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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

# The 4686 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,

# held at City Hall, Brisbane

# on Tuesday 2 August 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)  Steven HUANG (MacGregor)  Sarah HUTTON (Jamboree)  Sandy LANDERS (Bracken Ridge)  James MACKAY (Walter Taylor)  Kim MARX (Runcorn)  Peter MATIC (Paddington) (Deputy Chair of Council)  Ryan MURPHY (Chandler)  Angela OWEN (Calamvale)  Steven TOOMEY (The Gap)  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 SRIRANGANATHAN (The Gabba) |
| **Independent Councillor (and Ward)**  Nicole JOHNSTON (Tennyson) |

## OPENING OF MEETING:

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

Chair: I remind all Councillors of your obligations to declare prescribed and/or declarable conflicts of interest, where relevant, and the requirements of such to remove yourself from the Council Chamber for debate and voting where applicable.

## APOLOGY:

Chair: Are there any apologies? No apologies.

Councillors, I draw to your attention the Motion of Appreciation at item 2 on the Agenda.

LORD MAYOR will you please move the motion.

## MOTION OF APPRECIATION:

**1/2022-23**

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER), moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), the following motion of appreciation⎯

*‘That this Council:*

*Recognises special anniversaries with Brisbane’s Sister Cities Daejeon, Kaohsiung, and Shenzhen, celebrating 20, 25, and 30 years respectively.*

*Brisbane City Council reinforces our commitment to these sister city relationships as our city continues to evolve, building stronger relationships through economic, civic and cultural exchanges – all while developing new and improved links through tourism, trade, and business.’*

Chair: Is there any debate?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Yes, absolutely. It is absolutely important that we acknowledge our Sister Cities, and particularly celebrate these really important milestones that date back a significant period of time, whether it be 20 years, up to 35 years in the case of Shenzhen. I did want to start by acknowledging some of the special guests that we have in the Gallery, Mr Bae Hanjin from the Consulate of the Republic of Korea, also Ms Shim Hyein from the Consulate as well.

Mr Edward Tao, the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office; Mr Ali Wu, the Deputy from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office; and Mr Anthony Lin, the Kaohsiung Sister City representative on our steering committee. Also, from Shenzhen—or representing China—is Mr Larry Wang—Consul from the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Brisbane; and Mr Joe Qiao, the Vice Consul from the Consulate of the People’s Republic of China. Also, Mr Tony Wehl, the Shenzhen representative on the Brisbane Sister Cities Steering Committee.

I also wanted to acknowledge Mr Ross Humphreys as well, who is the Chair of the Kobe Sister Cities Steering Committee.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: First, I wanted to acknowledge the relationship with Shenzhen and this year commemorates the 30th anniversary of Brisbane’s Sister City relationship with that important city in China. The Brisbane-Shenzhen Sister City Agreement was signed on 22 June 1992 by former Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Councillor Jim Soorley, and also the former Mayor of Shenzhen, Mr Zheng Liangyu.

The Sister City relationship is focused on—and has been focused on—working in the spirit of friendship, mutual respect, cooperation and goodwill to promote the closer economic and tourism relationships and by fostering exchanges in the areas of business, trade, investment, science and technology, education and training, tourism, sport and culture. So, virtually every aspect of city life, these relationships are focused on building those exchanges and relationships in so many different areas.

Since the signing of the agreement, a number of ceremonies and events have been held by the two city governments to reaffirm the relationship. The most recent one includes the celebration of the 25th anniversary by the former Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, who led a business delegation of 32 people to Shenzhen. The program included a courtesy call, official dinner, in-market briefings and business investment forums and the launch of an event of Brisbane Shenzhen Innovation Hub at Shenzhen University Town Creative Park.

Shenzhen has been a long-standing supporter of Brisbane’s Asia Pacific City Summit (APCS), which dates back many years as well, and we are so grateful for their ongoing involvement in that important forum. I want to particularly thank a number of people associated with this particular and important relationship. Mr Qin Weizhong, the Mayor of Shenzhen, the Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government, the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Brisbane, the Shenzhen Economic and Trade Office in Australia. Members of the Brisbane Sister City Steering Committee, including Mr Tony Wehl—I mentioned before—the representative for Shenzhen and his many years of support, for that we thank you.

Also, members of the Lord Mayor’s Multicultural Roundtable, including Mr Michael Chan, Chair of the Roundtable, and Mr Michael Ma, the representative of Brisbane’s Chinese community. I look forward to—after such an important milestone—this relationship getting stronger and stronger into the future and today we rededicate ourselves to that relationship.

I also wanted to acknowledge the important relationship we have with Kaohsiung. The 25th anniversary this year of that Sister City relationship is, indeed, an important milestone we should also acknowledge and celebrate. Plans to celebrate this significant anniversary are currently underway and will be enjoyed by residents of both cities and stay tuned for more information there. But the Brisbane Kaohsiung Sister City relationship and agreement was formalised on 9 September 1997, also by former Lord Mayor, Councillor Jim Soorley, and by the former Mayor of Kaohsiung, Yeh Chu-Ian.

The relationship focuses on working together in the spirit of friendship and cooperation to promote closer economic and tourism relationships, by fostering exchanges in the areas of education, training, infrastructure, tourism, creative industries, culture, personal relationships and also the redevelopment of cities and the growth of cities. Since the signing of the agreement, a number of ceremonies and events have been held between the two city governments to reaffirm the relationship, including in March 2021 when I held a videoconference with Mayor Chen, the Mayor of Kaohsiung, to further strengthen the Sister City relationship.

This was the first official meeting between the two Mayors—well, between the two current Mayors. In June 2021, Kaohsiung City Government hosted the 2021 Sister City and Friendly Cities Multimedia Exhibition and showcased Brisbane to the citizens of Kaohsiung to deepen the relationship. Once again, Kaohsiung has been really actively involved in the Asia Pacific City Summit and we thank Kaohsiung representatives from the Mayor through to the city government and all of the officials for their involvement and for their support of this relationship. Once again, we celebrate this relationship and we rededicate both of our cities to pursuing and growing that relationship.

I wanted to thank, in particular, the current Mayor of Kaohsiung, Mayor Chen, the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Director General Edward Tao, Kaohsiung City Government, members of the Sister City Steering Committee, including Mr Anthony Lin and everyone who has been involved in this important relationship.

Finally—and just as importantly, I want to acknowledge the 20thanniversary of the Sister City relationship with Brisbane and Daejeon in Korea. Today’s celebration marks that important 20-year anniversary—which dates back to June, 20 years ago—and it’s the result of two cities cooperating and developing a very special relationship that started during the 1990s, through Brisbane’s involvement in the World Technopolis Association, an initiative of the Daejeon Metropolitan City.

The Brisbane Sister City relationship with Daejeon was formalised by the former Deputy Mayor of Brisbane, Councillor Tim Quinn, and the former Mayor of Daejeon, Mr Hong Sun-ki. There have been multiple exchanges, and each year Brisbane welcomes approximately 100 students and young trainees from Daejeon for various study and training programs and scholarships. It was just last week that I met with the representatives from the Daejeon Metropolitan Education Office to talk about this year’s program, which obviously was impacted in recent years by COVID and inability of those students to travel, but we’re back this year and we’re looking forward to that relationship strengthening.

Also, Daejeon has been very active in the Asia Pacific City Summit and I thank them for their active involvement. I wanted to thank the supporters of this important relationship, Mr Lee Jang-woo, the Mayor of Daejeon Metropolitan City, the Daejeon Metropolitan City Government, the Daejeon Tourism Organisation, the Consulate of the Republic of Korea in Brisbane, which recently just opened on the other side of King George Square and overlooks City Hall each day.

Korean local and State Government office in Sydney, the members of the Brisbane Sister Cities Steering Committee, including Mr John Aitken, the representative for Daejeon. Also, members of the Lord Mayor’s Multicultural Roundtable, including Hyun Gwang-hoon, who is the representative of Brisbane’s Korean community on that.

Once again, Brisbane rededicates itself to this important relationship with Daejeon and continues to strengthen it going forward into the future, thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further speakers.

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak in support of this motion before us today marking the 20th, 25th and 30th anniversary of the Sister City arrangements with Daejeon, Kaohsiung and Shenzhen. These are really important arrangements and relationships that our city has across the Asia Pacific and this is three of the many that we have around our region.

As we’ve heard from the LORD MAYOR, a bit of the history of these and when these were initiated, when they were signed. They came on the back of a period of time where Australia, led then by Prime Minister Paul Keating and primarily through the early 90s—refocusing Australia’s focus, I suppose, on the Asia Pacific as the region in which we belong, the region in which we should engage and the region in which our economic and national security will be drawn from. So, having these relationships is very important and obviously that work that Brisbane City Council in the late 90s and early 2000s—initiating these first Sister City arrangements was on the back of that and they’re very important relationships for us to have.

It wasn’t that long ago—only as recently as earlier this year—that some of those arrangements were under threat from a different Federal Government at the time. We had the then Defence Minister, Peter Dutton, who is now the Leader of the Liberal Party and the Leader of the Opposition in the Federal Parliament—was seeking to force councils to scrap Sister City arrangements, particularly, with those in the People’s Republic of China.

So, we—and I’m glad that the Administration here does—have a very different approach to that of their leaders at a Federal level. Because the Labor Party has always seen, for a very long time, the Asia Pacific as the most important relationships with countries in the Asia Pacific that our nation should have and that our Council certainly should have as well. So, it’s good to see, I think, after the—it’s been refreshing over the last eight to 10 weeks to have a government, have a Prime Minister and have a Foreign Minister that is spending time in the Asia Pacific building those relationships.

We’ve got a government full of adults instead of a government full of children at a national level, so that is very good, and we certainly strongly support Council’s relationships with our Sister Cities. We certainly know that now, in 2022, the issue of climate change and the devastating effects that we see in the South Pacific, particularly, around the effects of climate change. We would certainly like to see added into these relationships—on top of links through tourism, trade and business—environmental links and working together on addressing the critical issues of climate change.

As we know, every level of government has a role to play in that and we know that these cities are working very hard on that and we need to have a Council that engages on that as well, and hopefully, in the near future, we will have one of those.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise too to support the relationships between Shenzhen, Daejeon and Kaohsiung and these fantastic anniversaries we have with our Sister Cities. In particular to celebrate, recognise and recommit to the strong economic focus that we have on our Sister City relationships in these three cities. I’ll start with the longest one, of course, is Shenzhen 30th anniversary and Shenzhen is a very important city within China, one of the first special economic zones that was established in China in the 1980s.

Due to its close proximity to Hong Kong, it does attract a lot of foreign direct investment and migrants searching for opportunities. So, there was a great opportunity for us to connect with Shenzhen through technology, financial services, modern logistics and cultural and creative sectors. It’s one of China’s main ports for foreign trade and international exchange and the Port of Shenzhen is the world’s fourth busiest container port.

Our Sister City relationship, as I said, has a very strong economic focus. A number of Shenzhen companies have chosen Brisbane as a city of their regional headquarters, including BGI Group, which is in biotechnology; Hytera which is in telecommunication; and Dorabot, which is a robotics company as well. We’ve been back there a lot too to make sure that we can strengthen our economic ties as well.

In 2021, the Shenzhen Global Investment Promotion Conference in Brisbane, a Brisbane company, Analytica, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Shenzhen’s Kerry Rehabilitation Medical Research Institute. We’ve supplied Brisbane Airport Corporation from BYD, a Shenzhen company, with a fleet of 11 electric buses for landside transport operations. Place Design Group, a very large—headquartered in Brisbane—office of town planners and urban designers, set up their business in 2004 over there as well.

We’ve had Steven Liddell, owner of Street Science, use office space over there in their innovation hub. Audeara—smart headphones, have competed in the Innovation and Entrepreneurship International Competition and won the final championship in the Australian market as well. Of course, in 2018, the Brisbane Shenzhen Talent Career Fair was held at the Sofitel, and we had nearly over 150 attendees. So, we know that Shenzhen contribute greatly to our Brisbane community, in particular in the economic focus, but events like the Brisbane Chinese Festival, which have a fantastic contribution to our multicultural and diverse city as well.

It showcases our social and cultural ties and over the past four years we’ve strengthened that with international students representing Shenzhen—nine of them in the past four years—in our international internship program as well. So, we love the opportunity we have to work for many more years to come with that strong relationship.

Kaohsiung, in its 25thanniversary, is also a leading-edge industrial city. Right on the southern tip of the island, home to nine industrial parks focusing on manufacturing in the sections of metal, machinery, chemicals, petrochemical and ship building industries. It’s home to the National Science and Technology Museum—which wasn’t quite finished last time I was there—the second largest in the world and it’s a permanent exhibition dedicated to industrial history, including steel industry pioneers.

They also have a very active high-tech developing in environmental protection, low carbon green energy, cultural and creative industries as well. It serves as a major port as well, some of the things that we do love about our Sister Cities is the port cities. It’s an international hub and it’s ranked as number 13 in the container volume for cargo in the word. We have had a lot of dealings with Kaohsiung in the last 10 years. In 2019 the Kaohsiung Medical University led a delegation to Griffith University, where they’ve collaborated in exchange programs for professors and co-teaching programs.

That has actually led to KMU (Kaohsiung Medical University) introducing a smart simulation hospital device that will combine problem-oriented learning across teaching in Griffith University. Of course, we had the APCS there in 2013 which was fantastic for Kaohsiung to interact and exchange best practices with other cities from around the Asia Pacific region. The Taiwanese community contribution is huge in Brisbane as well. They have Buddha’s Birthday Festival, Multicultural Dragon Festival and Brisbane International Arts Festival and many more to showcase their social and cultural ties to our city as well.

We know the Taiwanese community support and benefit many of our residents in economy, through shopping centre developments, property developments, Asian supermarkets, travel agencies, gift shops and the education sectors as well. That special relationship will continue through this Sister City relationship and exploring new opportunities. We’ve also had international internship programs with six interns representing Kaohsiung over the last four years.

Finally, but as the LORD MAYOR said definitely not least, is Daejeon, our 20th anniversary. South Korea’s leading hub in the higher education sector—home to 19 universities, so obviously a great relationship here with Brisbane where—probably pre-COVID, our biggest export was international education. It also has a major television production hub and some of you may have heard of one of their biggest Netflix shows called *Squid Game* which was filmed in Daejeon. We’re all waiting for the second series of *Squid Game*, by the way.

It is a nations hub for E-sports, which is going to become very big over the next couple of years. A brand new permanent E-sports stadium called Dream Arena was opened there as well with a total of 500 seats, so that will be something very interesting to have a look at as we progress into 2032 as well. It’s the home to Korea’s Aerospace Research Institute and ranks in the top three cities in South Korea for a start-up ecosystem, something we’ve been working very closely with them as well.

We have had 11 student entrepreneurs from the University of Queensland (UQ) head over there for their BizWorld Conference in 2019. We had a delegation in 2017 when they hosted the APCS as well, and we travelled on through Asia from Daejeon where over $200,000 worth of economic outcomes were seen from our Brisbane businesses and their relationship with Daejeon. Again, it is a beautiful relationship we have with Daejeon and it enables our people to experience the different culture—which is very different between Taiwan and China and Korea—embrace diversity and develop a vibrant, multicultural community.

The Korean Festival Day attracts over 30,000 residents from around Brisbane and greater parts of Queensland and, again, strengthens our diversity and celebrates the beautiful Korean culture as well. We are looking forward to keeping these strong ties—as I said, we are celebrating them today, but we are recommitting, and we look forward to working with them closely in the years to come.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Further debate?

Councillor HUANG.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak in support of this motion to appreciate the significant anniversaries of our three Sister Cities: Shenzhen, Kaohsiung and Daejeon. Mr Chair, some years ago I was asked by the then Lord Mayor, Councillor Graham Quirk, to attend a meeting with DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), in their Brisbane office, to share Brisbane’s experiences in international relations. At the meeting, Brisbane was commended as an outstanding example of how local government conducted meaningful international relations and engagements.

Brisbane currently has nine Sister Cities and we continue to enjoy meaningful business and cultural exchanges with them. Mr Chair, today we celebrate the 30th anniversary with Shenzhen in China. Mr Chair, there’s a phrase in Chinese called ‘*Bei Shang Guang Shen’*. ‘*Bei*’ stands for Beijing, ‘*Shang*’ stands for Shanghai, ‘*Guang*’ stands for Guangzhou, and ‘*Shen*’ stands for Shenzhen. These are the four cities in China that is widely regarded as the cities that offers the most opportunities to the people, especially to the young people; just like Brisbane in Australia, they are the cities that make people’s dreams come true.

Today we also celebrate our 25th anniversary with Kaohsiung in Taiwan. Mr Chair, Kaohsiung and Brisbane share many common features: both cities are similar in size and both cities are river cities. Kaohsiung is located near the Tropic of Cancer and Brisbane is located near the Tropic of Capricorn. To commemorate our friendship, we have laid a memorial stone in South Bank and a park, Kaohsiung Park in Eight Mile Plains, which was in my ward and now falls in Runcorn Ward, which Councillor MARX was telling me she is planning to hold a celebration party in September to commemorate the Sister City relationship.

We are also here to celebrate the 20th anniversary with Daejeon in Korea. Daejeon is Korea’s New World City, a transport hub with national transport routes and high-speed rail. Daejeon is also the new designated administrative hub for Korean government; currently there are 12 national government offices have relocated from Seoul to Daejeon. Daejeon is a rising city in Korea and will continue to enjoy our friendship and business and cultural relationships with Daejeon, especially with the recent opening of Korean Consulate in Brisbane.

Mr Chair, Brisbane is blessed with our Sister City relationships and I look forward to more interactions with our Sister Cities—once international travel is back to normal, so we can continue to strengthen our friendship that we have long enjoyed. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Mr Chair, I rise to speak in support of this very important Motion of Appreciation today. I note that we have members of the Consular Corps here in the Chamber in the Public Gallery today and can I say to you, ‘*ni hăo*’ and also ‘*hwan-yeonghabnida*’. It is wonderful to have you here today and I also acknowledge all of those other representatives who have supported the Brisbane City Council Sister Cities Committees over the years, which I have had the privilege of being a Chair of for some time as well.

I would just like to say through you, Mr Chair, that the relationships that we build with our Sister Cities have metamorphosised over a number of years. They started out from a friendship basis, from an arts and cultural basis, and have really strengthened in the ties between trade and also recognition of those mutual benefits right across the spheres of our individual cities. It is wonderful to note that we are now reaching anniversaries that are ages, that the majority of our Councillors were probably in primary school for, when they started. This shows the absolute longevity and sustainability of these important Sister City relationships.

What I find extremely gratifying is that I’ve had the privilege of meeting many of the people who have come on Sister City delegations to our wonderful city here and I’ve had the fortune of spending time with people from all levels of government, particularly from those cities. Can I please say to Shenzhen, Happy 30th Anniversary; to Kaohsiung, Happy 25th Anniversary, and to Daejeon, Happy 20th Anniversary. These are significant milestones, not only for our city, but also for each of your cities—but also for our Sister City programs here in Brisbane.

We have demonstrated through the years the importance of our Sister Cities. We have also used the Asia Pacific Cities Summit to highlight those Sister City relationships, to build on them and to make sure—through the APCS process—that we are building our government-to-government, our business-to-government and our business-to-business relationships on all levels. But also, fostering the friendships and those long-term relationships and that is what has made each one of these Sister Cities so very successful.

Through you, Mr Chairman, I would like to actually put my appreciation into the permanent Council record for all of the Consular Corp members and representatives of the governments of those cities who have been stationed here in Brisbane throughout the entirety of our Sister City relationships—because it is their contribution that has helped make these relationships strong and helped make these relationships flourish.

Without your significant contribution—and in particular, your presence here today, we would not have been as successful in this relationship without you. So, I extend that thank you personally to all of those people who have been in those roles, because I know that they have worked very closely with me and I know that I have developed friendships with all of them over the years and I say, thank you, because I feel very, very privileged to have had that relationship.

The Sister Cities Committee, in itself, has been very important in supporting the relationships and it has been representatives of the Committee that have also been a liaison point. I have been very connected to many of those people over the time and I have valued their input and understanding of not only what is happening in those other cities, but also what they’re hearing through the business community, to help feed that through. I know through the Asia Pacific Cities Summit process that those key linkages with the Sister Cities Committee has also been very, very important.

I’ve also been able to travel—at my leisure—to China and also to Taiwan and can I say the reception I have received there was very warm, very welcoming. Particularly in the Sister Cities, it has been an extension of friendship, but more like a family—I’ve been treated more like an extended family member. I haven’t made it quite yet to Daejeon—I missed out on going to the Asia Pacific Cities Summit in 2017, but I hope now that we are progressing through the situation that COVID-19 has brought about in the last couple of years, that Daejeon will certainly be on my future travel list. I just want to be able to tick off all of our Sister Cities as we go through the years.

But most importantly, can I say thank you to all of our Sister Cities—and in particular Shenzhen, Kaohsiung and Daejeon—for your willingness and your cooperation with Brisbane to create a great Sister City Partnership and it is one that we are privileged to call our Sister City. Thank you.

Chair: Further debate?

LORD MAYOR? Thank you.

I will now put the motion.

The Chair submitted the Motion of Appreciation to the Chamber, which resulted in it being declared **carried.**

Chair: Councillors, the next item on our Agenda is the Confirmation of Minutes.

## MINUTES:

**2/2022-23**

The Minutes of the 4,683 (ordinary), 4,684 (budget), and 4,685 (special) meetings held on Tuesday 14 June 2022, Wednesday 15 June 2022, and Thursday 23 June 2022, respectively, copies of which had been forwarded to each Councillor, were presented, taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

## QUESTION TIME:

Chair: The next item on our Agenda is Question Time.

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

Councillor HAMMOND.

**Question 1**

Councillor HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, this morning you announced that 250,000 plants and trees will be planted this year to support Brisbane’s koala population. Can you please update the Chamber of the importance of this work, including the Schrinner Council’s record in supporting our koala population?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you to the green jacket-wearing Councillor HAMMOND today. We know that you are, like this entire team, passionate about our local environment and also supporting our koala population in Brisbane, which is in this interesting situation of being in an urban and suburban environment, but still continuing to thrive on. We want to make sure that that is the case for the long term. One of the things that I was very clear about on becoming LORD MAYOR was that we have an aspiration to be the koala capital of Australia here.

That is an aspiration that is definitely within our reach if we continue to invest in the way that we have when it comes to protecting bushland through the Bushland Acquisition Program, but also a whole range of other initiatives. Today was an example of some of those other initiatives coming together. First of all, we’ve been funding for a number of years now koala research and there’s an important program we’re doing with the University of Queensland researchers to monitor our koala populations in Brisbane, in particular along the Bulimba Creek corridor because that part of Brisbane is koala central.

We have, along Bulimba Creek, a thriving and good population of koalas that is moving around the corridor and one that we continue to invest in. So, University of Queensland monitors the movements of those koalas, they are also—koala by koala—doing health checks and inspections on those koalas to monitor the health of the population. But also, they’re teaming up with local animal hospitals and vets to make sure that if koalas are experiencing some of the challenges they have—such as the chlamydia that koalas are sometimes prone to—that they get treatment for that disease.

In fact, the good news is there is a really good treatment rate and response rate to koalas that have been identified in Bulimba Creek corridor and that have been treated with antibiotics targeted to deal with that chlamydia and then released back into the wild to continue on as healthy koalas. So, this is one part of the program, the other part is making sure that they have good quality and expanding habitat. So, along Bulimba Creek, today we kicked off a program which will see more than 250,000 plants established on Bulimba Creek, including 51,000 koala trees.

So, our experts have selected a number of different tasty koala treats—different types of gum and eucalyptus trees that the koalas favour—and they’re being planted along the creek corridor. So, this is a really important program, but the other thing that we’re doing as well is making sure that there is enhanced safety as koalas move around on our road network. That includes a significant investment that we’ve made in this Administration on things like the wildlife movement solutions response.

That includes—actually people know that I’m passionate about green bridges, but our greenest green bridge was built at Whites Hill Reserve, and it is the world’s first koala bridge, which I say is a green bridge. So, it’s about getting koalas across that busy road safely, we’ve incorporated various measures along that corridor, including fauna fencing to stop the wildlife going out onto the road but also then directing them to safe crossing points. There’s also a range of things that are being trialled out there, including koala ladders. So, where there’s steep embankments on the roadside there are ladders that have been built in to help the animals escape out of that embankment more easily.

So, we’re going through, based on evidence, based on research, based on experience and working to help protect our koalas in urban areas and to make sure that they not only survive but they thrive in the future. So, this is an important step today in establishing more than 250,000-260,000 plants, in continuing the research with UQ, in continuing the wildlife movement solutions to make sure that our koalas continue to thrive. UQ is actively monitoring at least 13 koalas along Bulimba Creek, but they advised me today that that is only a percentage of the koalas out there.

They’ll progressively identify new koalas, make sure they’re treated if they have any illnesses, make sure they’re tagged and also kept a track of so that we can make sure we know where the koalas are, where they’re moving, how far away they’re roaming when it comes to their habitat. What they’re doing, in particular during breeding season, when they’re out and about, and also making sure that we inform residents about how they can live safely—and I guess cohabit with koalas amongst—

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor COOK.

**Question 2**

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, this week is Homelessness Week. It has now been almost three months since Labor initiated the first homelessness strategy for the City of Brisbane. What steps, if any, has your LNP Council taken to develop a new strategy?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, it’s an interesting question because we know that Labor Councillors, Labor State Governments, Labor Federal Governments are all about strategies and reviews; we are always about action and that’s where we continue to put our efforts. Yes, we will develop a strategy, but that strategy will simply complement what we are already doing and what we are gearing up in the space of housing and homelessness. I am very proud, as LORD MAYOR, to have introduced for the very first time in the City of Brisbane, the Pathways Out of Homelessness Program.

It was a program that originally started as a temporary program—a three-year temporary program—because we, at the time, had a windfall from a superannuation fund. We decided to reinvest that windfall straight into supporting our local charities who are helping people out of homelessness. Now, there are some people who believe that an appropriate solution to homelessness is to allow them to sleep on park benches and in parks; that is a heartless and uncaring approach.

We want people to be out of that situation. We don’t think it’s okay that people should be in that situation, and we need to help them out of it and that’s where we direct our efforts. So, this year in the budget we made sure that this temporary program became a permanent, ongoing program of the Brisbane City Council with $1,000,000 a year—continuing on year after year to support those pathways out of homelessness. We also do a whole range of things to support charities, to support other organisations.

Our officers are patrolling the streets each day, talking to people who are either experiencing homelessness and seeking support, people who are needing assistance and doing their best—they do a great job in helping to connect people with the services that are available. As you would have heard, just in recent times, I put forward, on behalf of my team, what I believe could be a good solution to help provide more crisis accommodation in Brisbane, and that is the use of the Pinkenba quarantine facility with 1,000 beds—1,000 beds—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Thank you. This is very interesting, but not to the question, which was, what has your LNP Council done to develop a new homelessness strategy for the city?

Chair: Thank you. Councillor COOK, to your point of order I believe the LORD MAYOR is addressing the question which was to talk about steps in relation to a new strategy for homelessness.

LORD MAYOR: I’m talking about what we are doing, not some kind of strategy which is what Labor traditionally focuses on; strategies and reviews endlessly but no action, no real outcomes. Just like they have not provided outcomes for social housing, and we have a 50,000 person waiting list for public—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

LORD MAYOR: —and social housing.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Mr Chair, if the LORD MAYOR’s answer is nothing—that he’s done nothing towards the strategy, could he just get to the point? This is not to the question; we want to know what he has done to advance the strategy.

Chair: Thank you. I think—Councillor COOK, the LORD MAYOR is addressing the question of homelessness and what the Administration is doing.

LORD MAYOR.

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair. There was no question of that nature. It was—

Chair: Please, Councillor COOK, don’t—I gave my ruling on the point of order.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair. I dissent in your ruling. I think that it’s a very clear question, it’s about the housing strategy and this is going way off on a tangent.

Chair: Well, it was homelessness, but there you go.

So, dissent has been moved in my ruling. No seconder.

*The dissent motion lapsed for want of a seconder.*

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Let me be clear what’s going on here. Councillor COOK is not interested in what we’re actually doing to respond to homelessness—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —she’s worried about a document. She’s worried about a document, she’s worried about committee meetings, she’s worried about public consulting group meetings, she’s worried about the development of words on paper. We are worried about action; we are focused on action and that’s what we’ll continue to be focused on. So, Councillor COOK may not like to hear this, but it just goes to show the priorities over there are on words, the priorities here are on action and they will continue to be on action.

So, as we have said, we will be developing and finessing our homelessness strategy but, in the meantime, it’s not going to stop the work that we’re doing to support homelessness. Labor Councillors should hang their head in shame because I didn’t hear a cry of support from Labor Councillors when it was suggested that Pinkenba should be used to provide 1,000 beds of crisis accommodation.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: They were dead silent. They were silent and I didn’t hear them—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I didn’t hear—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: In silence please—let the answer be heard in silence.

LORD MAYOR: I didn’t hear them providing any solutions to increase housing supply and we know that time after time they oppose housing supply in this city, driving up prices. Driving up prices. So, if Labor Councillors want to talk about housing and homelessness, I will talk until the cows come home, because we’re focused on doing, we’re focused on outcomes, they are focused on words and politics.

Chair: Thank you.

Further questions?

Councillor MACKAY.

**Question 3**

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, Councillor WINES. Councillor WINES, over the weekend you released the Schrinner Council’s Flood Resilience Action Plan, a document designed to improve our city’s—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Over the weekend you released the Schrinner Council’s Flood Resilience Action Plan, a document designed to improve our city’s flood resilience for residents, businesses and community groups alike. Could you please update the Chamber on some of the key action items within this plan?

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you. Thank you, Mr Chair, and thank you to Councillor MACKAY for his keen and ongoing interest in making sure that this city is more resilient when flood events occur here. As many Councillors would know, this document was released—the *Rebuild & Recover: Flood Resilience Action Plan*—on Saturday. It speaks to 51 actions that this Council will take to make sure that when floods occur in the future we will bounce back more quickly, with more robust infrastructure at a reduced price, both to the private individual and to the public purse.

This document identifies across all of our affected areas, whether that be infrastructure or transport, environment, drainage—all of them are identified within this document. The specific items are also mentioned to give a taste of some of the direction that we are going to ensure that some of the projects, to make sure that we continue to be resilient, are identified. So, some of the things that I wanted to inform the Council about specifically were in regards to items about electricity conduction.

So, we have approached Energy Queensland and have begun to have a meaningful dialogue about how we can move some of the power distribution and transformers to higher ground. As many people know, some communities lost power earlier and then stayed without power for longer because transformers and power distribution was held too close to the river or too close to floodways. So, we’ve engaged with them to find which ones should be moved and where to; that’s part of a meaningful way so that we can bounce back more quickly.

Other items that have been identified through the plan—so, many people—well, I expect all Councillors should know that there were disaster relief payments made to a whole range of community groups. In excess of $3 million was distributed to community groups to make sure that they had money to clean up quickly. Then, through the Brisbane Sustainability Agency, we have engaged with both community clubs and associations, and with homeowners who have sought it, to work with how we can best build those facilities to make them more resilient.

So, we’re talking about materials. While a lot of buildings in this city are your classic wood and steel, they are highly susceptible to flooding, so we will be working with clubs to make sure that the materials that they use to build their facilities will make it easier for them to bounce back. The Community Organisation Grant Support Scheme has also been launched. Some of the groups that have been identified as recipients will be the Toowong Bridge Club in Councillor MACKAY’s ward, the Stones Corner Community kindy, the Portuguese Society and the Northern Suburbs Bowls Club, to name but a few.

There’s also the ongoing Club Partnerships Program which is about supporting clubs that were damaged through the local floods. As Councillors should be aware, many of our sporting facilities are kept in the low-lying areas around our creeks and river because of this flooding issue. Some of the beneficiaries for that are the Norman Park Sports and Community Club, the Valley Hockey Club—which is not where you’d think it is, it’s actually in Kedron, in Councillor ALLAN’s ward, the Sandgate Hawks Australian Football Club and Carrington Boat Club have all been recipients of our support.

Specifically, when it comes to hard infrastructure, this Council has been made aware in the past that we have vehicles moving around the streets identifying where and to what level roads have been damaged, which ones require replacement and to what level that replacement should be. Reassuringly, Councillors should take some comfort in the fact that when this was done after the 2011 floods, the roads that were replaced in response to that event have fared far better than they did both at that time and in comparison to other roads in our network. So, we are hoping to bring that technology to roads that were affected through the creek flooding so that we can make that statement again in the future, if that were to happen again.

We are reviewing the locations and the standards of a whole range of public assets. Electrical signals that feed to the lightboxes that control our intersections, the electrics that control suburban park lighting and bikeway lighting, ensuring that structures like bridges and riverwalks will be built to a standard that means that they will be resilient in flood events. Pontoons stay at one of the higher levels of interest because a lot of the damage that was done to the ferry network—the ferry stops—was as a result of pontoons that became loose—

Chair: Councillor WINES, your time has expired.

Councillor WINES: Thank you.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 4**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. Last year you and your LNP Administration gave millions of dollars in developer discounts, but not one cent of that was directed to affordable housing providers. LORD MAYOR, why did you make the political decision to prioritise five-star hotel developers over supporting the development of affordable housing?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, I absolutely reject the claim that has been made by Councillor CASSIDY, but I would simply point out that if we didn’t have all of the new hotels that were built in Brisbane, we couldn’t actually have the Olympics here.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: A pretty simple fact because before—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —Brisbane introduced a new hotel incentive under Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, we had a very poor suite of hotels. It was very small and it was quite outdated and we have seen record investment which has allowed us to host the Olympics here in Brisbane. So, just like when we upgraded Kingsford Smith Drive—which Labor opposed—we now have an Olympic Village at the end of Kingsford Smith Drive. But we have expected a small-minded, party-political approach from the Opposition, but we know—we know what the reality is here when it comes to the issue of housing affordability, affordable housing and supply.

We know that when I called out their record in the Budget, they squawked and squirmed.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Why did they do that? Because it was false? Because I was saying false things? No, it’s because it was true. It was true and in fact we know that since—in the last six years, since the 2014 City Plan was introduced, there have been 16—plans—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes. No, just on relevance, my question was specifically about infrastructure charge discounts. So, the LORD MAYOR made a decision—his LNP Administration made a decision—to offer discounts to five-star hotel developers but not to affordable housing providers. So, my question is, why he made that decision, it’s a very specific question.

Chair: The question asked about affordable housing and I believe the LORD MAYOR is answering that question.

Councillor CASSIDY: I’m sorry, point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor—

Councillor CASSIDY: In a very specific context about infrastructure charge discounts. It was a very short, succinct, specific question, Chair and it’s about infrastructure charge discounts.

Chair: Please—

Councillor CASSIDY: Why did the LORD MAYOR decide to give those billionaires—

Chair: Thank you, you’re now—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —money instead of affordable housing providers.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, you’re now debating your point of order, I believe the LORD MAYOR is answering the question.

LORD MAYOR: Councillor CASSIDY is talking about billionaires, like really. I mean, goodness me.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Has he officially joined the Labor-Green Alliance or not, but I would suggest that he has.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: That he has. He’s hitched his wagon to the Labor-Green Alliance, he’s against billionaires apparently, but he can provide no social housing through this Labor State Government, no real solutions and just party politics. But he wants to talk about developer incentives or infrastructure charges incentives, so let’s talk about what they were for. They were to boost tourism and tourism accommodation under Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, and we saw new hotels coming online.

They were to boost retirement and aged care facilities for our aging population and, guess what, Labor voted against that—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —because they are all about politics and not real solutions—

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

LORD MAYOR: —and—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

LORD MAYOR: —there was an—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please. Councillor CASSIDY, please, enough.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

LORD MAYOR, you have the floor.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY. Councillor CASSIDY, please, restrain yourself.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. There was also an incentive to make sure there was affordable housing for students as they arrived in Brisbane to boost the economy and study here and work here and support the local economy here. So, there were three incentives, but I can flag today—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

LORD MAYOR: I can flag today, I will be looking at incentives to provide increased affordable housing in Sandgate. In Sandgate.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I’ll be looking at incentives to provide increased affordable housing in areas where Councillor CASSIDY opposes development, wants to limit development. I think there should be more affordable housing in Councillor CASSIDY’s ward, and I think that we should have a really good look at his area as a trial location. Let me think, if you can currently have, say, five storeys in Sandgate town centre, wouldn’t it be good if you could maybe go to six or seven if you provided a few levels of affordable housing?

I think that’d be a great outcome and I will be looking at introducing that as a trial in Sandgate. I expect Councillor CASSIDY’S full support because we need to provide affordable housing, he says he cares about it, here’s his opportunity to show he cares about it and we’ll be getting on with it. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further questions?

Councillor HUTTON.

**Question 5**

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, Councillor ADAMS. DEPUTY MAYOR, last week it was revealed in senate estimates that the Queensland Government is still stabbing in the dark when it comes to deciding on how they’re going to rebuild The Gabba.

As a partner with the State and Federal Government in delivering the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, could you please provide some good faith advice to the State in what they might want to look at to get this major project underway?

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. It was an exciting moment just over a week ago when we had that monumental milestone that we are just 10 years away from hosting the Olympics and Paralympic Games. A milestone that no other city has ever had; seven years has been the maximum. As we get ready to host the largest sporting event in the world, we need to make sure that we’re taking full advantage of those extra three years. The reality is there is no time to waste and there are critical decisions that need to be made now, but they need to also set us on the path to a strong legacy for the betterment of Brisbane.

This time, of course, we know it’s done a little bit differently. We’re the first Host City to operate under the new norm, where long-term planning needs of the Host City and our community are forefront of every decision. Not a single venue or piece of infrastructure will be built without the certainty that it’s essential to meet the needs of our growing city and region; no white elephants, no empty buildings or ghost towns after athletes have gone in 2032.

We originally looked at Albion as one of the alternate locations considered as a part of the original bid but, however, the State Government decided that a refurbed Gabba would be a better solution. There are benefits to keeping the stadium in The Gabba location. It’s a rich area for transport, Cross River Rail, Metro and Kangaroo Point Green Bridge which all provide optimal connections through to the rest of the inner city and beyond. But it’s also heavily constrained in terms of land size, the surrounding road network and the interface with private land and development, and we do hold concerns about the offsite impacts a stadium of this size will have on the surrounding community.

