll just approve more private developments, we’ll just let developers do whatever they want, that’ll fix the problem. It hasn’t worked, has it? You’ve just approved hundreds and hundreds of new dwellings a year, it hasn’t made a dent in the housing affordability crisis, because housing is treated as a commodity. I’ll come to that in more detail later, but the fundamental principle here is that this Council Administration needs to do a lot more to address this problem, rather than passing the buck to other levels of government. So no, I won’t be supporting the amendment as it stands, I’d prefer that we debate the original motion.

Chair: Further speakers to the amendment? Any further speakers to the amendment?

We’ll now put the amendment.

**Amendment put:**

The Chair put the amendment motion to the Chamber resulting in it being declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Kara COOK and Peter CUMMING immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

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

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRI and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor SRI: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on the motion. Again I think it’s really nice that we’re having this debate today. I’ve for many years felt a bit frustrated that the Council wasn’t doing more to at least talk about this issue, let alone do something about it. I was also a little bit disappointed in the lead up to the 2020 Council election because I’d kind of hoped that at least the Labor Party would make addressing homelessness a stronger part of the policy platform. Maybe it would have been better if there was a bit more discussion and debate around this issue in the lead up to the last election, because we might have extracted some tangible policy commitments.

But as it is, I think we can all see that the homelessness crisis is getting a lot worse in this city. It’s been bad and getting worse for a while now and I feel like I’ve been saying this for a long time and initially were like it’s not that bad, now they’re like actually it is pretty bad, but there’s a lot that Council itself can do in this space. The first and most obvious change that strikes me is simply ensuring that homes which are currently sitting empty are not left empty long term. There’s precedence from councils around the world who’ve introduced vacancy levies or vacancy taxes of one kind or another.

The most effective mechanism, I think, within Brisbane City Council is that we already have a rebate for owner-occupier homes. So you get an owner-occupier’s discount on your rates. You could have a similar rates discount for tenanted homes. You could even build in a discount where you only get the discount if you’re renting your home out for less than market rent. But the point there is that a lot of homes would be getting the owner-occupier discount, some homes would be getting the rates discount for tenanted homes where the landlord can prove that they have a tenant. Anyone who’s not getting the owner-occupier discount or the landlord discount is charged through the nose and has a higher base rate.

That simple change would mean that there’s a lot more financial incentive for investors to actually get tenants into their properties. Councillor LANDERS earlier referred to the vacancy rate and the problem with that rate is that it only captures the properties that are actively being advertised. It doesn’t capture the number of properties that are sitting empty long term. We know that there are thousands of those in the city, we don’t know the exact number and I think this Council could perhaps do a better job of trying to count that.

But the best available estimates, based on census data, building completion rates, *et cetera*, suggest that there could be as many as 20,000 homes across Brisbane which are sitting empty long term. A lot of those are apartments in the inner city and then there are quite a few older residential properties out in the burbs. In some cases, investors are simply saying it’s not worth the cost of me doing it up to get in tenants, I’ll just leave it empty and wait for the values to rise.

In other cases, they’re developers who are waiting for a development application and are planning to demolish the home, but in the meantime it’s sitting empty for two or three years. There’s a range of reasons that homes sit empty, but they don’t need to be empty. Certainly when thousands of people are at risk of severe homelessness, I think it’s completely unacceptable that that’s the case in this city.

Above and beyond that, there are lots of other empty commercial properties and industrial properties. I think this is something that Councillor ALLAN and the City Planning team should be looking at more closely, because right now there seems to be a bit of an oversupply of commercial spaces, of certain kinds of office buildings and shopfronts, *et cetera*. Now some of those buildings, not all of them and perhaps not even most of them, but certainly quite a few of them could easily be converted to residential accommodation. Here’s a private sector solution, so the LNP should be getting all excited about this.

If you adjust your regulatory levers a little bit and make a few tweaks to the City Plan, you could make it a lot easier to convert old offices and older commercial buildings into residential housing. There are a few examples of this around the city, but they tend to be larger major development projects. We’ve seen a few of those over at Teneriffe, where a big old warehouse is converted into apartments. But it can be done on a smaller scale and it can be done relatively cheaply, if some of those regs are tweaked a little bit in terms of what counts as assessable development and what counts as acceptable development.

Often the safety standards in terms of fire escapes and exits and all that sort of stuff are higher for commercial buildings. So adapting those buildings to be safe and appropriate for residential housing is not very expensive or difficult. It does depend a lot on the buildings themselves, but other cities have already made this shift, where they’re recognising post-COVID that there’s a lot of vacant office space, particularly in inner city areas that’s not going to be needed in the near future, let’s make it easier for those owners to adapt those buildings into homes. So that’s another thing that this Council can do without any involvement or any real cost, without any involvement from the State Government or any real cost to Council. Simply tweak your City Plan rules and codes so that it’s easier to convert other classes of building into residential accommodation.

The other issue we’ve touched on repeatedly in this place is the conversion of residential accommodation into short-term accommodation. I’ve been very critical of the LNP for failing to do anything about this. We heard last week from the Mayor some vague statements about doing something about Airbnb registrations, but this is a really big issue in our city. We scraped the data off the Airbnb website and found there are about 4,000 properties across Brisbane, there’s hundreds more on Booking.com and Stayz and the various other booking websites.

So we’re potentially talking 5,000, 6,000, 7,000 properties across the Brisbane Local Government Area that should be rented out as long-term rental accommodation, but are instead being used as short-term accommodation for tourists. This is at a time when motel owners are complaining to me that they’re having trouble filling some of their rooms. So you’ve got this conversion of residential homes into short-term accommodation when they’re not really designed for tourists and visitors, then you’ve got motel owners who are saying we’re actually seeing a bit of variability in demand. There’s a solution there, which is that the motel should be for the visitors and the residential houses and apartments should be for the long-term residents. That again is something that Council should be looking at more closely and regulating.

The bigger piece of the puzzle is, of course, public housing. We know that in the past Brisbane City Council put land and money towards supporting Brisbane Housing Company to get established and to deliver different forms of housing stock and different models, but some of which could basically be described as public housing. It’s important though to highlight that there’s a big difference between public housing which is rented out at 25% of a person’s income, as distinct from schemes like the NRAS (National Rental Affordability Scheme) schemes and some of the other affordable housing models where rent is 75% of market rent.

Many Councillors would be aware that some NRAS properties are being phased out at the moment and that’s causing big stresses for residents in certain areas. But even if you do have an NRAS property, 75% of market rent is still pretty damned expensive in some areas. So what we really need to see is for Brisbane City Council to actually support the creation of new public housing. That is definitely not something that should be left to the State Government.

The easiest way for the BCC to do this is to simply acquire more properties and bring them into the Community Housing Partnership program. There’s already an existing model there. It’s not like you’d have to set up a whole new structure or a whole new team, just buy more dwellings and bring them into that existing stock for the CHPP (Community Housing Partnership Project). The number of dwellings there is pretty low for a city of our size and there’s no obvious explanation to me why BCC can’t add a lot more dwellings to that program.

It can in fact be a source of revenue for the community orgs that we invite to manage those properties. It can potentially also be a source of revenue for Council, or at least an asset to invest in. But fundamentally, the problem we have in this city is that housing is still treated as a commodity and a way to make profit. I’d be interested in hearing from the Labor Councillors, firstly, do you support the idea that things like vacancy levies could be introduced at the Council level. I think there’s an interesting question about whether it’s legally possible, I think it is, but then there’s the question of should we and I think we should.

I’d also be interested in hearing from the Labor Councillors though as to whether you want property prices to fall. Because the LNP have said repeatedly in place that they want property values to keep rising and shame on them for that. That’s really, really bad, it’s messed up that you want property values to continue rising. You should be embarrassed about that, you are actively contributing to the homelessness situation by encouraging that state of affairs. If that’s changed and you actually want house prices to fall now, then great, let’s hear about it.

But unfortunately the only thing the LNP seems to be doing is to continually up‑zone areas for new development and that has the effect of increasing the land values, which in turn has the effect of increasing house prices, which in turns put upward pressure on the value of new apartments which are delivered. So rather than increasing the supply of new housing, rezoning land for high-density development simply puts upward pressure on property values and property prices in general. It’s not a solution. We need public housing and we need stronger action from this Council to reduce the number of properties that are being left vacant and being converted to short-term accommodation.

Chair: Thanks, Councillor SRI.

Further speakers?

Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair. I’ll just speak briefly about the new amended motion this evening. What I want to talk about is the process from here, what are the next steps. So obviously Labor is fully supportive of a homelessness strategy for the city. In preparing for today and for the original notice of motion, there are a number of documents that I looked at and reviewed and discussed with my caucus colleagues. One of those documents, of course, was the *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025*. Interesting document, doesn’t talk a lot about Council and that Council is on the frontline, but noted, of course, anything in the Brisbane City Council homelessness strategy should not be inconsistent with that document.

In fact, as Councillor CASSIDY and others have identified, we need to have a consistent, collaborative approach to these types of issues. Another document that I looked at was actually the Homelessness-to-Housing Strategy from the State Government back in 2020, featuring Campbell Newman at the time. Another interesting document that also does talk about the role of local councils in addressing homelessness, another document, the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement at a Federal level.

There are strategies at a Federal level, in fact the Australian Local Government Association advocated very strongly for local councils to be included as part of that national strategy and agreement, for the purpose that we are on the frontline. We do deal with people day-to-day who are facing homelessness and recognising the critical role that councils have to play in addressing homelessness. In reviewing some of the other councils’ strategies, particularly the City of Port Phillip, City of Sydney, City of Melbourne strategies, all of those strategies are very comprehensive and provide practical solutions to addressing homelessness in those respective cities.

Their numbers—their data on homelessness is significantly lower than Brisbane City Council, but I think that Council, in taking these next steps towards developing our own strategy, will see that we already are taking steps to address homelessness. What this strategy does is formalises, expands and has some real accountability in terms of ensuring that we are doing everything we can, not just on the ground but from a policy level, to ensure that we’re addressing those issues.

Noosa Council should also be commended, their Noosa Social Strategy, a really, really good document as well and talks about they have clearly done quite significant planning in talking to their Councillors about what vision they have for Noosa and what they want to see. I’d encourage all Councillors to have a look at their social strategy as well.

Councillor SRI: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Will Councillor COOK take a question?

Councillor COOK: Perhaps at the end.

Councillor SRI: Okay, sure, at the end I’ll get up.

Councillor COOK: But what I also want to talk about is—and this is the last document I’ll refer to—the University of Adelaide actually did a paper and it’s called—titled, ‘A Tool Kit for Local Government in the Role of Local Government in Addressing Homelessness’. That document actually refers to the US Interagency Council on Homelessness and they identified that there are actually broadly seven factors that are considered vital for a homelessness strategy within local government.

So those are collaborative planning processes taking a research and data driven approach, ensuring performance and outcome orientation, welcoming innovation and creativity, having the endorsement by elected councillors, ensuring involvement of stakeholders and finally, monitoring and evaluation of implementation. So I guess from my perspective, I think that the fact we have—and I’m assuming we will have full support from all Councillors in this place this evening, except I guess the LORD MAYOR’s not here, I’m assuming that he will also support this. What we now need to do is take those steps to move it forward.

What we saw with the domestic violence strategy and I commend Councillor Adam ALLAN, who was very good in taking a bipartisan approach to that issue. He ensured that Councillors, including myself, were consulted prior to the draft document being prepared and also ensured that we were consulted in relation to highly localised support services that we were aware of, both in our local area and citywide. What didn’t happen as part of that process, there was consultation with community organisations but there wasn’t really a working group.

I think that what we could do better this time is perhaps establish a working group early on which is bipartisan in nature and also has the input of those community or relevant community services, including like projects—particularly organisations who have addressed the Chamber, like Beddown who have spoken to us previously, 4 Voices and potentially also domestic violence support organisations. If we can get all of those organisations involved early, I think that we can probably narrow what the key and urgent and pressing issues that our city is facing today are, then make sure that we incorporate them into the strategy.