Our officers will continue to work with the State on transport modelling and design briefs to ensure these concerns are represented and fully considered before any big decisions are made. But I have one piece of advice for the State Government is to keep in mind the impact of these decisions that stay on long after the Games have left the city. We need to focus on delivering outcomes that will leave lasting legacies that will make the Brisbane of tomorrow better than the Brisbane of today.

This is not a time to stick to your guns for the sake of politics. We need to look at all options at the site, at the size and at that lasting legacy as well. The Gabba does rest in the sole responsibility of the State Government—and obviously with partnership with the Albanese Federal Government as a funding partner—but it is not an OCOG (Organising Committee for the Olympic Games) project *per se*. We do remember that it was very early in the candidateship process that there was a decision—a shotgun decision was made about The Gabba being knocked down and rebuilt at a cost of just $1 billion.

But that estimate, I have to say—

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: —even with the Palaszczuk Government—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

DEPUTY MAYOR: —that was really a stab at a point of time. We need to make sure that this proposal is incorporated into a Games Master Plan—that is ultimately endorsed by the OCOG and the IOC (International Olympic Committee), but we also want to make sure that we can be in the tent and work with the State Government as well. We know The Gabba’s nearing the end of its life, we know that there are important investment decisions to be made and regardless of whether we were successful with the Olympics or not, it needed a refurb, it needed to be redone.

We need a larger stadium, both in terms of the actual field size and the spectator capacity. Housing the Games would not have been possible with The Gabba in its current capacity. There’s no getting around the fact that we need a larger field of play; you can’t fit a 400-metre track into the current Gabba. So, there really was only two options and that’s rebuild The Gabba or reconstruct a new stadium, and that’s what we need to make sure that we get right.

The Games will be squarely aligned with that long-term vision for Brisbane and South East Queensland. We’re working well with the Metro, with the TMR (Department of Transport and Main Roads), with the Cross River Rail working group, and we would love to work with the State in an integrated stadium. We know from very early models that this can impact the traffic back as far as Carindale coming in through Stanley Street or heading out to Vulture Street. Any hold up on Vulture Street takes you straight back over onto the Riverside Expressway; it is absolutely vital that we can keep moving as a city.

But there’s also that opportunity for public realm and what is around the stadium, as people are walking down Main Street from the Kangaroo Point bridge, or travelling from their stations—bus, train or otherwise. We also know that there is no Olympic Park for the Brisbane 2032, so it’s very much a whole of city approach that we need to look at. The inner city, where 57% of the sports are going to be held, we need to make sure that the whole area works as well.

There’s a lot of work to do to make sure our city is well connected through a planned network of Olympic precincts, and we look forward to working with the State and Federal Government to make sure that we can get this Gabba stadium correct.

Chair: Thank you.

Further questions?

Councillor COOK.

**Question 6**

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, there are currently 19 properties owned by Brisbane City Council that are vacant and unused. Which of these facilities have you offered to housing providers or homelessness support organisations, like Beddown, to address these issues?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just before we start, that question wasn’t supposed to come to one of us?

Chair: The question went to somebody who was on their feet, which was Councillor COOK.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m sorry, you have an obligation under the Meetings Local Law, and I have been standing up, but Councillor ADAMS—

Chair: You didn’t for that question.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So, you’re saying that you’re deliberately not giving us the question when you are supposed to under the Meetings Local Law?

Chair: I’m mindful of the pro rata ratio, I’m also mindful of providing the question to whoever is on their feet, that was Councillor COOK.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Well, Councillor COOK was first.

Councillor COOK—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh, sorry. So, just to be clear—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —are you saying the rule now, Mr Chairman, is the first person on their feet will get the call of the question.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Because I was standing, I just didn’t—

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’ve been standing all afternoon too.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you didn’t rise to your feet for a question, I gave the question to Councillor COOK.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: So, sorry, just to clarify, you’re doing kind of two separate pro rata tracks, one for me—like my questions that I’m due for aren’t interchangeable with Councillor JOHNSTON’s, is that correct?

Chair: Can I make the point that this is soaking up the time—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Sure.

Chair: —that might be allocated to questions being asked of the—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Sure.

Chair: —Administration.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Hopefully he will answer at the end of Question Time then.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just a point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I believe that it’s my question then, and that you are required under the Meetings Local Law to give me the call, Mr Chairman.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I gave the question to the Councillor who was on their feet.

LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, I’ve been standing all afternoon.

Chair: Well, Councillor JOHNSTON, you need to stand at the time the opportunity to ask a question arises, which you didn’t do.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Yes, so we have an ongoing program of making sure that vacant properties—where they are suitable for the purpose, are provided through our Community Housing Partnership Project—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Sorry, point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

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| **3/2022-23**  Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by Councillor Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN, that the Chair’s ruling be dissented from. Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion of dissent was declared **lost** on the voices. |

Chair: We continue.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Yes. Thank you. So, we have an ongoing program where suitable homes that we might have in our ownership are provided to community housing providers to ensure that they are available for use for accommodation. So, over the years, that program has helped us house more than 1,400 people through the community housing partnerships program. Now, Councillor COOK mentioned there were 19 properties and somehow, I guess, suggested that this was a feasible solution to homelessness.

Now, they weren’t happy with my suggestion to make 1,000 beds available at Pinkenba yet guess what they think is a suitable opportunity? The shed at 16 Garfield Drive, Bardon. They think that Hangar 7 at Eagle Farm, which is literally an empty hangar, is a suitable solution.

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

LORD MAYOR: They think the shed at Gilcrest Avenue in Herston—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, excuse me.

LORD MAYOR: —is a suitable housing—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair. This information is commercial-in-confidence, it was the answer—he is repeating the answers to a Question on Notice previously in this place, and he is now putting on the record commercial-in-confidence Council information.

Chair: LORD MAYOR. I don’t—I’m not sure that’s the truth, Councillor COOK.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, what you see here is obviously the suggestion that Labor made that there were somehow 19 places that were suitable for accommodation.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order. Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just to be clear, Councillor COOK has raised a point of order. You are the person responsible under the Meetings Law to determine whether or not a matter is confidential or not. You didn’t even respond to Councillor COOK. So, are you going to make a ruling about whether or not there is a valid point of order and whether or not the LORD MAYOR is raising information that should not be in the public sphere—

Chair: Thank you. My ruling—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —as you are required to do?

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON. The LORD MAYOR is capable of deciding what information is commercial-in-confidence or not.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Mr Chairman. In fact, the Meetings Local Law put a positive obligation upon you as the Chair of Council to make that decision. It is not upon the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR : Thanks, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It is upon you.

Chair: Yes.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So can you advise why you are not carrying out your statutory obligations under the Meetings Local Law?

LORD MAYOR: I can help with this.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, if there was evidence that this is commercial‑in‑confidence, I’m happy to be provided with it. Otherwise, the call is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: It’s certainly my understanding this is not commercial-in-confidence because, in fact, I found the information on Councillor SRI’s Facebook page. So if it is, in fact, commercial-in-confidence—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —I’m not the only one in trouble here, but it’s certainly public information now. What you see here is another mischievous and devious and, I believe, dishonest attempt by Labor to suggest that these are all great homes that people can live in. They are, in most cases, sheds. Sheds. Now, I said before that there’s 1,000 beds being made at the Brisbane Airport or near the Brisbane Airport, beds, actual beds.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: A roof over their head, a bed—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

LORD MAYOR: —a toilet, a bathroom—

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor—

LORD MAYOR: —and Labor wants them living in sheds.

Councillor COOK: Point of order.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, excuse—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Once again, the Mayor is—

Chair: Sorry, I can’t hear what you’re saying. Can you start again?

Councillor COOK: The Mayor—point of order, the Mayor is once again misleading the Chamber. Out of 19 properties, two are sheds, out of 19 properties, but he’s insinuating that they are all sheds.

Chair: The—your—

Councillor COOK: Simply untrue.

Chair: This is not a point of order, Councillor COOK.

LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, are you finished?

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. I think that it’s reasonable for Council and other levels of government to aspire that people should have secure accommodation and, as I said before that I don’t think it is an appropriate response to homelessness to just leave people out in the cold in parks, on park benches or in sheds. I don’t think that is a reasonable response. I think the reasonable response is to try and get them 1,000 beds—1,000 beds, which is a facility that is owned by taxpayers which would come into effect very quickly. That is just one example of what can be done to provide good crisis accommodation, not sleeping on the floor in sheds. I don’t think any—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —heartless person—any person with a heart would suggest that as an appropriate response to homelessness. It is not. If we really care, we should aspire for more.

Chair: Point of order, Mr Chair.

LORD MAYOR: We should aspire—

Chair: Councillor COOK, point of order.

Councillor COOK: The question was, which of these facilities have you offered to housing providers or homelessness support organisations like Beddown to address these issues? The answer is clearly zero. Is he going to answer the question?

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR, relevance to the question, please.

LORD MAYOR: Yes, for sure. We have provided in our Community Housing Partnership Project all suitable properties as part of that project.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So, if we have a house that is suitable, we work very hard to provide that house as part of our program.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Now, there are various reasons why a house or a building or a facility might not be suitable, and that’s what we’re talking about here, and so suitable places have been provided. We haven’t provided suitable places—

Chair: Councillor COOK.

LORD MAYOR: Sorry, we haven’t provided unsuitable places as part of that program. Now, you can see, it is really disappointing that Councillor COOK, Councillor CASSIDY just want to play politics with what is a serious community issue.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: It is really disappointing but not surprising that they take this approach, but I have to say, if you want to really show that you care, you should aspire to more than people living on the floor in a shed. You should aspire to more than people sleeping on park benches or in the Queen Street Mall. You should aspire to more, and so this is the clear difference between—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

Further—

LORD MAYOR: —the LNP and the Labor-Green alliance.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Your time has expired.

Further questions?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor LANDERS: My question—

Chair: Yes, and we go—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, as you know—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, sit down.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, as you know—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you do not speak over me.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, do not speak over me.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: The questions go side to side, and that is what I am doing—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: —following the process.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: From the Opposition side, Councillor JOHNSTON.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: I gave the—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Alternatively, which is what I did.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors must stand to ask a question. You didn’t. I allocated—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: I allocated the question—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: I allocated the question—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: You—Councillor JOHNSTON, you did not stand.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, this is—your behaviour is unacceptable.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I consider you are displaying unsuitable meeting conduct in accordance with section 21(4) of the Meetings Local Law. I hereby request that you cease disrupting the operation of the Council meeting today—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: —and refrain from exhibiting this conduct.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Oh, Councillor JOHNSTON—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: I shall be clear, Councillor JOHNSTON, if you sit down.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Will you sit down?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: No, Councillor JOHNSTON, will you sit down? You do not have the call. I’m speaking. I’m asking you to stop speaking over me.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: The Meetings Local Law says questions are allocated from side to side, which is what I did. I allocated a question to a member of the Opposition who was on their feet. You weren’t.

Councillor LANDERS, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Councillor LANDERS: My question—

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s not what the Meetings Local Law says.

Chair: Yes, it—

Councillor JOHNSTON: It doesn’t say side to side.

Chair: Oh, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Mr Chairman, section 33 says you have to allocate questions to minority Councillors. That’s me as an Independent in this place. It doesn’t mean just Liberal and Labor. It means minority, and that’s what the rule says. So, Mr Chairman, I again say you’re verbally saying it’s going from side to side. That’s not what the Meetings Local Law says.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please. I’ve made a ruling on this. The Chair must allocate questions alternatively, first to majority Councillors, then to minority Councillors.

Councillor JOHNSTON: You haven’t done that.

Chair: Well, Councillor JOHNSTON, you’ve successfully soaked up all of Question Time today by arguing with me as a Chair. I’m going to allocate a question to Councillor LANDERS because she was on her feet.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Then, Mr Chairman, you are deliberately avoiding your responsibility under the Meetings Local Law and your verbal rulings in the Chamber today by giving an extra question to the LNP at the expense of the Independent, myself, or Councillor SRI as the other minority Councillor, which is contrary to the Meetings Local Law. Now, I was first on my feet, I followed your instructions. You’ve not allocated a question to us, and you are required to. You allocated the first question of the day in accordance with the rules to the LNP, and you’ve not allocated one to the minority Councillors as you are required to do.

Chair: Then alternatively—alternately, Councillor JOHNSTON, from majority team to minority team, which is the process that was followed. Thank you.

Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Councillor LANDERS: My question is to the Chair of the Environment—

Chair: No, I’m not going to hear any more points of order.

Councillor LANDERS: —Parks and—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: No, I’m not going to hear any more points of order.

Councillor LANDERS: —Sustainability Committee.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: I’m not going to hear any more points of order from you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: No, because your points of order—repetition.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: I’m not hearing your point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: No, I’m not—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: —obliged to take points of order when they’re—

Councillor JOHNSTON: I have to be able to dissent in your ruling, and if you don’t let me, then that is a breach of your obligations under the Meetings Law again. That is the only way—

Chair: I will take your point of order to allow you to move dissent.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I—absolutely. By refusing to follow the Meetings Local Law regarding the allocation of questions to minority Councillors, I am moving dissent in your ruling.

Chair: There is no seconder.

Sorry, Councillor LANDERS. That ends Question Time.

LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee (E&C) recommendations, please.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair. Sorry, I just wanted to clarify, regarding the alternate allocation questions, what you’re doing is allocating one question every seven to me and one question every seven to Councillor JOHNSTON, is that correct?

Chair: Yes, the pro rata basis, yes.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: So if, for example, one week I’m not present but I’m due for a question, does Councillor JOHNSTON get that question or is it held over until I’m next in the Chamber

Chair: The rule says that questions be taken alternatively from side to side, majority to minority.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I follow you, yes, yes.

Chair: If two of the non-Opposition Councillors are not here, then—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Crossbench, yes, yes.

Chair: —the question will go to a member of the official Opposition.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Then, will I get the next question when I’m next back in the Chamber?

Chair: Then I’ll—if you’re here—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Sure.

Chair: —and an opportunity presents itself for you to ask a question and it’s in the cycle, then of course you’ll get a question.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Okay, all right. We can take it up later.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Please stop, Councillor JOHNSTON. Please stop it. You’re just embarrassing yourself now.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: LORD MAYOR. E&C Committee recommendations, please.

## CONSIDERATION OF *RECOMMENDATIONS* OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE DURING RECESS:

### ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE (Adoption report)

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 setting out the *recommendations* of the Establishment and Coordination Committee during the Winter Recess 2022, on matters usually considered by that Committee, be adopted.

Chair: Is there any debate?

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order.

**Seriatim – Clause A**

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause A, CONTRACTS AND TENDERING – REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR MAY 2022, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

**Seriatim *en bloc* – Clauses B, C, F and H**

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause B, REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 9 JUNE 2022; Clause C, STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – SIGNIFICANT CONTRACTING PLAN FOR SUPPLEMENTARY WORKFORCE SERVICES; Clause F, PRESENTATION AND TABLING OF THE BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL – 2022 INTERIM REPORT TO THE LORD MAYOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 ISSUED BY THE QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE; and Clause H, ASSET OPTIMISATION – SURPLUS PROPERTY DISPOSAL – 2022-23 STAGE 1, be taken seriatim *en bloc* for voting purposes. |

**Seriatim *en bloc* – Clauses D, E and G**

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause D, BEFORE YOU DIG AUSTRALIA LTD – MEMBERSHIP; Clause E, STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – LEASE AND OPERATION OF AQUATIC CENTRES AT ACACIA RIDGE, BELLBOWRIE, CAROLE PARK, JINDALEE, MUSGRAVE PARK AND SPRING HILL; and Clause G, TEMPORARY LOCAL PLANNING INSTRUMENT 01/22 – PROTECTION OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE MOOROOKA WAR WORKERS’ HOUSING ESTATE, be taken seriatim *en bloc* for voting purposes. |

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. I just wanted to touch on the matter that Councillor COOK and also Councillor CASSIDY raised in Question Time. Now, it was interesting that Councillor COOK said, which one of those 19 properties have you offered? Then, the minute I started going into the property, she’s going, oh, that’s secret; you can’t say that; you can’t talk about them. What? What kind of farce do we have here? Anyone with a cynical mind would suggest that Councillor COOK was hoping that it was commercial-in-confidence so people wouldn’t see the type of buildings that we’re talking about here.

Type of buildings like the shed at 16 Garfield Drive, Bardon; Hangar 7 at Terminal Drive, Eagle Farm; the signals building on Moreton Island; the shed at Gilchrist Avenue, Herston; the substation on the corner of Gregory Terrace and Bowen Bridge Road, Spring Hill; and a whole range of other buildings which—including Witton Barracks, Witton Barracks, apparently—that Labor is somehow trying to suggest would be suitable accommodation—accommodation for men, women and children of Brisbane. It’s extraordinary.

Let’s put this in perspective. I again say, they criticised the suggestion that 1,000 beds at the Brisbane Airport should be used for crisis accommodation, yet it’s okay to let people sleep on the floor in a shed, in a warehouse, in a substation, on Moreton Island, in a signals box and guess what? There’s another one on the list which is really interesting. You know, down in King George Square, there is the Pig ‘N’ Whistle, but then across there, there’s that café. Literally, that’s one of the buildings on that list, that café. Now, I’ve actually been inside that café. It’s literally just standing room only.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Apparently, that is good sleeping accommodation, according to Labor. It’s really quite extraordinary. If they want to make a genuine difference and suggest some real solutions, they should consider starting with the 8,430 publicly-owned houses that are owned by the State Government that have spare bedrooms. Spare bedrooms, 8,430 have two or more spare bedrooms, Government houses. These are Government-owned houses.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So, there are spare bedrooms in Government-owned houses, yet Labor’s solution is to sleep on the floor in a shed. It’s disgusting.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

LORD MAYOR: It is disgusting.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

**4/2022-23**

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

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you’re moving a motion under 12(3) to suspend standing rules. You first must establish why you weren’t able to put this as a motion on the paper for debate today under 9(3). Can you speak to that in your call for a suspension of standing rules, please?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. I’m moving this urgency motion today because I was due for a question in Question Time and I would have raised—this was the question that I was raising in Question Time today before I was prevented from doing so. It’s come to my attention that this Council has refused to allow residents to make the claim for the $1,000 flood rates rebate via Council customer call centres or over the phone. We have made several requests for residents now and we cannot even get the call centre to log a job for us. The response that we get is simply, you must do it online.

We’ve then spoken with customer service officers at Council and they say that that is the only option available. Now, I’ve got elderly residents and my office is attempting to assist them as best we can to process this rates rebate. It is unreasonable in my view that Brisbane City Council is not offering a face-to-face service through the customer business centres and customer service centres that are around, particularly in Yeerongpilly or here at Brisbane Square. It is extraordinary that the call centre cannot assist people.

These are vulnerable people, elderly people who don’t have computers. They’ve lost their scanners. They’ve pretty much lost their rates documents. English as a second language is quite a significant problem. All the customer call centre is doing at this point is pointing people to go online and make your claim online. Now, that is poor customer service and, in my view, it is critical that Brisbane City Council ensures that people can make this claim at all our customer service centres and via the 24-hour call centre, and I encourage all people to support this motion.

Chair: 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, please move your motion.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Great, thank you. You have the piece of paper. I’m so sorry.

Chair: Are you—have you circulated that to clerks? No?

Councillor JOHNSTON: No, that’s all I’ve got. It’s an urgency motion. I’m happy to come and get it and read it again for you.

**5/2022-23**

At that juncture, Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS)—

*That Council introduces face-to-face customer support at Council Customer Service Centres and via the 24-hour call centre to assist flooded residents to claim the $1,000 uninhabitable home rebate, as Council has unreasonably restricted residents to online claims only, disadvantaging elderly residents, those with English as a second language, and those who have lost documents in the 2022 floods.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: So, look, it—

Councillor LANDERS: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

**6/2022-23**

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 the meeting agenda.

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

Councillor JOHNSTON: Division.

Chair: Thank you. No seconders.

*The division lapsed for want of a seconder.*

Chair: LORD MAYOR, the floor is yours.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. I was talking about the issue of housing, housing affordability and homelessness, and I was pointing out just how really quite strange and heartless it was that Labor Councillors think that people sleeping on the floor or in parks is an acceptable solution. We should aspire for more than that. We, on this side of the Chamber, aspire for more than that, and we will continue to do so and advocate for real solutions to these problems, not fake solutions, not what might seem in some ways to be responding but not really providing any real benefits, but one of the ways that Labor Councillors can help support the issue of housing and housing supply and housing affordability is to stop opposing development in their areas, to stop opposing development across the City of Brisbane.

Now, since the 2014 City Plan has been in place, there have been 16 local or neighbourhood plans. Guess how many Labor Councillors voted in favour of? Fourteen they voted against, two they voted for. So, they voted against the neighbourhood plans in 14 out of 16 cases. That is almost 90% strike rate, and they were incensed when I suggested that they oppose virtually all development. Well, 90%, that’s virtually all development. Think about it. These neighbourhood plan areas cover significant parts of the city.

If you think about the housing targets that we’re required to meet under the State’s South East Queensland Regional Plan, it would be thousands upon thousands of new homes that could have been created in those areas. Labor voted against it. Labor voted against it, and then they come up with these options that they try to claim legitimate responses for people sleeping on the floor in warehouses. They vote against increasing housing supply. They don’t call their State Labor colleagues out when there’s thousands of empty bedrooms in Government-owned houses, yet they try and attack us because we don’t allow people to sleep on the floor in warehouses—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —or a signal box or a café.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Or a café. It’s extraordinary. It just goes to show, these people are all about politics, not about solutions. They’re not about a better Brisbane. They are about politics.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Will the Mayor take a quick question?

Chair: Will you take a question, LORD MAYOR?

LORD MAYOR: No. Mr Chair, as I always do, I wanted to mention some of the community causes that we’re lighting up our assets for, which are very important as we go forward. The Story Bridge, Reddacliff Place, Tropical Dome, and Victoria Bridge will be lit up in orange to support National Homelessness Week, and statistics from Orange Sky—who, obviously, they’re one of the many great organisations doing some fantastic things—estimate that, across Australia, over 100,000 people are experiencing some form of homelessness this week, in Homelessness Week. As I’ve just been saying, we need real solutions to this problem, not paying lip service or playing politics.

Tomorrow night, we’ll be lighting up the Story Bridge in yellow to support Rural Fire Services Week and, obviously, our rural fire services do a fantastic job and they come to the fore in times of need, just like our SES (State Emergency Services) do. Whether it’s in the floods, and the fire services did help during the recent floods significantly, but they also helped during the devastating 2019-20 bushfire season, as well. We are grateful for the work that they do, and obviously, we continue to support that work.

On Thursday night, the Victoria Bridge and Story Bridge will be lit up in pink and yellow to support PVNH Day, which is periventricular nodular heterotopia, so apologies if I got that wrong. It’s a very rare disease which affects the brain of an infant in their early development. Essentially, the nerve cells don’t migrate properly between the sixth and the 24th week of pregnancy.

On Friday, we’ll be lighting up the assets in green for the Ekka, which we’re all happy is finally back after a two-year hiatus thanks to COVID-19. Hopefully, most people that are going to the Ekka have already had COVID‑19 and it’ll be a good, safe event for everyone. I suspect most people in the community have already had COVID-19, and so I’m really pleased that that event is going ahead.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I am also looking forward to the Brisbane Metro pilot vehicle being at the Ekka for everyone to see—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —and people will get the opportunity to see up close this cutting-edge, world‑beating technology—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —and the game-changing technology, Councillor MURPHY, and they will no doubt be impressed by the scale of this vehicle, but also the fact that it is so environmentally sustainable, zero tailpipe emissions, fast-charging technology and looking forward to showing the people of Brisbane that wonderful pilot vehicle which is nearing conclusion of all its testing, Councillor MURPHY.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: We’ve got, I think, 93—would you say 93% of the tests that we needed to do have been completed? So, we’re just finalising that process.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Someone says it’s dud. Not according to the testing.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Not according to the testing, and in fact, I would suggest that so far—and yes, there’s a few tests to go—A-plus for the Metro vehicle in the testing. It’s done very well and, in fact, exceeded our expectations in terms of that vehicle in—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —a Brisbane situation, so really looking forward to the Ekka and to ensuring the people of Brisbane can see the Metro pilot vehicle in the flesh. Also, on Friday night, City Hall will be lit up red and white for a wonderful Tongan Fundraising Dinner here at City Hall. Councillor HOWARD will be repping me at that event. We know the devastation that Tonga experienced in recent times and we know that Brisbane was, in fact, the base from which our humanitarian support left the Port of Brisbane through the Australian Defence Force and aid agencies. They left from Brisbane, went to Tonga, and provided some great support, but obviously, there’s still an ongoing need.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**7/2022-23**

At that point, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SHRINNER) was granted an extension of time on the motion of the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. On Sunday night, the Victoria Bridge, Story Bridge, and Reddacliff Place will be lit up in green and blue to support the start of Stroke Week, which is next week. One in Australia—sorry, one Australian has a stroke every 19 minutes, and this annual campaign helps to raise awareness on preventing a stroke from happening.

I did want to particularly congratulate former Councillor Milton Dick on his elevation to the Speaker’s role in the Federal Parliament. Milton was one of the good guys when it came to the Labor team. Unfortunately, there’s not too many of them left. The ones that are there don’t have the same approach, and Milton has gone far and he deserved to go far, and we congratulate him for his role. He obviously served as the Councillor for Richlands, the Leader of the Opposition, and he was a good Leader of the Opposition, and also the Member for Oxley since 2016. I look forward to Milton—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —having a long, successful career in that particular role, and we may or may not pay him a visit when we’re down there, but I also just did want to mention that the $1,000 rates rebate for uninhabitable properties will remain open until 30 September and also that 18,000 homeowners across Brisbane have already received rates relief, particularly that $250 rates rebate that was provided, which is a good outcome, 4.5 million in rates relief.

We are looking forward to providing this additional $1,000 for those people who, unfortunately, haven’t been able to get back into their homes yet. As Councillor WINES mentioned earlier, on the weekend, we released our Flood Resilience Action Plan, which is just part of our response in terms of the flood, but an important one. Billy, I just wanted to table that document here in the Chamber. Councillor WINES spoke about it before. It is also available publicly, but I wanted to table this officially in the Chamber here.

Item A in the reports is the contracting and tendering for May 2022 so, obviously, we’ve had a recess for a period of time. May is a little while ago. Those reports are coming through at the earliest opportunity. As of May this last financial year, there were over 500 contracts awarded to local companies and that represents more than 90% of contracts totalling almost $1 billion of value going to support local business and support local jobs. So, that is something that we should all be very proud of, so we’ve got the May tally is 972 million. There’s still the June one to come. Hopefully, the June one will see us crack $1 billion going to local business, so we’ll stay tuned for that.

Part of this work included the flood recovery works on our ferry terminals which has been progressing in earnest and includes repair works to CCTV cameras and emergency call points, and 16 different terminals were part of that contract. A contract for the refurbishment of the heritage listed Witton Barracks was included in that, and we believe it’ll be a great community facility rather than for people sleeping on the floor. So, we’ll be progressing that particular contract.

Item B is the report of the Audit Committee on 9 June 2022, and this has come through in the usual manner. Throughout the year, Council works with the Audit Committee and Queensland Audit Office (QAO) to make sure we meet all of our audit requirements, and this can be seen in the report before us today with the Audit Committee receiving updates from the CEO—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Oh no, it is, from the CEO, CFO, Chief Legal Counsel and the Chief Internal Auditor, as well as the QAO, and the QAO gave an update on their audit and reporting activities. Actions identified have clear accountability and dates which are monitored in our internal auditors and overseen by the Independent Audit Committee.

Item C is the Stores Board submission for a significant contracting plan (SCP) for supplementary work for services, and these are arrangements put in place which is an ongoing thing to supplement our existing workforces on an as-need basis. So, they may include additional resources to undertake urgent work when a specialist professional technical skill is required, but cannot be obtained internally or maintained internally, and for special projects that are not time‑limited or linked to budget, or linked to a budget that may not be ongoing. They help us meet peaks and troughs when it comes to the workload, and also for the coverage of leave. So, when our existing staff members take leave, there’s backfilling that happens.

I’m told that the supplementary workforce represents a very small percentage of our overall workforce and, in fact, I’m told that it was less than eight per cent of the workforce. So, I guess if you look at it in terms of this room being the workforce of 27 Councillors, if you look at what the percentage of Labor Councillors is in this mix, 16%. So, the percentage of supplementary workers is actually half of the number of Labor Councillors in this place. It puts it in perspective, a very small component of the overall workforce.

Item D is the membership of Dial Before You Dig. This item is fairly straightforward. Council is currently a member of Dial Before You Dig, but we are a member of the Queensland branch only. Recently, this branch has made itself voluntarily insolvent with the services now being delivered by the national Dial Before You Dig organisation, so it’s effectively a restructure of the arrangements between states and the national organisation. They provide a great, single point of contact to request information about any infrastructure networks that are underground and they’re really essential for not only Council work, but also the work that a lot of private workforces do in building and construction around the city. So, we’re signing up to this particular national body.

Item E is the Stores Board submission and the lease and operation of the aquatic centres at Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Carole Park, Jindalee, Musgrave Park, and Spring Hill. We went out to tender as a group. We’re proceeding with all of these but Jindalee. Sadly, Jindalee was significantly flood-affected again, and we are now assessing the future of Jindalee to work out where a better location would be to provide an aquatic centre. So, I’m—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —flagging today that we will be relocating the facility elsewhere to make it more resilient, and so we’re looking through those options—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —but this one will proceed with the other pools, Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Carole Park, Musgrave Park, and Spring Hill. So, this awards tenders in terms of those other pools and their operation, and they’re listed today for your consideration.

Item F is the presentation and tabling of the Brisbane City Council 2022 interim report for the year ended 30 June 2022 issued by the Queensland Audit Office. That was a mouthful, but the QAO, Queensland Audit Office, has performed their normal audit and this is the interim report for the end of the financial year. QAO has assessed Council’s overall internal control environment as effective, and that means that, while identified matters are still being addressed, the environment supports an audit strategy that can rely on these controls. So, this result is a good one and a testament to the work that’s being done behind the scenes by Council officers and our Independent Audit Committee, and also our good working relationship with the QAO.

Item G is also very important. It’s the protection of properties within the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate. This is something that will see 180 properties given heritage protection. These have a particularly unique part of Brisbane’s history. The estate remains Brisbane’s first and only large-scale Commonwealth-initiated public housing estate, built during the Second World War to house civilians that were employed in the nearby war industries at Salisbury and Rocklea.

There were factories, there was manufacturing, important work for the war effort happening in that area, and this was Government housing provided to house those workers. So, it’s really an important part of our history and one that we’re determined to protect, so this TLPI (temporary local planning instrument) will put a temporary protection while we make the permanent arrangements to do a permanent protection of these properties. If supported today, the TLPI will progress to the Minister for approval and we’re seeking an agreement for an earlier effective date of 2 August, which is today, isn’t it?

Item H is asset optimisation surplus property disposal, Stage 1. This involves the disposal of several properties that are not—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**8/2022-23**

At that point, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SHRINNER) was granted an extension of time on the motion of the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Several properties that are surplus to requirements, and what I wanted to say from the outset is that sale proceeds from these properties will go into programs such as the Bushland Acquisition and Green Future Fund. So, the funding received from the sale will be reinvested back into parkland and greenspace, which is very important. One of the properties is 23 Gold Creek Road, Brookfield. This property was originally obtained together with the next door property, 23A, for the purposes of a cemetery extension. That was an opportunity purchase. Further work has been done and it’s determined that 23A is relevant and appropriate for cemetery extension, but 23 itself is not.

So, we will be selling this property and then reinvesting the money back to the Green Future Fund for investment in greenspace and parkland. The other two properties were purchased through the Bushland Acquisition program and they were purchased to save significant parcels of land for the future and to create new greenspace, but in both cases, they had a house on the site. The house block and the immediate area surrounding the house had no particular environmental value, but the large block did, and so what we’re doing is we’re putting the house back into housing supply for Brisbane.

So, these two houses or these three houses will provide housing in a time that it is needed, but the proceeds will go back into the Bushland Acquisition program. So, that’s the case for 59 Evergreen Street, Bracken Ridge, and also the case for the Moxon Road land at Burbank, and so I think this is a good outcome because it makes sure the money is reinvested for a purpose. It’s reinvested back into parkland, bushland, and greenspace. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on most of these items before us today in E&C, starting with contracts and tendering. I’ll make comments on a few of these. Contract 2 is more than half a million dollars on construction insurance for the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge, which as we know is the most expensive bikeway bridge in the world, probably, for metres in terms of its cost. There’s a reason, there’s a reason for that.

Obviously, some of that cost is on a bikeway extension from the end of Kingsford Smith Drive, and if that project—if Kingsford Smith Drive had not been so monumentally buggered up by this Administration and that contingency—you know, almost 100% of that contingency wasn’t eaten into and there wasn’t a year‑long delay, we might have seen that bikeway extension completed under that project, but before us today, we have this enormous amount of insurance that needs to be taken out for an 80-metre bridge that’s costing $67 million to span a creek.

That’s an enormous amount of money and I’m sure we need lots of active transport infrastructure, but this is the story this Administration, by going headlong into these vanity projects like Kingsford Smith Drive and blowing the budget on that and blowing all the contingency there, they weren’t able to complete the work that they should have done then and would have been able to if that project was done properly originally. Now, we have more costs to the ratepayer.

Every time, every month, items come through to this Council, there’s blowouts, there’s delays on the signature projects of this LORD MAYOR. He continues to crow about these as they’re his legacy and they’re his signatures or his signature is all over these projects. His signature is all over cost blowouts and delays, and as sure as night follows day, that is going to be the case on these projects, as well. That’s just bad news for ratepayers. We know that they’re paying more and more in their rates and getting less and less out in the suburbs of Brisbane because of the mismanagement of this Administration on major projects.

Contracts 6 and 7 are for community facilities, for two community facilities. The first one is almost $6 million for a new creative hub at the former Witton Barracks at Indooroopilly and the others to do some structural repairs at the Creative Glass Guild’s building at Red Hill, but there’s nothing here in these contracts for creative hubs like the former East Brisbane Bowls Club, of course. So, we know that that building, the former East Brisbane Bowls Club building, was a creative hub that supported an amazingly vibrant, creative community.

This LNP Administration will be demolishing it. They’ve delayed the demolition. They’ve put on hold the bulldozers, but we know they’re coming. We know they’re still coming, and that’s been a community hub in that community since 1905, and is now left sitting empty and left to rot on this LNP Administration’s watch. How about that as a facility for someone like Beddown?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: You know, we’re not talking about sheds and cafés. We’re talking about an amazing facility that could get people off the streets, LORD MAYOR. It’s sitting empty at the moment, and this Administration has made clear that they won’t be leasing that out to any other organisations for the next two years, but again, don’t let facts get in the way of a nice story for this LORD MAYOR. That, again, is the story of this LNP Administration, all about politics and not about outcomes.

Contract—remind me, Councillor STRUNK, what contract—number five. Number five is an interesting one that we’ve been doing a little bit of research on at the moment and it’s around the—light pole inspections and for a company to do that. What we’ve seen is this Administration has gone with a provider that’s not up to date, that’s not using the latest technology, that’s ultimately going to cost ratepayers in the long run more time and more money on these very simple projects.

I suppose that’s not surprising when you see this Administration focus is all on itself, all on the inner city, all on the Metro project that’s blown out by $800 million, all on the green bridge projects which are being slashed left, right, and centre through mismanagement, all about jacking up rates by five per cent and, in some suburbs, six and seven per cent to pay for all of this largesse, while the basics are being forgotten. I think this Administration really has forgotten what it’s about. It’s pretending it’s like a little State Government, a little fiefdom here rather than just being a city Council, getting the basics right.

Contract 13, not much detail on this one, but it is interesting. It is an interesting one. That’s Council awarding KPMG a $200,000 contract without going to tender to create what they’re describing as a digital channel strategy.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So, we know the Administration—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, we know the Administration has been spending up big on market research recently. They’ve been engaging across a whole wide range of qualitative and quantitative surveys, otherwise known as polling, political polling.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Now—and they’re still making the same mistakes, but now, they’ve awarded KPMG a $200,000 contract to create a digital channel strategy. We’d love to see the brief on this one. We have, in fact, called the file, so we will have a look, but we hope it’s not another way that this LNP Administration, this LNP LORD MAYOR is using Brisbane residents’ money, ratepayers’ money for self‑promotion.

I mean, it’s bad enough seeing that *Living in Brisbane* newsletter churning out his political messages month after month after month, running at multimillion dollars a year, and now that’s spreading into Council’s digital spaces, as well, but I suppose that’s what we’ve come to expect from this LNP Mayor. Rorts, waste, and self-promotion, that’s the LNP way here in Brisbane City Council, and it’s no wonder that residents are saying right around the city they don’t feel like they’re getting value for money anymore out of their Council.

Clause B, the report of the Audit Committee meeting on 9 June. As usual, no information for us to be able to tick off on these items. The LNP Administration is allergic to transparency, avoids scrutiny wherever they can. We did see in the report that this important Committee discussed items, but as non-Administration Councillors, we don’t know what they were, what was discussed, what the outcomes of that were, so without transparency, once again, we won’t be supporting this item before us today.

Clause C is this significant contracting plan for supplementary work for services. They all use this strange language these days. It’s sort of like it’s the KPMG language, it’s the management school language, it’s a way to try and confuse people about what their real intentions are. There’s another example of that that we’ll come to later about asset optimisation asset sales. A significant contracting plan for supplementary workforce services means contracting out. It means casualisation. It means temporary labour hire, and it means hollowing out of Council’s workforce. It means less apprenticeships on the ground in the suburbs of Brisbane being supported by the largest council in Australia, and it’s a whopper.

The LORD MAYOR tried to play it down just now and said, it’s only a little bit. It’s only a little bit. It’s just a tiny bit of the workforce. Well, it’s $450 million, this contract. That is not a small contract in anyone’s language, particularly for a Council that has a budget of $4 billion when you’re talking a contract of $450 million to contract out Council’s basic work. That’s got the LNP’s signature all over it. That’s got Adrian SCHRINNER, the LNP Mayor’s signature all over it. It’s intentional and it’s by design.

This report states that $450 million in jobs being outsourced is because suitable internal resources are not available to meet operational requirements. It’s in black and white. After 20 years of this conservative LNP Administration here in Brisbane, they have hollowed out Council’s workforce so much that basic work can no longer be carried out. It has to be contracted out. We’re talking about the basics here. We’re talking about things that ratepayers pay their rates and expect their Council to do, trades work, I mean, very simple trades work maintaining Council’s own assets and the community’s assets.

So, no wonder in a workforce of 9,000 or so employees that this Council can only offer up a couple dozen apprenticeships. I mean, that’s absolutely appalling when we’re talking about skilling up the next generation of the workforce. Council used to be an employer of choice. Council used to be a provider of apprenticeships, of skills training, and of a brighter future for kids out in the suburbs. Well, that’s no longer the case. All Council provides is a contracted-out workforce, temporary labour hire workers with less rights and less take-home pay.

Another area this contract will be dealing with is ICT (information and communications technology). We know what happened the last time this LNP Administration contracted out those IT jobs to HCL, the company, and there ended up being a massive wage theft claim where contract staff were forced to work long hours and were underpaid. Thank goodness for the Services Union for uncovering that criminal behaviour and avoiding the further exploitation of workers in Council’s name.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

**9/2022-23**

At that point, the Councillor Jared CASSIDY was granted an extension of time on the motion of Councillor Kara COOK, seconded by Councillor Charles STRUNK.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much. The next one here is admin jobs. I mean, this is pretty basic stuff, a Council that has 22 or 21 libraries around Brisbane, four major customer service centres, the call centre, all of that admin work that supports all those divisions that work right across this city, they should be permanent, stable employment for people who are seeking a career in Council, but instead, we’re seeing admin, accounting and finance jobs, and even procurement jobs are being contracted out.

So, they’re contracting out the team that contracts out Council’s basic work. I mean, that’s how far we have fallen as a Council under the leadership of the LNP, that they’re contracting out work to get more contracting out done. It’s absolute insanity, but it does tell us one thing, and this is a really powerful example, that the LNP and Council does not respect Council workers. It’s here in black and white. They love contracting out their jobs to insecure labour hire and casualising our workforce.

I don’t know how many library staff I’ve spoken to who are now working across multiple libraries, who have been put on permanent part-time instead of being offered a full-time job and are shifted around and want the security of work, but are kept on tenterhooks all the time. Every time a full-time person retires, they’re replaced with two part-time people to divide and conquer that workforce, and that’s the LNP way, but it is no surprise because they’re exactly the same here in Council.

These LNP Councillors are exactly the same as those LNP State Members and those LNP Federal Members, who always seek to—we saw it with Campbell Newman, you know—cut public services, sack public servants, contract out. We’ve seen it with the previous Morrison Government.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: This is the LNP way and we will not support it. Clause D and E are items that we support, the Dial Before You Dig membership going national because the Queensland operation is no longer there, and the lease and operation of the aquatic centres at Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Carole Park, Jindalee, Musgrave Park, and Spring Hill are items that we will support.

Clause F, the presentation and tabling of the Brisbane City Council 2022 interim report. This is not an audit of Council’s finances. This is an interim report which provides the details of financial controls, so the internal processes within Council like the payroll system and the applications used for processing and reporting on financial information, rather than the way in which the budget’s tracking, of course, but it is really concerning to read in these papers before us today that, under this LNP Administration, some really basic, fundamental financial systems aren’t secure.

Basics like weak password protocols, issues with who has access to payment systems, leaving open to either accidental or intentional changes, and we’ve seen that in recent years where Council lost hundreds of thousands of dollars through scams, as well, because financial controls weren’t tight enough, and that is still being identified. Again, this gives you a very clear picture of a Council Administration, an LNP political Administration, that’s taken its eye off the ball.

When you’re focusing on and you’re spending $450 million contracting out your basic work, and things like accounting and finance and admin jobs, and then the Audit Office comes in and says, your financial controls are all over the place and are all bad, you can start to put those dots together to paint a very clear picture. There are very, very serious issues here, and you’d think this Administration would be taking them more seriously, considering we have a $4 billion budget. That’s a lot of ratepayers’ money to be protecting the integrity of.

Clause G, the TLPI on the protection of those properties in the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate, and Councillor GRIFFITHS will speak on this here, but it’s obviously before us today because of the strong advocacy of Councillor GRIFFITHS. Those homes were previously protected, but we know, we know that they are under threat because of this LNP’s record on suburban development, and that speaks volumes about the kind of approach they take in these locations.

So, when the LNP Administration launched their draft Nathan‑Salisbury‑Moorooka neighbourhood plan, the proposed zoning changes put all of these homes at risk of being demolished and lost. Now, the LNP Councillors are always critical—and we’ve heard that again today, the LORD MAYOR is critical of Labor Councillors speaking on behalf of their communities, but if it weren’t for Labor Councillors—like Councillor GRIFFITHS in this case—speaking up and engaging with local residents, we’d see these character homes lost forever.

So, the LORD MAYOR can’t have it both ways. He can’t come in here and say, how dare you Labor Councillors oppose elements of and sometimes whole neighbourhood plans because they don’t align with the values and the priorities of your local community, and then, on the other hand, come in and say, oh, but we’ll protect these character homes and won’t allow overdevelopment now, after the local Labor Councillor had raised that as an issue.

So, I think the way in which you can spell hypocrisy in this Council Chamber is with three letters, LNP. Now, while LNP Councillors are happy to stay silent out in their communities and hope their local residents just don’t become aware of these issues proposed by their LNP Team Schrinner, Labor will always take a stand for local residents.

Now, the final item before us today is Clause H, which is the asset optimisation asset sales. So, this is the sale of three Council-owned properties, either by tender or auction. One of these properties was acquired for, as we heard, the expansion of the cemetery. The remainder is being sold off that’s not being used for that, apparently because it floods. Not good for burial plots, of course. The report does mention the house didn’t flood in the event in February this year, however.

Two other properties were bought for—using the Bushland Preservation Levy. Now, we can’t reveal exactly how much these properties to be sold have been valued for as it’s commercial-in-confidence. There is information available publicly about their estimated value, however, and according to property insights analysis, CoreLogic, these properties are worth in the millions of dollars. So, the rank hypocrisy of this LNP Administration knows no bounds. At a time when they are calling on everyone else but themselves to do something about housing and rental affordability, they’re flogging off public land which could be considered for social or affordable homes, of course.

There’s another three properties that the LORD MAYOR wouldn’t talk about earlier in answer to his question. Another three homes, another three homes that—I think one had five bedrooms, one had four bedrooms. They were complete homes, but again, all he talks about is in political terms and attacking Labor Councillors for bringing sensible and serious proposals to the table. Now, 23 Gold Creek Road, Brookfield, is almost 14,000 square metres. It’s a four-bedroom, two-bathroom, brick dwelling and a pool, patio, and a front paddock. It was rented out for 18 months, but it’s been vacant since the last tenant was given notice to vacate in December 2020. What’s been happening with that home since December 2020?

59 Evergreen Street, Bracken Ridge, is a 10-hectare site bought under the Bushland Acquisition program in 2019. It’s a five-bedroom, two-bathroom, brick home and a shed. Council lodged a DA (development application) to subdivide the house and some of the land is being kept for bushland purposes, but instead of making this other home available for a variety of purposes, the LNP wants to flog it off. Now, that one there, that 10-hectare site, when you look at what it was purchased for and, confidentially, what the Administration is looking to sell it for, that was a very good deal in purchasing it for bushland for the residents of Brisbane, unlike that—what was it, 3,000 square metre block out at Nurran Street at Mount Gravatt East, that one that was—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: The palm trees and the clear block, the demolition block.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: How much was that one?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Six-and-a-half million dollars in the end, with all those extra costs on top? So, we do see some good value out in the suburbs of Brisbane where they’re purchased genuinely and it is a genuine bush block that should be protected using the Bushland Preservation Levy. This wasn’t obviously for political purposes, unlike that one at Mount Gravatt East, Upper Mount Gravatt. Yes, Nurran Street. Yes, Upper Mount Gravatt. That one was, of course, we know purchased for political purposes—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —and it was totally cleared, totally cleared. Now, the property at Moxon Road and 1429 Mount Cotton, Burbank were purchased in 2015 for bushland. This one includes a dwelling, as well, a large sandstone, five-bedroom, four-bathroom dwelling with amenities including bar, kitchen, a butler’s pantry, a cinema room in excellent condition, apparently. Again, Council subdivided the land to exclude the home from bushland, and now wants to sell off this property. So, here it is in black and white. This LNP Council is not serious on one hand about tackling the affordable rental crisis and would rather use all these properties—which are included in those vacant properties—for those purposes. Councillor MURPHY scoffs—

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

**10/2022-23**

At that point, the Councillor Jared CASSIDY was granted an extension of time on the motion of Councillor Kara COOK, seconded by Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS.

Councillor CASSIDY: Councillor MURPHY scoffed. He said, Burbank, who would want to live at Burbank, he says, out there? Well, it’s a house. It’s a five-bedroom house and, in times of crisis, in times of crisis, it should be used, but what has this LORD MAYOR done with these properties apart from play property developer? If he wants to do that, go and work for the property industry. You’re supposed to be—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, maybe, but you’re supposed to be the LORD MAYOR of Brisbane. So, instead of playing property developer and buying and selling properties using the Bushland Acquisition Levy, putting in DAs and carving them up, and then coming in here and acting all pious and lecturing all of us about how wrong we all are and how wrong the State Government is and how wrong the Federal Government is since it became Labor. He never, ever once, never once before it was a Labor Federal Government suggested that that facility should be used as a domestic violence (DV) shelter, never once.

So, we know every single time this LORD MAYOR opens his mouth, it is for political purposes, and how ridiculous, Chair. Why would you telegraph, why would you telegraph where a DV shelter is to the whole world and say, we want to put people fleeing domestic violence situations all into a place that’s designed as a lockup?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I mean, it is beyond belief, this LORD MAYOR’s approach to these issues. It is just incredible, his thought process, because at every level, whether it’s about affordable rentals, whether it’s about providing spaces to address homelessness or whether it is about spaces to provide accommodation for people seeking refuge from domestic and family violence situations, the prism that he works within is politics. Politics first, second, and third. Every single time, his approach is a very political approach on how he can score some points, previously against us and the State Government, and now he’s lumped in the new Federal Government into that, as well, and that is really sad for our city.

This LNP Administration is fundamentally failing people seeking safe and secure homes, failing to do their bit, and to come in here, to come in here today and make these stupid announcements, thinking you’re scoring more political points again and saying, Sandgate will be the only place that affordable housing will be supported, well, I’ll be doing a list. I will be contacting affordable housing providers and we’ll be seeking a meeting with the LORD MAYOR to discuss which of those locations he will support with a 100% infrastructure charge discount and how much extra height we can accommodate on those sites.

I will—I have said on the record now for months that’s the kind of approach we need, and the LORD MAYOR comes in here and screams, screams down the microphone as if he’s back at school and doing his political debates there—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —and thinks it’s a punishment. I mean, that’s the space that this guy is operating in. He thinks it’s all about politics. Well, this is actually about people’s lives that we’re talking about here. I mean, there should be a higher purpose to what we do in here and the decisions we make, rather than just politics, and that’s what this LNP Mayor is all about, fundamentally. So, instead of this Mayor playing property developer and carving up these properties before us and subdividing and selling off, and having to fund park upgrades and having to fund the Bushland Acquisition program through more property sales because they have clearly drained it dry on stupid, stupid decisions, like purchasing that $6.5 million block over at Nurran Street.

So, he’s now had to become a little property developer to plug the black hole in suburban investment here. I mean, you know, what is the point of him? What is the point of this Administration when it comes to that? What is the point of this Administration when ratepayers are seeing, yes, billionaires—the developer of the W Hotel was a billionaire and got an infrastructure charge discount from the ratepayers of Brisbane? Why? Why? Not one cent went to any development that Micah Housing has done or Brisbane Housing Company has done, genuine affordable housing providers. Not one cent.

He can get up here and he can scream and shout all he likes, and I suspect I know why he screams and shouts so much is because he knows he is wrong. He’s on the wrong side of this debate. He’s on the wrong side of history and he’ll be on the wrong side of the ledger come the next election.

Chair: Thank you. Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **11/2022-23**  At that time, 3.11pm, 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 had been locked.  Council stood adjourned at 3.15pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Thank you. Further speakers?

Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on item A, specifically the Witton Barracks component in Indooroopilly. Now the Witton Barracks is going to be a very important community asset as an arts and history centre, but I just want to put on the record how far we’ve come and why this development is so complicated. It is a very difficult development and I’m going to just go back through the history. You might remember back in 2019, I played host to a 99-year-old Japanese former prisoner of war who we gave a tour of the Witton Barracks. His name was Mr Murakami, he was 22 when he was drafted into the 40th Infantry in the Imperial Japanese Army.

He got malaria in 1944, captured by the US Army and then after a circuitous route he was brought to Brisbane. We gave him a tour of the Witton Barracks and he said that not very much had actually changed and it’s true, because in the cell block, you’d be surprised, Chair, it’s actually in almost original condition. This is a building built back in the 1940s. The Witton Barracks was officially known at the time as the Combined Services Detailed Interrogation Centre, then halfway through the War it was changed to the United States Australian Allied Translator and Interpretersection, basically it was an interrogation cell.

It was pretty basic, there were a number of cells that hosted two prisoners at a time and then an intelligence officer who spoke Japanese would stand or sit outside the cell and listen to what they were saying. Of course you know, Chair, that this actually shortened the War by gaining the intelligence and it actually helped prosecute Imperial Japanese officers for their war crimes afterwards. So it’s a very important part of the War in the Pacific. However, after that it was used in the 1950s for military police purposes and then used through the Vietnam War, also as a cell block but this time for Australian soldiers who had possibly not done the right thing.

Unfortunately much of the information about Witton Barracks was lost, because when the Americans left they were in charge of the base and they took all the records, the plans and the information with them and those documents are not able to be recovered. So congratulations to the Brisbane City Council historians who’ve put a lot of time and effort into securing and recreating exactly the history of this place, so it can be transformed. Because as we know, the Queensland University Regiment used the Witton Barracks up until 2011, when the site was bought by the Brisbane City Council off the Federal Government. That was in 2016 and Council’s submission included the following commitments.

To undertake immediate repairs and refurbishments required to prevent the existing buildings on the site from falling into disrepair. Work to establish the site as a district park for residents’ use and work to establish the site for community use. Chair, as you know, you’ve been to Indooroopilly, you’ve seen the district park, Witton Barracks Park, up and running. You’ve seen all the work underway, with the asbestos removal, the services, including the electricity and the water and I understand NBN. This is all very difficult because let’s think back to that history lesson I just gave you, Chair.

It was built in the 1940s, it was built during the War, so it’s got challenging architecture with 1940s brickwork that has to be preserved for any redevelopment. It’s got complicated infrastructure because it’s got a transport yard, cell blocks and an admin building. It’s a difficult site because we have ground contamination, because we don’t know what’s there because the Americans took all the documents. So the works that we’re talking about in the item A are the refurbishments to fit out the heritage buildings, including the park entry, the internal access, the car park, pathways and landscaping.

Now community feedback on this site has been exceptional and I’m continually being approached by community groups, art groups, I even had a meeting with the bookbinding association of Queensland who wanted to enquire about having Witton Barracks as their home. I look forward to working with Councillor HOWARD to promote the good use of this site and work with anyone in Council I need to work with to try and get this site operating as a community facility for arts and history groups as soon as possible.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I just rise to speak briefly on—I’ll try all of the items before us today. Firstly, I note with respect to item B that there are a number of problems with the way in which the security of some Council online operations have been working. I’m not sure that’s something that’s been disclosed to us before and I note that the Auditor-General has asked Council to undertake some remedial work there.

I’m still waiting on the Auditor-General to come back to me about some problems identified with—I don’t know whether it’s fraud, or whether it’ll be inappropriate use of Council funds or pork-barrelling, it could be any of these things at this point, around the allocation of Council’s grant funding. I’d just note that ICAC (Independent Commission Against Corruption) in New South Wales has indicated that pork-barrelling could be corruption. So I look forward to the Auditor-General’s report on how Council has been inappropriately allocating funds to LNP projects in the grants program coming to fruition. Perhaps that’ll be in next year’s report.

I just note my concern, particularly with the surplus property disposal, the three properties that we’ve heard about today from the LORD MAYOR and from the Leader of the Opposition. I just want to put on the record my concern about these matters. The Brookfield property is certainly going to be still quite large in terms of its size and it is a very substantial house on the block. I wonder what steps have been put in place to ensure that this property is going to be kept at this size, or whether or not we’re going to be seeing subdivisions coming through for this block.

I know particularly that the residents of Brookfield really think that a small lot block out there is no smaller than about a hectare, they think that’s a small lot block. But my interest in this issue here is that the LNP isn’t thinking about how to protect the house and the property; it’s how they can make money from selling it off. I know that the LORD MAYOR today has been a little bit off his head, I would suggest, in attacking the Labor Party about homelessness, housing affordability and those things, as he was during the budget just a few weeks ago as well.

What I’m not seeing here is any strategy perhaps to partner with Brisbane housing corporation, or an organisation like Youngcare, or one of the domestic violence housing organisations that are out there, to see how Brisbane City Council can support housing for vulnerable people. To me, that is a shortcoming in the strategy that has been proposed here before us today.

I note also that some of these properties are more remote than others, but there are certainly good uses that they could be put to. But the only thing Council’s interested in here is revenue and they’ll be selling to the highest bidder, which will be a developer, without question it will be a developer. Then that puts that property at risk from further sub development, unintended uses. Now I feel pretty certain Councillor ADERMANN would speak up against this converting small lot blocks, he would, because his residents out there aren’t real keen on it. Then of course he’s in the difficult position of perhaps being criticised by his own LORD MAYOR, but we’ll see.

I’m gazing into my crystal ball about what might happen once these blocks are sold off to the highest bidder, which will be a commercial developer. So I think that the LORD MAYOR has got this wrong. I think there are probably good partnership opportunities here that should have been explored, if not for all of the sites then at least one of them. Because the LORD MAYOR has decided in the last few weeks to come out and be highly critical of the Opposition, who have raised a number of these issues.

Here he’s had the opportunity with Council land to do something positive, as I’ve said, either in the disability sector or in the affordable housing sector with Brisbane housing corporation, or in the domestic violence sector and instead he’s gone straight out onto the market for the developers to purchase these properties. Now the LORD MAYOR in one breath today has stood up and slammed the State Government for vacant houses everywhere. Meanwhile his own property in his own Council that he directly controls has had vacant properties sitting there for years and years with no action.

Now I’m going to take the Kerry Packer approach to this, that the decision of this LORD MAYOR to sell off the parts of these properties that have some commercial value is going to generate a revenue windfall for Council, but the problem is we know that some of that money will go back into the bushland buyback fund, but we know that this Administration inappropriately allocates 95% of that funding to pork-barrel in their own LNP wards and meanwhile—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: We’ve listened on and on and on and the imputing motive is absolutely out of line. We’ll wait for the auditor’s report on it, absolutely, but it is out of line. I ask that she stops with the imputing motive please.

Chair: Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, if I can bring you back to the items before us please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m sorry, it is a matter of fact that the LNP allocate 95% of bushland—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order. Okay, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I understand why Councillor ADAMS feels slighted by this. She got a special Rolls-Royce deal for her own electorate and whenever any other Councillor in a non-LNP ward suggests buyback, they’re told no. Because 95% of all of the bushland buyback funds go into LNP wards. If you listen to the LNP they’re going, there’s no bushland in any of the Labor wards, there’s no bushland in your ward, Councillor JOHNSTON, there’s none, there’s none, all that money has to go into our LNP wards. So Councillor ADAMS, as I said, I don’t think that the revenue you’re going to get from this is going to be spent fairly.

I’m not convinced it’s going to be spent in the best interests of the city, because your track record demonstrates the only people you are interested in protecting are yourselves, by buying land, marginal land without bushland on it in your own ward, to save your own political bacon. Do I think that the revenue from the sales of these three properties should be going to buyback residential housing blocks in the middle of Mount Gravatt East? No. Up until now I’ve kind of let that roll through, but not anymore because it’s pretty clear that this Administration is happy to generate funds and then use it for their own purposes in their own wards rather than—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I ask for your ruling on whether Councillor JOHNSTON is imputing motive and if you agree with me, I ask you to ask her to cease the improper behaviour.

Chair: Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, the motion—the matter before us doesn’t allow you to go around the houses on everything relating to purchases of property for purposes of bushland acquisition. This is the sale of three properties and I ask you to come back to the item before us without imputing motive.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes and two of the three items say that the revenue from the property sales should go back into the bushland buyback fund. I mean I’ve actually read the Council papers, I’m not sure about other people in the Chamber. The other one’s going into the LORD MAYOR’s green slush fund and I don’t think we’ll see a cent out of that for any non-LNP wards as well. So let’s be clear here, my point is (1) this Administration and this LORD MAYOR, who’s just walked back into the Chamber, have spent ages today criticising Labor for empty houses, not doing enough on homelessness.

Here we have three properties which we’re told are in excellent condition and don’t flood, but is there any discussion with the Brisbane Housing Corporation, with Youngcare or with a domestic violence housing provider to talk about a partnership opportunity for one of these or all of them, so that we can do something ourselves as a Brisbane City Council to support vulnerable people and housing? No, the LORD MAYOR doesn’t want to talk about that, the DEPUTY MAYOR definitely doesn’t want to talk about that.

What this LNP Administration want to do is sell off these properties to the highest bidder, which will be a commercial developer. I can guarantee that within the next let’s say five years we will be back here and there will be DAs on these properties to subdivide them further.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I hope that she’s finished, but I ask again if you could rule if she’s imputing motive and if she is, ask her to cease.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, if you can cease imputing motive please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I’m just a little bit unclear about what motive I’m imputing. I’m saying that a commercial property developer may—

Chair: Your proposition is hypothetical.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, it is.

Chair: So that’s imputing motive.

Councillor JOHNSTON: No, no, but I’m not imputing motive about a Councillor. This is the issue, I don’t—I’m sorry, who are you saying I’m imputing motive about? Could you just clarify that for me?

Chair: About the Administration.

Councillor JOHNSTON: No, no. No, no, no.

Chair: In any case, Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Do you want me to be doing this every time the LORD MAYOR gets up? But anyway, let me just finish this off by saying—

Chair: No, Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Further speakers?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak in support of item E, the Stores Board submission for the lease and operation of the aquatic centres at Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Carole Park, Jindalee and Musgrave Park and Spring Hill. I’m very fortunate to have two of these facilities in my ward, Carole Park and Jindalee.

I’d firstly like to start by thanking Councillor HOWARD and her team for working with the State to establish a 10-year lease at the Carole Park pool site, which is actually in Ellen Grove. This has been a really important step in allowing the leaseholder to commit and establish themselves at the facility. I was very happy to see that the current facility manager, Paul Mason, has taken the next step and put his hand up to run for this tender. With all of these facilities they are an important part of our local community, while also providing the important learn to swim programs for our schools.

Finally, I just want to briefly mention the Jindalee Pool and as the LORD MAYOR mentioned earlier, it was severely damaged during the February floods. We’re currently exploring options to relocate the Jindalee Pool, hence why Council were unable to offer a lease at this site at this time. I would like to acknowledge the incumbent leaseholder, Phil Moore and his team for their incredible efforts over the past 11 years. He and his team have been incredibly resilient, managing the pool through two floods and a pandemic. We thank Phil for his efforts and wish him all the very best for the future. I’ll continue to work with our Council teams to work on the location and rebuilding this important community asset. I commend this report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item G, the temporary local planning instrument for protection of properties within the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate. First off, I’d just like to say that Labor will be, of course, supporting the protection of these important properties and it’s nice to actually have some agreement between—with all of Council in relation to these particular properties.

For those of you who don’t know this estate, there’s about 180 homes that are, my understanding is, currently protected by a Character overlay. They’re very small, modest homes that have been protected for some years. This layer of protection, heritage overlay, will give them a much higher, much greater level of protection. Locally this housing estate is known as munition housing and it was put there for workers who were largely doing the munition work for World War II.

It is on the corner of Beaudesert, Evans Road and also has backing of Alexander Park and industry at the background of it. Just across the road from it is another site that I’ve previously talked about, the Evans Deakin building. The Evans Deakin building, which is no longer there, was where the Story Bridge was constructed. My feeling about Moorooka Ward is it can be best described and I see the ward as really being the engine house of the city, in terms of doing a lot of the work for the city that then supports the glamorous part of the city, the inner city and it’s really good that we are looking after and protecting these homes.

These homes, largely because they’re very modest, largely because they’re made out of fairly simple materials, I won’t say asbestos but certainly very similar to it, a lot of people choose not to buy them. So a lot of people buy them as affordable homes, so we’re actually saving them as affordable homes as well. What this does, that I can see, is a really good outcome for this move to have them protected, is it actually sets an envelope for how you add to these homes.

One of the issues I’ve found in representing residents in the past when they’ve wanted to do modifications to these homes, it’s been very difficult. In reading through this document, what it says, it gives people an opportunity for how you can add to the rear of the homes so that you don’t actually impact the front of the homes. But you can add more living space, more bedroom space, for many people who have growing families. So I think that’s actually a really good outcome.

I think the fact that we’re preserving this very small estate, but very significant in terms of its impact and history for the area, is really good. It certainly offsets the nearby industrial area which is called, part of it’s called Chrome Street and we run a little festival down there. In my experience over the years has been as West End has developed, more and more businesses are leaving the inner city and coming out to this area of Salisbury. Probably to set up more creative industries, such as Food Connect, such as smaller industries that are a bit different to large industrial manufacturing that the area, Evans Road, had seen in the past.

I’ve worked really hard, as was mentioned, worked really hard with local residents in terms of talking about the Moorooka, Salisbury, Nathan local plan. I know that there are in the area—and I’ve worked to bring them, there are five actions groups have set up in response to that plan. So I’ve brought all those action groups together, they’re largely saying the same thing and certainly one of their highest priorities for Moorooka, Salisbury and Nathan—and interestingly, when I meet with them they’re not opposed to high density.

They’re not opposed to seeing more people move into the area, but what they want to see is protection of the character of the area and acknowledgement that there is significant character in this area. They want to see these homes, like these ones but there are other homes that aren’t protected, they want to see them protected. So I’m happy to support this with the Administration. I know Labor is happy to support that and certainly Councillor CASSIDY reflected that, but I think this is a good move. But what I’ll be moving later on in a motion is that we protect all the character in Moorooka, Salisbury, Nathan local plan, thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, thank you, Chair. I rise to speak in support of item A, the reappointment of Just Sports and Fitness as the operator of the Bellbowrie swimming pool for a further 15 years. This company’s record as pool operators, not only at Bellbowrie but at other locations in Brisbane, Ipswich and regional towns in Queensland and northern New South Wales, speaks for itself. Having worked with the Just Sports and Fitness team at Bellbowrie since my election as the Pullenvale Ward Councillor just over two years ago, I’ve seen first-hand their passion and enthusiasm in encouraging the local community to become involved in water‑based activities to suit people of all ages.

The Bellbowrie Pool offers opportunities for recreational and lap swimming, water exercise and swim lessons. There is a 50-metre outdoor pool with eight lanes, as well as a 25-metre heated covered pool. The pool has been an important community hub since it was built in 1974. More than 550,000 patrons have passed through the turnstiles over the past decade. There have been enhancements at the pool since, such as the installation of a fully equipped gym, shaded seating areas, a café, kids water facilities and landscaping, to enhance the customer experience at the pool. I know they have big plans for the future, such as enclosing the 25‑metre pool and converting the gym to a 24/7 operation.

It should come as no surprise that the person behind the success of Just Sports and Fitness is none other than 1984 Olympic bronze medallist, Justin Lemberg, who was trained by the legendary Laurie Lawrence. Just spend 10 minutes with Justin and you can see where his motivation and passion for all things water sport comes from. I’ve seen him there after school, coaching and encouraging our young swimmers to realise their potential in the pool and who knows, one of his young charges may yet emulate his achievements at the 2032 Brisbane Olympics.

Chair, the pool, like Councillor HUTTON’s pool at Jindalee, was affected by floodwaters earlier this year, but thankfully there was no structural damage done. But a massive clean-up operation was necessary and I commend our Connected Communities and Community Facilities officer plus Justin’s team for undertaking that work, ensuring that all will be in readiness for when the pool reopens on 17 September, following the winter break.

When it does, we’ll be rescheduling the movie night at the pool we promised the Bellbowrie and Moggill communities earlier this year but was unfortunately postponed because of the flood. I look forward to working with Justin and Jacqui and the team there again going forward and seeing what they have planned to ensure the pool remains a key hub in the Bellbowrie community. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Just briefly with the pool leases, I wanted to put on the record that I’ve had a few more complaints lately about the management of Musgrave Park Pool since. Just so the LORD MAYOR’s aware of it and Councillor HOWARD’s aware of it, basically what we’ve seen since the pool was upgraded is that it is more often being used for water polo and for some of those adult swim classes. Which means that there’s a lot less space available for members of the general public who just want to swim laps, or whose kids just want to play in the shallow end.

So really what we’re seeing here is that there’s only one swimming pool in a really big, rapidly growing area, so there’s understandably competition for that pool. I don’t begrudge the water polo group wanting to use the space and I don’t begrudge the operator for wanting to run for profit swim classes in the pool. But I guess I just want to note for Councillor HOWARD’s attention that I don’t think we’ve quite got the balance right at the moment. I’ve visited the pool on occasion to check this out for myself, it does often seem like maybe only one or two lanes is open to the general public for use. Then the entire rest of the pool is sectioned off for water polo or for classes.

So through you, Chair, to Councillor HOWARD and the LORD MAYOR, maybe that’s something that can be looked at down the track in terms of clarifying how much of the pool and how often—how much of the pool is going to be kept aside for the general public and how often it can be closed off for activities like water polo. Often the problem is that at the same time that the water polo guys want to use the pool is when the general public wants to be using it. So the pool operators might say well, we’re only giving it to the water polo club for a couple of hours a week, but those are the busiest hours of the weekend, when everyone else wants to go for a swim as well.

So I think what it really highlights is that we probably need more public swimming pools across the city and particularly in some of these areas that are seeing rapid population growth. That’s not just in the inner city, that’s right across the burbs. But the reality is that it’s much more efficient for us to provide public swimming pools than it is for everyone to have their own private pool and to be continually converting backyard space into swimming pools. So it would be better for the Council to be planning ahead and recognise that there is now a shortage of public swimming pool facilities across the city.

Musgrave Park, being the example I know the best, is definitely feeling those capacity issues. So I’m, yes, I guess a little bit concerned that the continuing approach of outsourcing management to private pool operators means that the Council administration itself doesn’t have enough oversight over exactly how the balance is being struck between different users. Obviously certain uses make the pool operator a little bit more money than others and the pool operator is going to be trying to maximise their revenue streams, which can sometimes mean that members of the general public are missing out or being deprioritised.

So LORD MAYOR, I hope you’ll take this seriously. It’s not a critique of the LNP directly, it’s just a note that our inner city pools in particular are getting a lot more use. The way Musgrave Park has been managed over the last little while since the new leaseholders took over is that I’m hearing more complaints from residents that they don’t have enough access to the pool as members of the general public. So hopefully your team can take that up with the operators, thanks.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. I wasn’t going to contribute, but I will just contribute to this item. Musgrave Park is one of the pools that will have a new operator and I’m happy to take up those discussions with them. I do want to just put on the record that the successful tenderer was Rockhampton Water Sports. Whilst the name says Rockhampton, they’re very much Brisbane-based and have been for the last two years. They’re thinking about changing their name, which I thought was quite a good idea, but they are a small local business who’ve done very well in Rockhampton, have been on the Sunshine Coast for a couple of years and now call Brisbane home.

So we’re thrilled that we’re going to have a small Brisbane-based business that will continue to support and provide jobs for our local community. Through you, Mr Chair, I’m happy to take on those comments from the Councillor for The Gabba Ward, because I can’t really say his last name just yet. I’m practising, I can let you know, but I will certainly take those on board and certainly we’re happy always to have the local Councillors involved with those operators, thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item G, the proposed TLPI for the protection of the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate. Mr Chair, this is a fantastic proposal to protect a piece of Brisbane, Queensland and in fact Australia’s wartime history. This precinct is the first and only example of a purpose-built public housing estate in Brisbane and Queensland, initiated and funded by the Commonwealth Government in 1944 during the Second World War, to house workers employed in the nearby war industries at Rocklea and Salisbury.

While the properties in this precinct are currently protected by character overlays, early investigations and consultation with the community through the Nathan‑Salisbury‑Moorooka neighbourhood plan process highlighted the cultural significance of this estate and its contribution to Brisbane’s history. We are now stepping in to propose listing the entire estate on the local heritage register and the TLPI will provide interim protection to these properties while the heritage amendment is progressed.

I would note that the draft strategy that was released in June last year for the Nathan-Salisbury-Moorooka neighbourhood plan did in fact acknowledge that as a key strategy was the protection of neighbourhood character, and Strategy 1.2.2 was explore the heritage and character value of a variety of buildings and precincts developed before, during and after World War II. In recognition of that particular objective, we are moving ahead with this TLPI. So listing this estate is a nod to the important role that it played for workers during the wartime efforts and represents a local picture of civilian life in Brisbane during this time.

The estate, made up of approximately 180 houses, remains largely intact today, with the majority of workers cottages in their original condition and positioning on their sites. As Councillor GRIFFITHS indicated, they are modest homes, as perhaps would be expected at that point in time, but nonetheless they have an important role to play in the heritage of that particular area. Importantly, it’s not just the cottages themselves, it’s also about protecting the estate as a whole. The estate as it currently stands is largely intact. Over the years there have been some changes in the estate, but be that as it may we’ve got an opportunity now to protect what remains in the estate.

There are, I believe, about 167 out of 180 homes that are largely intact and certainly something that’s worth protecting. It’s also an interesting example of a contemporary planning principle from that point in time, which was called the Radburn model and I think that that’s an acknowledgement of how town planning might have been handled at that point in time. It’s the first time that Council has heritage listed an entire housing precinct. Generally speaking when we’re looking at heritage listing it tends to be ideally on one or even maybe two houses, but this is unique in the context of a housing precinct.

As I indicated, while the cottages themselves are relatively modest, there will be a mechanism for the owners to modernise and extend to the rear of the properties to ensure that the heritage values and the heritage perspectives of those homes are retained. The TLPI will stop the risk of demolition of these houses as we progress with the Nathan-Salisbury-Moorooka neighbourhood planning process.

It’ll ensure that the houses are retained not only individually but in the context of the estate. There are already some good examples of homes in this estate where sympathetic extensions and modifications have occurred. So we are confident that people can not only live in these homes but live in them in a way that protects the heritage, but also acknowledges what modern day living requires.

As we’d all be aware, the work is continuing on the Nathan-Salisbury-Moorooka neighbourhood plan. We are looking to ensure that further character and heritage opportunities are recognised. There is a planning area and there are areas where we’ve specifically outlined that we’re looking to review the character of those particular streets. When we do look at character, we do tend to look at it on a streetscape basis rather than necessarily at the individual property level. But importantly, the TLPI before us today is a great step towards protecting a key heritage asset in Moorooka.

I do commend this TLPI to the Chamber. I acknowledge the hard work that Council officers have undertaken. They recognised the heritage significance of these particular properties. They put the proposal to the Council’s independent Heritage Advisory Committee, who also agreed with the significance of these particular properties. I appreciate Councillor GRIFFITHS’ support for this item today and I commend it to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on a number of items today. Firstly, with regards to item C, it’s important to place on the record, Mr Chair, that Councillor CASSIDY, through you, has got it wrong yet again. He has attempted to mislead the Chamber, Mr Chair. The amount of the SCP is for five years but he continues to use misleading language to suggest that it’s an annual amount.

You see contrary to what the Opposition suggests, the vast majority of our workforce are permanent employees. Supplementary workers are paid no less than the applicable rates under the agreement and the award, including allowances and penalties where relevant. In fact there’s even an agreed process to review these positions in consultation with the unions. It must also not be ignored that for a number of reasons there are many employees who choose to be engaged as contractors.

Again Labor don’t think that these people exist, but I can assure them that they do. The reasons that people choose this is things like being able to work across a variety of projects of industries, work/life balance where they have more flexibility to nominate days and times that they want to work and to take breaks between contracts to suit their circumstances. We have a competitive labour market and for Council to have the right mix of staff, we need to be accepting of candidates’ diverse needs.

With regards to item F, that’s the presentation and tabling of the interim report to the LORD MAYOR from the Queensland Audit Office up to 10 June. The report is included on the agenda today in line with the requirements for it to be available to Council at the next ordinary meeting. The letter from the QAO states that no significant deficiencies have been identified in our control environment. Other matters have been raised in the report by the QAO and Council will work diligently, as always, to progress those matters. I do want to place on record my thanks to the Council officers, of course our independent audit committee and the QAO for their efforts to ensure Council’s risks are appropriately managed in the interests of the community.

Finally, Mr Chair, item H seeks Council’s approval for the disposal of three surplus properties. Council has an ongoing process to manage our asset base. The proceeds will go into investing in important greenspace in our city. The properties will be offered to market through a registered real estate agent, either via tender or auction, as required undersection 217 of the City of Brisbane Regulation. The proceeds, which ultimately creates value for ratepayers and the community, also lowers pressure on our Council finances, because despite what Labor and the Greens think the Council budget is not a magic pudding.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

LORD MAYOR. No?

Okay, we now move to the vote on this motion in several parts.

The first vote is 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.

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

The voting was as follows:

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

NOES: 1 - Councillor Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN.

ABSTENTIONS: 5 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: The next vote is on the next block, which is B, C, F and H. B, C, F and H.

**Clauses B, C, F and H put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 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, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 5 The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK and Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN.

Chair: Councillors, one more block to vote on, as Councillors return to their seats. D, E and G. D, E and G.