What I’d also like to see this time with the homelessness strategy is clear and defined periods for review. It loathes me a little bit to say the word KPI (key performance indicator), but I do think that we do need to have tangible outcomes that are measurable. Because what we have seen with the domestic violence strategy is that—and as I asked this morning of the LORD MAYOR, what steps are we taking to review that document? It’s now been a few years in circulation. It was really a starting point, where this document will be similar. We do not have a current strategy for the city. We’ve got initiatives, but there is no clearly defined strategy.

So I think a working group that is collaborative, that can of course involve representatives from the State Government, given that we are specifically ensuring that the State Government’s newly created Housing and Homelessness Strategy Action Plan—that we’re not inconsistent with that. We should of course include representatives from the State Government as part of that process.

Councillor SRI: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Will Councillor COOK take a question now?

Councillor COOK: Sure, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Go on.

Councillor COOK: I’ll take it.

Councillor SRI: Thanks. Yes, through you, Chair, just that Homeless Connect used to happen at City Hall, but the last couple of Homeless Connects have happened at the racecourse and I think the next one’s happening at Bowen Hills. Would the Labor Party agree that it’s time to reconsider hosting Homeless Connect back at City Hall, so it’s more accessible to people in the inner city?

Councillor COOK: Thank you for the question, Councillor SRI. Having attended the last Homeless Connect at Doomben.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor COOK: No, it was at the RNA, it was at the Showgrounds. So having attended that event, it is a very large event. The number of service providers there was enormous, as well as the food court area where the barbecue was, they had bands. Actually just from a very practical perspective, I’m not sure it would fit. However, what you could do is potentially have more events that are smaller in size more frequently. So of course I’m not opposed to that. I actually think that we should open up City Hall much more to people, it’s the People’s Place. In fact the 50 Plus Centre underneath here does receive some use outside of hours.

But I do think—and when I had met previously with Beddown, I thought that that in fact would actually be an ideal location, to give people access to showers, give people access to facilities and to service providers. So that similarly like places like Common Ground, where you have service providers where people are, particularly in the inner city, on a more frequent basis and whether or not that’s incorporated with the Red Cross Café, the Night Café, or other service providers, there are so many opportunities.

I think that is the frustration, certainly from myself, is we could do so much more. It just takes people to stop and think about who we want to help and make conscious and very deliberate actions to actually help them. I think that we have got an incredible city, but of course it could be better and we have an obligation to help those most in need. So Labor will, of course, be supporting the creation of this homelessness strategy. I’m not sure which Chair will be responsible for the development and implementation of this strategy. Last time it came under City Governance, it may come under City Governance again or perhaps Lifestyle and Community Services.

Certainly I would like to see Councillor HOWARD take this on. I think that she does have a real commitment to helping those most in need, certainly anything I’ve ever brought to her on this issue she has tried her best to assist with. So I think she would be a good fit, but certainly I don’t make those decisions, so I’ll leave that one to the Mayor and others to make that determination, but I’m putting my hand up to say I would love to be part of a working group. I think this is a really good opportunity for the city, I think it’s a good opportunity for all of us to work collaboratively to make a real difference. Thank you.

Chair: Thanks, Councillor COOK.

Further speakers? Any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, just a couple of things I didn’t include in the initial comments I made. I’m still waiting for anybody from the LNP to stand up and speak and perhaps City Planning Chairperson, or the Communities Chairperson, but I guess they delegate it to the Whip in the LNP. I just wanted to put on the record a couple more things. Councillor SRI, when he was speaking, reminded me that when Councillor ADAMS was a Planning Chairperson, this is years ago now, she refused to consider a motion that I put forward relating to essentially inappropriate housing, that is boarding houses that are springing up in low density areas. Is that two or three years ago, Councillor GRIFFITHS? It’s a while ago, it’s two to three years ago.

We have a problem in low density areas where these *de facto* boarding houses are being built where they’re not appropriately zoned. There are several problems with this. Firstly, they are being presented to unsuspecting members of the public as units when they’re not. They are often on the plans, they don’t present necessarily as boarding houses, they have their own kitchens and bathrooms and it’s not a shared house kind of scenario which is envisaged under low density. Thirdly, they are $300 to $400 per room, per room, so they’re exploiting vulnerable people as well.

Now all of these issues have become a problem in my ward in multiple suburbs and in Councillor GRIFFITHS’ ward. I’ve brought motions to this place in previous years and the explanation of the then Planning Chairperson, Councillor ADAMS was, we’re developing a housing strategy. That was two to three years ago. No, from memory, Councillor ADAMS tabled the motion, refused to let it get back onto the agenda for a long time. Then it came forward and she voted it down. The explanation given at that time—and I probably should have done more homework for this and looked up when that was, but Councillor ADAMS said we’re developing a housing strategy.

Where is it? Three years later she’s off to party in Greece for the Olympics and there’s no housing strategy. Now Councillor ALLAN, he’s probably got no idea, I don’t even know if he was here. he was probably Finance Chair at the time, he would have just put his hand up and voted against the motion as the LNP normally does. But let’s be clear, these issues have been brought forward in this Chamber and the excuse that’s been given by the now DEPUTY MAYOR when she was in charge of City Planning was, we are developing a housing strategy. Well, all evidence to the contrary. Councillor ADAMS hasn’t got up and told us what’s happened to that housing strategy.

Councillor LANDERS has been sent out, she’s been sent out on forward patrol. She’s been sent out to run interference and explain why we shouldn’t have to as a Council have a housing strategy, or have a response as part of that housing strategy to address homelessness. The LNP could have actually gone back to Councillor ADAMS’ stated position when they moved their amendment, that we’re developing a housing strategy and we’ll make the homelessness policy part of our housing strategy. Did they decide to do that? No, they did not. They’ve just decided to try and kill it and say it’s the State Government’s responsibility, which is pretty bad effort.

I can only presume there is no housing strategy, because it’s never come forward, it’s been years, nothing’s ever happened. So it’s just reminded me and I’ll just flag this term I’ll bring back my amendment on the dodgy boarding houses and we’ll get some change happening there. Because it’s clear this Administration has fallen asleep at the wheel and that they are not looking at what we can do, as Councillor SRI rightly pointed out, within the planning scheme to address the issues of housing.

It’s very clear that the nature of cities is changing as a result of COVID and this Administration is so beholden to the commercial property sector that they refuse to look at any kind of innovation or any kind of change and I think that is problematic. The excuses that they’re coming up with now are pretty lazy, when they’ve got to say it’s the State Government’s responsibility, when it’s only their own housing strategy that they’re supposed to be looking at these things and they’ve just abandoned that altogether. So I think that it’s really interesting that Councillor ADAMS hasn’t spoken today, Councillor HOWARD hasn’t spoken.

Councillor SRI also made some really good points about how Council actively put pressure on homeless people, sleeping rough and it can be a problem in certain parts of the city. I would prefer obviously that no one had to sleep under the portico out in King George Square, that everybody had a safe home and a safe bed, that’s the objective I think we should be working towards. So again I just want to thank Councillor COOK and the Labor Party for bringing this forward. I’m sorry that the LNP is playing games with your very good motion here before us today.

I’m just really disappointed that this ‘you beaut’ housing strategy that the LNP have been working on for years and years, the DEPUTY MAYOR is really busy with this, I’m sure. Maybe she’ll have some time on the 24-hour flight to Greece to go to the party to revise where she got to with the housing strategy. She could type up a little memo for Councillor ALLAN and then on the return flight she could just bounce it off to Councillor ALLAN and he could read it and see where they got up to with the housing strategy.

Because having a homelessness policy and a homelessness strategy would be a really good thing. I just want to reiterate that I think we should be working absolutely more through the Brisbane Housing Corporation to address a lot of these issues. Thank you again, Councillor COOK.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers? Come on, someone’s got to stand.

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Desperate to speak, thank you—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Do I have the call?

Chair: Yes, you have the call, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. It’s been an interesting debate and can I say upfront that I’m rising to speak in support of this motion, but also upfront can I just put on the record my enormous thanks to the Safe Communities of the Inclusive Communities team. Can I say that some of the dialogue that has been said in this Chamber this afternoon is appalling. It is inaccurate and it does not at all reflect the work that those amazing people do. I’m yet to see some of these people—

Councillor SRI: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: I’m happy to retract or clarify my statement. I was not at all referring to the Safe Communities team. I haven’t heard these complaints about them.

Chair: I’m not sure Councillor HOWARD referred to anyone in particular.

Councillor HOWARD: I didn’t.

Councillor SRI: No, okay.

Councillor HOWARD: Some of the comments that have been made are not accurate. I’ll just leave it at that. What I do want to put on the record is my thanks to the Safe Communities team. I know that those PSLOs (public space liaison officers) work incredibly hard and as Councillor COOK has mentioned in her speech, she saw many of them at the last event that we had out at the RNA. They all donate their time, it is amazing, it’s just amazing what they do and I just want to put that on the record upfront.

Brisbane City Council has a longstanding role in addressing homelessness and supporting our vulnerable communities. We’ve been doing it forever. The reference to the previous housing—what was it? The Homelessness Strategy 2002-2006, it’s taken this long for someone to say where is it? Well I’ll tell you why it’s not there, it’s embedded in our Inclusive Brisbane Plan, it’s what we do every single day of the week. Every single day of the week we have PSLOs doing their job.

Now I’m going to go through some of the things that have already been mentioned and I’ll give Councillor COOK credit for doing the research and what she’s done. Can I just say that we are very supportive of this document, we’re very supportive of the fact that the State Government has a Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, an action plan that mentions Council. That is what we will be working collaboratively with all levels of government.

Council has allocated more than $2.95 million in its Annual Plan and Budget for the 2021-22 year to support programs that respond to homelessness and affordable housing. We will continue to fund initiatives that support our most vulnerable residents. However, we recognise that all levels of government have a role to play in addressing the challenges of homelessness and housing right across Brisbane, Queensland and Australia. This isn’t just about the Brisbane CBD. While the Queensland State Government has the primary responsibility for housing and homelessness in Queensland—

Councillor SRI: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Will Councillor HOWARD take a quick question?

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, will you take a question?

Councillor HOWARD: No, I don’t have time. Let me start again. While the Queensland State Government has the primary responsibility for housing and homelessness in Queensland, what is just so critically important in this debate is that all levels of government work collaboratively to address the ongoing social and economic challenges associated with homelessness and social isolation. It is not just about giving someone a roof over their head. Council recognises the important role that we have to play in addressing rough sleeping—

Councillor SRI: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor SRI.

Councillor SRI: Just one more time, on that point, would Councillor HOWARD take a quick question?

Councillor HOWARD: You’re eating into my time.

Chair: Councillor SRI, no, Councillor HOWARD has indicated she won’t take a question.

Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Council recognises the important role that we have to play in addressing rough sleeping and social isolation, but we understand that that means working collaboratively with other levels of government and not addressing these complex issues in isolation from one another. Further, we know as well that supporting those at risk or experiencing homelessness is not just a priority for Brisbane City Council, but for all levels of government and the important community partners that support our most vulnerable. It is an issue right across the State of which we are part.

So much of the great work this Council has been able to do and achieve has been through our collaborative partnerships with the social housing providers, the not‑for-profits, the support service providers who really work so hard to get people back on their feet. Let’s talk about Homeless Connect, just next week Council will be running its 25th Homeless Connect event on Thursday 19 May at the Brisbane Showgrounds. Through this initiative, Council partners with community service providers who support those at risk of or experiencing homelessness to access health care, housing and community support. It is an amazing event and it can only happen with the partners that Council uses.

The project has helped more than 19,000 people and is part of Brisbane City Council’s commitment to improve quality of life for all residents. Homeless Connect is a great example of the types of outcome Council can achieve when a collaborative and interservice approach is taken to address the challenges our residents face.

Let’s talk about the Pathways out of Homelessness program, a program initiated by this LORD MAYOR, LORD MAYOR Adrian SCHRINNER. Let me repeat that into *Hansard*, LORD MAYOR Adrian SCHRINNER is the person who brought in Pathways out of Homelessness, an unbelievable $3 million over the three years. Do you know how many times these organisations have said to me, what an amazing grant this was? I’ve heard people in the Chamber talk about the information that they get from their organisations as well. This has been an amazing success because of the collaboration between the services. That had never happened in the past.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor SRI, please.

Councillor HOWARD: As part of this program, we’ve allocated $1 million every year for the past three years to organisations and charities—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor SRI, please.

Councillor HOWARD: —that are helping to tackle homelessness with new, innovative and sustainable solutions, giving them the support they need to create collaborative, integrated and sustainable pathways. It’s the sustainability that we need to address. Funded organisations are reporting to Council that this investment has supported vulnerable residents to not re‑enter homelessness by retaining their accommodation, gaining professional support from health and financial services, improving their wellbeing and maintaining their social connections. Again, I cannot stress enough how important it has been to work with these support organisations who’ve made a direct impact on the lives of those that we’ve supported through this program.

I’m not going to mention too much about the housing project, we talked about that. We had the CEO of Brisbane Housing Company come and address this Chamber. People seem to forget that, that the CEO could not speak highly enough of what we were doing in collaboration, not only with the amount of funding that we give—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor SRI, please.

Councillor SRI: That wasn’t me.

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor HOWARD: I listened to you, with respect, and I don’t get the same in return. Can I just say that the Brisbane Housing Company again has done some amazing work with other services, where they’ve collaborated to provide the roof over the head of the less vulnerable while the services can wrap those services around. Having that three‑year grant has been a godsend for that happening.

I want to speak again to the motion. It’s so important to recognise that the debate today is that none of the services that the Brisbane City Council delivers to address and improve the outcomes of those at risk takes place in isolation. It’s by developing an integrated and sustainable pathway out of homelessness that we have played a role in actively getting those sleeping rough back on their feet, and this is what we aim to continue by supporting this motion today.

I want to quote from page 7 of the Action Plan, ‘the Action Plan is about boosting housing supply, moving forward towards ending homelessness, supporting vulnerable people and securing a fair and accessible housing system. We share these objectives with our community partners and other government agencies. We all have a shared responsibility to work together to improve outcomes for all Queenslanders’. That is a direct quote from the State Action Plan, one that we support.

This amended motion reinforces Brisbane City Council’s support for a collaborative, integrated response which indicates our willingness to work closely with all levels of government. The spirit of this Action Plan is all about collaboration and working together, and we strongly support this sensible and considered approach by the Queensland State Government.

Again in the spirit of collaboration and the recognition that all levels of government need to work closely to improve the outcomes of all vulnerable residents, I urge you all to support this motion.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: I’m sure glad I waited for that, Chair. Councillor HOWARD just said that in the LNPs of the world over there they do this work every day and they’re working on addressing homelessness each and every day, because it’s built into everything that Council does according to Councillor HOWARD. And yet an hour ago they were opposing—they were trying to stop it. They moved an amendment to specifically say that Council shouldn’t have, under the LNP, a homelessness strategy because the State has one, apparently, but now, the speech was slightly amended to say that we will work collaboratively, because they legally couldn’t get rid of the motion.

At no point did Labor Councillors—I’m not sure who Councillor HOWARD was referring to—reflect on the public space liaison officers and the Safe Communities team or any of the team that works in the Homeless Connect projects or across the Lifestyle and Community Services division at all. We value their work. We value it so much that we are bringing to the table—we’re bringing to Council a proposal for a new homeless strategy that should include increased resources for that team.

I personally meet with and work with our public space liaison officers, and my office does on a regular basis in trying to help rough sleepers and people who are recently homeless as well and working with local organisations like Sandbag. They don’t come to me, Councillor HOWARD, through you, Chair, and say, works great, we don’t need any more resources, it’s all fine out there. What we know here in Brisbane and South East Queensland and Queensland more broadly that the vacancy rate now is 0.7%. Councillor LANDERS said earlier it was one per cent, it’s actually a lot less than that. There are operationally no vacancies in private rentals in Brisbane any more.

The house price increases we have seen in the last 12 months is 32.1% on average. So, to answer your question earlier, Councillor SRI, or your comment, I don’t think that level of growth is sustainable going forward or isn’t sustainable in what has occurred. I do think house prices should be lower in fact.

Unit prices have increased to $479,000 and rental prices have increased by 22.3% in the last 12 months. What we see at an LNP level, here in Council trying to get in the way of good policy, we also see at a Federal level the LNP Government, the Liberal National Government bringing the NRAS scheme to an end. We’ve got people all over Brisbane who currently live in what are affordable units for those families and those people facing the prospect of later this year and next year having to leave—having to leave their home because they can’t afford to rent anymore.

Instead of living in the City of Brisbane and being able to work in the City of Brisbane, frontline workers, whether they’re hospital cleaners or nurses or teachers or people who work in coffee shops that we like to go to when we’re in the city or out in the suburbs—instead of being able to live in Brisbane and have a home in Brisbane and be part of the Brisbane community, they will be forced to live at Caboolture West or at Narangba or Morayfield or further afield or south of Logan because we see decisions of conservative governments forcing people out of our city.

Councillor HOWARD was really proud to say that the budget over the last three years has been $3 million over three years on that initiative to respond to homelessness that the LORD MAYOR introduced. Let’s think about that for a second. It’s $1 million a year over the last three years, that’s $3 million over the last three years. The Brisbane City Council budget over the last three years has been over $10 billion. So, this LNP Administration and the Chair who is responsible for this policy area is proud that out of $10 billion, $3 million has been committed to addressing homelessness in our city.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Claim to be misrepresented.

Councillor CASSIDY: It’s not a point of order but okay.

Chair: Point of order for you, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Thank you. Noted.

Councillor CASSIDY: Maybe she’s not proud. I wouldn’t be proud of that, Chair. If I was Councillor HOWARD, I would not be proud to stand up in this place and say that it was a good outcome that this LORD MAYOR, who couldn’t be bothered to be here tonight to debate this important policy—he was proud and she was proud to say that out of $10 billion all they could scratch together was $3 million. They should be ashamed of that effort, Chair.

That’s half of what a year’s advertising budget is over three years. In three years, the LORD MAYOR spends $15 million on his advertising budget and yet can only find $3 million. I wouldn’t be proud of that, Councillor HOWARD.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Good point. $3 million on the Brisbane App. How does that help people put a roof over their head?

Councillor ADAMS: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you.

Councillor ADAMS: Will Councillor CASSIDY take a question?

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, will you take a question?

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, sure.

Councillor ADAMS: Which programs in the budget would you like to be cut for your homelessness projects?

Councillor CASSIDY: Advertising. Why don’t we get rid of all this stupid Brisbane App advertising and put it into addressing homelessness? Why don’t we get that $200 million that you earmarked for the Olympics, this broadcast centre, that you’d already programmed in borrowing for, and why don’t we put that into addressing homelessness? If we invested that with the likes of the Brisbane Housing Company, they could deliver thousands and thousands—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, please.

Councillor CASSIDY: Absolutely we should be—I’m sorry, Olympic legacy should be about a liveable city and an affordable city. The DEPUTY MAYOR thinks an Olympic legacy should be about some stupid broadcasting centre over at West End. This is the values proposition that is being put to the people of Brisbane tonight. The DEPUTY MAYOR and the LORD MAYOR and Councillor HOWARD and all the LNP Councillors prefer their advertising budget. They prefer talking about the Olympics 10 years away but they don’t care about families who are living precariously. They don’t care about those families that are raising children in the backs of their cars and trying to get them to school, trying to get them cleaned and trying to get them fed—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I know he’s on a roll, but he is imputing motive, and I ask you to bring back to the—saying that Liberal Councillors don’t care is imputing motive and is incorrect.

Councillor CASSIDY: Their actions show they don’t care. I’m sorry, what they do and the policies that they have in place here, Chair, in my mind show that they really care about things more than addressing homelessness. They care about their advertising budget. They care about these glitzy inner city things. They care about the bendy-bus and the Metros.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: The parties in Greece of course, Councillor JOHNSTON. They care about that more than they care about addressing homelessness, and they have demonstrated that through their actions in here.

Councillor HOWARD did talk about Brisbane Housing Company. This is where I will finish. In my discussions with the Brisbane Housing Company, they would love more Council support. What would kill a project that is very marginal—affordable and social housing projects are extremely marginal. I’m not sure if any LNP Councillor understands what it takes to get an affordable and social housing project off the ground in leveraging institutional investors like superannuation funds.

It is extremely marginal, and when they come to a project and approach Council and put a DA in and are made to jump through all the hoops for that and then get whacked with those exorbitant infrastructure charges, that can mean the difference between an affordable and social housing project going forward or not.

We’ve seen this LNP Administration over recent years bring policies in to give infrastructure charge holidays and discounts to certain projects. Were they ever affordable and social housing projects?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: They were five-star hotels. They were student accommodation. They were aged care discounts, and we can argue the merits of all of them, but you cannot argue that affordable and social housing isn’t of great merit, and at the moment in the crisis we’re facing, greater merit. You can’t have a city that prioritises billionaires building five-star hotels of accommodation in our city instead of social and affordable housing providers. I wonder whether this LNP Administration—

Councillor ALLAN: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Would Councillor CASSIDY take a question?

Councillor CASSIDY: I think I’m nearly out of time. I don’t think I’ve got time—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I won’t, Chair, but Councillor ALLAN can certainly make his point in the debate. He can get that on record, whatever is troubling his mind at the moment, but we should be supporting the Brisbane Housing Company.

The LORD MAYOR accuses Opposition Councillors of never bringing anything to the table. In the last few weeks, we’ve brought some significant things to the table and been talking about issues that are fundamental to the kind of city we want to see in 10 years’ time and fundamentally right now here today, we’re talking about addressing homelessness. We’re talking about addressing the housing affordability crisis. All this Administration can talk about are those glitzy inner city projects that will be exacerbating this problem rather than addressing it. Again, this highlights the values in this Chamber. Those that sit there and sit in the LNP care more about themselves than the people of Brisbane.

Chair: Thanks, Councillor CASSIDY.

Your time has expired.

Councillor HOWARD, your point of misrepresentation?

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. Councillor CASSIDY seemed to indicate that I was saying that all we invested was $3 million. The $3 million was the Schrinner Council investment in Pathways out of Homelessness.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Any further speakers? No further speakers.

Councillors, we’ll now move to the vote on the substantive motion which is, I’ll read it, that Brisbane City Council creates a new homelessness strategy for the City of Brisbane that is consistent with the State Government’s recently created Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for Queensland as it relates to councils.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order. Does Councillor LANDERS get to sum up? Which was supported—

Chair: No. I think we move straight to the vote at this point.

The Chair put the motion to the Chamber resulting in it being declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS) and Councillor Angela OWEN, immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 23 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRI and Nicole JOHNSTON.

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Thank you, Councillors.

We now move to petitions. Are there any petitions, Councillor—

Councillor OWEN: Yes, Mr Chair.

Chair: Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: Mr Chair, I have a petition to present on behalf of Councillor MURPHY requesting extra services of the P443 express bus.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further petitions? No further petitions?

Could I please have a motion for receipt of that petition?

**610/2021-22**

It was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Charles STRUNK, that the petition as presented be received and referred to the Committee concerned for consideration and report.

The petition was summarised as follows:

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| **File No.** | **Councillor** | **Topic** |
| 137/220/594/100 | Angela Owen on behalf of Ryan Murphy | Requesting Council provide additional P443 express bus services. |

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

Chair: Councillors, the next item is General Business.

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?

Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Chair. I rise briefly to inform the Chamber about an event that we had in the city a couple of weeks ago called Run Army. Run Army came out of a concept that Major General Jake Ellwood had—a very similar event is run in Washington for the US Marines. The objective of Run Army is to bring the community and the defence force together. I’m very happy to say that the event that was held in our city did that very well. The event itself consisted of a 10k run and a 5k run. The 5k run was basically around the city, the 10k run was through the city into New Farm, and then along Kangaroo Point and then back into the city again.