**Clauses D, E and G put**

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

The report read as follows⎯

#### A CONTRACTS AND TENDERING – REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR MAY 2022

**109/695/586/2-006**

**12/2022-23**

1. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

2. Sections 238 and 239 of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* (the Act) provide that Council may delegate some of its powers. Those powers include the power to enter into contracts under section 242 of the Act.

3. Council has previously delegated some powers to make, vary or discharge contracts for the procurement of goods, services or works. Council made these delegations to the Establishment and Coordination Committee and Chief Executive Officer.

4. The *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) was made pursuant to the Act. Chapter 6, Part 4, section 227 of the Regulation provides that:

1. Council must, as soon as practicable after entering into a contract worth $200,000 or more (exclusive of GST), publish relevant details of the contract on Council’s website.

2. The relevant details must be published under subsection (1) for a period of at least 12 months.

3. Also, if a person asks Council to give relevant details of a contract, Council must allow the person to inspect the relevant details at Council’s public office. ‘Relevant details’ is defined in Chapter 6, Part 4, section 227 as including:

a. the person with whom Council has entered into the contract

b. the value of the contract; and

c. the purpose of the contract (e.g. the particular goods or services to be supplied under the contract).

5. The contracts detailed in Attachment A (hereunder) represent contractual arrangements that Council has already entered into. The purpose of this report is not to consider making decisions about the contracts, rather for transparency of the decisions made on contracts entered into with a value greater than the threshold.

6. The Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 11 July 2022.

7. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR MAY 2022, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A,** hereunder**.**

**Attachment A**

| **Report of Contracts Accepted by Delegates of Council for May 2022** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contract number/contract purpose/successful tenderer/comparative tender/price value for money (VFM) index achieved** | **Nature of arrangement/ estimated maximum expenditure** | **Unsuccessful tenderers/VFM achieved** | **Comparative tender price/s** | **Delegate/**  **approval date/start date/term** |
| **BRISBANE INFRASTRUCTURE** | | | | |
| **1. Contract No. 510459**  **REFURBISHMENT OF PASSENGER INFORMATION DISPLAY UNITS AND PROVISION OF A HOSTED SERVICE FOR THE PROVISION OF BUS TIMETABLE REAL TIME PASSENGER INFORMATION**  **Axent Holdings Pty Ltd – $311,070** | Corporate Procurement Arrangement (CPA) (Preferred Supplier Arrangement)  Schedule of rates  **$311,070** | Contract entered into under Exemption 15 of Council’s *SP103 Procurement Policy and Plan 2021-22* which allows for exemption from tendering for procurement if the marketplace is restricted by statement of licence or third-party ownership of an asset. | Not applicable  (N/A) | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  12.05.2022  **Start**  31.05.2022  **Term**  36 months |
| **2.** **Contract No. 510812**  **INSURANCE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BREAKFAST CREEK GREEN BRIDGE**  ***Contract Works Insurance***   * **Liberty Mutual Insurance Company trading as Liberty Specialty Markets** (lead insurer) * **QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited** (co‑insurer) * **Allianz Global Corporate and Speciality** (co-insurer) * **AIG Asia Pacific Insurance Pte Ltd** (co‑insurer) * **Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd** (co‑insurer)   ***Construction Liability Insurance***  **XL Insurance Company SE** | Fixed fee and adjustable rates  **$549,860** | Not applicable as insurance contracts are negotiated on Council’s behalf by its insurance broker, Marsh Pty Ltd. | N/A | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  04.05.2022  **Start**  30.05.2022  **Term**  35 months |
| **3. Contract No. 511761**  **FABRICATE AND SUPPLY BRIDGE HANDRAIL AND BARRIER PANELS ON BEDIVERE STREET BRIDGE, CARINDALE**  **Minnis & Samson Pty Ltd – $228,779**  Achieved the highest VFM of 32 | Lump sum  **$228,779** | DWW Engineering Pty Ltd as Trustee for TMES Trust  Achieved VFM of 26 | $233,921 | **Delegate**  EMCS  **Approved**  26.05.2022  **Start**  27.05.2022  **Term**  12 weeks |
| **4. Contract No: 511830**  **FERRY TERMINAL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION AND EMERGENCY CALL POINTS FLOOD RECOVERY**  **ARA Security Services Pty Limited – $811,527**  Achieved the highest VFM of 96  **Bravis Security Pty Ltd – $805,208**  Achieved VFM of 92 | CPA (Panel Arrangement)  Lump sum  **$843,187** | Wormald Australia Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 53 | $951,743 | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  11.05.2022  **Start**  11.05.2022  **Term**  12 months |
| **5. Contract No. 532983**  **PROVISION OF INSPECTION SERVICES FOR LIGHTING POLES**  ***Level 1 Inspections***  **Lorgren Pty. Ltd. – $112,500**  Achieved the highest VFM of 86.22  **Genus PFA Pty Ltd trading as Genus PFA – $112,500**  Achieved VFM of 64.30  ***Level 2 Inspections***  **Kuys Creative Design Pty Ltd as Trustee for Kuys Discretionary Family Trust trading as Rei‑lux Aus – $105,000**  Achieved VFM of 80 | CPA (Preferred Supplier and Panel Arrangements)  Schedule of rates  **$1,450,000** | ***Level 1 Inspections***  *Shortlisted offers not recommended*  Revo Group Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 64.27  B&T Stanton Enterprises Pty Ltd trading as Beltec  Achieved VFM of 31.27  Kuys Creative Design Pty Ltd as Trustee for Kuys Discretionary Family Trust trading as Rei-lux Aus  Achieved VFM of 14.86  *Non-conforming offer*  J&P Richardson Industries Pty Ltd  *Offer Withdrawn*  Electrical Connexions Pty Ltd  ***Level 2 Inspections***  *Non-conforming offers*  Revo Group Pty Ltd  B&T Stanton Enterprises Pty Ltd trading as Beltec  Genus PFA Pty Ltd trading as Genus PFA  *Offer Withdrawn*  Electrical Connexions Pty Ltd | $97,500  $169,500  $525,000 | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  19.05.2022  **Start**  04.07.2022  Initial term of one year with a maximum term of five years. |
| **6. Contract No.** **533202**  **WITTON BARRACKS CREATIVE HUB**  **J. Mac Constructions Pty Ltd – $5,819,051**  Achieved VFM of 14.09 | Lump sum  **$5,819,051** | *One offer received.* | N/A | **Delegate**  CEO  **Approved**  31.05.2022  **Start**  03.06.2022  **Term**  40 weeks |
| **7. Contract No. 533221**  **STRUCTURAL REPAIRS AT CREATIVE GLASS GUILD (RED HILL)**  **Probuild Industries Australia Pty Ltd – $423,180**  Achieved the highest VFM of 21.27 | Lump sum  **$423,180** | Building Solutions Brisbane Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 16.97  Dart Holdings Pty. Ltd. trading as A. Dart & Co  Achieved VFM of 15.38 | $512,760  $572,350 | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  04.05.2022  **Start**  05.05.2022  **Term**  14 weeks |
| **8. Contract No. 533313**  **ENOGGERA WARD OFFICE TENANCY FITOUT**  **Focus Construct Pty Ltd – $245,338**  Achieved the highest VFM of 35.9 | Lump sum  **$245,338** | *Shortlisted offer not recommended*  Premis Solutions Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 31.4  *Offers not recommended*  Signature Projects Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 26.0  Dart Holdings Pty. Ltd. trading as A. Dart & Co  Achieved VFM of 24.0 | $289,960  $319,780  $346,000 | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  04.05.2022  **Start**  12.05.2022  **Term**  Nine weeks |
| **9. Contract No. MA-00052-2021**  **INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES – TRAFFIC RESPONSE UNITS**  **Queensland Government’s Department of Transport and Main Roads – $1,287,746** | Lump sum  **$1,287,746** | Agreement entered into under Exemption 4 of Council’s *SP103 Procurement Policy and Plan 2021-22*, which allows for exemption from tendering for procurement of a contract made with, or a purchase from a contract made by, another government entity, government owned entity or Local Buy. | N/A | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  25.05.2022  **Start**  01.07.2022  **Term**  12 months |
| **CITY ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE** | | | | |
| **10. Contract No. 510812**  **RENEWAL OF 2022-23 CORPORATE INSURANCE PROGRAM**  ***Commercial Insurances (31 May 2022 – 31 May 2023)***  Fine Arts   * **XL Insurance Company SE**   Marine Hull   * **Allianz Marine & Transit Underwriting Agency Pty Limited**   Marine Hull – Removal of Abandoned Vessels   * **Allianz Marine & Transit Underwriting Agency Pty Limited**   Marine Liability Protection and Indemnity (Ferry Terminals)   * **The Shipowners’ Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association**   Marine Liability Protection and Indemnity (Recreational Pontoons)   * **The Shipowners’ Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association**   Marina Operators Liability   * **Allianz Marine & Transit Underwriting Agency Pty Limited**   Combined General Liability   * **QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited**   Performers Liability   * **Sportscover Australia Pty Ltd**   Business Travel   * **AIG Australia Limited**   Group Personal Accident (Lord Mayor and Councillors)   * **AIG Australia Limited**   Group Personal Accident (Voluntary Workers)   * **AIG Australia Limited**   Umbrella Liability   * **Berkshire Hathaway Speciality Insurance Company**   ***LGMS Membership (30 June 2022 – 30 June 2023)***  **Local Government Mutual Services** | Lump sum  **$3,431,287** | Not applicable as insurance contracts are negotiated on Council’s behalf by its insurance broker, Marsh Pty Ltd. | N/A | **Delegate**  CEO  **Approved**  23.05.2022  **Start**  31.05.2022  **Term**  One year |
| **11. Contract No. 510812**  **RENEWAL OF CORPORATE INDUSTRIAL SPECIAL RISK INSURANCE POLICY 2022-23**  **AIG Australia Limited** (lead insurer)  **HDI Global SE, Australia** (co‑insurer)  **AXA Corporate Solutions Assurance (**co‑insurer)  **AAI Limited trading as Vero Insurance**  **(**co‑insurer)  **Zurich Australian Insurance Limited** (co‑insurer)  **Chubb Insurance Australia Ltd** (co‑insurer)  **SCOR UK Company Limited** (co-insurer) | Lump sum  **$6,576,088** | Not applicable as insurance contracts are negotiated on Council’s behalf by its insurance broker, Marsh Pty Ltd. | N/A | **Delegate**  CEO  **Approved**  27.05.2022  **Start**  31.05.2022  **Term**  One year |
| **12. Contract No. 533339**  **2022 SEVERE WEATHER EVENT INSURANCE CLAIM SUPPORT**  **Marsh Pty Ltd – $750,000** | Schedule of rates  **$750,000** | Contract entered into under Exemption 2 of Council’s *SP103 Procurement Policy and Plan 2021-22* which allows for exemption from tendering because of genuine emergency or hardship. | N/A | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  17.03.2022  **Start**  01.06.2022  **Term**  Three years |
| **CITY PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **LIFESTYLE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES** | | | | |
| **13. Contract No. 533393**  **DIGITAL CHANNEL STRATEGY**  **KPMG – $200,000** | Schedule of rates  **$200,000** | Contract entered into without seeking competitive tenders from industry in accordance with Council’s *SP103 Procurement Policy and Plan 2021-22.* | N/A | **Delegate**  CPO  **Approved**  11.05.2022  **Start**  16.05.2022  **Term**  Six months |
| **TRANSPORT FOR BRISBANE** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |

**ADOPTED**

#### B REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 9 JUNE 2022

**109/695/586/6-02**

**13/2022-23**

8. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

9. Section 201 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* requires that as soon as practicable after a meeting of the Audit Committee, Council must be given a written report about the matters reviewed at the meeting and the Audit Committee’s recommendations about the matters.

10. The Chief Executive Officer is to present the report mentioned in section 201(1)(c) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* at the next meeting of Council.

11. The Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 11 July 2022.

12. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 9 JUNE 2022, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A** (submitted on file)**.**

**ADOPTED**

#### C STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – SIGNIFICANT CONTRACTING PLAN FOR SUPPLEMENTARY WORKFORCE SERVICES

**165/830/179/893**

**14/2022-23**

13. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

14. The Chief Executive Officer and the Stores Board considered the submission, as set out in Attachment A (submitted on file), on 21 June 2022.

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

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

Purpose

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

Contract title: Supplementary Workforce Services

Type of procurement: Establishing a Corporate Procurement Arrangement (CPA) in the form of a Preferred Supplier and/or Panel Arrangements.

Categories/portions: Category 1 – Trades Services

Category 2 – Business Services

Category 3 – Technical Services

Market engagement strategy: Seek offers publicly

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

Price basis: Schedule of rates

Estimated expenditure: $450 million over the potential five-year term.

Background/business case

18. Supplementary workforce suppliers provide candidates for short-term engagements to Council. These suppliers are engaged when suitable internal resources are not available to meet operational requirements, or for project work where permanent employment is not feasible. This supplementary workforce provides Council with benefits such as:

- improved staffing flexibility (increase and decrease workforce numbers as needed)

- reduced internal administration overhead (payroll, candidate screening)

- access to skills that are otherwise not present in Council’s core workforce.

19. Council has two CPAs to support its supplementary workforce requirements.

- CPA 510557 for Professional Services Labour Hire (panel arrangement). The CPA has 13 suppliers across the following five categories:

- Accounting and Finance

- Architects and Engineering

- ICT

- Scientific

- Procurement.

- CPA 510462 for Administration and Trades Temporary Labour Hire Services (preferred supplier arrangement). The CPA comprises of the following two categories:

- Trades

- Administration.

20. The CPAs have a common expiry date, presenting an opportunity for a combined approach for Council’s supplementary workforce requirements.

21. Analysis of the current arrangements indicates that the top three suppliers account for 76% of the total spend. In addition, under CPA 510557 three suppliers account for approximately 70% of the total candidate placements, while 85% of the placements were in the ICT and Architects and Engineering categories.

22. Following stakeholder consultation, the proposed procurement strategy will incorporate the following objectives.

- Consolidate Council’s supplementary workforce requirements under a single arrangement. Combining Council’s total requirement into a single procurement strategy will increase tender volumes and the potential to deliver lower margins.

- Reduce the number of categories from the current seven to three. This will combine low spend categories with similar requirements into a single, more attractive category offering.

- Limit the number of suppliers in each category based on historic usage while maintaining sufficient numbers to promote competition.

- Ensure that the new arrangement caters for hard-to-fill roles and has the capability to support Council during periods of skilled workforce shortages.

- Consider supplier capabilities and experience in using modern technology tools both supporting customer interactions and candidate attraction and management.

23. The new arrangement will have the following three categories:

- Category 1 – Trades Services

This category will encompass the current Trades category and has a payment model which caters for workers receiving penalties and allowances. The estimated annual expenditure under this category is $33 million.

- Category 2 – Business Services

This category combines Council’s requirements currently covered under the Administration, Accounting and Finance and Procurement categories. It will also incorporate requirements for marketing, communication and human resources supplementary workforce. The estimated annual expenditure under this category is $6.6 million.

- Category 3 – Technical Services

Suppliers under the Technical Services category are often specialised in their field and candidate base. Consequently, this category will comprise of two distinct segments:

- ICT Services with an estimated annual expenditure of $33 million

- Infrastructure Support Services with an estimated annual expenditure of $12 million.

24. The Request for Proposal (RFP) process will seek proposals from suppliers who can offer capabilities and capacities to support Council’s requirements. Council will consider either a preferred supplier or panel arrangement for each of the categories and segments.

Policy and other considerations

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

Yes, CPA 510557 for Professional Services Labour Hire and CPA 510462 for Administration and Trades Temporary Labour Hire Services. Both CPAs are due to expire on 31 July 2023 with CPA 510462 having options to extend for additional periods, up to a maximum of one year.

26. Could Council businesses provide the services/works?

No. Council does not have the experience and resources to source and administer the volume of supplementary workforce workers required for Council operations.

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

Nil

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

No

29. Does the proposed contract involve leasing?

No

Market analysis

30. The market for Supplementary Workforce Services is in the mature phase of its life cycle. National annual revenue for the industry was $30 billion in 2020-21. The industry is heavily exposed to economic changes. Its revenue has grown at an average of 4.4% annually over the past five years. This trend is expected to continue but at a lower rate.

31. The current market is highly competitive due to high number of suppliers, low barriers to entry and workforce shortages. The top five market operators account for 22% of the total industry market share. Large recruitment firms have limited influence on industry pricing and trends. Consequently, profit margins remain low and further decreased in the past five years due to mixed demand for temporary workers and the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

32. According to industry reports from IBISWorld, there are approximately 10,000 temporary staffing agencies operating in Australia (October 2021). The Recruitment and Consulting Services Association (RCSA) lists 438 agencies in Queensland and 126 agencies in Brisbane.

Procurement strategy

33.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Procurement objective: | To procure the goods/services/works in a way which complies with the Sound Contracting Principles set out in section 103(3) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* and provides the most advantageous outcome for Council.  The achievement of the above procurement objective will be measured in the post-market submission. |
| Title of contract: | Supplementary Workforce Services |
| Type of procurement: | Establishing a CPA in the form of a Preferred Supplier and/or Panel Arrangements. |
| Categories/portions: | Category 1 – Trades Services  Category 2 – Business Services  Category 3 – Technical Services  - Segment 1 – ICT Services  - Segment 2 – Infrastructure Support Services  These categories have distinct requirements and suppliers often specialise in particular service categories. |
| Process to be used: | Request for Proposals (RFP) |
| Tendering standards to be used and any amendments: | Council’s corporate standards with no amendments. |
| Contract standard to be used including any amendments: | Services – high risk – panel arrangements.  The contract includes amendments approved by City Legal, City Administration and Governance (CAG), covering insurances and compliance with legislation. |
| Market engagement: | Offers are to be sought publicly via Council’s supplier portal. |
| How tender documents are to be distributed: | Via Council’s supplier portal |
| How tenders/proposals are to be lodged: | Via Council’s supplier portal |
| Part offers: | Part offers will be considered. |
| Contract duration: | Anticipated term of |
| Insurance requirements: | Public liability of $20 million, professional indemnity of $10 million and workers’ compensation insurance as per legislated requirements. |
| Price basis: | Schedule of rates |
| Price adjustment: | To be established as a result of negotiations and advised in the post-market submission. |
| Liquidated damages: | Not applicable |
| Security for the contract: | Not applicable |
| Defects liability/warranty period: | Not applicable |
| Other strategy elements: | The procurement strategy is expected to provide the following benefits to Council.  - The consolidated supplier base and concentration of spend is expected to lead to Council being viewed as a priority customer by key market participants.  - A refresh mechanism will allow to increase or decrease the number of suppliers during the term of the CPA.  - Improved accuracy and consistency of reporting which will provide increased support for better spend analysis, workforce planning and ongoing business needs analysis. |
| Alternative strategies considered: | The option to use internal resources to establish supplementary workforce services was considered. This strategy was not recommended as Council does not have:  - the experience and resources necessary to source and administer the volume of the supplementary workforce required for Council’s operations.  - access to or expertise to implement and operate electronic technology tools to support service delivery.  Council explored the option of engaging technology offerings such as software-as-a-service (SaaS) workforce management platforms. This option was not recommended for the following reasons.  - SaaS recruitment platforms are emerging technology products and not yet mature enough to cover Council’s complex requirements.  - Access to similar technology products is often incorporated with supplementary workforce suppliers’ service offerings.  The option of using the Queensland Government Preferred Supplier Panel and the Local Buy recruitment managed services arrangement was reviewed. The key findings of this review are as follows.  - The margins currently paid by Council are less in comparison to using these arrangements.  - Council’s spend is significant and is concentrated in the population centre of Brisbane. As a result, it is expected that this will lead to better outcomes for Council than these arrangements offer. |

Anticipated schedule

34. Pre-market approval: 2 August 2022

Date of release to market: 4 August 2022

Tender closing: 2 September 2022

Evaluation completion (including formalised contract offer(s)): 1 February 2023

Post-market approval: 27 February 2023

Contract commencement: 1 August 2023

Funding and budget considerations

35. Estimated expenditure:

$450 million over the potential five-year term.

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

Establishing the CPA will not commit Council to any purchases. Funding is only required when an appropriately delegated Council officer approves placing orders under the CPA, subject to approved funding availability.

37. Anticipated procurement benefits (if any):

To be established and reported in the post-market submission.

Procurement risk

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

Yes, for Trades Services category only.

39. Summary of key risks associated with this procurement:

| **Procurement risk** | **Risk rating** | **Risk mitigation strategy** | **Risk allocation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Change management | Medium | - Ensure that the contractors’ transition plan includes comprehensive change management provisions. | Contractor and Council |
| Transition to new supplier(s) | Medium | - It is anticipated there may be changes of suppliers as a result of this tender process. Council will need to implement a transition process to off‑hire workers engaged under previous suppliers and re‑engage workers through a new supplier. This could result in the re‑engagement of the same workers should any of them choose to change their employer.  - Suppliers’ transition plans must contemplate the mitigation of Council’s operational risk.  - Appropriate communication with key stakeholders will be undertaken.  - Ensure that contractors’ candidate base is extensive.  - Ensure that any new workforce engagements with the current panel suppliers are aligned with Council’s operational requirements. | Contractor and Council |
| Price basis of contract | Medium | - Negotiate and fix margins for an agreed period.  - Preference for set margins as opposed to percentage based offers. | Contractor and Council |
| Price variation methodology | Low | - Price review methodology will be agreed between the parties and shall be evidence based, in line with published statistics. | Contractor and Council |

Tender evaluation

40. Evaluation criteria:

1. Mandatory/essential criteria:

- Queensland Government Labour Hire Licence.

- Maintain a suitably staffed Brisbane office to manage and support implementation and transition (if any) and ongoing service delivery.

- Commitment to paying employees according to relevant laws and legislation.

1. Pre-screen criteria:

- National revenue in 2020-21 in excess of $20 million and minimum five years category related experience if tendering for Category 1.

- National revenue in 2020-21 in excess of $5 million and minimum five years category related experience if tendering for Category 2 and Category 3.

- Has comprehensive employee and industrial relations system.

1. Non-price weighted evaluation criteria:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Weighted evaluation criteria** | **Weighting**  **(%)** |
| Capability | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Local benefits | 30 |
| Experience | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Account management, reporting and systems | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| **Total:** | **100** |

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

- Basket of services.

41. Evaluation methodology:

(a) Evaluation plan and shortlisting:

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

(b) Negotiations:

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

(c) Value for Money (VFM):

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

42. The Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 11 July 2022.

43. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

Title of contract: Supplementary Workforce Services

Type of procurement: Establishing a Corporate Procurement Arrangement in the form of a Preferred Supplier and/or Panel Arrangements.

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

Price basis: Schedule of rates

Estimated expenditure: $450 million over the potential five-year term.

**ADOPTED**

#### D BEFORE YOU DIG AUSTRALIA LTD – MEMBERSHIP

**109/465/46/11**

**15/2022-23**

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

45. A proposal has been received for Council to become a member of Before You Dig Australia Ltd (BYDA), a public company limited by guarantee that provides a referral service for the community and asset owners to identify and protect underground infrastructure assets.

46. Council is a current member of Dial Before You Dig (Qld) Ltd (DBYDQ). DBYDQ is moving towards a voluntary solvent liquidation and the same services will now be delivered by a national organisation. Previously, each state-based company was a member of the Association of Australian Dial Before You Dig Services Ltd, formed to provide a consistent national approach to the provision of the underground asset location services. BYDA is the newly incorporated member-based, national organisation that will combine all previous state-based Dial Before You Dig entities.

47. BYDA will deliver consistent service, coordination, and advocacy to drive a national focus on underground asset identification and damage reduction. By becoming a member of BYDA, Council will continue to receive and respond to enquiry referral services, in turn protecting workers, the community and preventing damage to Council infrastructure assets.

48. It is proposed that Council will become a member of BYDA upon payment of a $100 initial membership fee and $200 annual membership fee thereafter.

49. The Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 25 July 2022.

50. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF BEFORE YOU DIG AUSTRALIA LTD**

As Council:

i) recognises Before You Dig Australia Ltd (BYDA) as a newly incorporated member-based organisation that will combine all previous state-based “Dial Before You Dig” entities

ii) recognises that by becoming a member of the national BYDA organisation, Council will continue to receive and respond to underground infrastructure asset identification referral services that protect workers and the community and prevent damage to Council assets,

then Council:

i) approves Council’s membership of BYDA in accordance with the membership terms and conditions, as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file).

**ADOPTED**

#### E STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – LEASE AND OPERATION OF AQUATIC CENTRES AT ACACIA RIDGE, BELLBOWRIE, CAROLE PARK, JINDALEE, MUSGRAVE PARK AND SPRING HILL

**165/830/179/865**

**16/2022-23**

51. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

52. The Chief Executive Officer and the Stores Board considered the submission, as set out in Attachment A (submitted on file), on 4 July 2022.

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

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

Purpose

55. That the Stores Board recommends approval of the following:

(1) Concluding the procurement process for the Lease and operation of Jindalee Aquatic Centre without awarding a contract.

(2) Entering into the following contracts to establish leases, on a schedule of rates price basis:

**Contract title 1: Lease and operation of Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: City Venue Management Pty Ltd

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: $750,000 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $30,000 over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 2: Lease and operation of Bellbowrie Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: Australian Crawl (Goodna) Pty Ltd trading as Just Sports and Fitness

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: $920,000 (capital) over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $1.1 million over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 3: Lease and operation of Carole Park Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: Paul Kevin Mason (sole trader)

Contract duration: Anticipated term of five years with an option to renew for a period up to 31 December 2030

Estimated expenditure: $0 over the initial 5-year term

Estimated revenue: $0 over the initial 5-year term.

**Contract title 4: Lease and operation of Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: Rockhampton Water Sports Pty Ltd as trustee for Rockpool Enterprises Trust

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: $0 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $2.3 million over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 5: Lease and operation of Spring Hill Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: City Venue Management Pty Ltd

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: Up to $50,000 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $0 over the potential 15-year term.

Background/operational impact

56.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Background: | There are 22 Council aquatic centres spread throughout Brisbane that in 2020‑21:  - provided services to more than four million patrons  - had a declared asset value under Council’s Industrial Special Risks (Property) insurance policy of $175,334,470  - delivered $998,486 in revenue  - consumed $3,931,980 in operational expenditure.  A procurement process sought to establish new leases for six aquatic centres at Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Carole Park, Jindalee, Musgrave Park and Spring Hill.  The February/March 2022 flood event impacted both Bellbowrie and Jindalee aquatic centres. Bellbowrie recovered well with no structural damage, however, the impact on Jindalee was more severe. While options continue to be explored to rebuild or relocate, Council is unable to offer a lease over the entire site as it was before the flood event. The incumbent lessee has agreed to stay on and manage the learn to swim program pool up until August 2022. There is a holding over clause in the lease that allows this to take place. Subject to future delegate approval, officers from City Venues, Community Facilities (CF), Lifestyle and Community Services (LCS) will seek to establish an operating agreement for a period up until the Jindalee Aquatic Centre, in its full capacity, is reinstated.  An objective of this procurement process was to explore ways to close the gap between Council’s aquatic centre expenditure and revenue. From five of the six aquatic centres in this process, this objective has been met where the financial benefit to Council is approximately $8 million more advantageous than projections based on current practice. |
| What is being procured and why: | Lease and operation of Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Carole Park, Musgrave Park and Spring Hill aquatic centres, to provide ongoing services to the community. |
| Pre-market approval: | Chief Executive Officer (though the Stores Board) on 1 November 2021. |
| Process used: | Request for Proposals (RFP) public tender |
| Closing date for responses: | 28 January 2022 |
| Offer validity period expiry date: | 30 September 2022 |
| Pre-market approval adhered to? | Yes |

Summary of responses

57. Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre

| **Name** | **Registered address,**  **ABN and ACN** | **Relevant local office?** | **Non-price score  *[out of 100]*** | **Comparative price\*  *[after any negotiations]*** | **Value for money (VFM) Index\*\*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommended offer** | | | | | |
| City Venue Management Pty Ltd ^ (CVM) | 2/18 Mountain View Avenue,  Miami QLD 4220  ABN: 44 140 462 862  ACN: 140 462 862 | Yes\*\*\* | 87.5 | -$720,000 | 122 |
| **Shortlisted offer not recommended** | | | | | |
| Australian Crawl (Goodna) Pty Ltd trading as Just Sports and Fitness (ACG) | 75 Nelson Parade,  Manly QLD 4179  ABN: 21 120 208 255  ACN: 120 208 255 | Yes | 75.8 | Comparative price was based on an alternate proposal that proved unviable. Offer withdrawn. See 4.10 for further information. | |
| **Non-conforming offer/s** | | | | | |
| Advanced Energy Centre (AEC) | 205 Redland Bay Road, Capalaba QLD 4157  ABN: 28 863 744 196  ACN: N/A – sole trader | Yes | Not applicable. See 4.6 for further information | | |

\* Comparative price is based on an indicative basket of services reflecting expenses and rental return over 15 years. All monetary figures in this submission are exclusive of GST.

\*\* Non-price score divided by comparative price, multiplied by 1,000,000.

^ Incumbent supplier.

\*\*\* Same as registered address.

58. Bellbowrie Aquatic Centre

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Registered address,**  **ABN and ACN** | **Relevant local office?** | **Non-price score  *[out of 100]*** | **Comparative price\*  *[after any negotiations]*** | **Value for money (VFM) Index\*\*** |
| **Recommended offer** | | | | | |
| Australian Crawl (Goodna) Pty Ltd trading as Just Sports and Fitness^ (ACG) | 75 Nelson Parade,  Manly QLD 4179  ABN: 21 120 208 255  ACN: 120 208 255 | Yes\*\*\* | 88.8 | $1,100,588 | 97.8 |

\* Comparative price is based on an indicative basket of services reflecting expenses and rental return over 15 years. All monetary figures in this submission are exclusive of GST.

\*\* Non-price score multiplied by comparative price, divided by 1,000,000.

^ Incumbent supplier.

\*\*\* Same as registered address.

59. Carole Park Aquatic Centre

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Registered address,**  **ABN and ACN** | **Relevant local office?** | **Non-price score  *[out of 100]*** | **Comparative price\*  *[after any negotiations]*** | **Value for money (VFM) Index\*\*** |
| **Recommended offer** | | | | | |
| Paul Kevin Mason | 210/260 Waterford Road,  Wacol QLD 4076  ABN: 84 592 520 711  ACN: N/A – sole trader | Yes\*\*\* | 65.2 | $0 | 65.2 |

\* Comparative price is based on an indicative basket of services reflecting expenses and rental return over 5 years. All monetary figures in this submission are exclusive of GST.

\*\* Non-price score.

\*\*\* Same as registered address.

60. Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Registered address,**  **ABN and ACN** | **Relevant local office?** | **Non-price score  *[out of 100]*** | **Comparative price\*  *[after any negotiations]*** | **Value for money (VFM) Index\*\*** |
| **Recommended offer** | | | | | |
| Rockhampton Water Sports Pty Ltd as trustee for Rockpool Enterprises Trust (RWS) | 32 Gregory Street,  Toowong QLD 4066  ABN: 44 929 148 901  ACN: 108 980 203 | Yes\*\*\* | 87.5 | $2,335,389 | 153 |
| **Shortlisted offer not recommended** | | | | | |
| Australian Crawl (Goodna) Pty Ltd trading as Just Sports and Fitness^ (ACG) | 75 Nelson Parade,  Manly QLD 4179  ABN: 21 120 208 255  ACN: 120 208 255 | Yes | 75.8 | $1,253,359 | 100 |

\* Comparative price is based on an indicative basket of services reflecting expenses and rental return over 15 years. All monetary figures in this submission are exclusive of GST.

\*\* Non-price score multiplied by comparative price, divided by 1,000,000.

^ Incumbent supplier.

\*\*\* Same as registered address.

61. Spring Hill Aquatic Centre

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Registered address,**  **ABN and ACN** | **Relevant local office?** | **Non-price score  *[out of 100]*** | **Comparative price\*  *[after any negotiations]*** | **Value for money (VFM) Index\*\*** |
| **Recommended offer** | | | | | |
| City Venue Management Pty Ltd ^ (CVM) | 2/18 Mountain View Avenue,  Miami QLD 4220  ABN: 44 140 462 862  ACN: 140 462 862 | Yes\*\*\* | 90.3 | $0 | 90.3 |

\* Comparative price is based on an indicative basket of services reflecting expenses and rental return over 15 years. All monetary figures in this submission are exclusive of GST.

\*\* Non-price score.

^ Incumbent supplier.

\*\*\* Same as registered address.

62. Jindalee Aquatic Centre

| **Name** | **Registered address,**  **ABN and ACN** | **Relevant local office?** | **Non-price score  *[out of 100]*** | **Comparative price\*  *[after any negotiations]*** | **Value for money (VFM) Index\*\*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommended offers** | | | | | |
| Due to the damage caused by the February/March 2022 flood event, and ongoing options analysis, Council is not in a position to offer a lease over the entire site. | | | | | |
| **Shortlisted offers not recommended** | | | | | |
| Belgravia Health and Leisure Group Pty Ltd (Belgravia) | 102 Albert Road  South Melbourne VIC 3205  ABN: 18 118 940 063  ACN: 005 087 463 | No | 85.0 | -$1,692,697 | 143.9 |
| Multi-Level Sports Management Pty Ltd (MLS) | 58-81 School Road  Yeronga QLD 4104  ABN: 48 060 922 063  ACN: 060 922 063 | Yes\*\*\* | 45.3 | -$1,434,554 | 64.9 |
| City Venue Management Pty Ltd ^ (CVM) | 2/18 Mountain View Ave  Miami QLD 4220  ABN: 44 140 462 862  ACN: 140 462 862 | Yes\*\*\* | 90.3 | $0 | 0.0 |

\* Comparative price is based on an indicative basket of services reflecting expenses and rental return over 15 years. All monetary figures in this submission are exclusive of GST.

\*\* Non-price score multiplied by comparative price, divided by 1,000,000.

\*\*\* Same as registered address.

Evaluation of responses

63. Evaluation criteria:

(a) Mandatory/essential criteria:

Not applicable

(b) Non-price weighted evaluation criteria:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Local benefit | 30 |
| Capability | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Capacity | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Strategies to increase revenue and or reduce expenditure | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| TOTAL | 100 |

(c) Price model:

Comparative prices were derived by calculating total cost/revenue to Council over the proposed term of each agreement.

64. Addenda issued:

Two addenda were issued before the closing date to clarify minor enquiries.

65. Submissions not considered further as lodged late:

None

66. Submissions not considered further as incomplete/non-conforming:

AEC submitted a proposal to run Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre. At the time of submitting, AEC was not registered for GST. AEC was advised that its proposal could not be considered unless this was rectified. Although AEC did get registered, its proposal only contained financial projections without the supporting information addressing key selection criteria.

67. Submissions not considered due to failing a mandatory criterion:

None

68. Initial evaluation:

- Two complying proposals were lodged for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre: the incumbent lessee CVM, and ACG. ACG is well known to Council as a lessee for other Council aquatic centres.

- Only one proposal was lodged for Bellbowrie Aquatic Centre, from the incumbent lessee, ACG.

- ACG is the incumbent lessee for Carole Park Aquatic Centre, and during the tender process, advised that it would not lodge a proposal for this site. Paul Mason is the current venue manager, and his proposal is the only one for this site.

- Jindalee Aquatic Centre’s incumbent lessee (Flash Aquatic Management) also declined to lodge a proposal. The three tenderers that did, MLS, CVM and Belgravia are well known to Council.

- Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre attracted two proposals, one from the incumbent lessee ACG and one from RWS. RWS is well known in the Australian aquatics industry.

- Spring Hill Aquatic Centre received only one proposal from the incumbent, CVM.

69. Shortlisting and additional stages:

All complying responses were assessed and other than the Jindalee Aquatic Centre proposals, all others were involved in negotiations.

70. Summarise any clarification/scope changes/negotiation of tenders undertaken:

ACG’s proposal for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre was based on incorporating two bordering venues into the lease, a gymnastic centre and sports hall. Both these venues are subject to community leases. Progressing this proposal required the current lessee to surrender their community lease and then negotiate a commercial lease for a larger footprint than what was offered. Disposing of the additional interest in land, requires a public tender process, unless it could be demonstrated that it was in the public interest to negotiate directly. This was considered unfeasible.

ACG was invited to discuss the obstacles and to consider amending the proposal excluding the additional space. After due consideration, ACG withdrew its proposal for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre.

ACG’s original proposal for Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre and Bellbowrie Aquatic Centre included funding [Commercial-in-Confidence] and [Commercial-in-Confidence] respectively, for capital improvements. Neither proposal covered costs for chemicals or maintenance which are currently borne by Council, nor did they reflect any rental return to Council. ACG was invited to reconsider its projections with an option where capital improvements were funded by Council.

ACG’s revised offers included costs for chemicals and maintenance, and if Council was to fund the capital improvements, ACG proposed a rental return that exceeded the proposed capital costs.

CVM’s proposals for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre and Spring Hill Aquatic Centre were primarily based on the current lease arrangements. Council currently pays rental subsidies for these centres and the opportunities to improve revenue or reduce expenditure, particularly at Spring Hill Aquatic Centre, were considered negligible. CVM however, proposed a model for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre that sees Council’s subsidy progressively reduced where from year 13, a modest rental return to Council is anticipated.

CVM’s Spring Hill Aquatic Centre rental subsidy was initially proposed at [Commercial-in-Confidence] over 15 years. Following clarification and negotiation, CVM proposed that if the attached residential premises was repurposed for commercial use, allowing CVM to relocate its corporate headquarters to Spring Hill, the subsidy would be waived altogether. Excising the residence from the aquatic centre altogether would be extremely difficult due to shared services and heritage overlays.

The initial proposal from RWS for Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre was considered exceedingly ambitious. Initial revenue projections were almost [Commercial-in-Confidence] those of the incumbent. Following clarification and negotiation, RWS came back with a more moderated proposal that still posed a very attractive outcome for Council and the local community. As a potential new lessee, referee checks were undertaken, and each reference site confirmed the abilities and experience of RWS in delivering outcomes beyond expectations.

71. Summarise the circumstances regarding any tenderer removed from further consideration due to unacceptable risks for Council (e.g. cybersecurity, environmental, financial, contract departures, reputational):

Not applicable

Most advantageous outcome for Council

72. Most advantageous:

The recommended tenderer for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre and Spring Hill Aquatic Centre, is the incumbent lessee, CVM. Following clarifications, CVM’s proposals were the only ones for both sites. While CVM still requires a rental subsidy from Council for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre, there is a realistic plan in place to turn this around to a rental return by year 13. The Spring Hill Aquatic Centre proposal presents an advantageous opportunity to remove the subsidy altogether. Under this new proposal the savings from the reduced subsidy payable by Council at Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre, is projected at $1,380,000 over 15 years. The Spring Hill savings projection for the same period is $419,000.

The recommended tender for Bellbowrie Aquatic Centre is the incumbent lessee, ACG. ACG’s proposal was the only one for this site. ACG has proposed an improved offering over its current model, accepting maintenance costs and a rental return to Council, subject to ACG not funding capital improvements. Under this new proposal the chemical spend will be payable by the lessee with projected savings to Council of $266,000 over 15 years. Projected revenue payable to Council has increased by $1.1 million over 15 years.

The recommended tenderer for Carole Park Aquatic Centre is Paul Kevin Mason. Paul has been the venue manager under the incumbent’s lease (ACG). The proposed lease term is for an initial term of five years with an option to renew for a period up to 31 December 2030. This is when Council’s Lease with the Queensland Government (Represented by the Department of Education) expires. Under this new proposal the chemical spend will be payable by the lessee with projected savings to Council of $39,000 over five years. The savings from the reduced subsidy payable by Council, is projected at $250,000 over five years.

The recommended tenderer for Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre is RWS. Of the five centres up for renewal, Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre was the only site with true competitive tension. In the end, the proposal from RWS:

- projects the most competitive rental return to Council

- includes more than $2 million in lessee funded capital improvements

- demonstrates an excellent track record in positive outcomes.

Under this new proposal the chemical spend will be payable by the lessee with projected savings to Council of $541,800 over 15 years. Projected revenue payable to Council has increased by $2.3 million over 15 years.

73. Tenderers not recommended:

- Following clarifications, ACG formally withdrew its proposal for Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre (refer to 4.10).

- ACG is the incumbent lessee at Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre having been appointed in a caretaker role in August 2020. Although negotiations saw an improved proposal, the proposed return to Council of improvements was only competitive if ACG wasn’t funding the proposed capital improvements.

74. Environmental management, quality assurance, access and equity, Zero Harm and support for local suppliers, locally produced and Australian products:

Each recommended tenderer is based locally in South East Queensland. Only one, CVM, is based outside of the Brisbane Local Government Area (LGA). Should the relevant approvals occur with the attached caretaker’s residence at Spring Hill, CVM’s business will also be based in the Brisbane LGA. The proposed leases contain strict requirements for quality control, access and equity and Zero Harm.

75. Risks associated with this contract (including mitigation strategies):

| **Procurement risk** | **Risk rating** | **Comments/other risk mitigation strategies** | **Risk allocation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The detailed financial projections are not attained | Medium | The financial projections proposed by the lessees will form part of regular review meetings. Any future capital proposals will be reviewed in the context of these longer-term projections. | Contractor and Council |

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

No

Contract proposed

77.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of procurement: | Establishing leases |
| If establishing a new CPA, how will it be operated? | Not applicable |
| Contract standard to be used: | Contract documents as drafted by City Legal, City Administration and Governance (CAG) |
| Amendments to the contract standards? | No changes have been made to the standard. |
| Has the proposed contractor(s) signed the contract to formalise its offer? | Yes |
| Execution date of contract: | 1 September 2022 |
| Contract duration: | Anticipated term of 15 years for Acacia Ridge, Bellbowrie, Musgrave Park and Spring Hill aquatic centres. Anticipated term of five years for Carole Park Aquatic Centre with an option to renew for a period up to 31 December 2030. |
| Price basis: | Schedule of rates |
| Variation for rise and fall in cost: | As articulated in detailed financial projections of proposed term. |
| Provisional sums? | Not applicable |
| Security for the contract: | Not applicable |
| Defects period/warranty period? | Not applicable |
| Liquidated damages: | No |
| Software component? | No |
| Does this proposed contract involve leasing? | Yes, and Corporate Finance, OS, has been advised. |
| RM document reference/s for the finalised contracts: | Signed contracts will be saved in RM file container 165/830/179/865. |
| Contract preparation: | Legal Counsel, Property, City Legal, CAG |

Contract expenditure and budget availability

78. Estimated expenditure under this CPA/contract:

- The only operational expenditure projected is approximately $800,000 over 13 years in rental subsidies at Acacia Ridge and Spring Hill.

- An estimated expenditure of $920,000 in capital improvement at Bellbowrie is proposed, subject to funding availability in future budgets.

79. Sufficient approved budget to meet the total spend under this CPA/contract?

No. Two of these leases, ([Commercial-in-Confidence]) have projected rental subsidies payable by Council up until the 2037-38 financial year.

80. Indicative program and supporting information:

Program: Program 5 – Lifestyle and Community Services

Outcome: 5.6 - City Icons and Venues

Strategy: 5.6.2 - City Venues Management

Service: 5.6.2.4 - Aquatic Centres

Operating: Aquatic Centre management

81. Benefit or saving against pre-market estimate (if any):

The following benefits have been identified (over 15 years)

- Cost of chemicals transferred to lessees $0.85 million

- Revenue projections increased $3.43 million

- Rent subsidy reduction $2.02 million

- Capital improvement (Value at lease expiry) $1.74 million

- TOTAL $8.04 million

82. The Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 25 July 2022.

83. **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Stores Board recommends approval of the following:

(1) Concluding the procurement process for the Lease and operation of Jindalee Aquatic Centre without awarding a contract.

(2) Entering into the following contracts to establish leases, on a schedule of rates price basis:

**Contract title 1: Lease and operation of Acacia Ridge Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: City Venue Management Pty Ltd

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: $750,000 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $30,000 over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 2: Lease and operation of Bellbowrie Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: Australian Crawl (Goodna) Pty Ltd trading as Just Sports and Fitness

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: $920,000 (capital) over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $1.1 million over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 3: Lease and operation of Carole Park Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: Paul Kevin Mason (sole trader)

Contract duration: Anticipated term of five years with an option to renew for a period up to 31 December 2030

Estimated expenditure: $0 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $0 over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 4: Lease and operation of Musgrave Park Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: Rockhampton Water Sports Pty Ltd as trustee for Rockpool Enterprises Trust

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: $0 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $2.3 million over the potential 15-year term.

**Contract title 5: Lease and operation of Spring Hill Aquatic Centre**

Contractor: City Venue Management Pty Ltd

Contract duration: Anticipated term of 15 years

Estimated expenditure: Up to $50,000 over the potential 15-year term

Estimated revenue: $0 over the potential 15-year term.

**Person to manage:** Community Venues Project Manager, CF, LCS

**Extension authority:** Not applicable.

**ADOPTED**

#### F PRESENTATION AND TABLING OF THE BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL – 2022 INTERIM REPORT TO THE LORD MAYOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 ISSUED BY THE QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE

**134/695/317/1146**

**17/2022-23**

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

85. The Queensland Audit Office (QAO) has performed hard close audit procedures to 10 June 2022 and an assessment of the design and implementation, and operating effectiveness of controls up to this date.

86. As part of the audit, a letter was provided by QAO to Council with the results of the hard close audit procedures, assessment of internal control environment, status of the audit and a summary of control deficiencies and other matters identified (refer to Attachment A, submitted on file).

87. Under section 203(3) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*, Council must present a copy of the Brisbane City Council – 2022 Interim report to the Lord Mayor for the year ended 30 June 2022 at the next ordinary meeting of Council.

88. The Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 25 July 2022.

89. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL – 2022 INTERIM REPORT TO THE LORD MAYOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 ISSUED BY THE QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A** (submitted on file)**, BE PRESENTED AND TABLED AT COUNCIL**.

**ADOPTED**

#### G TEMPORARY LOCAL PLANNING INSTRUMENT 01/22 – PROTECTION OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE MOOROOKA WAR WORKERS’ HOUSING ESTATE

**152/160/1218/506**

**18/2022-23**

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

91. Heritage investigations as part of the Nathan—Salisbury—Moorooka neighbourhood plan project, identified the former Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate as having potential local heritage significance as a precinct, particularly in how the estate demonstrates the role civilians played in Brisbane’s contribution to Australia’s wartime economic output during the Second World War.

92. As the only large-scale and fully planned Commonwealth government-initiated housing estate constructed in Brisbane during the Second World War, the former Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate was constructed to provide housing for civilians employed in the nearby war industries at Rocklea and Salisbury. The former Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate is important for the contribution it made to the history of Brisbane during the Second World War and the advancement of urban planning in the city.

93. Planned and developed by the Commonwealth War Workers’ Housing Trust, the estate demonstrates the application of contemporary principles of mass house planning and estate layout influenced by the Radburn model of urban planning. Highly intact, the design and planning of the former Moorooka War Worker’s Housing Estate is characterised by parklands, curvilinear street patterns, cul-de-sacs, relative uniformity of lot size and standardised housing design of lightweight construction.

94. The properties listed in Attachment C (submitted on file) have been assessed as having cultural heritage significance as a precinct and their protection has been considered and supported by Council’s independent Heritage Advisory Committee.

95. The proposed heritage listing of the precinct will require a major amendment to the Heritage overlay in *Brisbane City Plan 2014*, a process that typically takes at least two years due to the plan making requirements in the *Planning Act 2016*. Due to the nature of the listing and potential risk of demolition as the draft neighbourhood plan progresses, a Temporary Local Planning Instrument (TLPI), entitled Temporary Local Planning Instrument 01/22 – Protection of properties in the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate (the proposed TLPI), has been prepared to ensure the properties are protected from demolition and clear guidance is provided on further development including extensions, to ensure there is no detrimental impact on their heritage importance to the city.

96. Section 23 of the *Planning Act 2016* sets out the local government powers to make a TLPI, including that Council may only make a TLPI if the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (the Minister) is satisfied with the matters set out in that section. These matters include there being a significant risk of serious adverse cultural, economic, environment or social conditions happening in the local government area. The demolition of a potential cultural heritage place presents serious cultural and social impacts for Brisbane. The *Minister’s Guidelines and Rules* (the Guideline) under the *Planning Act 2016* sets out the process for making a TLPI.

97. In accordance with the requirements of the Guideline, Council’s reasons for the proposed TLPI are outlined in a letter to the Minister (refer Attachment D, submitted on file). Further, Council will seek approval from the Minister for an earlier effective date for the making of the proposed TLPI, to ensure the identified properties are given the earliest possible protection.

98. Once approved by Council, the proposed TLPI will be forwarded to the Minister for approval to give effect to the request for an earlier effective day. Once adopted by Council and subject to the Minister’s approval for an earlier effective day, the proposed TLPI will continue to have effect for a period of two years from its adoption, unless rescinded at an earlier date as an amendment to *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (the planning scheme) takes effect.

99. The Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 25 July 2022.

100. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO PROPOSE TO MAKE THE TEMPORARY LOCAL PLANNING INSTRUMENT 01/22 – PROTECTION OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE MOOROOKA WAR WORKERS’ HOUSING ESTATE**

As Council:

1. decides, pursuant to section 7.1 of Part 2 of Chapter 3 of the *Minister’s Guidelines and Rules* (the Guideline) made under the *Planning Act 2016* (the Act), to make a Temporary Local Planning Instrument 01/22 – Protection of properties within the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate (the proposed TLPI)
2. pursuant to section 7.2 of the Guideline has prepared the proposed TLPI as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file), and
3. pursuant to section 9(4) of the Act, resolves that the effective day for the proposed TLPI is, with the approval of the Minister, the day this resolution is made,

then Council:

1. directs, pursuant to section 8 of Part 2 of Chapter 3 of the Guideline, that the Minister be sent the letter in Attachment C (submitted on file), which:
2. requests the Minister’s consideration of the proposed TLPI
3. requests the Minister’s approval of an earlier effective day of the TLPI being the day this resolution is made
4. contains a statement about why Council proposes to make the TLPI
5. contains a statement about how the proposed TLPI complies with section 23(1) of the Act.

**ADOPTED**

#### H ASSET OPTIMISATION – SURPLUS PROPERTY DISPOSAL – 2022-23 STAGE 1

**112/265/439/268**

**19/2022-23**

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

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

103. Asset Optimisation, Organisational Services, in consultation with relevant areas of Council, has identified the properties listed in Table 1 as surplus to Council requirements and, therefore, suitable for disposal.

104. All properties listed in Table 1 will be offered to the market through a registered real estate agent via either tender or auction, as required under section 217 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012.*

105. Further detailed background on all the sites can be found in Attachment B (submitted on file). Aerial photographs of the properties can be found in Attachment C (submitted on file) and the Valuation list can be found in Attachment D (submitted on file).

106. Table 1: Proposed properties for disposal

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Address** | **Recommendation** |
| 23 Gold Creek Road, Brookfield | Disposal |
| 59 Evergreen Street, Bracken Ridge | Disposal |
| 176 Moxon Road, Burbank | Disposal |

107. As further detailed in Attachment B, Asset Optimisation has undertaken a development application (DA) (application reference A005482051), for a Realigning a Lot over 176 Moxon Road, Burbank, to create Proposed Lots 1 and 2 (as shown in Attachment E, submitted on file). It has been conditioned as part of the development approval to have two Statutory Bushfire Management Covenants (Covenants D and E as shown in Attachment E) registered over Proposed Lot 1.

108. The Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed at the meeting of 25 July 2022.

109. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO DISPOSE OF LAND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 217 OF THE *CITY OF BRISBANE REGULATION 2012***

As:

1. Council is the owner of surplus properties, located at 23 Gold Creek Road, Brookfield (Lot 2 on SP259782), 59 Evergreen Street, Bracken Ridge (Lot 1 on SP320606) and 176 Moxon Road, Burbank (Proposed Lot 1 SP137580) (‘Proposed Lot 1’)
2. Council proposes to dispose of the properties by way of tender or auction in accordance with section 217 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*
3. a condition of development approval (A005482051) detailed in section 12 of this submission requires the establishment of two separate Bushfire Management Covenants over Proposed Lot 1 being Covenant D and Covenant E on SP137580, as set out in Attachment E (submitted on file),

then Council:

1. determines that the properties should be sold by way of tender or auction in accordance with section 217 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* on such terms and conditions satisfactory to the Project Director, Asset Optimisation, Organisational Services, and Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance
2. authorises the Project Director, Asset Optimisation, Organisational Services, to negotiate a sale price of the property calculated on the basis that such a price is either equal to or greater than the market value of the properties, as set out in Attachment D (submitted on file)
3. approves entering into the establishment of two Bushfire Management Covenants in accordance with section 242 of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* over Proposed Lot 1 on SP137580 being Covenant D and Covenant E.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Thank you. Councillors, return to your seats please as quickly as possible.

Councillor DAVIS, Environment, Parks and Sustainability (EPS) Committee decisions please.

## NOTATION OF *DECISIONS* OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE AS DELEGATE OF COUNCIL:

### ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Tracy DAVIS, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY, that the report setting out the *decisions* of the Establishment and Coordination Committee as delegate of Council during the Winter Recess 2022, on matters usually considered by the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, be noted.

Chair: Is there any debate?

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair. Mr Chair, there were four items in the recess report. Item A is a park naming submission, requesting Council formally dual name Hanlon Park as ‘Hanlon Park/Bur’uda’. On 23 July, the LORD MAYOR officially announced the dual name, Hanlon Park/Bur’uda, with Councillor CUNNINGHAM at the opening of the completed Hanlon Park project. It was wonderful to have a Welcome to Country and a smoking ceremony performed by the Nunukul Yuggera people, who engaged with Council and provided the Aboriginal name ‘Bur’uda’, which means oak tree forest.

Item B was a park naming submission, requesting the mountain bike trail known as Gap Creek Circuit be named ‘Gillian’s Circuit’. The submission was supported by the local Councillor. For over 20 years, Ms Gillian Duncan has been an advocate and supporter of mountain biking in Mt Coot-tha and South East Queensland. Ms Duncan is well known within the mountain bike community and worked hard as both a volunteer and president of Mountain Bike Australia for many years.

Item C is a petition requesting Council install public toilets at Sheriff Park, Wakerley. Sheriff Park is classified as a District general recreation park and, as such, public toilets are an appropriate embellishment for this type of park and it could be considered within a future budget against other citywide priorities.

Item D is a petition requesting Council install unisex toilets at Williams Park, Runcorn. Over the past eight years, Williams Park has undergone a range of new embellishments and as a result, the classification of the park has been reviewed and is now considered a District general recreation park. The classification supports the installation of public toilets and funding has been allocated in this year’s budget for the delivery of this facility.

Mr Chair, in closing, I hope you can indulge me for a moment. There was so much to talk about during the budget debate that my time expired before I was able to show my appreciation of officers and staff for their hard work in the preparation of the Program 3 budget. I would like to thank Divisional Manager, David Chick; Acting NEWS (Natural Environment, Water and Sustainably) branch Manager, Elizabeth Sisson; and the Program 3 Budget team of Dave Henry and Kate Weise. Thanks also to Lachlan Carkeet, Wade Fitzgerald and Lee Garnett, and of course all the other officers that supported them, along, of course, with Petria Forwood and her Victoria Park/Barrambin team.

To the EPS Chair’s office team of Tanya, Vanessa and Gemma, thank you, and to Zach and Chryss for holding the fort in the wonderful ward of McDowall during that very busy period. Finally, I’d like to thank the LORD MAYOR for his continued commitment to the EPS portfolio and championing the clean, green and sustainable agenda for our wonderful city. Mr Chair, I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Are there any further speakers? No further speakers?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks. Item D, just regarding the toilets in Runcorn, I just wanted to draw attention to the fact that what the Council is doing here is recognising that the way a park is being used has changed and is rezoning or redesignating an area of parkland accordingly to facilitate the installation of public toilets. That’s a similar scenario to what we’ve been talking about over in Highgate Hill and I do hope that the officers—I think I’m still waiting to hear back from the officers about that one.

I do hope that we can take a similar evidence-based approach to that Highgate Hill Park because I’ve been a bit disappointed in the past that the Council is taking a long time to explore those proposals for a public toilet in a park that’s very high intense—used very intensively. So yes, I’m interested to see that we’re doing this in a different park in a different ward, while we’re still waiting on that response regarding a park in Highgate Hill that was also the subject of a really big petition calling for public toilets. I’ll leave it at that.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers? Who’s rising?

Councillor MARX. Welcome back.

Councillor MARX: Thank you, Mr Chair, it’s good to be back. Can I just—I want to speak on petition D, which is requesting Council provide unisex toilets in Williams Park, Runcorn. This is a fairly long-standing request, going back some 10 years since I’ve been the Councillor there. It first was raised when I was elected 10 years ago, and we’ve had some difficulty in that the people in the local area who live right on that park didn’t want toilets in that location. I think it’s fair to say that we should all consider the needs of the residents who actually live right next to a park.

Over time, residents have changed, moved on, the requests have continued to come. I had a fairly large public meeting there about a whole lot of other improvements that I’ve made to that park over the years and this again came up as an issue. I ended up—I personally spoke to all the homeowners and residents in that local area to talk to them about it. We finally got a good agreement that they were quite happy for it and the location was right. The LORD MAYOR was obviously kind enough to make an election commitment in the 2020 election and, as you know, we have until 2024 to deliver those election commitments.

So as Councillor DAVIS has mentioned, the funding is there this year to install or start work on those toilets. It is interesting to note the petition though that has come through, which is the latest one, like I said, I’ve had a few. Only one person who actually signed this petition, of which there’s only four, live in my ward and two come from Moorooka. So thank you, Councillor GRIFFITHS, for sending, through you, Mr Chair, people over to play in my parks, it’s much appreciated. One from Victoria Point, which I’m not sure, is that even in Brisbane? Victoria Point?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: It’s Redlands, there you go, okay. So that’s fine, I’m happy to oblige my residents by supplying them with a toilet and again, I thank the LORD MAYOR for the funding, thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak briefly in support of item B, the decision to rename Gap Creek Circuit at Gap Creek Reserve in my ward to Gillian’s Circuit. As I’ve indicated to this Chamber previously, this is a respectful and heartfelt opportunity to honour Gillian Duncan. Gillian was a pioneer in lobbying for sanctioned mountain bike trails in Queensland and as Councillor DAVIS said, Gillian worked tirelessly for over 20 years as a volunteer to initiate the trail care program with Council and has contributed hundreds of hours to maintain and improve the trail network.

She once commissioned a scientific study on the trail to highlight the benefits of good trail design, to reduce the effects of usage and weathering on soil erosion displacement. Through her work as the Mountain Biking Australia president for many years, Gillian coordinated events and advocated for mountain biking opportunities across the State and neighbouring local authorities. Her ongoing advocacy convinced the powers that be that mountain biking could coexist with other recreational activities in areas such as Mt Coot-tha. Having established the trail network there, Gillian led by example in their maintenance and upkeep and ensuring that they met exacting international standards for trails.

With her legendary fighting spirit, Gillian continues to inspire the mountain biking community by showing up at trail care sessions and sharing her advice on trail design and advocacy. As a result of her efforts, Council now has a significant mountain bike trail network that is an asset and will be enjoyed by the community into the future. Gillian has not enjoyed the best of health in recent times, but I’m pleased that the Schrinner Council has seen fit to honour her achievements through this recognition. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Are there further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak just briefly on item A, because why wouldn’t I? In recent times, Hanlon Park has become a very special place for residents to explore and enjoy, but we know that Norman Creek has always been a special place and was a source of food and cultural significance for Aboriginal people. That’s why I’m pleased that Council officers, those in Councillor HOWARD’s area, thank you very much, worked with traditional custodians who provided the name Bur’uda.

Bur’uda was one of many camps the Kulpurum Clan of the Yuggera language speakers inhabited along the creeks which are south of the Brisbane River. Norman Creek, as we now know it, provided tribes with an abundance of fish, freshwater shellfish and bullrushes, which have many survival uses including food, making baskets and string and for medicinal purposes such as antiseptic. A couple of weeks ago we had the formal reopening of Hanlon Park/Bur’uda and it was a wonderful morning, where the community was able to come together to celebrate the milestone and also take part in a traditional smoking ceremony.

The project is the second of three priority projects to be delivered from the Norman Creek Master Plan. So I just wanted to place on record my thanks to N4C (Norman Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee), local residents, design and construction experts and Council officers who have worked on the project, but importantly, LORD MAYOR, thank you for funding the project. You can be very proud of what has been achieved here and I know there are hundreds of residents who are grateful for this greenspace every single day.

Chair: Thank you. Are there any further speakers?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’ll say it once and then you can remember it. So SRIRANGANATHAN.

Chair: SRIRANGANATHAN, okay.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Yes, you’ll get there. Just on Clause A, park naming, the—

Chair: You’ve already talked on this.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: All right, I’ll let it go.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS, right of reply? Okay.

We now move to the vote on this motion before us. Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee decisions, four items there.

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

The report read as follows⎯

#### A PARK NAMING – FORMAL DUAL NAMING OF THE PARK KNOWN AS HANLON PARK, BETWEEN CORNWALL AND O’KEEFE STREETS, STONES CORNER, AS ‘HANLON PARK/BUR’UDA’

**161/540/567/221**

**20/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following information.

2. Hanlon Park (D0357, B-RE-1485), between Cornwall and O’Keefe Street, Stones Corner, is being revitalised as part of Council’s *Norman Creek 2012-2031 Master Plan* by removing the concrete drain and returning Norman Creek to a naturalised waterway through the park.

3. The Hanlon Park Rejuvenation project has been delivered and has transformed the park into an attractive and versatile public space that supports the growing Stones Corner Precinct, creating a vibrant oasis for the local community to enjoy.

4. The concrete channel has been removed and the waterway has been naturalised, including the planting of trees and shrubs. The project has delivered improved connectivity through shared pedestrian and cyclist routes, connecting north to south and east to west, along with a new nature-themed play area with sliding and climbing equipment, sand play, swings, a shelter and seating for the community.

5. To complete the project, the dual naming of Hanlon Park is being progressed, having been identified within the *Indigenous Aspirations Strategy* and Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan. The project team consulted with the traditional custodians who provided the dual park name ‘Bur’uda’, meaning Oak Tree Forest.

6. The Aboriginal people of this area were from the Kulpurum Clan, also known as the Coorparoo‑Jargin Clan, speaking the dialect of the Yuggera language speakers. Kulpurum derives from the Yuggera language and was the Aboriginal name given to Norman Creek. Bur’uda was one of the many camps occupied by the Kulpurum people who camped mainly along creeks south of the Brisbane River.

7. The dual names will be included on park entry signs at three locations, along with being included on three interpretive signs that will share background information about Aboriginal history and the naturalisation of the waterway and one public artwork plaque. The dual names will be clearly visible to the community.

Funding

8. Funding for the dual name and interpretive signs is available in the 2022-23 Council budget (Service 3.4.1.4 Improve Ecological Health and Liveability of Waterways).

Consultation

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

Customer impact

10. The dual naming of ‘Hanlon Park/Bur’uda’ will acknowledge the traditional custodians and will demonstrate to the community how Council is committed to recognising and representing Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander cultures and creating a city that equally values its history and looks to the future.

11. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 11 July 2022.

12. **DECISION:**

**THAT APPROVAL BE GRANTED TO FORMALLY DUAL NAME THE PARK KNOWN AS HANLON PARK, BETWEEN CORNWALL AND O’KEEFE STREETS, STONES CORNER, AS ‘HANLON PARK/BUR’UDA’, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL’S *OS03 NAMING PARKS, FACILITIES OR TRACKS PROCEDURE*.**

**NOTED**

#### B PARK NAMING – FORMAL NAMING OF THE MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL KNOWN AS GAP CREEK CIRCUIT, LOCATED AT GAP CREEK, MT COOT-THA RESERVE, MT COOT-THA, AS ‘GILLIAN’S CIRCUIT’

**161/540/567/227**

**21/2022-23**

13. The Manager, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following information.

14. On 17 March 2022, Council received a petition requesting Gap Creek Circuit, located at Gap Creek, Mt Coot‑tha Reserve (D0249, B‑RE‑1901), Mt Coot-tha, be formally named ‘Gillian’s Circuit’. The petition received seven signatures, and the recommendation to proceed with the mountain bike trail naming was adopted by Council at its meeting held on 14 June 2022.

15. Ms Gillian Duncan has been an advocate and supporter of mountain biking in Mt Coot-tha and South East Queensland for more than 20 years. Ms Duncan is well known within the mountain bike community across the nation as a leader in lobbying for sanctioned trails and trail care through her work as a volunteer and as president of Mountain Bike Australia for many years.

16. Ms Duncan has worked closely with Council to not only establish mountain bike trails in Mt Coot-tha Reserve but also to improve and maintain the trails for the health and safety of the mountain bike community. Gap Creek Circuit is one of Gillian’s favourite trails as she enjoys the contour flow the trail provides as a rider and as a designer. She spent many hours of her own time keeping it maintained, and once commissioned a scientific study on this trail to highlight the benefits of good trail design to reduce the effects of usage and weathering on soil erosion displacement. Through Ms Duncan’s efforts Council now has a significant mountain bike trail network that is an asset and will be enjoyed by the community into the future.

17. Greenspace Planning, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, has considered the mountain bike trail naming request and, given the support for the name ‘Gillian’s Circuit’, has recommended that approval be granted to formally name the mountain bike trail.

Funding

18. Funding for the name sign is available in the Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, recurrent budget allocation for 2022-23.

Consultation

19. Councillor Greg Adermann, Councillor for Pullenvale Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

20. Formally naming Gap Creek Circuit as ‘Gillian’s Circuit’ received support from the mountain bike community and will acknowledge Ms Gillian Duncan’s significant contribution to Council’s mountain bike trail network.

21. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 18 July 2022.

22. **DECISION:**

**THAT APPROVAL BE GRANTED TO FORMALLY NAME THE MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL KNOWN AS GAP CREEK CIRCUIT, GAP CREEK, MT COOT-THA RESERVE, MT COOT-THA, AS ‘GILLIAN’S CIRCUIT’, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL’S *OS03 NAMING PARKS, FACILITIES OR TRACKS PROCEDURE*.**

**NOTED**

#### C PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL INSTALL PUBLIC TOILETS AT SHERIFF PARK, WAKERLEY

**137/220/594/88**

**22/2022-23**

23. A petition from residents, requesting Council install public toilets at Sheriff Park on Habitat Drive, Wakerley, was received during the Autumn Recess 2022.

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

24. The petition contains 25 signatures.

25. Sheriff Park is classified as a district general recreation park in Council’s Park Classification System and has a total area of approximately 4.6 hectares. The existing embellishments in the park include a basketball half court, exercise equipment, shared pathways, a fenced dog off‑leash area, a playground and a picnic area with a barbeque. Sheriff Park is zoned open space (district) in *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan) and has been identified in the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) for future district recreation infrastructure.

26. Through City Plan, Council takes a carefully planned approach to acquiring and developing new parks and improving existing parks. This ensures Council responds to patterns of growth and provides a broad range of recreation opportunities to all Brisbane residents. The location, type of parkland and the embellishments proposed, such as playground facilities, seating, toilets, barbeques, and shelters, are included within the LGIP Desired Standards of Service.

27. With Sheriff Park being a district general recreation park, public toilets are an appropriate embellishment type that Council would consider providing within this park. Additionally, the LGIP includes an embellishment item to provide district recreation infrastructure in Sheriff Park, with an estimated year of completion between 2021 and 2026 currently listed. Council does not currently have budget allocated to deliver toilets in Sheriff Park, however, it is likely that funding will be allocated to deliver the LGIP embellishment item in a future Council budget.

Consultation

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

Customer impact

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

30. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 18 July 2022.

31. **DECISION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/88

Thank you for your petition requesting Council consider installing public toilets at Sheriff Park, Wakerley.

Through *Brisbane City Plan 2014*, Council takes a carefully planned approach to acquiring and developing new parks and improving existing parks. This ensures Council responds to patterns of growth and provides a broad range of recreation opportunities to all Brisbane residents. The location, type of parkland and embellishments proposed, such as playground facilities, seating, toilets, barbeques, and shelters, are included within the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) Desired Standards of Service.

Sheriff Park is a district general recreation park. As such, public toilets are an appropriate embellishment type that Council would consider providing within this park. Additionally, the LGIP includes an embellishment item to provide district recreation infrastructure in Sheriff Park, with an estimated year of completion between 2021 and 2026 currently listed. Council does not currently have budget allocated to deliver toilets in Sheriff Park, however, it is likely that funding will be allocated to deliver the LGIP embellishment item in a future Council budget.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ellyn Dorman, Urban Planner, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, on (07) 3178 5971.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**NOTED**

#### D PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL PROVIDE UNISEX TOILETS IN WILLIAMS PARK, RUNCORN

**CA21/1030585**

**23/2022-23**

32. A petition from residents, requesting Council provide unisex toilets in Williams Park, Runcorn, was presented to Council at its meeting of 31 August 2021 by Councillor Kim Marx, and received.

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

34. The petition contains four signatures.

35. Through *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan), Council takes a carefully planned approach to acquiring and developing new parks and improving existing parks. This ensures Council responds to patterns of growth and provides a broad range of recreation opportunities to all Brisbane residents. Additionally, existing and future parkland is identified in the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP). The location, type of parkland and the embellishments proposed, such as playground facilities, seating, toilets, barbeques, and shelters, are included within the LGIP Desired Standards of Service.

36. Over the past eight years, Williams Park has been furnished with a range of new embellishments including an upgraded playground with shade sail, fitness equipment, barbeque, additional pathways and seating, and an expansion of the former half-court into a full basketball court. As a result of the level of embellishment now found in the park and an awareness that Williams Park functions as a destination for the local community for events such as ‘Bands in the Park’ and ‘Family Fun Days’, the classification of Williams Park has recently been reviewed. This review has found that it is now appropriate to classify the majority of the area of Williams Park as a district general recreation park in accordance with Council’s Park Classification System.

37. Regarding the request to install toilets in Williams Park, it has been determined that this is an appropriate embellishment for the park, based on existing park embellishments and the level of use by the community. Accordingly, funding has been allocated in Council’s 2022-23 budget within the Suburban Works Program to deliver toilets in Williams Park.

38. Site-specific constraints such as overland flow flooding will need to be considered in determining the most appropriate location within Williams Park for toilets. Parks subject to overland flow flooding are required to locate and construct assets in a manner that appropriately responds to the level of flood hazard identified. When deciding where to locate park assets, consideration needs to balance the recreational benefits with the safety of park users, impacts on asset life and maintenance costs, and any identified worsening of flood hazard on upstream, downstream, and adjacent property. These considerations are particularly significant in relation to delivering toilets, as they require the construction of a building with electrical, water and sewer connections.

Funding

39. Council has allocated funding for the delivery of Park Amenities in the 2022-23 budget under Program 3.

Consultation

40. Councillor Kim Marx, Councillor for Runcorn Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

42. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 18 July 2022.

43. **DECISION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** CA21/1030585

Thank you for your petition requesting Council provide unisex toilets in Williams Park, Runcorn.

Through *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan), Council takes a carefully planned approach to acquiring and developing new parks and improving existing parks. This ensures Council responds to patterns of growth and provides a broad range of recreation opportunities to all Brisbane residents. The location, type of parkland and embellishments proposed, such as playground facilities, seating, toilets, barbeques, and shelters, are included within the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) Desired Standards of Service.

Over the past eight years, Williams Park has been furnished with a range of new embellishments including an upgraded playground with shade sail, fitness equipment, barbeques, additional pathways and seating, and an expansion of the former half-court into a full basketball court. As a result of the level of embellishment now found in the park and an awareness that Williams Park functions as a destination for the local community for events such as ‘Bands in the Park’ and ‘Family Fun Days’, the classification of Williams Park has recently been reviewed. This review has found that it is now appropriate to classify the majority of the area of Williams Park as a district general recreation park in accordance with Council’s Park Classification System.

Regarding the request to install toilets in Williams Park, it has been determined that this is an appropriate embellishment for the park, based on existing park embellishments and the level of use by the community. Accordingly, funding has been allocated in Council’s 2022-23 budget within the Suburban Works Program to deliver toilets in Williams Park.

Site-specific constraints such as overland flow flooding will need to be considered in determining the most appropriate location within Williams Park for toilets. Parks subject to overland flow flooding are required to locate and construct assets in a manner that appropriately responds to the level of flood hazard identified. When deciding where to locate park assets, consideration needs to balance the recreational benefits with the safety of park users, impacts on asset life and maintenance costs, and any identified worsening of flood hazard on upstream, downstream, and adjacent property. These considerations are particularly significant in relation to delivering toilets, as they require the construction of a building with electrical, water and sewer connections.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Anton Trenorden, Senior Program Officer Parks, Parks Policy and Planning, Parks and Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, on (07) 3403 4644.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**NOTED**

Chair: Councillor MARX, City Standards Committee decisions please.

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Kim MARX, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Standards Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven TOOMEY that the report setting out the *decisions* of the Establishment and Coordination Committee as delegate of Council during the Winter Recess 2022, on matters usually coming under the jurisdiction of the City Standards Committee, be noted.

Chair: Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Thank you, Mr Chair. I just have one item here, which is a petition to construct a footpath on Didcot Street, Kuraby. A little bit of history here, so as you know yourself, Mr Chair, Faiz has moved to my ward and has now created a neighbourhood day and we continue to hold that in the Kuraby Svoboda Park. At this year’s neighbour day that I attended, there was a couple of gentlemen there, one in particular who presented a petition to me to put in a footpath along Didcot Street. I mentioned to him the process that I generally follow with every request for anything, particularly from our residents, footpaths, park upgrades, *et cetera*, I do a community consultation.

So my office are in the process at the moment of collating replies back from the residents that live in that street. I’d like to confirm that we have 51% of residents who actually live in the street are not only happy to have a footpath in their street, but more importantly outside their house. It’s like that old street calming situation where everyone wants a platform, but just not outside my house. So I firmly believe in Councillor-resident consultation—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: —so as I said, that is underway as we speak and I will have the results back from the residents in the next couple of days. If it’s in the affirmative, then the next step is to go to Council officers and ask for a scoping cost up, which we can then put through in our budget, as is a normal process. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

We go straight to the vote.

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

The report read as follows⎯

#### A PETITION – REQUESTING THAT COUNCIL CONSTRUCTS A FOOTPATH ON DIDCOT STREET, KURABY

**137/220/594/96**

**24/2022-23**

1. A petition from residents, requesting that Council constructs a footpath on Didcot Street, Kuraby, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 3 May 2022, by Councillor Kim Marx, and received.

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

3. The petition contains 15 signatures.

4. Didcot Street is a cul-de-sac and currently has no constructed footpath on the odd side of the street. On the even side there is currently a concrete strip footpath from the corner of Besline Street to the boundary of 10 Didcot Street. The constructed path starts again at the boundary of 40 to the end of the street.

5. Construction of a new concrete path on the odd side of the street would require 208 metres of new path.

6. The odd side of Didcot Street is a well grassed level footpath leading to Besline Street which has constructed footpath and leads to the local school and Beenleigh Road. The grass verge is up to 6 metres wide with one narrow section near 49 which would require removal of the verge garden to install footpath.

7. All new footpath construction is funded by the evenly distributed Suburban Enhancement Fund distributed to each ward. As such, the request to construct a new concrete footpath on the odd side of Didcot Street from Besline Street to the end has been referred to Councillor Kim Marx, Councillor for Runcorn Ward for consideration as part of the Runcorn Suburban Enhancement Fund.

Funding

8. Funding would need to be obtained from the Runcorn Suburban Enhancement Fund.

Consultation

9. Councillor Kim Marx, Councillor for Runcorn Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

10. The Executive Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 11 July 2022.

11. **DECISION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/96

Thank you for your petition requesting Council constructs a footpath on Didcot Street, Kuraby.

Council has completed an onsite investigation and has found that Didcot Street is a cul-de-sac and currently has no constructed footpath on the odd side of the street. On the even side there is currently a concrete strip footpath from the corner of Besline Street to the boundary of 10 Didcot Street. The constructed path starts again at the boundary of 40 to the end of the street.

The odd side of Didcot Street is a well grassed level footpath leading to Besline Street which has constructed footpath and leads to the local school and Beenleigh Road. The grass verge is up to 6 metres wide with one narrow section near 49 which would require removal of the verge garden to install footpath.