One of the wonderful things about Run Army was that it promoted health, wellbeing, mental health, community and mateship. I have to say, when I reached out to my friends and some new friends I was quite amazed at how many people jumped on board. We had one of Councillor LANDERS’s staff join me for the run, somebody who traditionally heckles me from the rugby field as she’s running down the sideline. I have to thank Miranda for joining me.

It was a six-month training expedition on my half. I had never run 10 kilometres in my life, never ever done it. I am not a runner. I did confess to Major General Ellwood that running is not my passion. I don’t think it’s something that I really like. I think it’s something that my body loathes, but we worked through that.

One thing that we did prove to all of us, our six-man team, was that we can do it. As a team, we did do it. One of the policies that we had, or one of the rules I should say, is that we wanted to cross the finish line together. To do that, we ran as fast as the slowest person would allow, we’re a team.

In the build-up to the event, we had done things like gone out to dinner, we went abseiling, we did a whole bunch of things together just to build that team-ship and that mateship and reinforce some of the things that Run Army was trying to get into people’s minds, that this is an event to bring community and defence together.

We did that. I’m happy to say that we actually completed the 10k in under an hour, which for myself who’s never run 10ks before was a bit of an achievement. Also on my team I had a former defence personnel who had spent time in Afghanistan. Through our training and our coming together for coffees and what have you, we had a few of his stories. Some of his life experiences overseas were horrific, and I would not wish that on anybody, but the thing was that we created a forum. We had a friendly space, and these stories could be shared. That was another wonderful thing.

We had a former netballer who was a Diamond, definitely not a diamond in the rough. Definitely somebody who is highly motivated and definitely somebody who told us to train harder than the game. I think we achieved what we set out to do, which was to work together, to finish, to enjoy the whole event, and we did do that. We did that very successfully.

One of the wonderful things about Run Army was while you’re on that run there’s a whole bunch of defence personnel every kilometre or so encouraging you along. They’re in full fatigues or dress uniform giving you a ‘keep going, it’s all good’. They had army assets out as well. We had an Apache flying overhead just to push us along that little bit, and we had a couple of Howitzers, the big guns at the end of the finish line, and you ran between them, which was amazing.

Our starting was a gun from Kangaroo Point, which you could have heard across the whole city. But for me the biggest thing, apart from finishing as a team, was the start, there were 2,000 or 3,000 of us all piled in together for the start. The gun went off, and everybody starts running in the one direction. Everybody was happy, everybody was having such a wonderful time. Then off to the side there’s the LORD MAYOR high-fiving everybody as they’re going past. It was great. It was a wonderful event.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: I think he was busy for the rest of the day, but it was still appreciated that he was there. They had the band, they had 1Reg Army Band at the beginning playing on the footpath as everybody ran past. It was a really great event. At the end, there was entertainment. 1Reg Army Band was up on stage, they were singing as well, so, it had this really festival atmosphere. Some of the gear was there for inspection so members of the public could go and have a look at some of the army assets. They had a helicopter simulator on site as well that you could sit in and fly and army helicopter, which was a real buzz.

Out of that one event, which was a fundraiser for Legacy, they raised over $170,000 to go towards Legacy to help families that have lost their income provider, their father, their mother, their sister, their brother. All of those funds that we raised go towards Legacy. I really want to pay tribute to Brendan Cox, the CEO of Legacy, who also joined us on our training—a very fit man, might I say. I want to thank him for his encouragement in the run as well.

I also want to thank Major General Jake Ellwood for pulling me into the event. As many of the Councillors know here, Enoggera base is very close to my ward. A lot of my residents are defence personnel. I have been out with 6RAR and Legacy when they’ve gone to people’s homes to help them out, so I’ve seen firsthand what Legacy do and how our defence personnel support Legacy on the ground in people’s homes. It’s absolutely fantastic.

I want to finish up by thanking all the volunteers of the day. In the army, you can either volunteer or you can be told, but every single defence personnel that was there on the day was volunteering. Nobody was ordered to be there. It was absolutely fantastic the amount of support, that our defence personnel came out to show their appreciation for the community that was helping them.

I want to give praise to the event. I want to thank the LORD MAYOR for supporting the event. I want to thank Major General Jake Ellwood for putting the countdown on two days ago to do it all again next year. Thank you very much.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **611/2021-22**  At that time, 6.01pm, 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. |

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 15 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Angela OWEN and Steven TOOMEY.

NOES: 4 - Councillors Peter CUMMING, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRI and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Council stood adjourned at 6.07pm.

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MACKAY.

We are still in General Business—pardon?

Is there any further speakers in General Business?

No further speakers in General Business? Thank you.

## CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADJOURNED MOTION:

Chair: Councillors the next item before us is the motion moved earlier by Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor, would you like to read your motion?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. Thank you, Mr Chairman. The motion before us that I moved earlier today relates to the—

Chair: Can you just move it, because I think we need a seconder Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s been moved and seconded.

Chair: Can you just move the motion? The Councillor who seconded isn’t here. So if you can just move the motion and have it seconded, and then we can get to debate.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I thought it was moved and seconded earlier and that’s why it got moved to later in the agenda.

Chair: Can I take it as seconded? Okay, fine.

Sorry Councillor JOHNSTON. Your clock starts now, 10 minutes.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. So the motion which I’m happy to review for everybody, but it was moved and seconded to my knowledge, is that we implement the recommendation from the 2022 Flood Review to fund the backflow valves. Now it’s very interesting to me that today the *Brisbane City Council 2022 Flood Review* was handed down by former Chief Justice Paul de Jersey. We didn’t get any notice of this. A journalist happened to ask me to comment on it and that’s how I found out about it. So the LORD MAYOR didn’t have the courtesy to advise us that this flood review was being handed down despite the fact that my ward was so dramatically flood impacted.

It’s very disappointing I think that he didn’t volunteer to share that. I also note that he tabled the report today, but didn’t offer us a copy of the report. So I must thank Councillor GRIFFITHS who did print one for me today. I want to put on the record my thanks to Justice de Jersey for the time he took to complete this review. I did meet with him and speak to him. I did put in a substantive submission. Part of that submission related to backflow valves. I encourage all Councillors to read it, you might be surprised about what I said. Backflow valves certainly wasn’t the focus of the submission, it was a small part.

But what I did point out is that after the 2011 floods, Council did do an independent review. The independent review recommended we look at backflow valves. Council then did a further review that looked at what that would look like, how feasible they would be. The engineers who did that report went out into our community and they spoke to residents. It was back when this Council actually used to talk to residents. They went out into suburban areas and they talked to residents. They came away with a really good understanding of what residents expected from mitigation.

There was a good dialogue and exchange about how backflow valves worked and what they would do. As a result of the AECOM report that came out in 2012, 51 locations around the city were recommended as being feasible for backflow valve devices. Council then went ahead and funded some of those. It’s of great interest to me on page 107 of Mr de Jersey’s report, that he lists where the backflow valve devices were actually located. He notes in his report at Recommendation 3.1 the following, Backflow prevention devices, that Council continues to reassess and prioritise the installation of backflow prevention devices as part of its flood mitigation strategy.

He also makes a note that he believes that Council is doing this in the report. I’ll talk a little bit more about his recommendations in the report in just a few minutes. I think he’s probably unaware of what happened in this Chamber on 22 March. At that time, I moved a motion calling on Council to fund all the backflow valve devices recommended in 2011. The LNP refused to support that motion. They changed that motion to say that they did not support—let’s be clear—they did not support the installation of backflow valves. They would do a reassessment, but they did not support the installation of backflow valves.

I find it really interesting that as part of this 2022 recommendation, Council has done two things, I am calling—I note neither the LORD MAYOR or the DEPUTY MAYOR is here; the Infrastructure Chairman is not here; basically no one in any kind of decision-making mode in this Council could be bothered to turn up to have a debate about flood mitigation in this city, but there are two things that happened. Council clearly made a submission to the de Jersey review. So I’m calling on the LORD MAYOR to release the Council’s submission publicly so we know what Council told Justice Paul de Jersey.

One of the biggest problems with the review before us today is that he relied on information provided by Council. There’s no independent information other than from Councillors. There is no information from residents other than it being provided through Councillors. There are some really serious problems I think in simply accepting the advice that Council has given. He seems to be under the impression that Council is still considering installation of backflow valve devices. I’ll come to this issue in just a moment.

Second issue is, according to Justice de Jersey’s review there has been some independent assessment by Council of the effectiveness of backflow valves. The second thing I’m calling for today is for the LORD MAYOR to release the study that looked at the effectiveness of backflow valves. It is very clear to me that Council has done some work in this space, but they’re not prepared to tell us the outcome of that or to share that information with us. I am calling on Council to release those two documents to the public. My community and I am interested in this. I think that as a matter of goodwill, Council should be releasing those documents for public consultation.

It’s very interesting that the report from Justice de Jersey looks at backflow valves, where they were delivered last time and what would be required to deliver the ones that weren’t installed after 2011. I want to just take a quick look at the Appendix C which is page 107 of the 2022 Flood Review. It notes that 15 of the 51 locations were implemented. So in 11 years, Council has failed to look at 36 other locations that were recommended in 2011. Only 15 locations have actually been delivered.

Let’s look at when that was. The vast majority of these were delivered between 2011 and 2014. That’s a decade ago. The last time a backflow valve was delivered was in 2015-16 and then it carried over into 2017-18. It’s been at least five to six years since Brisbane City Council delivered a backflow valve in Brisbane. So in the last five to six years, zero backflow valves have been delivered in Brisbane. Now, interestingly, we had a debate earlier tonight and Councillor HOWARD was outraged, outraged, that there was some allegation that only $3 million had been spent out of a $10 billion three-year spend by Council on homelessness.

She was rightly outraged. I am sure she is going to stand up and speak to this item and be outraged about what I am about to say. In the past five to six years, Council has spent zero dollars on backflow valves. During that time, $15 billion has been spent by Council in its successive budgets; $15 billion of Council budgets, zero dollars on the delivery of backflow valves. Now that’s just a matter of record. Unless someone is going to stand up and say Justice de Jersey’s report is wrong—page 107—I would be very interested to hear how that is going to be disputed.

I am appalled that this Administration is not delivering on its commitments both in 2011 and in 2022. On 22 March, the motion I moved in this Chamber called on Council to deliver all the backflow valves. As part of that debate some truly terrible things were said by Councillor ADAMS who I note is not in the Chamber here today. She said ‘we need to’—I am quoting her here, ‘we need to say again that the event for the backflow valves would have made a difference’. Well, tick, we know that they did.

The report before us today in 2022 clearly says that where we could look at the evidence from the backflow valves, they helped prevent flooding in certain areas. Not only did they help prevent flooding in certain areas, they did not make the flooding worse in those areas which is also one of the allegations that is often made about backflow valves. So the DEPUTY MAYOR’s reasons for not funding backflow valves just a few weeks ago have been disproven by the 2022 flood report.

She went on to say that none of us in this Chamber were hydrologic engineers—none of us were hydrologic engineers. Which is true, I agree with her, we are not. The hydrology engineers, Max Winders, and the others that investigated this issue back in 2011 and made these recommendations, they were the experts. They were the experts that made the recommendations that this Council and the LNP Council have not followed. Now—now the pre-eminent jurist in this State, a retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland, has stood up and also said backflow prevention devices work.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON your time has expired.

Further speakers?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Mr Chair.

**MOTION FOR AMENDMENT TO MOTION:**

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| **612/2021-22**  It was moved by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, seconded Councillor Greg ADERMANN, that the motion be amended as follows:  *Delete the words ‘prioritises and funds the backflow prevention devices as recommended’, and insert the words ‘notes the Lord Mayor has committed to acting on all recommendations, including’.*  *The motion would now read—*  *That Brisbane City Council notes the Lord Mayor has committed to acting on all recommendations, including 3.1 of the de Jersey 2022 Flood Review.* |

Chair: Have you got copies of that to circulate?