All new footpath construction is funded by the evenly distributed Suburban Enhancement Fund distributed to each ward. As such, the request to construct a new concrete footpath on the odd side of Didcot Street from Besline Street to the end has been referred to Councillor Kim Marx, Councillor for Runcorn Ward for consideration as part of the Runcorn Suburban Enhancement Fund.

Council will consider the request to construct a footpath on Didcot Street, Kuraby.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Michael Thompson, Regional Coordinator Civil Engineering, South Region, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3407 0639.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**NOTED**

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

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven HUANG, that the report setting out the *decisions* of the Establishment and Coordination Committee as delegate of Council during the Winter Recess 2022, on matters usually considered by the Finance and City Governance Committee, be noted.

Chair: Is there any debate?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. There were two petition responses considered by E&C in the recess. Item A was a petition regarding a proposed new telecommunications tower in Bulimba. I understand there was a previous facility which had to be decommissioned and the area of Bulimba in question is currently serviced by a temporary macro site. The temporary arrangement will come to an end and Optus and Telstra are seeking approval for a new location, to avoid a large network gap in the Bulimba area. For obvious reasons, Council recommends that telcos co-locate their facilities where possible.

The location proposed is a corner of a park outside the boundary of the local sports club leased area and without an impact to existing mature vegetation in the park. Regardless, the proposal will be subject to an impact assessable DA and residents will, of course, be able to make submissions. I understand changes to the proposal have already been made as a result of initial community feedback. All public mobile telecommunication service infrastructure is subject to compliance with industry codes and an electromagnetic energy report is also required as part of the DA. I note the response was supported by the local Councillor.

Mr Chair, item B is relating to the children’s programs in Council and who is able to provide them. Council has considered many petitions regarding children’s programs. This petition focuses on who is or, in the petitioner’s view, who isn’t an appropriate person to engage with children. Now I’m not going to engage on the motives of the petitioners, these matters have been canvassed at length, but I will make two points, Mr Chair.

Firstly, this Council is an inclusive Council and our libraries are and will continue to be inclusive places. We uphold the human rights of individuals and maintain a community free from discrimination. Secondly, Mr Chair, when it comes to who Council may engage with or employ when it comes to working with children, we are always guided by State child safety legislation and not fear campaigns.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair. I’ll be speaking on Clause B, the petition requesting Council not use adult entertainers to entertain children in library programs. Mr Chair, this item has a history in this place. This petition was in fact presented to Council way back in the Autumn Recess of 2021, almost 18 months ago. Back then, we had just dealt with multiple petitions containing hate speech against the LGBTQIA+ community. Back then, Labor had called for the removal of these discriminatory and harmful petitions and what did the LNP Council say at that time, Mr Chair? They said no. They let those petitions circulate unfettered for months.

Back then, we called on the LORD MAYOR to personally issue a public apology to the LGBTQIA+ community on behalf of the Brisbane City Council for any hurt and offence caused by the publication of the series of petitions via the Brisbane City Council website. What did this LNP Mayor and every Councillor in this place say at that time? Mr Chair, they said no. Zero apology, zero accountability, no leadership and no care for the LGBTQIA+ community in our city. Not one LNP Councillor in this place, nor the LORD MAYOR, thought that these petitions should be removed from the Council website. Not one of them thought that the LORD MAYOR should issue a public apology.

Now here we are again, 18 months later, the same petitioner, Wendy Francis. If that name sounds familiar it probably should. She is now the National Director for Politics for the Australian Christian Lobby, formerly the State Director, she’s actually now being promoted. So no one knows and we still don’t know, perhaps the Chair will inform us, of this Committee, why it’s taken 18 months for this LNP Council to formulate a six-line response to Wendy Francis and the petitioners, and here we are again today.

In this case, this Council has failed once again the LGBTQIA+ community and failed to protect one of the most vulnerable groups of people in this city when they come under attack. Mr Chair, Labor believes in free speech, not hate speech and vilification. But Labor also believes that being an elected representative in this place carries an onus to call out hate speech and vilification when it happens. The LNP have been silent bystanders on these issues. There has been zero leadership from the LORD MAYOR. He can’t even be bothered to stay here for this debate, he’s left while this issue is debated.

This Council has been referred to the Human Rights Commission due to their absolute failure when it comes to standing up for what is right. The Human Rights Commission has said about Brisbane City Council that more accountability and better transparency should be expected from our elected representatives to aid democracy. Keeping government accountable is in everyone’s best interest. Labor couldn’t agree more. We all know that Drag Queen Storytime will continue in our city libraries. This petition is yet another attempt, round two, by Wendy Francis and the Australian Christian Lobby to stop Drag Queen Storytime in our city’s libraries by stealth.

The language she has used and I quote, libraries should be welcoming, inclusive community hubs where all families feel comfortable. What she means is all families, except rainbow families. When she talks about inclusion, she means exclusion. The language and intention of this petition is to cause divisive and hurtful debate. Once again, she failed the first time, so she had another go and our LGBTQIA+ community has to endure another petition signed by thousands, making them feeling less than. Once again, the LORD MAYOR of this city is missing in action, distances himself from the issue, is absent from the Chamber, just like he did with the Citipointe discriminatory contracts, just like he did with the marriage equality debate.

Well he was here for that, he voted no, and just like he did with all of the hate speech-laden petitions that have graced the pages of Brisbane City Council petitions website. Labor would never allow hate speech petitions on our Council website. Labor will always stand with the LGBTQIA+ community and Labor wouldn’t let a petition like this sit for almost 18 months for six lines to be formulated effectively saying we comply with the law. This is a weak response from a weak LNP Mayor and a weak LNP Council, who when it’s time to stand up and be a true ally to the LGBTQIA+ community is nowhere, Mr Chair, to be found.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item B. Council takes its duty to promote an inclusive city seriously and we will continue to deliver inclusive programs and activities for the people of Brisbane. Independent Council officers assess all ePetitions prior to them being published on the Council ePetitions website, to ensure they comply with legal requirements and the guidelines for submitting an ePetition.

Council supports the values of inclusion, tolerance, diversity and celebration of all members of the Brisbane community. Some topics raised in petitions could potentially offend some people, however, this is not always a basis for Council to reject the submission of a petition. Petitions by their very nature are a mechanism for the public to express a view about a matter affecting them and/or a community.

We unapologetically support our diverse Brisbane communities because we believe in the universal inclusion of all residents and visitors, including our LGBTIQ+ communities, because Brisbane is a city for everyone and everyone deserves to feel included and feel that they belong in this beautiful city that we are fortunate to call home.

That is the core of everything we do here at Council and that’s why we will continue to support programs like Drag Queen and Rainbow Family Storytimes, that are parts of hundreds of different events held in Council libraries every year, that foster a diverse and inclusive Brisbane. We know that, they know that, we’ve said it time and time again and it’s shameful that Labor continues to reach down into the gutter and play these divisive games that they play because when it comes down to delivering real, on the ground change, no one, not one administration has delivered more for Brisbane’s LGBTIQ+ community than the Schrinner Council.

Since I was elected 10 years ago, we’ve catapulted Brisbane into being Australia’s most inclusive Council. Brisbane City Council became the first ever local government to be officially recognised as an LGBTI inclusive workplace. The first ever local government to be listed on Australia’s LGBTI inclusive employers website. The first ever local government in Queensland to publicly support gay marriage. We’ve delivered record funding to support and grow Australia’s third largest—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I was wondering if Councillor HOWARD would take a question about why funding for Pride Festival hasn’t been increased.

Chair: I didn’t quite hear the question, but will you take a question, Councillor HOWARD?

Councillor HOWARD: No, I won’t take a question, thank you.

Chair: Okay.

Councillor HOWARD: We’re not talking about Pride; we’re talking about—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Well through you, Mr Chair, I was very quiet while Councillor COOK delivered her disgusting spiel and I think that the least that the Opposition could do is allow me to respond. So let me say again, we were the first ever local government in Queensland to publicly support gay marriage. We delivered record funding to support and grow Australia’s third largest LGBTIQ+ event, the Brisbane Pride Festival.

We’re proud and loud when it comes to supporting our LGBTIQ+ communities, whether it be the rainbow flag proudly flying from City Hall on IDAHOBIT Day. Our city lighting up rainbow colours on the Story Bridge, our beautiful rainbow CityGlider bus that celebrates Brisbane Pride, or the rainbow footpath that I delivered in Spring Hill years ago. Council continues to be recognised as an outstanding employer through the Australian Workplace Equality Index, earning gold status for three consecutive years for our ongoing work as an inclusive workplace for LGBTIQA+ employees.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Will Councillor HOWARD take a question about why Council officers aren’t allowing the Pride March to proceed through the city?

Councillor HOWARD: I won’t take any more questions, I’m trying to—

Chair: No, Councillor HOWARD isn’t taking your question, thank you.

Councillor HOWARD: What I have just mentioned is a feat that no other local government in Australia has achieved. Council officers have also been recognised for their contributions to LGBTIQ+ inclusion in the workplace at a national level, with David Mahon, the founder of River City Pride, back in 2012, being named as the Out for Australia LGBTIQ+ role model of the year in 2017, and Andrea Kenafake receiving LGBTIQ+ Executive Leadership Award for Pride diversity in 2019.

We’re talking about years and years and years of this Council being an inclusive employer. Chair, every day we work to celebrate and support Brisbane’s thriving LGBTIQ community and every year we pay special attention to this on the anniversary of an important milestone in finding discrimination against LGBTIQ peoples. This year marks 32 years since homosexuality was removed from the World Health Organization’s international classification of diseases. To know that this didn’t happen until 1990 is an important reminder of the struggles—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Just on relevance, I’m fine with you allowing Councillor HOWARD very broad leeway to talk about a broad range of issues in response to this quite specific petition, but I’m just noting that you’re inviting all the other Councillors to engage in similar very broad commentary about this topic. It’s a petition and this has become quite a broad ranging speech and that’s fine, as long as you allow the rest of us the same courtesy.

Chair: Thank you, noted.

Councillor HOWARD: So through you, Mr Chair, I believe that Councillor COOK was fairly wide ranging in hers. Anyway, I will continue. Every year, Brisbane joins more than 130 nations around the world in commemorating IDAHOBIT, the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia. As part of that, I was proud to join our very own River City Pride team again this year in raising the rainbow flag in City Hall, a tradition which I’ve had the honour of contributing to since 2015.

This year’s flag raising was particularly special as we hoisted the new Pride flag from City Hall. The progressive flag was designed in 2018 and features black and brown stripes to represent people of colour, and baby blue, pink and white to include the trans flag in its design. From the London Mayor’s office to Boston Pride, and now Brisbane City Hall flying this flag recognises the diversity and intersections within the LGBTIQ+ community. Every year the Victoria Bridge, the Tropical Display Dome at Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha and the Story Bridge are lit up in rainbow colours to commemorate IDAHOBIT.

So we have a proud history of celebrating gender diversity in Brisbane and this is just one of the many ways in which we do this, including marching in Brisbane Pride, LGBTIQ+ collections in libraries, Rainbow Family Storytime, rainbow Glider bus, the rainbow footpath outside Sporties, Big Gay Day in the Valley, sponsoring the Queens Ball at City Hall, partnerships with Council’s Visible Ink Youth Hub and Open Doors, providing valuable information and resources on our website, and support for Brisbane Festival LGBTIQA+ Elders events.

Supporting LGBTIQA+ community groups and organisations to access funding and networking opportunities, including art connection projects by Open Doors Youth Service, educational resources for Rainbow Families Queensland, social connection programs with Wendybird. Support for the ongoing work of the community legal centres and the youth advisory centre and we also sponsored the Inferno Football Club to participate in the Pride Football Australia Tournament in 2022.

Chair, none of this could have been achieved without the strong leadership of the LORD MAYOR and without the support of the many wonderful Council officers who are committed to the inclusion, who I would like to publicly thank and acknowledge. The work that you do is making a real difference to the lives of so many people and we cannot thank you enough for your dedication and commitment to making the Brisbane of tomorrow even better than the Brisbane of today. Inclusivity is part of the heart and soul of Brisbane City Council and our mission and will always be to support all residents of Brisbane.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. I wasn’t going to speak on what I thought was just a discussion about a petition, that’s turned into a much wider ranging debate. I did just want to speak briefly to the Council’s recent track record regarding— particularly, the Pride Festival. I’m still trying to get across all the details and I’m willing to be—and open to being corrected about this. But what I understand is that a little while ago, Brisbane City Council negotiated with a certain community sports club that they’d have a lease or a licence over a key field in New Farm Park.

That permission to that club to use the field was essentially handed over without any proper consultation with the organisers of Fair Day and the Pride committee. So when the committee came to Council this year and said hey, ready to book the park for Fair Day, the Council said no, sorry, you’ll have to go and talk to the club. To me, when you’ve got a really long-running event that happens every year in the same park, in the same location, you’d think that the Council would be a bit more proactive and collaborative about supporting and facilitating that.

So I understand that now it looks like the festival is going to be relocated to my ward and I’m psyched about that, I’m really excited to have Fair Day and Pride Festival coming back to West End and to Musgrave Park. I think that’s a really cool shift, but it does highlight that the Council is to some extent treating this event as a bit of an afterthought. I would encourage Councillor HOWARD to reflect on what message it sends to the community when such a pivotal and significant event is bumped around fairly late in the process. The discussions I’ve had with members of the community have suggested that they were blindsided by this.

They weren’t given enough warning and have had to suddenly plan this event at a brand-new location with only a few months’ notice. Now the added concern here is that it sounds like Brisbane City Council officers are also objecting to proposed marching routes through the city on the basis of traffic concerns. So the organisers have proposed to start in the city and march over the bridge, march across the river to get to Musgrave Park and the Council has said no, that’ll have an impact on the traffic and the buses and all this.

They proposed another route across another bridge, again, Council officers said no, you can’t march that way either, that’ll cause too many traffic issues. Then the organisers proposed a route that started at Davies Park and travelling from Davies Park to Musgrave Park and, again, the Council said no, you can’t march along that route because that’s going to disrupt traffic. This is in a context where the Council is also expecting the organisers to pay for traffic control for the march, which I was flabbergasted by because if someone from Council told me to pay for traffic control for a march I’d tell them to get stuffed, to be blunt.

So the fact that the Council is creating a framework where this long-running and very important event is expected to pay thousands and thousands of dollars for the privilege of marching down a public road is pretty concerning to me. Now on top of that, I’ve been given to understand—and again I’d welcome corrections on this front, but it sounds like the Council is making the thinly-veiled threat that funding for Pride won’t be renewed in future years if the organisers kick up too much of a stink.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’m happy to be corrected, happy to be corrected, but from what I can gather the funding has not increased for that significant citywide event. Even as event organising costs are rapidly escalating and Council’s own bureaucratic requirements are adding significantly to the cost burden and the logistical burden of organising these community events, Council has not offered additional money to the organisers for this year’s event, despite the forced last minute relocation. So if Administration Councillors want to get up and speak to that, I’m happy to be corrected, but that’s what I’ve been given to understand.

The fact that the Council can force an event to relocate with relatively short notice, can put up bureaucratic barriers to the proposed march routes that the organisers want to use and then fail to offer additional funding to support such an important event at such a difficult time for event organising in this city, I think, really undermines the narrative that the Administration has been presenting to us about how supposedly pro-LGBTIQ+ the Council Administration is.

So I’m quite happy to acknowledge that Brisbane City Council has done a lot of great stuff in this space for many, many years and I give full credit to the public servants who’ve championed that within the Administration, even at times when the Council leadership was openly hostile to that stuff. I remember in the early days how subversive and radical it was for Council public servants even just to wear the rainbow lanyard and that alone was experienced as a subversive political statement in an era where public servants were worried that their jobs would be in jeopardy if they expressed open support for queer rights.

So let’s not rewrite history here, let’s be mindful of this Administration’s genuine track record, while also acknowledging that some good stuff has been done and good on the Council Administration and good on the public servants for those small steps in the right direction, but you could be doing a lot better just leaving it at that, I think. Don’t be too quick to pat yourself on the shoulder, because, frankly, your reputation in some sectors of the queer community is not in a very good state at the moment. I think little gestures like being a bit more flexible—

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Can I just say that my reputation in the gay community is not part of this discussion.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’m not speaking to Councillor HOWARD’s—that’s not a point of order. I’m talking about the Administration.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, I think the comment was more general, not to a specific person.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: No, no, it was a general—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’m certainly not talking about Councillor HOWARD’s individual reputation; I’m talking about the Administration’s reputation and I don’t think it’s disgraceful to hold an Administration accountable for its track record.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, please.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’ve definitely touched a nerve. I’m about to wrap up.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, please.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: It’s multiple interjections, Chair. If I’d been doing that you’d be kicking me out, just wanting to note that.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: The Council Administration could be a lot more supportive of Fair Day and the Pride organising committee and that would look like not being so bureaucratic about march routes. It would look like more funding to support the additional costs that have arisen as a result of this last minute event relocation. It would look like a more proactive and collaborative relationship with the organisers. Maybe there are different narratives, maybe different people have different ideas of what’s been going on, but I don’t think people would come and talk to me about their concerns about this issue if everything was going really rosily. So something’s up, and I’m pointing the finger at the LNP Administration.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. The points that Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN raises are very important ones, because what we know we have is an amazing public service, amazing group of Council officers that work very hard in the Inclusive Communities team and right across Council in supporting these events, supporting Fair Day and the Pride March and so many other things that go on to support the LGBTQIA+ community.

This comes back to the root issue that we’re talking about, is that allowing these petitions like we saw a few years ago and this one that’s been sitting there now for the last 18 months, which seeks to undermine that, undermines the good work that those people do in Council to create an inclusive city. I love working with them, working with the Pride committee about getting those events out in the suburbs. Last year, we were seeing it was the first suburb to have a Pride Stride in the suburbs, it was down the foreshore and was big.

A lot of people from your community came over and had great chats to people from right across the city, who were thrilled that they had Council through the local Councillor supporting an event like that out in the suburbs. I think the problem we have here and Councillor HOWARD has really powerfully demonstrated that tonight and I don’t doubt her commitment to the community, to the LGBTQIA+ community at all. I praise her and her commitment to that and the work that she has done and those Council officers, but it can’t always just be Councillor HOWARD. Why is it that there’s just one—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, why is it there’s only one Councillor that is the spokesperson on these issues? It absolutely isn’t the Administration’s view. Everything that Councillor HOWARD said and all of those programs that she has spearheaded is all Councillor HOWARD. I give her a huge amount of praise for the work that she’s done in her time here, we absolutely do, but the issue is when she goes, who is there?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: When Councillor HOWARD goes next year, when the Councillor goes in March next year—if it’s not then, look, I’m sorry, that’s a bit in jest, but we’re all going sometime, that is a very good point. There isn’t a great culture in this LNP Administration about supporting these issues. What Councillor HOWARD demonstrated is that it is her personal commitment and her drive to drag this LNP Administration to do these things. The Mayor’s not here, he’s not showing leadership. I know she had to say that but he absolutely doesn’t show leadership on these issues, as Councillor COOK outlined.

But the issue is—and this is a demonstration of it right here—that the Administration chose to treat this petition as some sort of administrative thing and put it in the Finance Committee, rather than taking a very strong stance very early on. It is not unreasonable for a Council to say we do not accept your petition. It is filled with hate speech, it does not align with the values of this Council. By all means start a petition somewhere else, but we’re not going to support them here on the Council website.

That is within our purview as a Council to do that and to take a very public and a very proud stand against that kind of hate speech and that kind of political action that the Australian Christian Lobby is subversively engaging in. They tried a full-frontal assault on young LGBTQIA+ people a few years ago and when they couldn’t get that through they decided to try and do it in a more sneaky way and seek support that way, but at the end of the day, at the end of the day, this petition is about exclusion.

This petition is about discrimination and we support the response that those activities, Drag Queen Storytime, will continue in libraries because we are an inclusive Council and people like Councillor HOWARD have championed that, but only Councillor HOWARD has championed that. Where is the gusto in this petition response? Where is Councillor CUNNINGHAM’s fierce defence of the LGBTQIA+ community? Well Councillor OWEN’s not here, I do remember Councillor OWEN’s contribution to the debate on same-sex marriage.

Councillor MARX: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: I think the Opposition Councillors need to remember that there are families of Councillors in this Chamber listening to this debate. To have those kinds of accusations accused at us is unacceptable.

Councillor CASSIDY: Sorry, I don’t understand that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Your point of order is noted—

Councillor CASSIDY: Councillor HOWARD has just repeated that, saying we are disgusting, like I’ve been—

Chair: —Councillor MARX.

I’ll allow you to continue.

Councillor CASSIDY: I don’t know what she means by that, but Councillor OWEN, yes, we’ve all got families, I understand that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: They were impacted by Councillor OWEN’s words when she likened same‑sex marriage to bestiality and polygamy. They would have hurt.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: That would have hurt, that absolutely would have hurt families. So let’s not—let’s just give up the disgraced bit, come on, Councillor HOWARD, please. Where is the political leadership in this city? You cannot be a lone voice in your party.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, please.

Councillor CASSIDY: It cannot—it is not sustainable to have an Administration that is just held together by Councillor HOWARD on these issues and once that support is gone we need a full-throated defence of people in the LGBTQIA community, who are under assault by people like the petitioner launching these petitions. We need a Council that is genuinely, completely and utterly inclusive. So we support this petition response, but we will not have this LNP Administration claim that they are coming to the defence of that community by having a petition response which talks about legal requirements rather than values.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I rise to speak on the petition in item—I think it’s item B, isn’t it? Yes, item B. First of all, I’d just like to start by saying I think it is incredibly unfortunate that the LNP is continuing to entertain the vitriol that is implied in these petitions when they come forward. Now I’ll start with this, the CEO of Council has refused to allow a petition of my residents who wanted storm water drainage upgrades in Yeerongpilly to come through, because the CEO wrote to me and said no, no, it’s a UU (Urban Utilities) matter, therefore it can’t be considered here in Council.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh yes, oh yes. So this Council refused local residents the opportunity to have their petition—I tabled it and they refused to consider it. This Council will stop petitions on practical matters that affect residents, but it will not then intervene to stop, essentially a group using a public process to engage in hate speech. That is what they are doing. That is what they are doing. That was clear last time, that’s clear again. I’m sorry, having a drag queen tell a story in the library is not having an adult entertainer.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Even the way that Council has repeated the language in the petition response, says to me that no one in this Administration is thinking about how to say to these people, what you are doing is wrong. It is wrong. We support this. If you read this petition response it is cold, it is bland, it is valueless and it does not by any means respond in a clear and unequivocal way, by this Council and by the majority of people in this Council. Who believe that we should be positively supporting diversity and inclusivity for the LGBTIQ+ community, through Council’s community and cultural activities.

Now that’s something I’m happy to support locally in my ward when asked. I know that it is, more recently, something that Council has been happy to do. But let’s not forget—and this is the part I find quite entertaining by Councillor HOWARD and her holier than thou, butter wouldn’t melt in your mouth speech. The reason that all of this started back in about 2014, maybe 2015, this Council refused to paint the rainbow symbol, on the footpath.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: So the LGBTIQ community representatives wanted a zebra crossing that was painted in rainbow colours. This Council refused. Now back then this Council refused to do anything, anything to help them. They came and saw multiple Councillors, including me, and discussed a whole range of things. I encouraged them to come in here and speak to full Council. After this Council was publicly shamed, publicly shamed—into refusing to allow a rainbow zebra at that point, or rainbow footpath, whatever they wanted at that stage. This Council was publicly shamed into action.

Now that happened well before the things that Councillor HOWARD is talking about here. Now I agree that since then, this Council has started being much more inclusive in buses and festivals and flags and all of these things. But I will never forget that it was this Council that originally said no, this LNP Administration.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Now I was also here in 2017 when this LNP Administration decided to allow some of the nastiest debate I still think I’ve ever heard in the Chamber. I note that Councillor OWEN is not here.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: But the things that she said and Councillor Wyndham said on that day, I think—hopefully someone’s struck them from the Council minutes, but they should not have been said publicly. But let’s never forget that five LNP Councillors, including the LORD MAYOR, Adrian SCHRINNER, said that we should not be supporting same-sex marriage. Worse than that, the LORD MAYOR now, the current LORD MAYOR said we shouldn’t even be discussing these things in Council, they’re not Council matters, we shouldn’t be talking about them. That’s the man leading the city.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: That is the man leading the city. Then we wonder why we get these really cold responses in a Committee—where I have no idea why this is not in the—whatever—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Lifestyle. Why is it in the Finance Chair’s portfolio? I’ve got no idea. Since when does the Finance Chair look after Council libraries.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s really odd to me. But let’s never forget that this LORD MAYOR opposed same-sex marriage. Worse than that, whilst the majority of LNP Councillors did vote for it on the day, they all turned around then and said no, no, we’re not—and voted against referring it off to ScoMo to say our Council supports it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: So this Council didn’t even want to acknowledge publicly to the Federal Government, that they supported same-sex marriage and equality. So we’ve got a LORD MAYOR that didn’t support it. We’ve got a majority of LNP Councillors who voted against actually just penning off a quick letter down to Canberra. Let’s never forget this when they stand up and criticise our vote. They weren’t even prepared to say to their own Prime Minister and their own party, our Council supports marriage equality. They were not prepared to do that.

This is probably eye-opening for some of the new Councillors, but this is what the people sitting next to you did. They voted against it and then they voted to deny it. About a year later, I think Councillor SRI, we moved another amendment, which I seconded. They voted against it, they voted against it and changed the motion that we put up, basically taking out all reference to marriage equality.

So let me be clear. This is the kind of thing that sends the wrong signal to the community. This person, who is engaging in this public process with Council, won’t be deterred by this petition response. They’ll see this as a green light to keep doing it, because it is so bland, valueless and unclear. I just think that, again, why did Councillor CUNNINGHAM sit on this for 18 months? No one’s answered that. They’ve all got up and banged their fists and said—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —no, no, we support, we support. What have they been doing for 18 months to come up with this? Why is it Councillor CUNNINGHAM doing it? Why is it we’re not sending a clearer message back that we support Drag Storytime, we support LGBTIQ+ activities in our parks, in our libraries, in our community facilities, on our streets and everywhere in this city? I don’t think that that’s something that we should be hiding behind—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —by saying, this is a workplace health and safety issue.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s what they’ve done. How proud you must be. Then you’ve got to send Councillor HOWARD out in the middle of a petition to talk about things that have nothing to do with the petition. Meanwhile, she did not, at any point, say—Councillor HOWARD did not, at any point, say that perhaps this should have been worded a bit differently to send Wendy Francis a clear message—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —that this Council supports inclusion and diversity when it comes to the LGBTIQ community. But instead, apparently they’re going to vote for well, we’re just meeting our obligations under workplace health and safety law. How proud you must be of your record when it comes to inclusion in this city.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

Councillor MATIC.

Councillor MATIC: Thanks, Mr Chairman, I needed to rise to speak on this motion as many Councillors have so far. There’s been many passionate words spoken on either side of this Chamber in regards to LGBTIQ+ rights and rightly so, Mr Chairman. The fight for human rights and basic human rights is something that we must all be passionate about, but I thought it was important to get up and speak about some of the matters that were raised by Councillors opposite.

Just for the record and also to reflect, I think what are some errors in the attitude made by Councillors about this Administration and this Council. There are a lot of factual inconsistencies, but the one thing that I will agree on and that is Councillor CASSIDY made the comment that ALP—well Opposition—well ALP Councillors, I can’t speak for the Green Councillor or the Independent Councillor, but I’m, assuming that they will support the recommendation and that is a good thing.

So the one thing that we are all in agreement on in this Chamber is that we support the recommendation, but there seems to be some error in regards to the tone of the petition response. I’ll allow Councillor CUNNINGHAM to speak to that, but the tone could not be clearer than what was already said. In that we support basic human rights, we support the event being held. Many words were spoken at the time in regards to it, many words could not be spoken due to the unfortunate circumstances that followed that particular rally that was held at the library.

But, Mr Chairman, first and foremost, I have to say that this Administration has, at all times, supported the rights of LGBTQ+, not only employees of Brisbane City Council but the city as a whole. I have been to a number of events where Brisbane City Council has been applauded of its commitment and its funding and overall support of all members within the LGBTQI+ community. That is a great thing.

Not only through festivals but of course the Pride march. The involvement I’ve seen at a number of seminars within Brisbane City Council for members that are within the transgender community, and the enormous amount of support that Brisbane City Council has provided. That to the extent that we are independently assessed as a leader in the employment of the LGBTQI+ community and the support of them. That speaks for itself.

We can have conversations about adequate funding for an event, whether a road permit is required. That is not unique to that community, it is something that all of us within our own communities face, every single day for any festival fair or event that is being held where the cost is going up, the regulation continues to go up. I think the regulation is excessive for us to have simple events within parks or within marches on roads, but I don’t make the rules. But we always try to accommodate, as we do, I’m sure, for the festival that you are very fortunately having in your ward, Councillor SRI.

But the important thing in all of this is the history. Now there are a number of Councillors here who have not had the benefit of being in this Chamber long enough to know that extensive history. Of how it has evolved from Campbell Newman’s time and, particularly, in Graham Quirk’s time. I have to give credit to the previous Lord Mayor for the work that he did for an inclusive community, for an inclusive Council, for an inclusive Brisbane.

He not only spoke the words, but he walked the walk. The funding that was provided to festivals and events, the heat that he faced from Christian lobby groups year upon year, as he continued to fund those events. Which he promptly chose to ignore because he believed in equality and human dignity for all human beings. He took the opportunity for a conscious vote in this Chamber—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MATIC: —on same-sex marriage.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MATIC: He allowed every single one of us to speak freely and to vote. I can proudly say I stood on this side of the Chamber with Opposition Councillors and so did Councillor HOWARD and other Councillors did as well. So did the LORD MAYOR, because he chose to send a message. That message continues. If the language isn’t exactly to the liking of Councillors opposite, well there’s nothing they can do about that, but ultimately it’s the actions that count.

This LORD MAYOR continues to provide support and funding for all those events. This LORD MAYOR sits here and continues to provide the support and the funding, ongoing, for all of those events from the LGBTQI+ community. If he wasn’t supportive, he wouldn’t do it, but he is.

So it’s wrong to say that just because the words don’t meet your liking, that he is not supportive, that he is against that community. Nothing could be further from the truth. I stand proudly in this Administration and this Council for the work that we have done over the years to improve the education of the broader community and the standing of the LGBTQI+ community. Not only in this organisation, but across the city as a whole.

There is no person that could put their hand on their heart and tell me that we do not live in a better city now than in the past. You cannot stand there and say to me that it is worse now than it was before, honestly. None of you can, because the fact of the matter is, we live in a better city. You will always find examples where things can be better. Is the conversation ended? No. Can there be more to be done? Always. But the reality is—and the important thing to remember is—that we continue to have that conversation and we continue to take those steps.

Things like lanyards, Councillor SRI, I have to take opposition with what you said about Council officers being threatened about carrying that lanyard. I’ll tell you right now that everybody wore it with pride. In fact, I wanted one and they ran out of stock. They had to tell me, I’m sorry Councillor, but you’re going to have to wait. We have to order more because the stock that we bought has already been taken up. There were so many Council officers and Councillors who would proudly carry that rainbow lanyard, because that’s who we are and that’s what we believe in as human beings.

The point about the rainbow crossing, and I have to correct Councillor JOHNSTON. There were representations made at the time about it. Again, process got in the way.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor MATIC: The reasons that officers said no was because it didn’t meet TMR guidelines under those uniform traffic—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MATIC: —procedure rules. So what did we do? We went and got the Rainbow Bus. I was the Transport Chair at the time and we moved quickly, in consultation with the LGBTQI+ community, to deliver the Rainbow Bus. I was so, so proud, I thought that we were the first Council in the world to achieve this goal and, unfortunately, Canada beat us by two days.

But this goes to show—and I still see that bus out there. It hasn’t been taken away. In fact, the community finally built its own rainbow footpath at Sporties. So the support is always there. The conversation is always there. Is it perfect? No. Is it perfect anywhere on this planet? No. Is it perfect in the State Government or in the Federal Government? No.

But the reality is we will always have it. We will always represent the interests of every Brisbane resident. The LGBTQI+ community is always at the forefront. Because ultimately we are fellow human beings who must be respected and valued. As adults we must always continue to remember that.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Will Councillor MATIC take a quick question?

Councillor MATIC: I will take a question.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks. Yes, through you, Chair. Councillor MATIC it sounds like what you’re saying is, things will never be perfect, therefore these criticisms are illegitimate or unreasonable.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Is that what you’re saying?

Chair: Would you take that question—

Councillor MATIC: No, what I’m saying Councillor SRI, is that things will never be perfect to the extent that individuals want them, but we will always work to make them better. Can we provide more funding to particular events? Probably. Are they any less important than any other community event? No. So we should always try and work to try and get some more money. Ultimately if we have to use our LMCF (Lord Mayor's Community Fund) to be able to do it, great. We will always find solutions.

But, what I’m saying to you is, for every particular person, can we always please every one of them? No. I don’t think there’s a particular issue anywhere within this city or the planet that we will always find that consensus, whatever the issue is.

But what I am ultimately saying to you and what’s most important is, that we have a proud record of working together with the community in this regard. We will always continue to do that. All of us on this side of the Chamber will do that. LNP, ALP, Green, Independent, it doesn’t matter, because ultimately all of us genuinely care about our community, the inclusiveness of it, the equality of it, the dignity of it.

Chair: Councillor MATIC your time has expired.

Councillor MATIC: Thank you.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Further speakers? No further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Yes, thanks, Mr Chair. I will just briefly wrap up. I said in my introductory comments, Mr Chair, that this was a fear and a scare campaign. We have already provided several responses on this issue. So responding to a fear campaign about this has not been on the top of my to do list, I have to admit. The petition is about adult entertainers in Council libraries, some Councillors in this place were worried about the response being too cold. We don’t agree with them, so why would the response be warm and friendly?

With regards to Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN’s comments, I’m informed that the organisers of Pride Day have actually chosen to relocate to Musgrave Park.

I would like to finally just make the comment that when the ALP were in administration in this place, they did not ever fund the Pride Day march. This Administration has continued to support it. Thanks, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

We now move to the vote on this motion.

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

The report read as follows⎯

#### A PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL DECLINE A REQUEST FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER IN MERRY STREET PARK, BULIMBA

**137/220/594/79**

**25/2022-23**

1. A petition requesting Council decline a request for the installation of a new telecommunications tower (macro site) in Merry Street Park, Bulimba, was received during the AutumnRecess 2022.

2. The Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the following information.

3. The petition contains 91 signatures.

4. Optus and Telstra have been seeking to install a new macro site in the Bulimba area following the decommissioning of a previous facility at 125 Bulimba Street, Bulimba (opposite Merry Street Park). Currently, both Optus and Telstra have temporary macro sites, called Cells on Wheels, at 3-9 Byron Street, Bulimba (215/SP180407). This arrangement is temporary and will need to be decommissioned imminently, leaving a large network coverage gap in the Bulimba area.

5. While both telecommunications carriers have existing (small cell) transmitters in the area, Council is advised the proposed macro site facility in the corner of Merry Street Park is required to support and integrate with the existing small cell network to provide better overall coverage for the local community.

6. Council recommends when being approached by telecommunications carriers seeking access to Council‑owned land for the installation of new macro sites, that the carriers co-locate on one site where possible to reduce multiple facilities being installed by individual carriers.

7. Upon being approached by Optus and Telstra investigating the proposed location for a new macro site in Merry Street Park, Council stakeholders were consulted to identify a suitable location within the park boundary. The location for the proposed new facility in a corner of the park has been deemed the most appropriate location due to it being outside the boundary of the local sports club lease area, it meets both carriers’ coverage requirements and it presents no impact to existing vegetation in the park.

8. All deployment of public mobile telecommunications service infrastructure in Australia must be carried out according to the Industry Code C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment (the Code). The Code requires the supply of certain information as part of the consultative process including a report of the maximum levels of electromagnetic energy (EME) from a macro site. An EME report for the proposed macro site at Merry Street Park has been carried out by the telecommunications carriers, that provides calculations of the maximum levels of radiofrequency EME associated with the proposed macro site and these are deemed to be within acceptable levels. A copy of the report will be available to the community during the Development Application process.

9. Objections have previously been received from the head petitioner regarding the proposed installation and design of the facility. Alterations to the design have subsequently been undertaken by the carriers to accommodate the feedback from the resident concerning the safety and aesthetics of the facility and include the removal of fencing that has been replaced with bollards and landscaping.

10. To progress the proposed installation of the macro site, the carriers will undertake community consultation prior to lodging a Development Application. Should the application be approved, a lease of the land required for the facility will then be negotiated for final approval by Council.

Consultation

11. Councillor Kara Cook, Councillor for Morningside Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

13. The Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 25 July 2022.

14. **DECISION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/79

Thank you for your petition requesting Council decline a request for the installation of a telecommunications tower facility in Merry Street Park, Bulimba. Your petition has been reviewed and was considered by Council at its meeting held on 25 July 2022. It was decided that the petitioners be advised of the following information.

Optus and Telstra have been seeking to install a new telecommunications tower (macro site) in the Bulimba area following the decommissioning of a previous facility at 125 Bulimba Street, Bulimba (opposite Merry Street Park). Currently, both Optus and Telstra have temporary sites, called Cells on Wheels, at 3‑9 Byron Street, Bulimba (215/SP180407). This arrangement is temporary and will need to be decommissioned imminently, leaving a large coverage gap in the Bulimba area. Extensive investigations to locate a suitable location in the Bulimba area for a new macro site has proven to be unsuccessful due to either an inability to formalise agreement with landowners or determine a site that meets both telecommunications carriers’ coverage requirements.

While both telecommunications carriers have several existing (small cell) transmitters in the area, Council is advised the proposed macro site facility in Merry Street Park is required to support and integrate with the existing small cell network to provide better overall coverage for the local community.

Upon being approached by both Optus and Telstra investigating the proposed location for a new macro site in Merry Street Park, Council recommended that the carriers co-locate on one site to reduce multiple facilities being installed by individual carriers. The location for the proposed new facility in a corner of the park has been deemed the most appropriate location due to it being outside the boundary of the local sports club lease area, that it meets both carrier’s coverage requirements and it presents no impact to existing mature vegetation in the park.