Councillor HUTTON: Sure.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Mr Chairman. I would just like to have a look at that, but I certainly am objecting to that change. The purpose of the motion before us today is to fund the delivery of backflow valves.

Councillor OWEN: Point of order, Mr Chair. That’s not relevant.

Chair: I’ve just got it myself Councillor JOHNSTON. Could you sit down for a moment while I just read the proposed amendment—and wait for you to get a copy of it as well.

Councillor HUTTON to your amendment—

Okay, so your point of order is in relation to the amendment?

Councillor JOHNSTON: The motion that I moved called on Council to fund—to prioritise and fund the backflow devices as recommended in the 2022 flood report. The amendment is saying that the LORD MAYOR notes that—the LORD MAYOR is not referred to in my motion. My motion refers to prioritising and funding, that is being removed. The critical part of my motion before us today is to fund and prioritise the implementation of that recommendation. Noting it is a very different and a substantial change to the original motion that has been put forward.

Chair: Although it is specific to acting on all recommendations including 3.1 of the de Jersey 2022 Flood Review. I believe that the amendment is consistent with the original motion.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Have you sought legal advice on this issue?

Chair: No. I have just read the amendment and believe it is in accord with the original motion.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Mr Chairman, I am encouraging you to seek legal advice on this.

Chair: Okay. Thank you for your—I will note your suggestion. I believe this is consistent with the original motion.

Councillor JOHNSTON: All right.

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| **613/2021-22**  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. |

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Steve GRIFFITHS 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 Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 15 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Mr Chair. I think it is fairly self-explanatory. The LORD MAYOR has committed to enacting the recommendations of the review. So this motion before us is accurate and in accordance with the current status of the review. Mr de Jersey pulled together a fantastic report which I know we’ve received today. As the LORD MAYOR committed to the media, as well as in our Chamber here, he is happy to enact those 37 recommendations by which, also includes the backflow valves. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers on the amendment?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m sorry, please excuse me. Again, we see the level of seriousness in which the LNP is treating flood recovery in this city. We’ve got a backbench Councillor who has got nothing to do with implementing this recommendation who has been sent out to run interference on an amendment that actually reflects what is in the report before us today. So the amendment that has been put forward is suggesting that we note—let me be clear, the language is that we note that the LORD MAYOR has said he’ll implement all of the recommendations.

Now Councillor HUTTON is still fairly new in this place. If you pull out the flood report from 2011, you will find it stamped by Council saying all of those recommendations were, and I quote, ‘completed’. What this Council says and what it does are two different things. So the fact that the LNP wants to go from prioritising and funding Recommendation 3.1 to noting Recommendation 3.1, demonstrates that this Administration is not serious about delivering on the recommendations in this report.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: They can’t be trusted, thank you for that Councillor CUMMING. They can’t be trusted. It is fascinating again that instead of actually saying, yes, when they have the opportunity on the record in this place, when they had the chance to say, yes, we will fund the recommendation, we will deliver on—his language—let me quote his language again—that Council continues to assess and prioritise—prioritise is Mr de Jersey’s language—the installation of backflow prevention devices as part of its flood mitigation strategy.

Now let’s take Councillor HUTTON’s example, because she has been here for a couple of years now, in the past five years Council has not delivered a single backflow valve in this city. Zero. Zero backflow valves, zero dollars, zero homes protected. In that same time, Council has had $15 billion in its budgets and chosen not to allocate one single cent towards the delivery of backflow prevention devices. Now, I think—when I started this debate I called for the report to be released. I am very much interested in what Council said to Mr de Jersey.

Because if they have been reassuring him that Council is still doing this, it is very clear that they are not. So when Councillor HUTTON stands up and doesn’t want to prioritise and fund backflow devices, but to note—

Councillor HUTTON: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Councillor HUTTON does not want to prioritise and fund backflow prevention devices. Let me clear, I am going to say it again—Councillor HUTTON does not want to prioritise and fund backflow prevention devices. She has moved an amendment—she has moved an amendment—I know Councillor CUNNINGHAM thinks it is funny, and perhaps she will hop up and contribute—she is the Chair responsible for natural disasters in this place. I don’t think she knows, but she is. It actually sits in her area of responsibility. Do we hear from her about any of this ever? No.

So the motion before us today that Councillor HUTTON is seeking to change removes the words ‘prioritise’ and ‘fund’. She doesn’t want people to know that. She just wants you to know that you’re going to note what’s going on. So let’s talk about what the LORD MAYOR actually thinks noting involves. When he spoke on this matter on 22 March he said the following, ‘he doesn’t want to go blindly and implement the recommendations of a report in 2012. That would be a very, very poor decision, an incredibly poor decision’.

So that’s just six weeks ago the LORD MAYOR said recommending—the recommendations out of—delivering the recommendations out of the 2011 would be a very poor decision. This time around, he hasn’t stood up and said yes, we will fund and prioritise the installation of backflow devices. He sent Councillor HUTTON out to run interference for him and they’re going to note that he might deliver on the—he might deliver on the recommendations that are in here. It is our job as Councillors to hold this Council to account for its decisions and to make sure the funding that is needed to implement these recommendations actually happens.

It is fascinating today that the LNP is choosing to vote against prioritising and funding backflow valve delivery. We only have to look at their track record to know that they are not doing it, that they stopped doing it five years ago and over the past five years they’ve spent not a single cent on delivering backflow devices. Now, the other interesting things that are in the flood review, is the indication from the DEPUTY MAYOR a few weeks ago as well, that the backflow valves wouldn’t protect any more homes. Now she went on at length about how it would not be responsible and how I didn’t know what I was talking about and there were no homes that would be protected.

It’s very clear again that Paul de Jersey identifies that 250 properties will be protected by the backflow devices. Now in my area that includes suburbs such as Fairfield, Yeronga, Yeerongpilly, Tennyson, Chelmer and Graceville. There are a lot of other suburbs outside of my area in other Councillors’ wards that would be protected by these. The LORD MAYOR says that to go blindly into this would be a mistake. It would be a poor decision. It’s very clear that Council does have costings for these backflow devices. They identified that they would cost approximately $21 million.

We don’t have a breakdown of which ones would cost what. I will be certainly seeking that information. It’s very clear that Council has got a lot more information on the record here about backflow devices than they’ve ever told us before. So it is very, very clear that this Council could spend $20-plus million and put in backflow devices. $15 billion over the last five years and zero spent on backflow devices. In the last year, Council has spent $3 million promoting the Brisbane App. It’s in the responses to Questions on Notice today.

So when Councillor HUTTON stands up and says no, we don’t want to prioritise and fund backflow devices but she’s happy to spend $3 million on advertising an app, but not installing flood mitigation in my ward—now there are none recommended in her area—there are none recommended. But it’s interesting, isn’t it, that this Council is happy to spend $3 million on advertising, but won’t spend a single cent investing in backflow prevention devices. So I don’t support this amendment. I think that the LNP is showing its true colours tonight, that it only wants to note the decisions of flood recovery and the flood recommendations.

It doesn’t want to act on them. A person who wants to act on them says, yes, I’ll look at it, I’ll put it in the budget. I’ll be looking at funding for backflow devices. We’ll get them back on the agenda. I know we haven’t spent any money on them in the last five years. I’m going to prioritise them as Paul de Jersey recommends. That’s not what the LNP want to do. They want to note the outcomes of the flood review. They don’t want to act on them and they don’t want to fund them. Councillor HUTTON has made that very clear today. I think that’s very disappointing and I urge all Councillors to vote against the amendment.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor HUTTON your claim of misrepresentation.

Councillor HUTTON: Yes, Mr Chair. I did not suggest that we did not want to fund backflow valves. I simply said that we would accept the 37 recommendations that Mr de Jersey has provided to us today.

Chair: Thank you Councillor HUTTON.

Further speakers on the amendment? Any further speakers on the amendment?

We will put the amendment to the vote.

**Amendment put:**

The Chair put the amendment motion to the Chamber resulting in it being declared **carried** on the voices.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 15 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 5 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: The debate is now on the substantive motion, that is that Brisbane City Council notes the LORD MAYOR has committed to acting on all recommendations including 3.1 of the de Jersey 2022 Flood Review.

Are there any speakers?

Councillor MATIC.

Councillor MATIC: Thank you, Mr Chairman. I rise to speak in support of this motion. To clarify some points that were made by Councillor JOHNSTON on this issue, firstly, Mr Chairman, I want to acknowledge the work of the Honourable Justice de Jersey in regards to this recommendation and the succinct nature in which the recommendations are set forward on page 87. I am sure—and I note that Councillor JOHNSTON has read through as quickly as she can through this document since its release earlier today.

Undoubtedly, she would have had the opportunity to read through these recommendations on page 87 and particularly in regards to her motion which is 3.1 which is the backflow prevention devices. It says that Council continues to assess and prioritise the installation of backflow prevention devices as part of its flood mitigation strategy, which is in complete alignment with the motion as amended that says that the Brisbane City Council notes the LORD MAYOR has committed to acting on all recommendations including 3.1 of the de Jersey Flood Review.

So the LORD MAYOR is actually continuing to implement these recommendations in total which includes backflow devices. Now, Mr Chairman, we had a debate in this Chamber previously in regards to backflow devices and their implementation, their history and their effectiveness. I thought we had a very sensible debate in that regard talking about the history of it. Councillor JOHNSTON noted that there are actually backflow devices within her own ward. We also noted that there were certain devices that were in the initial report in her ward which were assessed and prioritised in accordance with those guidelines back then which in this report Justice de Jersey actually notes the previous backflow prevention devices actually at page 55.

He notes the history of it. He also continues to note that all of the devices were based on a priority. It simply says, within the report, that—he reiterates that very same process of prioritisation citywide on the benefit of number of homes, habitable floor, all of the criteria that the officers implemented—he notes that, and in his recommendation reiterates the previous approach. So everything has been done in accordance with the existing process and everything that the LORD MAYOR intends to do in implementing all of these recommendations is in accordance with that process.

So when you hear Councillor JOHNSTON speak on this issue now, you would think that nothing has been done. You would think that somehow there is no investment in backflow devices. Importantly also, in the previous motion that was put forward this Chamber agreed and supported the refresh of that review of those previous backflow devices. So not only previously did the LORD MAYOR agree to continue to review and refresh all of the previous investigations, but now we have Justice de Jersey’s recommendations which the LORD MAYOR is fully implementing.

All of these measures show that this Administration and this LORD MAYOR is actually fully committed to backflow devices in this city where required and for the most benefit to those communities that need them. There is no question here, Mr Chairman, of any doubt or any reversal of that process whatsoever. Unfortunately, we have a position from Councillor JOHNSTON that is completely out of step with everything that we debated in the Chamber previously, everything that is in this report and the fact that the LORD MAYOR is actually going to roll out and accept all of these recommendations.

What we need, Mr Chairman, from Councillor JOHNSTON is a reflection of what reality is, from Councillor JOHNSTON an acknowledgement of the fact that these backflow devices have to be assessed by a certain criteria, but we’re not going to get that. We have never got it in the past since the 2011 flood event, since the recommendations that were brought down in regards to the backflow devices after that and hence. But, Mr Chairman, the reality of the situation is that this Administration is committed to that.

One of the important conversations that we had in regards to backflow devices at the previous motion debate which I think is absolutely integral in this process, is the complete effectiveness of what a backflow device means and how effective it is in its installation and to its local community. There were many points raised by Councillor SRI previously as to the necessity of having them so that we can reduce the impact on our infrastructure, on our roads, on our footpaths, on parks and all of Council’s infrastructure and that somehow these would be impacted less by a backflow device.

Well, Mr Chairman, I have to tell you that within the impacted areas of my ward there are a number of parks that are affected, roads that require resurfacing, footpaths that need to be redone, softfall that needs to be replaced like every other Councillor in this ward. We spoke about this in the Infrastructure flood presentation this morning. All of these need replacing and have been severely impacted by the 2022 flood. Guess what, Mr Chairman, we have got backflow devices in the ward. They were on and they worked efficiently, but it did not reduce the impact of flooding on that infrastructure.

That is a key point that needs to be reiterated in this whole conversation about backflow devices, they are not a panacea to flooding. Our infrastructure and our local communities, in significant events like we’ve just seen, will continue to flood and the backflow device will continue to work effectively. Why? Because it keeps the river out, but it does not stop the overland flow. It does not stop the damage from the rain. So that’s why an assessment criteria is needed in regards to backflow devices and what maximum benefit can be provided from them.

But, ultimately, Mr Chairman, wherever they are installed across our ward, the end result is that depending on the flooding event, we will still flood. There will still be impacts to our local communities. Residents’ homes will be severely impacted. Council’s infrastructure will be severely impacted. We will have to go through the process again of rebuilding and doing the things we need to do to mitigate. Because, ultimately, this is what these recommendations are about, mitigation. That is why this LORD MAYOR is making sure that he is committed to implementing all of these recommendations to mitigate for future events and to incorporate backflow devices into all of that thinking moving forwards.

But we shouldn’t focus on Councillor JOHNSTON’s comments which, unfortunately, are not correct in what she is saying. We should instead focus on the reality of what we face and the challenges that we need to address. This report goes a long way to doing that. Importantly the LORD MAYOR’s commitment to it, ensures that when we have—when we have an event in the future—we will be better prepared for it.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Further speakers on the substantive motion?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I thank Councillor MATIC for contributing to the debate today. He does have a horse in this race. I note that his ward has received multiple backflow valves which the report found were useful in helping to mitigate the impacts of flooding. Very clearly that’s what is said in this report before us today. It is just a shame and he feels that other wards don’t deserve to have the backflow valves recommended in their areas funded again. Because the motion that the LNP change before us today was to remove support for funding.

Councillor MATIC: Point of order, Mr Chairman.

Chair: Point of order to you Councillor MATIC.

Councillor MATIC: Claim to be misrepresented.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Noted.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So Councillor MATIC and all the LNP Councillors today voted against funding backflow valve devices. That’s what they did. As much as they hop up and say, oh you’re misrepresenting me, they got Councillor HUTTON to read out an amendment written by the LORD MAYOR’s staff mostly likely, to say we are going to take out prioritising and funding backflow valves. That’s what they all just voted to stop.

Councillor HUTTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor HUTTON. It is a point of order.

Councillor HUTTON: Sorry, point of order. Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: She moved a motion removing the words ‘prioritise and fund’. I am not sure how she can be misrepresented. It was her decision to stand up and do it. No doubt that they went around—I remember what it was like—they would have gone around the room and said, who wants to have a go at Councillor JOHNSTON today. Who wants to do it. The hands would have gone up. It’s your turn Councillor HUTTON, here’s the amendment. The amendment says that we’re going to delete the words ‘prioritise and fund’. The fact that she wants to deny it now is quite interesting.

But I’m getting off the track. It was a bit hard to tell if Councillor MATIC was supportive of the motion that has been moved here today or not. I want to say a few things. He said that I was not correct in the comments that I had made today about what was happening with backflow valves. Again, I want to tell everybody listening and everybody who may read this, that on page 107 of the report that Justice de Jersey handed down today, he has provided a list of where the backflow valves that have been delivered were located, the years in which they were funded and how much they cost.

That document, page 107, Appendix C, clearly shows that in the last five years where Council has had a budget of over $15 billion for the city, zero—zero has been spent on backflow valves. Zero has been spent. Now the LNP will want to have you believe that they are committed to delivering backflow valves. Councillor MATIC says that, oh the LORD MAYOR intends to note the comments that are in here. The LORD MAYOR intends to deliver the backflow valves. For the past five years this Administration has done nothing. Before that, there was only one between 2014 and 2018 and that ran across two years.

So over the past eight years, this Council pretty much delivered one backflow valve in Bulimba. That’s not what I say, through you, Mr Chairman, to Councillor MATIC. So when Councillor MATIC stands up and says Councillor JOHNSTON is not correct in what she’s saying, I am quoting the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Paul de Jersey. That’s what he says. Now again we heard—we actually heard Councillor MATIC say this several times—that he reiterates that they want to prioritise the backflow valves. Again, they’ve just moved an amendment to the motion that did say we would prioritise and fund backflow valves and they’ve said that they’re not going to do that.

They are going to note the recommendations in the report. They are two different things. What this tells us is, 1) their track record is that they have failed to deliver backflow devices over the past five years—not a single dollar, not a single backflow valve device. For the past decade every year, I’ve moved a motion calling on them to be funded. We have heard that the recommendation—sorry that the amendment they have moved is in complete alignment with the recommendation here with Paul de Jersey’s 3.1 recommendation. That calls on these devices to be prioritised.

That is what the LNP do not want to do. They don’t want to prioritise them and they don’t want to fund them. Councillor HUTTON is going to stand up in a minute and say, no no, she didn’t say we don’t want to prioritise and fund them. That’s the motion that she just moved. But thank goodness the LORD MAYOR is going to note the fact that we’re going to have these backflow devices. I will be reminding him on a regular basis that he has noted this review. I will be reminding him on a regular basis that over the past five years he has spent zero dollars—zero dollars on delivering backflow devices.

This year there will be another $3 plus billion going to the Council budget. I will be interested to see how much funding goes into delivering on the backflow devices, because certainly there has been none over the past five years. I will keep reminding the LNP that they spend $3 million on advertising an app, but there is zero dollars for backflow devices. When I tell people this in my community they are shocked. They are shocked. When I tell them we spend about $30 million a year out of a $3 billion budget on stormwater drainage generally that shocks them even more.

But let’s be clear, the outcome of the motion here today is the LNP say that they are noting—noting—the recommendation by Paul de Jersey which calls on the backflow devices to be assessed and prioritised. They don’t want to prioritise and fund them, they just want to note that there is a recommendation that says they should be prioritised. If there is anything that says more than the fact that the motion before us today on flood recovery is that this Administration wants to note something, not act on it, not deliver on it, not fund it, not make life better for residents in my ward that were flooded and in other wards around the city. It’s not just my ward.

This LNP Administration just wants to note it. They want to note that they intend to do something about it. But you can’t trust them because their track record says that they won’t do anything about it. Because for the past five years they haven’t done anything about it. Despite $15 billion in budgets over the past five years, zero dollars have been spent on backflow devices. Does anybody think that they’re going to make an effort in this budget? I’ll fall over backwards. I’ll fall over backwards if the LORD MAYOR suddenly decides to fund backflow valves in this budget.

I mean he’s not here and neither is Councillor ADAMS. The Chair in charge of natural disasters in this place couldn’t be bothered to comment. But it’s okay because they’ve noted the recommendation and they intend to do something about it, but they haven’t really done anything about it for the past five years. I mean how proud. How proud you should be of yourselves. Good on you.

Chair: Councillor MATIC your point of misrepresentation.

Councillor MATIC: Yes, thank you, Mr Chairman. Councillor JOHNSTON said that I felt that some wards should receive backflow devices and some less worthy. That is untrue. What I said was that the officers assess all locations on a priority basis for the most benefit of that local community irrespective of which ward they’re in.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: Okay, noted.

Councillor HUTTON your point of misrepresentation.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Mr Chair. Councillor JOHNSTON suggested that I did not want to fund the backflow valves. Quite the opposite. We are committed to funding the 37 recommendations here in the report. I think it is very clear that the LNP team are committed to enacting the recommendation and the review that we’ve had here before us.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON your point of misrepresentation.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Councillor MATIC just stood up and said that I said that not all backflow valves should be delivered. I made no such statement whatsoever.

Councillor MATIC: Claim to be misrepresented.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: One point of order at a time please, Councillor MATIC.

Councillor JOHNSTON: He completely made up any such reference. I have called on mine and all of them to be funded. Any such aspersion that I’ve said anything else is completely untrue.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor MATIC, you have a point of misrepresentation.

Councillor MATIC: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Why not? We are here for a while. Mr Chairman, Councillor JOHNSTON said earlier that I said that—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MATIC: That is right. She said that I said—that I said that I felt that some wards should receive backflow devices over others and that some wards are less worthy of receiving—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MATIC: You did. I did not say that. I said that all officers—that the officers assess these backflow devices across the whole city on a priority basis.

Chair: Thank you Councillor MATIC. We’ll leave this particular item alone please.

Are there any further speakers on the substantive motion? No further speakers on the substantive motion?

We will now put that motion for the vote. The motion is that Brisbane City Council notes the LORD MAYOR has committed to acting on all recommendations including 3.1 of the de Jersey 2022 Flood Review.

The Chair put the motion to the Chamber resulting in it being declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillor Sarah HUTTON and the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 15 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Vicki HOWARD, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

ABSTENTIONS: 5 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: 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 5 May 2022)**

**Q1.** Please provide a list of sporting, service, environmental and community groups by name and suburb that received the $5,000 flood recovery funding?

**Q2.** Please provide a list of sporting, service, environmental and community groups that were flood affected that received additional funding in excess of $5,000? If any groups received more than $5,000, please provide a brief description of its purpose?

**Q3.** Of the $1,606,808m in funding allocated for Suburban Community and Multicultural Festivals in the 2021-22 Council Budget pp76-78 how much of the funding remains unexpended?

**Q4.** Please provide a list of the groups and amount allocated funding for a Suburban Community and Multicultural Festival in the 2021-22 Council Budget pp76‑78 that has not yet been paid by Council?

**Q5.** If funding has not yet been paid for a Suburban Community and Multicultural Festival listed in the 2021‑22 Council Budget pp76-78 please provide a list of the events and the dates on which they are scheduled to be held?

**Q6.** Has funding been allocated under the Suburban Community and Multicultural Festival from schedule 5.1.1.1 to any group not listed on pp76-78? If so please provide the names and amounts allocated?

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (received on 5 May 2022)**

**Q1.** The East Brisbane Bowls Club building and greens are located in Mowbray Park, which is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register. Has Council lodged any applications with the Queensland Government regarding the proposed Mowbray Park Vision plans (which include the demolition of the former East Brisbane Bowls Club and removal of the bowling greens)? If so, what was the outcome?

**Q2.** What is the current number of Council officers for the following job roles (excluding contractors):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **JOB ROLE** | **FTEs** | **Full Time** | **Part Time** | **Casual** |
| Gardener |  |  |  |  |
| ICT Role |  |  |  |  |
| Labourer |  |  |  |  |
| Asphalter |  |  |  |  |
| Project Manager |  |  |  |  |

**Q3.** Provide details of how much money Council has invested with BHC (Brisbane Housing Company) for each of the following years.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **YEAR** | **AMOUNT** |
| 2002 |  |
| 2003 |  |
| 2004 |  |
| 2005 |  |
| 2006 |  |
| 2007 |  |
| 2008 |  |
| 2009 |  |
| 2010 |  |
| 2011 |  |
| 2012 |  |
| 2013 |  |
| 2014 |  |
| 2015 |  |
| 2016 |  |
| 2017 |  |
| 2018 |  |
| 2019 |  |
| 2020 |  |
| 2021 |  |
| 2022 |  |

**Q4.** Provide details of how many development applications from BHC (Brisbane Housing Company) have been approved for each of the following years, including the number of dwellings.

| **YEAR** | **NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS** | **NUMBER OF DWELLINGS** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2002 |  |  |
| 2003 |  |  |
| 2004 |  |  |
| 2005 |  |  |
| 2006 |  |  |
| 2007 |  |  |
| 2008 |  |  |
| 2009 |  |  |
| 2010 |  |  |
| 2011 |  |  |
| 2012 |  |  |
| 2013 |  |  |
| 2014 |  |  |
| 2015 |  |  |
| 2016 |  |  |
| 2017 |  |  |
| 2018 |  |  |
| 2019 |  |  |
| 2020 |  |  |
| 2021 |  |  |
| 2022 |  |  |

**Q5.** Provide a breakdown of the whole-of-life costs of the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge to the Brisbane CBD.