It is important to note that all deployment of public mobile telecommunications service infrastructure in Australia must be carried out according to the Industry Code C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment (the Code). The Code requires the supply of certain information as part of the consultative process including a report of the maximum levels of electromagnetic energy (EME) from a macro site. An EME report for the proposed macro site at Merry Street Park has been carried out by the telecommunications carriers, that provides calculations of the maximum levels of radiofrequency RF EME associated with the proposed macro site. These are deemed to be within acceptable levels. A copy of the report will be available to the community during the Development Application process.

Council understands alterations to the design of the macro site have been undertaken by Optus and Telstra to accommodate the feedback from nearby residents. These design changes include the removal of fencing that has been replaced with bollards and landscaping.

Currently no approval from Council has been granted. To progress the proposed installation of the facility, Optus and Telstra will undertake community consultation prior to lodging an impact assessable Development Application. Should the application be approved, a lease of the land required for the facility will then be negotiated for final approval by Council.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Andrew James, Senior Leasing Officer, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 8031.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**NOTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL NOT USE ADULT ENTERTAINERS TO ENTERTAIN CHILDREN IN LIBRARY PROGRAMS

**CA21/348791**

**26/2022-23**

15. A petition requesting that adult entertainers not be used to entertain children in library programs, was received during the AutumnRecess 2021.

16. The Divisional Manager, Organisational Services, provided the following information.

17. The petition contains 3,133 signatures.

18. Council’s libraries are welcoming and inclusive community hubs which provide a range of events that reflect and support Brisbane’s diverse communities.

19. Council has responsibilities as a public sector entity to uphold the laws of the Queensland and Federal Governments, to create and maintain an environment that is free from unlawful discrimination and is respectful of an individual’s human rights.

20. This includes compliance with legislation to ensure Council has acceptable recruitment practices concerning the employment of staff, and acceptable procurement arrangements for the engagement of contractors or third-party organisations delivering Council programs or events.

21. Regarding events and programs for children, Council is guided by relevant legislation including the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000.*

Consultation

22. As this is a citywide matter, Councillor Fiona Cunningham, Civic Cabinet Chair, Finance and City Governance Committee, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

24. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed at its meeting held on 25 July 2022.

25. **DECISION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** CA21/348791

Thank you for your petition requesting Council not use adult entertainers to entertain children in library programs.

Council’s libraries are welcoming and inclusive community hubs which provide a range of events that reflect and support Brisbane’s diverse communities.

Council has responsibilities as a public sector entity to uphold the laws of the Queensland and Federal Governments, to create and maintain an environment that is free from unlawful discrimination and is respectful of an individual’s human rights.

This includes compliance with legislation to ensure Council has acceptable recruitment practices concerning the employment of staff, and acceptable procurement arrangements for the engagement of contractors or third-party organisations delivering Council programs or events.

Regarding events and programs for children, Council is guided by relevant legislation including the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000.*

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

Thank you for raising this matter.

**NOTED**

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTION: THE GABBA STADIUM

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

The Chair of Council (Councillor David McLACHLAN) then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed on the agenda.

Chair: Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN, would you please move that motion?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair.

Councillor OWEN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor OWEN.

**Declaration of Prescribed or Declarable Conflict of Interest in Notified Motion – Councillor Angela OWEN**

Councillor OWEN: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Mr Chairman, just in regards to this motion. I have a declarable conflict of interest in regards to property I own in close vicinity to The Gabba. So therefore I will be removing myself from the Chamber for the debate and voting.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor OWEN, can you turn your microphone off as you go out?

*Councillor Angela OWEN* *retired from the meeting room and associated public places for the duration of the debate on the Notified Motion.*

Chair: Councillor, can you please move the motion now?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair.

**27/2022-23**

At that juncture, Councillor Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN moved, seconded by Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON, that—

*Brisbane City Council does not support the Queensland Government’s proposal to demolish The Gabba stadium and rebuild it as an athletics stadium at a cost of at least $1 billion.*

Chair: Is there any debate?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. This is a motion which I brought primarily to highlight a deeper structural issue with the way the decision-making in our city has functioned. But the core issue at the heart of it is what kind of society spends billions of dollars on sports stadiums while people are sleeping in the street? That’s fundamentally the question we need to be asking ourselves here.

*At that time, 5.25pm, the Deputy Chair, Councillor Peter MATIC, assumed the Chair.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: The Queensland Government is proposing to demolish The Gabba stadium and build a new stadium in its place. Now that raises concerns about wasted resources, wasted money, the logistical challenges of such a large facility in the current site, but fundamentally it raises questions about democracy because our community has never been asked whether we support his idea. Residents have never been surveyed in any meaningful sense. The community has not had a say as to whether or not this is a good proposal.

For that reason, I think it’s important that Brisbane City Council expresses a clear position here. Now, the motion as it’s worded today takes a firm position, but obviously it’s also open to Brisbane City Council to change its mind in future. So if, for example, today the Council said yes, we don’t support this stadium demolition and reconstruction, the Council could change its mind later as new information becomes available. If the Queensland Government does its homework and makes a solid case.

But right now the Queensland Government has not provided enough information to the city or to the people of Brisbane to demonstrate that this is a good idea. I’m deeply concerned about the local impacts that this will have on my electorate, but I’m also concerned about what it says about our city as a whole. That at a time of rising homelessness, rising housing insecurity when all levels of government are claiming that they want to do more to address housing affordability and rising cost of living issues.

That the State and Federal Governments are proposing to blow hundreds of millions of dollars on a white elephant project like this is deeply concerning. Obviously, I’m on the record as saying I don’t think Brisbane should host the Olympics at all and I actually still don’t think it’s too late for us to back out of that agreement. But at the very least, if we are stuck with hosting, we need to make sure that we get good value for money and that the negative impacts of hosting don’t outweigh the positives.

When I look at what’s proposed here I’m genuinely shocked at how poor the State Government’s planning approach has been on this issue. We just heard recently in the media, just in the last couple of days, the State Government is telling us two different things. On the one hand, The Gabba stadium is locked in as a venue. It just has to be the major venue for the athletics for the Olympics.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: On the other hand, they’re saying that they haven’t worked out any of the details at all yet and there’s still further consultation to happen. So which is it? Is it that they’re going to consult further and there’s still more stuff to work out and that possibly the location could change? Or are they saying it’s definitely locked in and even if it’s physically impossible to deliver the project there, even if we don’t know what the budget’s going to be and it could blow out by billions and billions of dollars, we are still going to doggedly pursue this stupid project, come hell or high water.

It’s a bizarre state of affairs we’re in right now, where in the lead up to Brisbane City Council expressing support for the Olympics, this idea wasn’t even on the table. Then in the space of a few months, suddenly the Queensland Government comes out of the blue and says oh, actually, yes, it’s going to be at The Gabba. Don’t worry, we’ll work out the details later.

Like what the heck is going on here? Think about this seriously for a moment. We’ve got an existing facility that’s used for AFL and cricket. The Government is proposing to demolish that to the ground—this is not a minor renovation, they want to demolish the entire stadium, build a giant new athletic stadium on the same site. Then after the Olympics, spend even more money converting that stadium back into a cricket and footy ground. That’s bonkers. Objectively, that is a ridiculous proposition.

Not only is the idea itself ridiculous, but the suggestion that it’s only going to cost $1 billion, come on. We already know how high construction costs are rising. The suggestion that they’re going to be able to do this for $1 billion is laughable as far as I’m concerned. I think both the major parties know that and understand it. I don’t know where the Labor Councillors are going to fall on this one, but a basic exercise of common sense would show that this is a bad idea.

It’s a bad idea in terms of the waste of resources. You can see that when you just think about the embodied energy, the embodied materials in a stadium of this size, right. We’ve got an existing sports stadium that was last renovated just before the 2020 AFL finals at a cost of, I think, $35 million. Then earlier in the 2000s, was renovated of about $125 million. So just in the last decade, they’ve already put close to $200 million into this stadium.

I’m sure reasonable people can say, oh look, maybe we can disagree about exactly how often stadiums need to be upgraded and improved. But there’s a big different between making periodic improvements to a stadium to ensure its life can be extended, as compared to simply knocking down an entire stadium.

So we’re being told by all levels of government, including this Council Administration, that the Olympics will be sustainable, that it will be carbon neutral or carbon positive or whatever. But no one’s talking about the fossil fuel emissions and the embodied carbon emissions of this particular project. Knocking down a stadium, all that concrete and steel, all that energy that’s gone into building it and constructing an entirely new stadium, is not a carbon‑neutral proposition.

The environmental impacts of all those wasted resources are phenomenal. Now, on top of that, we’ve got to talk about the waste of money. The State Government says it doesn’t have enough money for public housing, it doesn’t have enough money for improved public transport services. Yet, it has enough money to knock down a stadium and build another stadium in the same spot.

The space issues of this site, I think, are particularly important for people to understand. I don’t think even most Councillors in this room fully appreciate how difficult this is going to be. It will impact Council infrastructure quite directly. So if you look at a map of The Gabba stadium, you’ll see it’s wedged between Vulture Street to the north, and Stanley Street to the south. The Gabba stadium already hangs over those streets quite a bit.

Immediately to the south of Stanley Street and immediately to the north of Vulture Street, new apartments have already been approved and constructed. So they’re existing high-density apartment developments directly across the road from the stadium, that you can’t move and that it would cost billions of dollars to acquire and displace those residents. So there’s as defined footprint to the north and south where The Gabba can’t expand further.

To the east of The Gabba is East Brisbane State School. It’s a 120-plus year old school that’s serving a growing community. The school is seeing rapid increase in enrolments. More and more families with kids are moving into the area. There’s predicted to be hundreds more enrolments over the coming years. So there’s a need for a school in this community, in this local catchment, the school enrolments are increasing. The State Government doesn’t have any plan as to what’s going to happen to East Brisbane State School.

It seems very clear that the school will not be able to continue there, right next to a major construction site. Where, for several years, a stadium is being demolished and rebuilt. So as a matter of common sense, a decision to demolish and rebuild The Gabba is also a decision to displace East Brisbane State School, a rapidly growing school in a rapidly growing area. Without any plan for where that school will be relocated to or how it will cater for that growing population. So the State Government wants to kick out a primary school to make more room for a stadium.

The State Government also wants to cut down established trees and potentially displace existing residents in Raymond Park, Kangaroo Point, just to the north of the stadium, because the stadium needs a warm up athletics’ track, apparently. So they’re going to have to build one in Raymond Park, apparently. This is a Council park and the Council should be more vocal about this. I think it’s deeply disappointing that this Council Administration has not spoken up enough to protect Raymond Park from this incursion.

That means that very much loved and very valuable public greenspace is going to be taken away from the community for potentially quite a few years. Again, at great cost, but also those environmental costs, with hundred‑year‑old trees being removed. The social costs of resident show live next to the park potentially having their homes acquired in order to fit this 400-metre running track.

I’ll talk about this more in my summing up comments, but there are other options on the table. I think it is deeply disingenuous for anyone to suggest oh, it’s too late, we can’t consider other options, the bid’s already locked in. Let’s remember for a second that Paris has recently announced that it’s opening and closing ceremonies aren’t going to happen in the stadium at all. Paris want to have their opening ceremony along the river, in the middle of the city and make it a public event that more people can engage with. I think that’s a kind of cool idea. I think the Olympics is stupid, but at least they’re trying to make it more publicly accessible.

So we don’t even necessarily have to have our opening and closing events in this stadium. We don’t even necessarily have to have all the athletics events there. You could maybe run the 100 metres in there. You could maybe run some of the field events, but the larger 400-metre track events and the relay events could happen in another stadium. There are plenty of options on the table.

So for any Administration Councillor in here to stand up and say, oh, it’s too late, we can’t do it, it’s a State Government issue, it’s none of our business, would be a lie. This Council Administration frequently expresses a view about State Government and Federal Government decisions. We pass motions in this Chamber all the time highlighting or raising concerns about decisions that are made by higher levels of government.

It’s time right now for Brisbane City Council to take a clear stand here and articulate a position. Rather than sitting on the fence and failing to stand up for the local community.

Deputy Chair: Further speakers?

Councillors CUNNINGHAM

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise to speak on this Notice of Motion. I want to say at the outset that if I was a parent at East Brisbane State School, I’d be concerned about the impact of a major demolition so close to my children’s school. In my view, works at the stadium site will be completely incompatible with the learning environment. I, like other local residents, want certainty about how The Gabba stadium redevelopment is going to change that school community.

This is something that the State Government has failed to provide the parents of children who attend East Brisbane State School. I woke up, like you all did, to read on the front page of *The Courier-Mail* that The Gabba would be redeveloped as an Olympic stadium. That was news to me. The State Government announced the redevelopment without any consultation with Council or indeed with the Federal Government at the time.

Furthermore, the redevelopment of the stadium will not occur with any contribution from Council. It is a State and Federally-funded project with State approvals and literally no input from Council. But today I’ll be voting no to this motion. I’ll explain why, Mr Deputy Chair.

I’ll be voting no, because, ultimately, I support the Brisbane 2032 Olympics. Like everyone else in this Chamber, except for Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN, I voted in favour of Brisbane 2032 in the first place. I support the Olympics because it forces all levels of governments to build the citywide and region-wide infrastructure required and to prepare our region for the future.

But being pro-Olympics doesn’t mean you’re somehow anti-liveability, because, in fact, it means the exact opposite. Without change, without investment, without progress, out city stands still. Ultimately, that means less opportunities for our children. That’s all I’ll say, Mr Deputy Chair.

Deputy Chair: Thank you Councillor.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, thank you so much. That’s the best lot of double-speak that I’ve heard for quite some time. I am extremely concerned at the LNP’s position on this issue. Firstly, I want to say that I was, as most people in this Chamber know, quite concerned about the Olympics and spent some hours asking questions about it.

Through the whole process, we were assured over and over and over again by John Coates, the consultants, the LORD MAYOR, the DEPUTY MAYOR, the CEO, the lawyers, everybody. Every single person who stood up in there and said to us, this city needs to support the Olympics, said so on the basis of a plan that said we would not be building huge new facilities. Other than those outlined in the Olympics Master Plan that this Council approved. The DEPUTY MAYOR’s shaking her head.

I’ve pulled out some quotes from the LORD MAYOR at the time. This is what the LORD MAYOR, at the time, said. So this is not so much about building new facilities or stadiums or sporting arenas, it’s about trying to use what we’ve got or upgrade what we’ve got. Throwing endless amounts of money, that’s not the way we’ve pitched it for Brisbane. That’s Adrian SCHRINNER, the LORD MAYOR of Brisbane.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Now, there’s one thing that I will agree with Councillor CUNNINGHAM on. I do think that this was a spur of the moment decision by the Labor State Government. I think, like this LORD MAYOR, they drank the Olympic Kool‑Aid, they lost their heads. Suddenly they were at some Year 1, end of year party and they’re all running around going, oh, the Olympics, the Olympics, let’s do this, let’s do that.

This is the most ridiculous decision that I have seen the State Government make. I note in recent days they’ve started to walk it back, but what we do know is, very clearly, from Councillor CUNNINGHAM here today, on behalf of the Administration. That she does not oppose the $1 billion dollars being spend on The Gabba. She thinks it’s progress that this city needs to have. She believes that there will be no input from Council into the issue about whether the stadium should be knocked down.

Now that’s probably the most concerning statement that we heard all day. The Finance Chair and Member of Civic Cabinet doesn’t think Council has any role in how the Olympic facilities will be built. So let me educate her just a little bit. The LORD MAYOR of Brisbane is on the Organising Committee. The LORD MAYOR of Brisbane is making decisions about how the Olympics will proceed and how they will be funded.

Not only that, this Council has to give up its land, land rights, streets and parks around The Gabba to facilitate the redevelopment. Yet Councillor CUNNINGHAM thinks that we’ve got no role in any of this. She stands up and says, oh, it’s a bit unfair on the school, but she doesn’t say she’s going to fight for her local school. She doesn’t say she’s going to oppose its demolition for $1 billion waste of money by the State Government.

Now when Councillor SRI came to me to second this motion, it was one I very happily said yes to, because this State Labor Government has lost its mind. It has made a really terrible decision to put $1 billion in to a project that did not form part of the Olympics Master Plan, that was approved by the State Government, or approved by this Council.

This project was never, ever, ever part of the Olympics proposal that this city put forward. If I’d have known now that there’s going to be all this retro‑fitting and these—we’ll just spend a billion here and a billion there. Just like I think this LORD MAYOR is doing a bad job running this city’s budget. I can tell you, wasting $1 billion on doing up a stadium that’s in perfectly good shape and yes, needs a bit of TLC probably in the lead up to the event.

Wasting $1 billion on that is something that hits Council should send a clear message to the State Government that they are getting wrong. This LORD MAYOR stands up every single Tuesday and criticises the Labor State Government over and over again. I note he’s not here, he’s actually on the Organising Committee. He’ll be making the decisions to fund the Olympics’ upgrades, venues, infrastructure.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM seems to think it’s got nothing to do with us down here at Brisbane City Council. Well yes, it does. It’s got to happen in our city, it’s got to use our land, our parks, our roads. It’s got to use money from this Council, with respect to the approvals that are needed to operate it and run it when the Olympics is on. Not only that, it was never, ever, ever part of the Olympics Master Plan.

So what I don’t understand is why—and you know, if they were opposed to this, they’d stand up and criticise the State Government left, right and centre. So they’ve been caught out here completely. They are all for this, they are all for this. It won’t matter that Councillor CUNNINGHAM’s put a very general line on the record—well it’s a bit tough on the school that they don’t know what’s happening. She’s not going to stand up and fight for them.

Not a single other Councillor over here says hang on a minute George Street, that’s $1 billion that could be spent on hospitals, teachers, police, school, homelessness, roads, ferries, flood recovery, regional communities, dams, renewable energy projects, you name it. It’s $1 billion that this Premier has lost her mind and decided for the purposes of trying to look good for the Olympics movement, wants to throw into an unnecessary project. That is going to have a detrimental impact on a local community in inner city Brisbane.

Is the local Councillor even going to stand up and defend them? No, she’s not. She doesn’t think that this Council’s got any role to play. Well, next time the LORD MAYOR stands up and criticises George Street for making a decision that we have no say in, I’ll remember this. It’s not a decision today that he wants to be involved with, because he supports it.

We heard it from the DEPUTY MAYOR earlier today, out of the side of her mouth when she got a question, I think it was from the Councillor for Jamboree Ward—oh well, yes, there’s a few things we have to sort out with them, oh yes, we’re a bit concerned, but ultimately we’re going to progress it. That’s what they’re doing. That is what they are doing. They have leapt on the coattails of the Premier’s folly and they’re going to waste $1 billion.

I agree with Councillor SRI, it will be double that by the time they’re finished—on infrastructure that is not necessary, was not part of our bid. This bid was sold to the people of Brisbane on the basis that we would reuse facilities, that we didn’t have to build that much and it wasn’t going to cost this city and this country a lot of money. Don’t you think that there’s no financial impact for this city, because when the State spend money that it doesn’t have, running up the debt of this city, every single Brisbane resident pays for it.

The fact that the Finance Chair of Brisbane City Council doesn’t get that either, is just astonishing. She doesn’t get that if billions of dollars go on wasteful projects like this, that’s less money that will come out to Council for the essential projects that we need money from the State Government for.

So let’s be clear about all of this, it is our responsibility to stand up. It’s our name on the contract, this was never part of the agreement. It’s unnecessary, it is wasteful and it’s going to have adverse impacts on the local community. It is a no-brainer that this Council should send a clear message to the Labor State Government that this project is not supported.

Deputy Chair: Further speakers?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise to speak against this motion, but I just want to make it very clear again, like Councillor CUNNINGHAM, that there is two very big different parts to this motion. This motion does not support any of the works on The Gabba development site. That is absolutely not the case here from this side of the Administration. This is a part of the plans for Brisbane 2032. It’s not in the OCOG, but it’s been signed and the LORD MAYOR’s signature is on the document, as Councillor JOHNSTON said.

On the document with our name, Brisbane 2032, that we will be delivering an Olympic Games. To do that, we need a stadium that holds a 400-metre track. That is as simple as it gets. The State Government, yes, at the last moment—

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: —decided that it would be at The Gabba, with very little consultation. It’s been clear this week that there’s very little work been done yet—again, how it’s actually going to work, but it’s going to have to happen. Whether it’s at The Gabba, whether it’s somewhere else. Whether they have the designs now or they have the designs in three years, this role is for the State Government and the Federal Government, who may want to support them, in an infrastructure project that is needed.

Now we heard a quote from Councillor JOHNSTON trying to verbal that we lied—John Coates and the LORD MAYOR, and myself may have misinformed the community about wasting money on new projects, but this is not a new project. This is a refurbishment of a project that was needed by a capital city, the fastest growing capital city in Australia.

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: Recently, visiting a city that had the Olympics in 2002, I did have a tour of the Athens athletic stadium. I can tell you, for a stadium that has not been touched in 20 years it was in absolute derelict condition. Even the people that run the stadium will talk to you about that. There was a bit of the refurb out the back, but definitely not in the stadium. They were disappointed that it hadn’t been kept up to standard.

So when I hear from those opposite that there was money spent 20, 30 years ago and there was money spent 25 years ago. That’s what you need to do to keep up highly-used and beloved infrastructure in the fastest growing capital city in the country. Now I don’t think Councillor JOHNSTON or Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN understands that we can’t put a rabbit-proof fence up. We can’t stop the planes coming, we are growing and we need the infrastructure. The Gabba needs a refurb, there is no way about it, it is at end of life.

Do we agree with the plan that was plonked on top 12 months ago for being the final design? Anybody you speak to within the IOC and the AOC (Australian Olympic Committee) understands the reference designs that are signed in the Host Committee and the Host Commission. It needs to be worked through and that was my call today in the question. I don’t understand the Councillor for Tennyson’s, out of the side of her mouth. I’ll say it loud and proud, we support Brisbane 2032, we support the refurbishment of The Gabba, but there is—the bit that I do agree with Councillor SRI, a lot of work to be done.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Please DEPUTY MAYOR, please continue.

Councillor JOHNSTON—

DEPUTY MAYOR: There’s a lot of work that needs to be done. It needs to be larger in actual size and spectator capacity. It needs to be integrated. It needs to make sure that we don’t turn The Gabba into a car park. There will still be cars that want to go through there that move from the eastern suburbs. Even with the best infrastructure of the Cross River Rail and the Metro and the bus turnaround that will be there still at The Gabba station as well. The walkable streets they’ll have from the Kangaroo Point bridge down. All of that will be fantastic for minimising traffic, but there still will be some traffic and it needs to be worked through.

There is a gorgeous heritage school on the site, we don’t want to see the heritage school demolished. Those buildings will probably need to be reused, but the students of East Brisbane and the parents of East Brisbane need to know what that looks like. They want some certainty sooner rather than later. There is sites under discussion. Get organised Minister Grace, get out there and start speaking to the community. I know the local Councillor and the neighbouring local Councillor and the local State Member are out there talking. We need the State Ministers to be out there talking and speaking with their communities.

There is also the opportunity for Council to be there in the tent as well. As I said earlier today, we’re working very, very well on the Cross River Rail working group. We’re working very well on the Metro working group with TMR. We have often worked closely in our precincts, around Herston, around Boggo Road and we need to work on this precinct, because it is going to be absolutely vital to get it right.

So please, let us into the project control group, we need to make sure it works. Look what happened with the Gateway Upgrade North. The State Government upgraded the Gateway, didn’t include us in the conversation and it cost us millions to do the connecting roads to make it work.

Let’s get in on the ground floor and work with them. To make sure that we can get the best outcome, the best legacy for Brisbane and for the local community as well. We recognise, in the Administration, that what makes Brisbane better is by investing in major projects like Brisbane Metro, green bridges, Victoria Park. The State Government in their ham-fisted way are trying to do the best that they can too, in what we need for stadia for Brisbane 2032.

But all of that is going to form a very big tapestry of what will become a fit for purpose Olympic City. An Olympic City that doesn’t have an Olympic Park, I’ll say it again—and needs to be fit for purpose across the whole inner city and right out to places like Belmont or Wynnum where they’ve got the cycling, or up to Maroochydore and out to Ipswich.

We need to make sure that we keep an open mind. We carefully think through the logistics, we think of the best outcome for the people of The Gabba, the people of Brisbane, South East Queensland. But we need to start planning soon and we need to have the stakeholders in the tent and we need to communicate with the community.

That is what we do on this side of the Chambers. We’re out at the moment with Inner Spark talking about big and bright ideas, putting forward the Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct. We’re out there talking to the community about Victoria Park. We’re out there talking to the community about neighbourhood plans. That’s what we do best. We would love the State Government to recognise that we can help them make sure that this is a great legacy.

So no, we don’t support this motion today. We definitely note the concerns of the residents, the local Councillor, the neighbouring Councillor, but we want to help. We want to work with them, we’re in OCOG together. Even though it is a State project, it’s very important for Brisbane 2032, but we need to get it right. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Thanks DEPUTY MAYOR.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Deputy Chair. Labor Councillors support the State Government’s plans to upgrade The Gabba stadium. So we won’t be supporting this motion before us today. A new stadium, and it will be a new stadium on the existing site. We can get into semantics, I guess, about whether it’s an entirely new stadium or whether it’s a refurbishment or an upgrade or whatever it is.

But the simple fact is that a sporting facility has been on that site since 1895—1896 when the first cricket game was played there. There were greyhound races in the 1920s and a greyhound track again from 1972 to 1993 and then the initial sort of construction, I suppose, of what has become what we’ve known as The Gabba stadium.

Since then, 1993, bits have been added on to it and certain refurbishments that have been spoken about have been added to it. But it is—and we accept that and do agree with the Administration on this point, that it fundamentally is at the end of its life as a stadium. I suppose what is the alternative to that?

I guess Councillor JOHNSTON and Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN have views about that and perhaps don’t want it there at all, or want a very—get rid of it and have a community open space, something like that. Those views are legitimate to be held.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Those are completely legitimate views, but we share the view that a modern city on the world stage, does need a stadium like that. In particular in the context of the kind of infrastructure that we’re seeing, regardless of the Olympics. Cross River Rail, just seen announced today those new transport maps for the Citytrain network.

In moving people—we’re right on the precipice of being to actually move people—and the Kangaroo Point bridge, I accept that and the plans for walkable streets and boulevards getting there and cycling infrastructure to get there. We’re right on the precipice of that being a stadium that can be used to its full capacity, as a modern city. It does need an upgrade.

So the Olympics, obviously, is the vehicle for that and we accept that and support that. That is for the State Government and there will be a funding agreement, I’m sure, worked out between the State and Federal Government now, for them to deliver. It isn’t a project that Council will be involved in, in terms of the actual construction of that stadium, that is broadly accepted.

So we do accept and understand that as these key projects over a 10-year trajectory firm up and get designed and go through their detailed process, prices will change. We do get that. As challenges arise throughout their process, that will have to be dealt with. It’s certainly up to the State Government to deal with those challenges.

I mean unlike the Metro blowout that we’ve seen—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —which is $800 million, I think and counting.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So that project—

Deputy Chair: Let’s not interrupt, please.

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: —that project’s blown out by $800 million and is delivering less than was proposed.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: That’s delivering less. We were going to have that underground station at the Cultural Centre and that amazing open space there. We’ve just seen the new station at The Gabba for the Metro, which apparently wasn’t even included in the original plan, which is now going to be $450 million. So I mean that project’s blown by $800 million. So it’s a bit rich if any Administration Councillors want to have a chip about that because that project is delivering less.

What we know is if the price tag increases above $1 billion for this stadium, it will be delivering more than we have now, absolutely. But we do, we do, and I agree with all Councillors that have spoken, particularly about the East Brisbane State School. A firm and final plan must be put on the table by the State Government as soon as possible, to find a new location, if that’s going to be the case.

They need to be upfront with the community about that and we absolutely agree with and accept that. So that community has certainty about those kind of facilities in their neighbourhood, about providing education in that rapidly growing community. So we agree with that point, absolutely.

So this motion really does raise the question, what kind of Olympic legacy do we want for our city? This is a great debate to have here. It’s a legitimate question about a major stadium. We agree that a city like Brisbane on the world stage post‑2032, does require a stadium that’s one of those key citywide pieces of infrastructure that we do need. It also raises the question—there’s been a bit of debate about what is Council’s role then in that?

If it’s not Council’s role to engage in these kind of infrastructure projects for the major stadiums. What is Council’s role? What is the plan? Picking up on some broader points that have been talked about, about an Olympic legacy here. The plan for affordable housing, Brisbane City Council is the largest council in Australia. We should be more than an approval authority and talk more than simply a planning process. Whether it’s on projects or whether it’s about housing and be a genuine partner to ensure that everyone can find a home here in Brisbane.

Now the stadium’s essential for a major city, but what is this LNP Council’s plans? What they need to do is demonstrate—is a commitment to investing in and upgrading community sporting facilities. Not ignore them and in some devastating cases, like right next door to this, just down the road, bulldoze them.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: What kind of suburban Olympic legacy will this LNP—yes, well out at Moorooka, or anywhere in those outer suburbs of Brisbane—what is the Olympic legacy that we’re going to leave in the suburbs of Brisbane? So it’s all well and good for the Administration Councillors to get up and sort of give a soft back hand to the State Government, I suppose on this issue and not laying out their plans firmly enough. But what is this LNP Administration’s plans about a suburban Olympic legacy for our city?

I’ve been talking to a lot of community sporting clubs over the recent recess, not just in my community but—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —right around the city. The common theme that we hear from them, particularly when we talk about the Olympics and the opportunities there are over this coming decade, is their desperate need for more support from Council and that will be Council’s role in delivering the Olympics in 2032 and having a great legacy beyond that.

So for far too many years already, community sporting clubs have struggled to maintain Council-owned facilities. So again, wouldn’t a great Olympic legacy, beyond a single stadium, be an historic investment in community and sporting clubs right around Brisbane. Rather than the LORD MAYOR or the DEPUTY MAYOR or other Councillors having a chip about The Gabba stadium. Then standing up at Ascot and saying well we’re announcing this huge, big sporting precinct over here. That again will have nothing to do with delivering or planning or funding.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Announcing those sort of big, big flashy things to get a bit of media around that. But again, none of these community sporting facilities—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —have any direction from this Administration about what their future is. So we, as a city on the world stage will increasingly be on the world stage and become known as an Olympic Host City as we get closer and closer to 2032. We have an LNP Administration here in Council that doesn’t take protecting that lifestyle, that suburban lifestyle, seriously enough with the paltry amounts that are spent on our community sporting facilities—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —on our active transport networks out in the suburbs, on flood-proofing our suburbs, on partnering with and helping to provide housing for all in the suburbs of Brisbane. So what we have is the State and Federal Government coming to the table in a funding agreement to deliver that major infrastructure for the Olympics that will set our city on the world stage, come that event. But we don’t yet have a Council that is willing to do its job in delivering Olympics—in delivering an Olympic legacy that should be a suburban Olympic legacy.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Councillor LANDERS: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **28/2022-23**  At that point, 6.02pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the meeting adjourn for a duration of one hour, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors had been locked. |

Councillor JOHNSTON: Division.

Deputy Chair: No seconder, Councillor.

*The division lapsed for want of a seconder.*

Deputy Chair: See you all after the dinner break.

Council stood adjourned at 6.05pm.

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Deputy Chair: Councillors, welcome back. We’ll reopen the meeting and continue the debate on the Notice of Motion item 7A.

Is there any further debate? No further debate?

Councillor SRI——I’ll have to get it right, sorry. SRIRANGANATHAN, would you like to reply?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. Yes, 10 minutes is never quite enough to outline all the concerns about such a major proposal that’s so deeply flawed. I do want to thank the other Councillors in this Chamber for at least taking the time to engage with this motion and explain some of your reasoning rather than just voting it down unceremoniously but I just wanted to pick up on a couple of issues that were raised during the debate and highlight my concerns about them.

There was a lot of conjecture made about the fact that The Gabba needs upgrading or The Gabba needs a revamp. I thought I was quite clear in my opening comments that there’s a very big difference between upgrading the stadium and demolishing the stadium all together and building an entire new stadium. I think that distinction is really lost on some of the Councillors in this Chamber or else they’re deliberately ignoring the point.

I wanted to highlight as well that the entire Gabba area—and that was once a series of waterholes. It was like a network of creeks and lagoons. It was a wetland area. Although now it’s a very built-up environment, there’s still significant drainage issues in this part of The Gabba.

I’ve seen commentators talking about tunnelling under Vulture Street and Stanley Street or—like new excavations so that the new stadium could have more facilities underground. People are not seriously engaging with the fact that this is a very difficult environment from a hydrological perspective.

The drainage issues alone are significant. I’ve seen how much it costs Council to undertake even basic drainage projects. I would estimate that if they try it—if they start digging down and try to re-dig the foundations for a new stadium, they’re up for hundreds of millions of dollars before they even get to ground level. So as I said earlier, this $1 billion cost, I think is a gross underestimate.

I’m not going to have enough time to go into detail about my concerns in terms of how the construction itself will impact surrounding residents and businesses. Obviously with a project of this size, there’s going to be serious issues with dust pollution, noise pollution and of course traffic congestion.

We’ve seen that even the Cross River Rail station had a massive impact on residents and local businesses in terms of all those truck movements. Demolishing an entire stadium and building a huge new stadium in the same location is going to be an even bigger issue and I don’t think the Council Administration is being serious enough in considering the impacts on those transport corridors like Vulture Street, Stanley Street, Ipswich Road, Main Street, Wellington Road.

These are really significant arterial corridors in terms of public transport and private cars. They’re going to be disrupted for a sustained period of time and that brings me to the issue of timelines.

This is why I’m so concerned about the State Government’s—I think, haphazard approach in terms of planning and announcing this thing which is that demolishing an entire stadium and building a whole new one is going to take a couple of years.

The estimates I’ve seen in some of the commentary that it’s a four or five-year project. So that means number one that the cricket and footy games that would normally happen at The Gabba are going to have to find alternative homes. That’s a big cost and disruptor for those sports but it means for around five years, we’re going to have significant construction disruption in that area and the school’s going to have relocate.

That—so that means really a five-year timeline means that work’s going to have to start on this in maybe 2025, 2026 at the latest but we already have the problem of the East Brisbane State School and the unresolved question of what happens to that school.

So we’re looking at a situation where, if construction on the stadium and demolition of the stadium has to start in 2025 or 2026, we have to get the school moving now. I don’t think the school should have to move. I think the stadium project should be reconsidered and the school should get to stay where it is.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: But the best—the fastest school constructions I’ve seen lately have been about a year minimum. They usually take at least 18 months. This is a constrained area where the State Government hasn’t even identified a new location for a school and certainly hasn’t done any consultation with the community.

So if it takes 18 months to find the location for a new school and construct a new school and relocate that existing school community, then it takes five years to demolish the stadium and build a new stadium in the place, they—the State Governments in the situation where it really needs to start thinking about relocating the school by the end of next year.

They haven’t allowed enough time for this and that’s a really big concern. I’m—yes, I was a little frustrated to hear some of the Councillors in the Chamber say yes, we know there are problems with this, but we still want The Gabba to be used as the venue. There’s a certain failure to understand that it would be very easy for the city to host the Olympics and still not make The Gabba the main exclusive venue for all the athletics events.

As I mentioned earlier, you could still have some athletics events at The Gabba and use some other track and field facilities. There’s 400-metre tracks all over the place that are in decent nick or could be in decent nick with a bit of money and investment, not just the big athletics stadium down at Nathan but UQ has nice facilities and there’s the stadiums at the Gold Coast.

There are many options which should be seriously explored rather than just saying oh, The Gabba’s locked in. We don’t know how we’re going to do it but we’ll work out the details later. That’s very poor planning from the State Government and very disappointing that this city Council is not taking a strong sand on this.

The motion I brought to the Council Chamber today says that Brisbane City Council does not support the Queensland Government’s proposal to demolish The Gabba stadium and rebuild it as an athletics stadium at a cost of at least $1 billion.

Now, I’m obviously not naïve enough to think that the Labor and Liberal parties were going to support that motion here today but I think it was a constructive process because at the very least it gets us on the record and helps us understand exactly where the major parties stand on this.

I also thought it was a constructive process because at least I was hearing from some of the LNP and Labor Councillors an acknowledgement that there are serious concerns and unanswered questions about The Gabba stadium proposal.

So maybe we’re making progress on that on some level but the fundamental point here is that we should not be spending billions and billions of dollars demolishing and rebuilding stadiums at a time when so many people are sleeping on the street. At a time when so many people are just struggling to get by.

We should not, as a society, be shutting down or forcing out primary schools just to make way for bigger stadiums. We should not be cutting down 100-year-old trees just for a short-term mega event. We need to imagine a different way forward for our city.

I must say, I’m very disappointed that this Council Administration is not standing up on this issue. I’m extremely critical of the State and Federal Governments and I hope that in time, we’ll see this decision re-examined. We’re already seeing promising noises that public servants are starting to recognise what a mistake this is and I’m at least optimistic that it’s not too late to turn this around.

So my message to the residents of Brisbane is that if you’re concerned about this, now is the time to make your voices heard. If you do not want The Gabba stadium demolished, if you do not want to see billions and billions of dollars wasted on this stupid project, get active.

Start putting pressure on your city Councillors. Start putting pressure on your State MPs (Members of Parliament) and Federal MPs because this proposal is bonkers. It needs to be taken back to the drawing board and we need meaningful consultation because decisions like this should not be made without the people themselves having a say.

Whatever you think about the need to refurbish The Gabba or whatever you think about the Olympics, at the very least, ordinary residents should have a say in how public funds are used and how their neighbourhoods change and evolve. I call on all levels of government to at the very least do that and give the people of Brisbane a say.

Deputy Chair: Councillors, I will now put the motion.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 2 - Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN.

NOES: 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, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Peter CUMMING, Steve GRIFFITHS and Charles STRUNK.