**Q6.** Provide a breakdown of the whole-of-life costs of the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge.

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

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

**Submitted by Councillor Nicole Johnston (from meeting on 3 May 2022)**

**Q1.** How many volunteers actually attended the flood clean up on Saturday, 5 March as part of the Mud Army 2.0?

**Q2.** How many volunteers actually registered to participate in the Mud Army 2.0?

***A1 and A2.***

*Refer A7 of the 22 March 2022 Council agenda.*

**Submitted by Councillor Jonathan Sri (from meeting on 3 May 2022)**

**Q1.** Regarding the fatal accident involving a cyclist and a bus near the junction of Gillingham St and O’Keefe St, Woolloongabba, on 27 May, 2021, did Brisbane City Council undertake a site-specific engineering assessment of the changes made in July 2014 to the standard signal phasing of the O’Keefe St/busway on-ramp intersection, and did the changes comply with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and other relevant Austroads Guidelines?

***A1.*** *Council made changes to introduce a customised signal phasing at this intersection in 2014. An engineering assessment was undertaken considering the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and Austroad Guides.*

*For this particular change, Council also consulted internally and with the State Government’s Department of Transport and Main Roads..*

**Q2.** After the accident on 27 May, 2021, on what dates did council officers check the operation of the signals at the O’Keefe Street intersection, and on what specific date did council officers change the hard drive of the controller to enable remote control of the signals?

***A2.*** *The officers checked the operation of the signals on 27 May 2021, and the change occurred on 29 May 2021.*

**Q3.** After switching on remote control, and recognising that the O’Keefe St intersection traffic signals had reverted to default signal phasing, on what date, and at approximately what time, did council officers rectify this and switch the intersection back to customised signal phasing?

***A3.*** *30 May 2021.*

**Q4.** What are the details of the 2017 accident involving a cyclist and a bus at the intersection of O’Keefe St and Gillingham St, Woolloongabba?

**Q5.** On what basis was the cyclist involved in the above-mentioned 2017 accident found to be ‘at fault’ and what evidence did the police rely upon in reaching this conclusion?

**Q6.** Did Brisbane City Council conduct its own investigation into the 2017 crash between a cyclist and a bus at the intersection of O’Keefe St and Gillingham St, Woolloongabba, and if so, what aspects of the accident did this investigation examine and what findings were made?

***A4. to A6.***

*The Queensland Police Service (QPS) is the investigating authority for road accidents. Direct enquiries of QPS may be of assistance in obtaining this information.*

**Q7.** Previous responses to questions on notice indicated that representatives of the Carina Bus Depot Workplace Consultative Committee had reported ‘at least 2’ near misses between buses and cyclists near the O’Keefe St intersection. What were the circumstances of these two near misses? Where the cyclists involved riding westward along O’Keefe Street towards the PA Hospital? What new information has come to light as a result of BCC enquiries into these incidents?

***A7.*** *Two incidents were mentioned at a Workplace Consultative Meeting on 18 July 2019 but no specific details were provided.*

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (from meeting on 3 May 2022)**

**Q1.** How many wandering animals have been reported in each of the last five financial years?

***A1.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***Animals Reported*** |
| *2021/22 year to date* | *2,230* |
| *2020/21* | *2,983* |
| *2019/20* | *4,341* |
| *2018/19* | *4,900* |
| *2017/18* | *3,794* |

**Q2.** How many wandering animals have been collected in each of the last five financial years?

***A2.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***Animals Collected*** |
| *2021/22 year to date* | *1,015* |
| *2020/21* | *1,376* |
| *2019/20* | *1,838* |
| *2018/19* | *2,394* |
| *2017/18* | *2,730* |

**Q3.** How many fines have been issued for wandering animals in each of the last five financial years?

***A3.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***PINs*** |
| *2021/22 year to date* | *843* |
| *2020/21* | *1,180* |
| *2019/20* | *1,283* |
| *2018/19* | *2,115* |

*Note: Data is unavailable for the 2017/18 financial year.*

**Q4.** How many FTE staff are allocated for wandering animals?

***A4.*** *0.5 FTEs. This is to support Council contractors in managing the seized animals once they are in Council facilities.*

**Q5.** How many reports of wandering animals have there been between the hours of 6pm to 9am in each of the last five financial years?

***A5.***

| ***Financial Year*** | ***Animals Reported*** |
| --- | --- |
| *2021/22 year to date* | *753* |
| *2020/21* | *890* |
| *2019/20* | *1,304* |
| *2018/19* | *1,507* |
| *2017/18* | *1,233* |

**Q6.** How many wandering animals have been collected between the hours of 6pm to 9am in each of the last five financial years?

***A6.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***Animals Collected*** |
| *2021/22 year to date* | *72* |
| *2020/21* | *77* |
| *2019/20* | *240* |
| *2018/19* | *395* |
| *2017/18* | *512* |

**Q7.** How many animals have been registered in each of the last five financial years?

***A7.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***Registrations*** |
| *2021/22 year to date* | *101,340* |
| *2020/21* | *119,983* |
| *2019/20* | *117,087* |
| *2018/19* | *115,448* |
| *2017/18* | *117,333* |

**Q8.** How much revenue has been received by Council for animal registrations in each of the last five financial years?

***A8.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***Revenue*** |
| *2021/2022 year to date* | *$6,512,975.45* |
| *2020/21* | *$6,400,832.33* |
| *2019/20* | *$6,355,552.57* |
| *2018/19* | *$6,112,547.05* |
| *2017/18* | *$5,933,491.05* |

**Q9.** Can Council please advise how many trees have been planted in this financial year, broken down by Ward and location?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WARD** | **NUMBER OF TREES PLANTED DURING 2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR** |
|  |  |

***A9.***

| ***WARD*** | ***NUMBER OF TREES PLANTED DURING 2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR (to date)*** |
| --- | --- |
| *Enoggera* | *213* |
| *Jamboree* | *1541* |
| *Pullenvale* | *1110* |
| *The Gap* | *448* |
| *Walter Taylor* | *406* |
| *Calamvale* | *458* |
| *Forest Lake* | *589* |
| *MacGregor* | *184* |
| *Moorooka* | *731* |
| *Runcorn* | *352* |
| *Tennyson* | *187* |
| *Bracken Ridge* | *672* |
| *Deagon* | *751* |
| *Hamilton* | *346* |
| *Marchant* | *619* |
| *McDowall* | *612* |
| *Northgate* | *625* |
| *Chandler* | *169* |
| *Coorparoo* | *452* |
| *Doboy* | *2657* |
| *Holland Park* | *146* |
| *Morningside* | *441* |
| *Wynnum Manly* | *659* |
| *Central* | *43* |
| *Paddington* | *283* |
| *The Gabba* | *104* |

*Note: This data represents trees planted by City Standards through the street and park tree budgets. The data does not include tree planting numbers by other Council work areas such as Development Services or City Projects Office. Additionally, Council officers have advised the locations of the trees planted was unable to be provided as this would take a significant amount of time having them redirected from their day jobs to provide a response.*

**Q10.** Please advise when and where plants have been planted in Wynnum Manly Ward, including the type of plants?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LOCATION PLANTED** | **DATE OF PLANTING** | **TYPE OF PLANTS** |
|  |  |  |

***A10.*** *This data is not collected by Council.*

**Q11.** Provide the following details regarding infringement notices for the following years:-

| **FINANCIAL YEAR** | **TOTAL NUMBER OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ISSUED** | **TOTAL VALUE OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ISSUED** | **TOTAL NUMBER OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES WITHDRAWN AFTER APPEAL** | **TOTAL VALUE OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES WITHDRAWN AFTER APPEAL** | **TOTAL VALUE OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES WITHDRAWN AFTER APPEAL** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2012-2013 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2013-2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2014-2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2015-2016 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2016-2017 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2017-2018 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2018-2019 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019-2020 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2020-2021 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2021-2022 |  |  |  |  |  |

***A11.***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***FINANCIAL YEAR*** | ***TOTAL NUMBER OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ISSUED*** | ***TOTAL VALUE OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ISSUED*** | ***TOTAL NUMBER OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES WITHDRAWN AFTER APPEAL*** | ***TOTAL VALUE OF INFRINGEMENT NOTICES WITHDRAWN AFTER APPEAL*** |
| *2012-2013* | *192,861* | *$20,355,189.0* | *6,380* | *$684,074.0* |
| *2013-2014* | *288,084* | *$32,551,861.0* | *13,278* | *$1,393,095.0* |
| *2014-2015* | *261,177* | *$32,924,923.0* | *9,038* | *$1,170,621.0* |
| *2015-2016* | *214,852* | *$28,718,855.0* | *6,694* | *$1,270,710.0* |
| *2016-2017* | *288,856* | *$35,558,035.0* | *13,955* | *$1,920,955.0* |
| *2017-2018* | *264,475* | *$33,305,818.0* | *12,991* | *$1,851,962.0* |
| *2018-2019* | *234,102* | *$30,094,548.0* | *11,906* | *$1,528,214.0* |
| *2019-2020* | *188,820* | *$24,971,286.0* | *9,553* | *$1,271,083.0* |
| *2020-2021* | *183,475* | *$23,519,103.0* | *8,714* | *$1,142,145.0* |
| *2021-2022* | *114,645* | *$21,139,095.0* | *4,121* | *$596,466.0* |

**Q12.** When did Brisbane City Council first outsource infringement review services to an external service provider?

***A12.*** *2009/10 financial year.*

**Q13.** Provide a list of external service providers who have been contracted to provide infringement review services, including the financial years when the company provided this service.

***A13.*** *Tenix Solutions Pty Ltd: 2009/10 to 2018/19*

*Database Consultants Australia: 2018/19 to present.*

**Q14.** How many homes has Brisbane City Council offered as emergency accommodation under the Community Housing Partnership Project for each of the following financial years:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CALENDAR YEAR** | **NUMBER OF HOMES** |
| 2003-2004 |  |
| 2004-2005 |  |
| 2005-2006 |  |
| 2006-2007 |  |
| 2007-2008 |  |
| 2008-2009 |  |
| 2009-2010 |  |
| 2010-2011 |  |
| 2011-2012 |  |
| 2012-2013 |  |

***A14.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***FINANCIAL YEAR*** | ***NUMBER OF HOMES*** |
| *2003-2004* | *Information not available* |
| *2004-2005* | *Information not available* |
| *2005-2006* | *Information not available* |
| *2006-2007* | *Information not available* |
| *2007-2008* | *23\** |
| *2008-2009* | *Information not available* |
| *2009-2010* | *Information not available* |
| *2010-2011* | *33\** |
| *2011-2012* | *28* |
| *2012-2013* | *21* |

*The number of houses within the Community Housing Partnership Program fluctuates year to year as Council either adds or removes houses to the Program because of local infrastructure projects. Additionally, once a property is removed from the program, there is little value in retaining the information due to it having little operational currency as seen in the above data.*

*\* Information sourced from Brisbane City Council Annual Report for that year.*

**Q15.** Provide the number of people who have been provided accommodation through Council’s Community Housing Partnership Project for each calendar year:-

| **CALENDAR YEAR** | **NUMBER OF PEOPLE** |
| --- | --- |
| 2003 |  |
| 2004 |  |
| 2005 |  |
| 2006 |  |
| 2007 |  |
| 2008 |  |
| 2009 |  |
| 2010 |  |
| 2011 |  |
| 2012 |  |
| 2013 |  |
| 2014 |  |
| 2015 |  |
| 2016 |  |
| 2017 |  |
| 2018 |  |
| 2019 |  |
| 2020 |  |
| 2021 |  |
| 2022 (YTD) |  |

***A15.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***FINANCIAL YEAR*** | ***NUMBER OF PEOPLE*** |
| *2003-2004* | *Information not available* |
| *2004-2005* | *Information not available* |
| *2005-2006* | *Information not available* |
| *2006-2007* | *Information not available* |
| *2007-2008* | *42\** |
| *2008-2009* | *Information not available* |
| *2009-2010* | *Information not available* |
| *2010-2011* | *Information not available* |
| *2011-2012* | *Information not available* |
| *2012-2013* | *Information not available* |
| *2013-2014* | *Information not available* |
| *2014-2015* | *116* |
| *2015-2016* | *130* |
| *2016-2017* | *69* |
| *2017-2018* | *109* |
| *2018-2019* | *93* |
| *2019-2020* | *223* |
| *2020-2021* | *147* |
| *2021-2022 (YTD)* | *83* |

*The number of people housed by the Community Housing Partnership Program fluctuates year to year as Council either adds or removes houses to the Program because of local infrastructure projects. Additionally, once a property is removed from the program, there is little value in retaining the information due to it having little operational currency as seen in the above data.*

*\* Information sourced from Brisbane City Council Annual Report for that year.*

**Q16.** List all open footpath maintenance works (identified but not yet completed), including the total length of the street:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **STREET** | **SUBURB** | **TOTAL LENGTH OF STREET** | **WARD** |
|  |  |  |  |

***A16.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to answer this question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001*

**Q17.** What is the cost estimate for the completion of all open footpath maintenance works (identified but not yet completed)?

***A17.*** *$5,476,753 as at end-April 2022.*

**Q18.** Please provide a breakdown of the costs associated with promoting the Brisbane App to date.

***A18.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***Costs*** |
| *TV advertising* | *$796,657.12* |
| *Radio advertising* | *$292,557.23* |
| *Print advertising* | *$26,198.63* |
| *Brochures / flyers / stickers* | *$222,894.87* |
| *Social media advertising* | *$147,857.14* |
| *Social media influencers* | *$70,996* |
| *Digital advertising* | *$240,774.79* |
| *Cinema advertising* | *$88,182.60* |
| *Outdoor advertising* | *$705,982.26* |
| *Talent* | *$207,248.60* |

*.*

**Q19.** Provide the total spend on the annual kerbside collection service for the following financial years:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CALENDAR YEAR** | **NUMBER OF PEOPLE** |
| 2012-2013 |  |
| 2013-2014 |  |
| 2014-2015 |  |
| 2015-2016 |  |
| 2016-2017 |  |
| 2017-2018 |  |
| 2018-2019 |  |
| 2019-2020 |  |
| 2020-2021 |  |
| 2021-2022 |  |

***A19.*** *It is unclear how the number of people requested in the table translates to the actual question being asked. Regardless, the answer to the question is as follows:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***FINANCIAL YEAR*** | ***Total Spend*** |
| *2012-2013* | *$5,279,358* |
| *2013-2014* | *$5,503,066* |
| *2014-2015* | *$5,536,035* |
| *2015-2016* | *$5,977,844* |
| *2016-2017* | *$6,049,761* |
| *2017-2018* | *$6,152,465* |
| *2018-2019* | *$6,111,054* |
| *2019-2020* | *$6,219,467* |
| *2020-2021* | *$249,662\** |
| *2021-2022* | *$5,472,281 year to date* |

*\* While kerbside collection was temporarily paused in 2020/2021 due to the pandemic, the Good Neighbour Kerbside Collection Scheme for vulnerable residents was delivered at a cost of $249,662.*

**Q20.** Please provide usage numbers for each Brisbane City Council pool, by month, for the last 2 years?

***A20.*** *Note: Reporting data for March and April 2021-22 is not yet available.*

| ***Venues month-by-month for financial years to date*** | ***July*** | ***August*** | ***September*** | ***October*** | ***November*** | ***December*** | ***January*** | ***February*** | ***March*** | ***April*** | ***May*** | ***June*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Acacia Ridge Leisure Centre*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *472* | *885* | *2,090* | *4,667* | *6,761* | *7,144* | *8,630* | *8,028* | *5,935* | *5,107* | *5,268* | *5,385* |
| *2021-22* | *3,951* | *3,455* | *5,547* | *7,692* | *6,230* | *7,020* | *5,982* | *4,831* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Bellbowrie Pool*** | *562* | *627* | *7,149* | *28,996* | *45,910* | *40,360* | *37,911* | *33,725* | *13,997* | *3,202* | *2,981* | *605* |
| *2020-21* |  |  | *2,374* | *10,207* | *16,876* | *13,807* | *12,524* | *11,822* | *10,140* | *3,202* | *2,981* | *605* |
| *2021-22* | *562* | *627* | *3,918* | *14,300* | *18,463* | *13,280* | *12,503* | *11,702* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Carole Park Swim Centre*** |  |  | *1,410* | *10,128* | *18,363* | *8,677* | *8,113* | *8,773* | *6,742* | *924* |  |  |
| *2020-21* |  |  | *804* | *4,821* | *7,664* | *2,786* | *3,174* | *3,708* | *4,918* | *924* |  |  |
| *2021-22* |  |  | *290* | *3,193* | *6,422* | *2,724* | *2,426* | *2,230* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Centenary Aquatic Centre & Health club*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *17,579* | *20,166* | *22,011* | *32,668* | *28,708* | *22,277* | *22,859* | *30,737* | *26,309* | *19,491* | *22,901* | *18,660* |
| *2021-22* | *18,767* | *16,535* | *26,802* | *26,510* | *22,013* | *16,960* | *19,369* | *21,617* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Chermside Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *9,011* | *10,170* | *14,850* | *21,611* | *35,185* | *35,046* | *29,513* | *18,555* | *14,090* | *12,212* | *12,294* | *11,365* |
| *2021-22* | *10,507* | *8,787* | *14,172* | *20,246* | *27,604* | *30,440* | *24,236* | *18,168* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Colmslie Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *14,038* | *19,842* | *21,556* | *25,738* | *26,326* | *28,556* | *25,249* | *23,877* | *22,668* | *17,922* | *22,126* | *18,141* |
| *2021-22* | *16,724* | *17,680* | *21,348* | *26,028* | *26,712* | *19,688* | *18,155* | *23,600* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Dunlop Park Memorial Swimming Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* |  |  | *3,129* | *21,485* | *30,549* | *22,076* | *20,404* | *24,132* | *21,731* | *14,102* | *14,137* | *9,367* |
| *2021-22* | *8,576* | *6,912* | *12,622* | *21,871* | *22,472* | *18,608* | *17,313* | *13,697* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Emily Seebohm Aquatic Centre*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *4,278* | *8,107* | *9,691* | *9,919* | *10,690* | *7,499* | *8,160* | *9,110* | *12,567* | *6,009* | *7,750* | *10,853* |
| *2021-22* | *10,090* | *6,001* | *7,919* | *9,485* | *9,680* | *6,696* | *6,378* | *7,766* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Hibiscus Sports Complex*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *13,670* | *14,007* | *16,021* | *21,046* | *43,961* | *15,733* | *20,812* | *24,413* | *21,706* | *13,886* | *16,935* | *14,678* |
| *2021-22* | *13,281* | *12,233* | *14,619* | *19,841* | *19,511* | *24,362* | *15,360* | *17,382* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Ithaca Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* |  |  | *1,147* | *5,544* | *7,299* | *5,660* | *5,058* | *4,970* | *4,480* | *1,433* | *863* | *585* |
| *2021-22* |  |  | *1,396* | *6,124* | *5,405* | *5,239* | *6,107* | *5,640* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Jindalee Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *2,837* | *4,968* | *4,789* | *9,459* | *13,928* | *9,800* | *7,850* | *11,774* | *10,733* | *4,144* | *6,939* | *5,563* |
| *2021-22* | *2,543* | *4,500* | *6,351* | *11,047* | *11,545* | *8,873* | *7,874* | *9,653* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Langlands Park Memorial Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *13,653* | *19,573* | *18,032* | *24,927* | *34,825* | *26,823* | *29,516* | *37,909* | *30,566* | *17,248* | *24,762* | *19,279* |
| *2021-22* | *16,062* | *19,441* | *21,120* | *34,835* | *35,059* | *31,240* | *32,199* | *29,590* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Manly Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *2,923* | *4,865* | *10,134* | *11,998* | *17,941* | *15,525* | *16,874* | *17,321* | *13,938* | *7,957* | *8,185* | *7,031* |
| *2021-22* | *6,217* | *5,735* | *9,253* | *13,848* | *15,264* | *17,632* | *16,672* | *13,392* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Mt Gravatt East Swimming Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *12,728* | *13,291* | *13,706* | *17,115* | *21,287* | *17,700* | *17,812* | *18,059* | *15,526* | *17,736* | *17,903* | *15,952* |
| *2021-22* | *15,440* | *16,013* | *15,946* | *18,991* | *18,453* | *18,692* | *17,137* | *14,671* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Musgrave Park Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* |  |  | *3,653* | *6,590* | *8,645* | *7,011* | *8,027* | *14,374* | *8,197* | *3,885* | *4,758* | *3,479* |
| *2021-22* | *4,317* | *3,676* | *6,025* | *10,465* | *10,335* | *7,325* | *9,687* | *9,740* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Newmarket Olympic Swimming Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *5,407* | *10,678* | *12,745* | *33,681* | *38,262* | *28,098* | *29,820* | *34,525* | *28,243* | *9,391* | *12,643* | *10,459* |
| *2021-22* | *3,992* | *8,693* | *14,152* | *33,691* | *34,897* | *26,781* | *27,036* | *25,246* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Parkinson Aquatic Centre*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *16,522* | *22,695* | *29,630* | *40,110* | *41,818* |  | *40,861* | *47,868* | *30,151* | *29,293* | *31,216* | *22,724* |
| *2021-22* | *22,838* | *17,837* | *24,505* | *31,353* | *35,871* | *26,757* | *22,288* | *23,051* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Runcorn Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *8,033* | *11,147* | *14,686* | *22,741* | *34,163* | *37,138* | *21,036* | *20,904* | *21,465* | *15,432* | *20,813* | *12,893* |
| *2021-22* | *14,021* | *13,089* | *19,186* | *22,094* | *24,069* | *27,493* | *17,073* | *17,787* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Sandgate Aquatic Centre*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *13,470* | *20,491* | *25,991* | *36,153* | *46,076* | *40,075* | *43,930* | *35,834* | *31,391* | *35,928* | *20,380* | *20,883* |
| *2021-22* | *15,356* | *17,653* | *24,887* | *34,551* | *33,458* | *33,640* | *39,505* | *31,220* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Spring Hill Baths*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* |  |  | *412* | *1,203* | *1,858* | *1,827* | *2,036* | *2,659* | *1,233* | *1,228* | *1,377* | *1,037* |
| *2021-22* | *1,163* | *1,111* | *1,619* | *1,764* | *1,703* | *1,534* | *1,793* | *1,806* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Valley Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *6,141* | *8,471* | *7,358* | *12,793* | *17,193* | *8,737* | *11,017* | *26,227* | *14,232* | *6,545* | *8,093* | *6,429* |
| *2021-22* | *614* | *4,874* | *7,700* | *16,594* | *22,049* | *9,328* | *12,364* | *14,936* |  |  |  |  |
| ***Yeronga Park Memorial Swimming Pool*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *2020-21* | *16,988* | *21,675* | *26,485* | *36,737* | *47,684* | *36,245* | *32,163* | *32,030* | *36,696* | *23,676* | *26,229* | *16,770* |
| *2021-22* | *15,400* | *13,797* | *21,314* | *30,188* | *34,744* | *26,067* | *27,895* | *26,036* |  |  |  |  |

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 7.58pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Victor Tan (Council and Committee Coordinator)

Dorian Maruda (A/Senior Council and Committee Officer)

Kristy Ramirez (A/Council and Committee Officer)

Ashley Bailey (A/Council and Committee Officer)

Billy Peers (Personal Support Officer to the Lord Mayor and Council Orderly)