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTION:

## NATHAN‑SALISBURY‑MOOROOKA DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

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

**29/2022-23**

The Deputy Chair of Council (Councillor Peter MATIC) then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed on the agenda, and called on Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY, that—

*Brisbane City Council commits to fully maintain existing character protections and protect all character houses in the Nathan-Salisbury-Moorooka draft neighbourhood plan area.*

Deputy Chair: Is there any debate?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, yes, thank you, Mr Chair. Tonight we saw the full Chamber vote to increase protection on 160 character-listed properties contained in the Moorooka War Workers Housing Estate. I applaud the Chamber for doing that and we did that because we believe in protecting and preserving character housing in our city and in our suburbs and we have a strong commitment to that protection.

Now, currently Council is undertaking the Moorooka-Salisbury-Nathan draft neighbourhood plan and one of the key issues that has been put out for public discussion has been about the preservation and retention of character homes. Can I say, overwhelmingly—and this is resident feedback here, hundreds of submissions, overwhelmingly residents are saying they want character homes protected.

Tonight I’m asking this Chamber and in particular, the LNP Administration and our LNP Mayor, to ensure we continue protection of character homes, particularly in Moorooka and Salisbury. Nathan doesn’t have any. Tonight is your opportunity to declare very clearly that you believe we should be protecting character homes.

Just as we have in other parts of the city such as New Farm and West End, and Clayfield and Coorparoo, we’ve protected character homes, we should be continuing the protection of those character homes in Moorooka and Salisbury.

My concern in relation to the protection of these homes relates to an area that has been identified by Council for up-zoning. This land bounds Ipswich and Beaudesert Road and also is close to the Moorooka railway station but also land next to or near Salisbury railway station.

In that area, we estimate there are over 200 homes—200 homes that are currently protected so they have been currently protected. Some of these homes have been here since the 1850s. Those homes under the proposal put forward by this Administration will lose their character protection. The result will be that they can be removed or demolished and that units can be built in their place.

I am proposing—and I make it really clear that I have not opposed development or opposed higher density in Moorooka, but I believe there’s a right place to put it and the wrong place to put it. I am proposing that this area that has been identified by Council for up-zoning is changed to character infill so that we maintain our character homes but we use the land around, behind or underneath them for increasing density and hence preserve these homes for the future.

I know I had that discussion with the DEPUTY MAYOR at a business breakfast function that I attended with her and the DEPUTY MAYOR thought that was a reasonable solution.

As I say, I’m not opposed to development and high-rise development. There are places and opportunities to put this high-rise development and largely, they are in the industrial areas adjoining—adjoining the residential areas.

I believe that if Council was prepared to actually listen and work with the community, my experience is there are five action groups out there who are very adamant about their views on the local plan and they’ve certainly drummed up a lot of support as we can see here. Those five groups aren’t saying we oppose development, they’re just saying it needs to be in the right location.

So when I heard the LORD MAYOR attack—and he did during his budget speech—and say we’re opposed to all development, it isn’t true. It is not true, but what I want to see retained is character housing not being lost. It’s being retained but also increasing density while we do that. I’m sure Councillor CASSIDY and other Labor Councillors hold this to be true too.

But I went through—I started going through, I’ve been going through these because I’m sure no other Councillor, I’m sure the Mayor hasn’t gone through these. I’m sure the Planning Chair hasn’t gone through these hundreds of submissions but overwhelmingly, they say we want to see Council commit to protecting existing pre-1947 houses and they list all the streets.

This one says, ‘existing detached character housing stock should be totally protected and not demolished. I believe the draft plan misses the point about preservation. We need to preserve our character’.

This one from a resident, Caitlyn. ‘We have serious concerns about my future up‑zoning of the area near Moorooka and Salisbury train stations. This area needs to be protected. The draft strategy means substantial destruction of character homes which are highly valued and defined. The character of our suburb and our neighbouring suburbs are important’.

It goes on and on. Residents have taken a lot of trouble and a lot of time to say that the reason they’ve moved to Moorooka and Salisbury is because of the character. They love the streets, they love the character homes.

Residents also say in their submissions that they want to see more development in the area. So this is something we can achieve and we can achieve it very easily but we need to have an honest discussion with residents.

Now, I said I had several concerns and one of my other concerns relating to the planning process is actually the operation of the Better Suburbs Initiative Board. I’m extremely concerned about this board and the way it is operating. I know this board was appointed by the LORD MAYOR and at best—at best, I can say that its operation appears to be very, very murky.

I’m very concerned about the way this board is operating. I am very concerned about the way it is going to local businesses and local developers and I’m very concerned about these people’s involvement in the local plan.

These are unelected people who have contacts with the LORD MAYOR who are going out into the community and talking to developers, talking to property owners and asking them what they want. The process for involving residents has been very clear. It’s right in front of me here. The process for involving this Better Suburbs Board is far more murky and I can’t reiterate that enough.

I am calling on this Council. I’m calling on this Administration to commit to protecting these character homes and yes, work with me. Work with my local residents and we’ll find areas to increase density and help the city grow into the future, but those areas need to be not in flood zones. Those areas need to have a commitment to infrastructure that goes with all the residents who will be living there and those areas also, I believe, offer our city an opportunity for more social housing.

I leave it with the Chamber just to reinforce that I want to work with the Administration and with Council to get a result that doesn’t destroy our character homes and actually delivers for growth in our city and in our suburbs into the future. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Further debate?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise to speak on the notified motion before us tonight and I—Mr Deputy Chair, I can’t help but sense that there is a lack of understanding of the neighbourhood planning process here. You know, Councillor GRIFFITHS variously referred to the draft plan, the draft strategy and a range of other things.

The reality is at the moment we are about halfway through the neighbourhood planning process. We’re dealing with something that was the draft strategy, not the draft plan. That’s still to come so my concern is that there is a lack of understanding of the strategy. There is a lack of understanding of the neighbourhood planning process and through that lack of understanding, they may actually be misinforming their community.

The motion itself appears to be poorly informed and crafted in such a way that is not compatible or aligned with the planning scheme and the way in which character protections are designed to work. I would expect that every Councillor here has a working understanding of this important planning provision but for the benefit of the Chamber, I will elaborate.

There is a difference between character houses and properties with character protections. Character houses are assumed as any house built before 1946. That’s how we define what we call character housing that is unique to Brisbane. However, just because a house is built prior to 1946 does not mean it is automatically afforded protections under the Traditional building character overlay.

The Traditional building character overlay is designed to protect streetscapes that contain a grouping of intact character houses but may also include post-war houses too. The overlay is not applied in isolation on individual properties so it’s an important distinction that we do need to understand.

Now, the area in question has not seen any updates to the neighbourhood planning provisions in about 20 years and that’s roughly the time that Councillor GRIFFITHS has been the local Councillor. There is no doubt that a lot has changed in his area over the last couple of decades.

Many of the so-called character areas that the local Councillor is referencing are zoned low to medium density housing and have been for a long time now. It’s not your typical character area. There is a real mix of two and three-storey walk-up units mixed with low-density, pre and post-war housing. It’s an unusual salt‑and‑pepper style housing mix.

We are about midway through the neighbourhood planning project in Nathan, Salisbury and Moorooka, having launched the project in late 2019 and completed the first round of consultation last year on the draft strategy. Not the plan.

Councillor GRIFFITHS should know that as part of every project, Council’s architecture and heritage experts investigate and assess areas of the plan for updates and additions to the character and to the heritage overlays. We heard that earlier today with the TLPI. That is why these areas in the strategy were clearly marked as areas to investigate and update.

So I reference investigate. So they will be investigating and they will be considering character protections in these particular locations and they will specifically be looking at intact character streetscapes. This will be done house‑by-house, street-by-street. The team are diligent in their investigations and weigh up every decision when it comes to the residential future of the area.

Importantly with housing availability and affordability front of mind at the moment, it would be remiss of us to continue to protect properties or areas in the city that no longer retain any character values and could be better used to support new housing opportunities.

I’m aware that there are certain members of the community that feel the same way but the main point here is that these investigations are still underway and we take the advice of our planning and heritage experts within Council very seriously.

It would be inappropriate to anticipate the outcome of these investigations or commit to a poorly timed, ill-informed demand from the local Councillor to support his political agenda before the planning process has progressed and further stakeholder and community input has been considered.

**Procedural motion – Motion that the Notified Motion lie on the table**

**30/2022-23**

Councillor Adam ALLAN moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the notified motion lie on the table until such a time that community consultation is complete and the consultation report has been considered by Council. Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion was declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Steve GRIFFITHS and Peter CUMMING 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, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, 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.

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Deputy Chair: Councillors, we’ll now move to our next item which are petitions. Councillors, are there any petitions?

Councillor McLACHLAN.

Councillor McLACHLAN: Sorry, Deputy Chair. Go to somebody else, okay?

Deputy Chair: Okay.

Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, Deputy Chair, I have a petition from residents of Coreen Court, Karana Downs about an objection to the installation of a light in their street.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Are there—

Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Chair. I have a petition from the residents of Ashgrove regarding rat running in McLean and Gailey Street, Ashgrove.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Councillor McLACHLAN.

Councillor McLACHLAN: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair, I have found it now. It’s a petition requesting a new stormwater gully in Mein Street, Hendra.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Any further petitions? No?

Councillor LANDERS, may I have a motion for the receipt of the petitions.

**31/2022-23**

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

The petitions were summarised as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **File No.** | **Councillor** | **Topic** |
| 137/220/594/134 | Greg Adermann | Objection to Council’s installation of a streetlight in Coreen Court, Karana Downs. |
| 137/220/594/132 | Steven Toomey | Requesting Council introduce traffic calming measures on the ‘rat run’ between McLean Parade and Gailey Street, Ashgrove. |
| 137/220/594/133 | David McLachlan | Requesting Council installs a stormwater gully in Mein Street, Hendra. |

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

Deputy Chair: Councillors, are there any statements required as a result of an Office of the Independent Assessor or Councillor Ethics Committee order? No?

Are there any matters of General Business?

Councillor ADERMANN: Chair.

Deputy Chair: Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, thank you, Deputy Chair. I rise to speak about two landmark occasions in my ward over the weekend. First, our new skatepark at Booker Place Park, Bellbowrie, is now open. Ticking off another 2020 election commitment delivered by the Schrinner Council.

It was appropriate that the LORD MAYOR was on-hand to officially open the new facility and witness the gratitude and excitement from the number of riders from our local community.

Leading up to the 2020 election, the LORD MAYOR and I inspected the old skate bowl and agreed it was in need of some major maintenance. A financial commitment was given but after undertaking some initial community consultation, it became apparent that undertaking repair work would only be a Band-Aid solution.

We had a once-only opportunity to start from scratch and deliver a new facility that not only catered for skateboarders but other users such as scooters and non‑motorised bike riders.

The number of young boarders were supportive of the idea and became involved in the process, providing feedback to us on what should be included. They enthusiastically embraced the concept created by Council’s design team so the next challenge was to secure the additional funding necessary to upgrade to a new facility. That came from my Suburban Enhancement Fund and the rest they say, is history.

Deputy Chair, it’s timely to offer some thank yous to those who helped bring this project to fruition. First, the LORD MAYOR for supporting his project from day one. Second, the officer in charge of the Bellbowrie Police Beat, Senior Constable Chris Tetley, who initially raised concerns about anti-social behaviour around the old bowl and who worked with Council to include elements in the new design to address the issue.

Third, to Shane Klepper, our local Parks Manager, whose advice and support was invaluable and the CPO (City Projects Office) team for delivering the project. To the local boarders who were part of the journey from the beginning and whose input was invaluable in creating the finished product, thank you.

Finally, to those involved in last Saturday’s opening. The Karana Bellbowrie Rotary Club for providing the sausage sizzle. Council’s Connected Communities team for providing the entertainment and skateboard demonstrations, local Queensland police officers, the 4070 Neighbourhood Watch and the Bellbowrie Sports and Community Club for their contributions on the day.

Deputy Chair, the other occasion is last Sunday was National Tree Day and like a number of Councillors on this side of the Chamber and particularly the Queensland President of Trees, Councillor TOOMEY, I was involved in two local tree planting activities during the morning.

The first was organised by the Pullen Pullen Catchments Group at Anstead and the other was at Cicada Park, Chapel Hill, organised by the Cubberla-Witton Catchment Group. It was great to see so many volunteers out supporting the Schrinner Council’s vision for a cleaner, greener Brisbane.

On the subject of tree planting in my ward, it was a pleasure to attend a meeting of the Karana Bellbowrie Rotary Club last week where two officers from our NEWS team, Nick Holmes and Greg Johnson were presented with Paul Harris Fellowship Awards.

This Award is the highest honour that can be bestowed by Rotary and both Nick and Greg were recognised for their many years working with the club on local tree plantings and the recent district tree planting challenge. Congratulations to both Nick and Greg and thanks for the great work that you’re doing in this space. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Further General Business?

Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair. I thought the other side was going to have a go so I was slow to my feet, I apologise. Going to give you a bit of a wrap up of what’s happening in the Walter Taylor Ward, just to try and give you that two-minute Tuesday that I promised last year but I forgot.

So starting in Indooroopilly, I was very happy to attend the Indooroopilly State School tree planting that we organised for Friday morning. We had about 40 kids turn up as part of our National Tree Day. I’ve spoken about the fact that we were going to put in a yarning circle next to the school at Moore Park.

It’s now called an outdoor learning circle and we’ve got a circle of sandstone blocks and 340 plants have been planted by the Bushcare Group and the local school students to beautify this wonderful area. It’s about 12 metres from the school boundary so the Grade 5s actually use this area for some outdoor lessons.

We put in some Brachychitons, also known as flame trees to surround it and provide shade. What a wonderful way to spend a classroom activity under the shade of some native Australian trees. Wonderful.

Also at Indooroopilly State School, on Saturday was the Indigo Fair. It was a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together. I understand there are about 5,000 people there. Some of them must have had COVID because my poor little six-year-old got it and she’s home from school this week but she still had fun at the time, so that’s all that matters.

Congratulations to the Parents and Citizens’ Association (P&C) led by Jo and the grants officer, Cheryl for helping pull this all together and of course the wonderful convenor Nicole, who worked tirelessly. She worked pretty much a full-time job for three months as well as being full-time employed so congratulations to all of the volunteers involved with the P&C to bring the Indigo Fair together.

Also at Indooroopilly State School—it’s almost like there are no other schools this week but the Indooroopilly State School is undergoing—about to undergo community consultation for a wonderful new playground that we’re building in Moore Park, right next to the school.

Because this is so heavily used after school and before school by the kids, we’re going to be doing one-on-one or one-to-many community consultations on-site and through the school because we really want to deliver a playground experience that the kids are going to be happy for. They might be a little young for a Ninja Warrior park but we’ll try and come up with something appropriate for them.

In Toowong, I was very happy to welcome the LORD MAYOR for a pop-up office. We had a great time and we met Ingrid who was David Detmer’s wife and David is famously trying to promote a funicular railway somewhere in Walter Taylor Ward and also of German origin, as you might remember. I understand Ingrid tried to speak to the LORD MAYOR in German. I’m not quite sure how that went but anyway, that was fun.

In Taringa, we’ve got the unveiling of the wonderful new addition to Swann Road, which is a pedestrian refuge. That’s the third pedestrian refuge along Swann Road now, which is a district road anticipated to carry about 15,000 cars a day so it’s a wonderful addition for pedestrian safety in addition to the flashing warning lights, the anti-skid treatment and the lower speed limit that we’ve put there.

So we’re all about road safety in Taringa and thank you to Councillor Wines for his help in these certain matters. We’ve got a few going on.

Coffee with a Cop last week was very well attended. Probably our best ever attended and the hot topic of the moment was the unfortunate incident when a man was arrested at St Lucia, wielding two big butcher’s knives trying to hijack a car. The message from police is to please make sure that you remember to lock up your house and to hide your car keys because just because you live in a nice suburb doesn’t mean that you should take it for granted.

Just as a quick aside, the police arrived in St Lucia. I understand the first car was there within four minutes and three cars attended and the sergeant—I think she was a sergeant. The sergeant who handled the situation was on her very last shift after 20 years of police work. So imagine having to do that in your last couple of hours on the job dealing with a guy brandishing butcher’s knives. So congratulations to our local constabulary for turning up so quickly.

Finally, I just want to put on the record our shock and dismay at the news reports that you may have seen about the dead animals in ANZAC Park at Toowong. It’s a horrific and appalling act and we hope that these perpetrators are caught ASAP.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Further General Business?

Councillor OWEN: Yes, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Mr Chair, I rise tonight to speak on a number of topics. The Virtus Oceania Asia Games 2022, the Legacy Torch Relay, the Live Like Her Challenge and also about some constituents if I have time.

Mr Chair, it is my privilege to speak in this Chamber tonight about the Oceania Asia 2022 Games. This is an international multi-sport competition in the Oceania Asia region for elite athletes with intellectual impairments.

Now, for some of the Councillors who were around a few years ago, you would remember the INAS (International Sports Federation for Persons with Intellectual Disability) Global Games that we held here in the city—that we hosted and how beneficial that was, not only for our city but for the promotion of the wider awareness of the abilities of these elite athletes.

So this is the very first time the Virtus Regional Games will be held for the Oceania Asia region. They will be held here in our City of Brisbane between 5 to 11 November. Our city will host over 1,000 international elite athletes in 12 sports and some of the sports that they will be participating in will be athletics, badminton, basketball, cycling—both track and road, judo, rowing—both indoor and on water, sailing and swimming.

The Virtus Oceania Asia (OA) Games for 2022 will leave an important games legacy. They will enhance the partnerships and the sports legacy for our city. They will also help to educate the wider community about the power of inclusive sport and also, hosting for the games here will create a long-term legacy with a truly positive social impact and help to ignite social change.

It will also go a long way to help building relationships with key stakeholders ahead of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Sports Inclusion Australia is the national sporting organisation which is driving better inclusion for athletes with intellectual impairments. Virtus is a founding member of the International Paralympic Committee.

What we all need to recognise is that across our globe, 15% of the people in our community identify as having a disability and it is about creating more awareness of the ability of the 15% in our community and bringing that to the fore.

What is at the moment a little bit of a stepping stone is that out of the 28 paralympic sports, only three are recognised as being for people with intellectual impairments. This needs to improve and through the OA Games, we are hoping that this will be reviewed in time for the 2032 Brisbane Olympics and Paralympics.

I do say to anybody out there that if you haven’t come across any of these wonderful athletes, we have some fantastic athletes here in our City of Brisbane and I was able to last week catch up with Alberto Campbell-Staines. He is a wonderful young man. He is working three jobs and he’s still steaming ahead with his athletics, he is so pumped, I think what really sells the message is the message from the athletes themselves.

The message from the athletes is this: imagine where everyone is included through sport. No matter who you are, no matter where you are from, no matter what language you speak or what your story is or whether you have a disability. Sport brings us together.

Imagine a world where everyone has the opportunity to compete, to achieve, to succeed, to break down boundaries and break records on a world stage. At the Oceania Asia Games, the athletes speak one language, sport. Particularly in the words of the athletes. They are ready to show the world what they can do; to show the world what inclusive sport can be.

So if anybody is interested in becoming a volunteer to support the games, you can register at oagames2022.org and they would be grateful of the support of the people of Brisbane in that capacity. Can I also reflect that it is 95 days today till the OA Games start. So we are on the countdown and I’m so looking forward to supporting the Games here.

I also had the privilege of representing the LORD MAYOR with Legacy for the official launch of the torch relay. This will be a very important occasion. 2023 will be the 100-year anniversary of the foundation of Legacy.

So on ANZAC Day 2023, the Legacy torch will start its journey in Pozieres, make its way through France and Belgium to London, come right across to Western Australia, across to South Australia, up to Darwin, across to the tip of Australia at the top of Queensland, down the eastern seaboard, right down to Tasmania and then back up in October to Melbourne where the legacy of looking after the missus and kids began.

So I do say to all Councillors in this place, if you have veterans in your community, please make them aware that they can register to become a torch bearer and also as Councillors in this place, we can certainly support the torch relay when it goes through our city. This is a very, very important torch relay.

It was wonderful to have one of my local veterans who I’ve had a long association with, at the launch last week. George will be turning 100 next year on 31 October. It will just be days after the Legacy torch reaches Melbourne at the end of its journey. It’s so important that I mention George because George actually signed up to do his duty for our nation in Melbourne. So there are wonderful people who have stepped up for that.

Whilst I’m on my veterans, I would just like to say that one of my local veterans who served in the Royal Australian Air Force, Mona Shaw, is turning 100 this month and it will be lovely to catch up with her in the next week or two when she has her 100th birthday. So it’s lovely that we are able to recognise these wonderful people.

I would just like to also say thank you to the LORD MAYOR for bringing some more awareness to the Live Like Her Challenge. Being very concerned about homelessness across our city is something that I think all Councillors in this place are aware of. So on 8 September, I will be sleeping in my car as part of the Live Like Her Challenge.

If any Councillor wishes to support the fundraising efforts, you can certainly Google the Live Like Her Challenge. I’d be happy of any support that you’re able to give me. I’m nearly at my fundraising target but the more we can raise to help women in need, the more we can do to help. So if we’re truly committed to doing something, I encourage you to actually put in a donation. You can do it anonymously if you so wish and support this wonderful cause.

Just briefly, Mr Acting Chair, I would just like to say two of my constituents, they’re wonderful young women, Augnes and Teresa Joy. They have set a world record. It is singing the national anthems of about 75 different countries but in the language of that country. So this is a world record that they have been recognised for.

I was glad to join them last week because they had a special ceremony in St John’s Cathedral. It was beautiful to hear them sing the Australian National Anthem in a First Nation’s language in St John’s Cathedral and have it resonating in the beautiful surrounds. Their voices are just magical. They are beautiful young women who I have known for many years now. They have sung at my citizenship ceremonies—

Deputy Chair: Councillor—

Councillor OWEN: —and they have also set up a peace foundation.

Deputy Chair: Your time has expired.

Councillor OWEN: Thank you, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Is there any further General Business? No?

## CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADJOURNED MOTION:

Deputy Chair: Councillors, we now move on to the adjourned motion moved by Councillor JOHNSTON, seconded by Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN that Council introduces face-to-face customer support at Council customer service centres and via the 24-hour call centre to assist flooded residents to claim the $1,000 uninhabitable home rebate as Council has unreasonably restricted residents to online claims only, disadvantaging elderly residents, those with English as a second language and those who have lost documents in the 2022 floods.

Is there any debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. As I said when I outlined the reason that this is urgent, it’s come to my attention over the last couple of weeks that Council is unreasonably restricting the ability to claim the uninhabitable residence rebate for flooded homes to online applications only.

That is incredibly problematic for particularly elderly residents and just late last week, we had an inquiry and we did seek through the usual Councillor process to have a Council officer engage with the resident to assist them because they’re quite elderly and there’s some reasonable, complex circumstances.

First of all, the online process would not accept a job from Council. We received a rebuff which said essentially that information on how to apply can be viewed on the following link and then there is a link. Said applications close on 30 September but Council refused to even pass on our inquiry for residents to the Rates team for assessment, then said you should call the customer call centre.

So I call the customer call centre and I speak to a lovely young man called Benjamin. Yes, this is a problem, Councillor. We’ve had other residents ring up and say that they wanted to do the rates rebate over the phone and we can’t do it for them.

I said to him, well surely you can put someone through to the Rates team? Well no, we’re not allowed to do anything over the phone for residents. I said, well so they can’t even go to a customer service centre? No, Councillor. The only way that you can claim this rebate is online.

Now, I know at least two residents in the last couple of weeks that have had trouble doing this online and my office has attempted to assist where possible but the following people are being disadvantaged by Council’s unreasonable reliance on online-only as the option to make the rebate claim. That is elderly people.

There is 30% of Brisbane residents who don’t have computers and many of these people are of an age where they find it quite difficult to upload multiple documents. To interface with a lot of complex online forms. My office, because we’re co-located in a major shopping centre is every single day doing the work that a Council call centre should be doing and it is unreasonable to keep asking my staff to do work that Council should be doing directly to assist residents.

Two, we’ve got residents with English as a second language who find online forms very difficult because they have some issues in understanding what the form is requesting of them.

Three, and most importantly, a lot of these residents lost everything in the floods. They lost their paperwork, they lost their computers. So they do need to go to a Council office. They need to seek copies of documents and they need help to process application forms.

So this is a pretty straightforward issue. I don’t know why we don’t have some provision to assist residents at the customer service centres within Council and over the phone. I believe that as a minimum, Council should be providing alternatives for those residents who need face-to-face assistance in person at the customer call centres and also over the phone by connecting residents who require help and request help to be connected to the Rates team who can assist them to process applications over the phone.

This Council often makes a big deal of its customer service—and is, generally on the whole, extremely good—but this is an area where Council has been found wanting and vulnerable people who are in dire circumstances need assistance here and Council needs to find some alternative measures through the customer contact centres and through the customer call centre to make sure that those who are eligible for the uninhabitable rebate can access it, not just by trying to negotiate a form when they’re having difficulties doing so.

So I urge everyone to support this motion and the LORD MAYOR can send a very clear message to Council that they need to update the ways in which residents can claim this rebate.

Deputy Chair: Further debate?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Yes, thanks, Mr Deputy Chair. Mr Deputy Chair, I rise to address the issues raised in this motion and I have sought advice. I can confirm that residents who have issues with completing the online form are able to call the Contact Centre or visit a customer service centre and they will be supported by the Rates Management team to assist them with applying for the uninhabitable residence rate rebate.

There have been applicants to the Rates team and they’ve worked with them to process their applications offline including a visually impaired customer as an example that’s already occurred. The team will complete the form on their behalf and help them work through the provision of the supporting documentation that is required.

While the preference is obviously for an online submission, a customer is always welcome to contact the Contact Centre as an alternate way to apply and we will take their application on their behalf. We will make notes in the system to cover the self-declaration that is required.

The evidence is a requirement for assessing the $1,000 rebate as you would expect and we work with the customer for this to be provided in the most appropriate way if possible,—if it’s not available through an online application. So for example, you can take in some evidence to a customer service centre.

We have had 64 processed and approved applications so far and I’m sure there will be more as well. This is a sad reminder of the ongoing impact of the floods that many residents continue to suffer.

If Councillor JOHNSTON has concerns about the process or has had experiences contrary to this, she need not move emergency motion, she can simply write an email. We want to ensure that all eligible ratepayers can receive the rebate and we will maintain a flexible approach for all applications, Mr Deputy Chair.

So, as Council processes already support what is outlined in the motion, it is not necessary and this motion will not be supported by the Administration Councillors.

Deputy Chair: Further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON, right of reply?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. Thank you very much. I table the written advice that I have from Council, refusing to even action the request that we made for a resident. Now, I had to move the urgency motion today because not only have I got it in writing that the only way that you can apply for this rebate is online. I then called the call centre and was given extremely clear advice yesterday by Benjamin that they could not assist anyone in person at the customer call centres, nor over the phone.

So I guess the issue I’ve got here is why Councillor CUNNINGHAM, who is not responsible for the customer call centre or for these issues, is standing up and claiming something that I have in writing and by phone is occurring.

How about instead of saying, Councillor JOHNSTON, you didn’t need to do this, I am so sorry, Councillor JOHNSTON, that’s happened to your residents. You’ve been given the wrong information by Council officers and we apologise to you for doing that because the residents are the ones who are missing out.

I can tell you now, I’ll be down at the customer call centre tomorrow at Yeerongpilly and checking in-person whether this can be done. You’ve had all day to fix this. I’ll be also checking when the new instructions were given to the Council officers to go out and to correct this problem. It is without doubt clear to me in writing and verbally that this Council has refused to assist residents other than online.

The fact that this Administration won’t support a motion that it says it’s already doing is the clearest indication to me that there is absolutely a problem and that only my advocacy on this issue today has exposed this Administration’s failure to provide a fair, easily accessible and alternative means of contacting Council to get their support for Council services.

So I think this Council should be ashamed of itself for in writing, saying one thing to me. Verbally saying one thing to me and then Councillor CUNNINGHAM standing up and saying no, no, all the information that Council officers have given me is wrong.

Now, usually when—or if I say something that is critical of Council officers, I’m screamed at. You can’t say that. So Councillor CUNNINGHAM stood up today, basically said Council officers are liars and it’s Damien on this one and it was Benjamin yesterday. I can say to you now that they’ve both been pretty upfront with me that this has not been possible.

So why is it that Council officers have told me one thing and Councillor CUNNINGHAM has said something else today? Could it be that the last five hours, they’ve managed to get their stories changed and to get a new process in place? I think it reflects very poorly on the Administration that they had to be dragged kicking and screaming to providing a fair customer service process for residents to access this rebate.

I’m really pleased that by exposing their inaction on this matter, that we’re getting a better outcome for Brisbane residents today but I will be voting to support this because it is the right thing to do and the reason, the reason that we’ve had a change of heart by the LNP is because a motion was brought in this place.

That is the only reason that Councillor CUNNINGHAM has stood up today and said this is now possible because up until I moved the motion at three o’clock today, I guarantee you it was not possible and we’ve got that in writing and verbally from multiple Council officers.

So I’m very pleased that my staff and I have been able to bring this matter up to Council and that we’ve been able to force the Administration to make a change to the way in which they assist residents to make sure it can be done face-to-face and over the phone.

Deputy Chair: I will now put the motion.

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

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Charles STRUNK 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: 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, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillors, the meeting is 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 27 July 2022)**

1. Please provide a list of 2022 flood damaged roads by street name and suburb that have been identified for resurfacing?
2. Please provide a list of 2022 flood damaged playgrounds by park name and suburb that have been identified for replacement?
3. Please provide a list of 2022 flood park facilities or equipment by park name and suburb that have been identified for replacement?
4. Please provide a list of all parks by name and suburbs that remain fully or partially closed following the 2022 Floods?
5. Please provide a list of all BBQs by park name and/or location that are still not working following the 2002 floods?

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (received on 28 July 2022)**

1. Please provide details of all Council funds provided to the Sundaze Markets held in Sinnamon Park, broken down by financial year (including the amount allocated and the funding source).
2. Please provide details of all Council funds provided to Sharon or Lisa Baillie, broken down by financial year (including the amount allocated and the funding source).
3. Please provide details of all Council funds provided to Forty Seventy Four graphic design, broken down by financial year (including the amount allocated and the funding source).
4. Please provide the total number of parking fines and warnings issued for the 2021-2022 financial year.
5. Please provide the total value (amount) of parking fines issued for the 2021‑2022 financial year.
6. Please provide the total amount spent on mosquito control in the 2021-2022 financial year.
7. How many First Home Owner Rebates have been granted and what is the total amount of the rebates for the 2021-2022 financial year?
8. How many complaints has Council received for breaches of development conditions in the 2020-2021 financial year?
9. How many complaints did Council receive for breaches of development conditions in the 2021-2022 financial year?
10. How many notices did Council issue for breaches of development conditions in the 2020-2021 financial year?
11. How many notices did Council issue for breaches of development conditions in the 2021-2022 financial year?
12. How many fines did Council issue for breaches of development conditions in the 2020-2021 financial year?
13. How many fines did Council issue for breaches of development conditions in the 2021-2022 financial year?
14. Please provide details of how much has been spent on artists’ impression graphics and fly through animations for Council projects in the 2020-2021 financial year, broken down by project.
15. Please provide details of how much has been spent on artists’ impression graphics and fly through animations for Council projects in the 2021-2022 financial year broken down by project.
16. How much money was donated to the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Trust over each of the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 financial years through the rates donation option?
17. How much money was donated to the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Trust over each of the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 financial years through the paywave option at the City Hall Reception Desk (King George Square entrance)?
18. Please provide the total revenue received from Bushland Preservation Levy for each of the following financial years (2020-2021 and 2021-2022).
19. Please provide the total revenue received from the Environmental Management and Compliance Levy for each of the following financial years (2020-21 and 2021-2022).
20. Please provide the total revenue received from the Waste Levy for each of the following financial years (2020-2021 and 2021-2022).
21. Please provide the total revenue received from rates for each of the following financial years (2020-2021 and 2021-2022).
22. Please provide the average annual rates bill and average percentage rates increase for Category 1 – Residential Owner Occupied properties for each of the following financial years (2020-2021 and 2021‑2022).
23. Please provide the total rates revenue by suburb in the 2020-2021 financial year.
24. Please provide the total rates revenue by suburb in the 2021-2022 financial year.
25. Please provide the Category 1 Owner Occupied rates revenue by suburb in the 2021-2022 financial year.
26. Please provide the Category 7 Residential – Non-owner Occupied or Mixed Use rates revenue by suburb in the 2019-2020 financial year.
27. Please provide a list of all new footpaths constructed in the 2021-2022 financial year, including the cost for each footpath, how many metres were constructed and the specific service under which these were funded.
28. Please provide a breakdown of the total number of development applications received and the total number approved by Ward for the 2021-2022 financial year.
29. Please provide a breakdown of the total number of Impact Assessable development applications received and the total number approved by Ward for the 2021-2022 financial year.
30. Please provide a breakdown of the total number of Code Assessable development applications received and the total number approved by Ward for the 2021-2022 financial year.
31. Please provide a detailed breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising in the 2020-21 financial year, broken down by the various categories of advertising (eg television, billboards, radio, social/digital, influencers, print etc).
32. Please provide a breakdown of all television advertising campaigns conducted by Brisbane City Council in 2021-2022 financial year.
33. Please provide a breakdown of all advertising agencies contracted by Brisbane City Council during the 2021-2022 financial year with details of the campaigns they worked on and the total amount paid to them.
34. Please provide a list of all Brisbane City Council publications which have a photo of Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner, including the name of the publication, the total cost (design, printing and distribution) in the 2021-2022 financial year.
35. Please advise how many electronic billboards have been approved in Brisbane and their size and locations during the 2021-22 financial year.
36. Please provide a breakdown of the number of Brisbane City Council bus operators by employment status (Full Time, Part Time, Casual) for the 2021‑2022 financial year.
37. Please advise how many bus operators successfully converted from a casual position to a full time position for the 2021-2022 financial year.
38. Please provide the total number of hours lost due to workplace injuries for the 2021-2022 financial year, broken down by Division/Work Group.
39. How many reports about broken or damaged footpaths has Council received for the 2021-2022 financial year (broken down by suburb)?
40. Please provide a breakdown of the amount spent on Council’s Social Media Advertising spend, for the following financial years, by social media platform:

| **Platform** | **2021 – 2022** | **2022 – 2023** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Facebook |  |  |
| Instagram |  |  |
| LinkedIn |  |  |
| Snapchat |  |  |
| Twitter |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. Please provide a breakdown of the number of Brisbane City Council bus drivers for the following financial years as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Financial Year** | **Number of employees on permanent contracts** | **Number of employees on casual contracts** | **Number of employees on trainee contracts** | **Total number of employees** |
| 2019-20 |  |  |  |  |
| 2020-21 |  |  |  |  |
| 2021-22 |  |  |  |  |
| 2022-23 (year to date) |  |  |  |  |

1. Please provide the following breakdown of the Universal Housing Design Incentive Scheme since 7 September 2021:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Housing Type** | **Total value of payment amount** | **Total number of applications approved** | **Total number of dwellings/units of accommodation** |
| Dual Occupancy |  |  |  |
| Rooming Accommodation |  |  |  |
| Residential Care Facility |  |  |  |
| Multiple Unit Dwellings |  |  |  |
| Other (Please advise) |  |  |  |

1. Please provide the total number of buses retired in the 2021-2022 financial year, and how many new buses were added to the fleet, both as the specific number of buses and rigid bus equivalent buses.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TOTAL NUMBER OF BUSES (RIGID BUS EQUIVALENTS)** | **RIGID** | **ARTICULATED** |
| Retired |  |  |
| Added |  |  |

1. Please advise the total number of buses in service as at 30 June for each of the following years, with a breakdown of rigid and articulated buses:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **YEAR** | **TOTAL NUMBER OF BUSES** | **RIGID** | **ARTICULATED** |
| 2021 |  |  |  |
| 2022 |  |  |  |

1. Please provide the total number of visitors to the Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre since opening, broken down by month.
2. Please provide a breakdown of all costs associated to date with Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre, including setting up the centre and any promotion or advertising.

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

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

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (from meeting on 14 June 2022)**

1. Provide a breakdown of all costs ($) associated with advertising to promote the Brisbane Metro project (by financial year):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ADVERTISING** | **2015-2016** | **2016-2017** | **2017-2018** | **2018-2019** | **2019-2020** | **2020-2021** | **2021-2022** |
| Social media |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Social Media Influencers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newspaper |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brochures/Flyers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Radio |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Television |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

***A1.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***ADVERTISING*** | ***2015-2016*** | ***2016-2017*** | ***2017-***  ***2018*** | ***2018-***  ***2019*** | ***2019-2020*** | ***2020-2021*** | ***2021-2022*** |
| *Social media* |  |  |  | *$22,774* | *$1,187* |  |  |
| *Social Media Influencers* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Newspaper* |  |  | *$5,556* |  |  |  |  |
| *Brochures/ Flyers* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Radio* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Television* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Other* |  |  | *$21,498* | *$409,888* | *$381,039* | *$10,903* | *$48,118* |

1. What is the cost ($) of establishing a new bus stop (by category – as defined by Public Transport Infrastructure Manual, Department of Transport and Main Roads):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **BUS STOP – CATEGORY** | **BREAKDOWN OF COSTS** ($) |
| Minimum boarding point |  |
| Regular Stop |  |
| Intermediate stop |  |
| Premium Stop |  |

***A2.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***BUS STOP – CATEGORY*** | ***BREAKDOWN OF COSTS*** *($)* |
| *Minimum boarding point* | *$30,000* |
| *Regular Stop* | *$40,000* |
| *Intermediate stop* | *$80,000* |
| *Premium Stop* | *$110,000* |

1. What category of bus stops (as per list in the previous question) are proposed for installation in Pallara?

***A3.*** *Minimum boarding point.*

1. What is the current number of Council officers, by FTEs, for the following job roles (excluding contractors):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **JOB ROLE** | **FTE** |
| Logistics |  |
| Landscape Architect |  |
| Letterbox dropper |  |
| Environmental Officer |  |
| Urban Planner |  |

***A4.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***JOB ROLE*** | ***FTE*** |
| *Logistics* | *26.8* |
| *Landscape Architect* | *34.6* |
| *Letterbox dropper* |  |
| *Environmental Officer* | *96.1* |
| *Urban Planner* | *243* |

*Note: Council officers have advised there is no Council role classified as ‘Letterbox dropper’.*

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 8.10pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

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)