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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4690 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 30 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)  Tracy DAVIS (McDowall)  Fiona HAMMOND (Marchant)  Vicki HOWARD (Central)  Steven HUANG (MacGregor)  Sarah HUTTON (Jamboree)  Sandy LANDERS (Bracken Ridge)  James MACKAY (Walter Taylor)  Ryan MURPHY (Chandler)  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: Are there any apologies?

Councillor LANDERS.

## APOLOGY:

**98/2022-23**

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillors Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Kim MARX, Peter MATIC and Angela OWEN, and they were granted a leave of absence from the meeting on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

Chair: Confirmation of minutes please.

## MINUTES:

**99/2022-23**

The Minutes of the 4689 meeting of Council held on 23 August 2022, copies of which had been forwarded to each Councillor, were presented, taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON.

Chair: Councillors, there’s no public participant today.

## QUESTION TIME:

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

**Question 1**

Councillor ADERMANN: Thank you, Chair. My question is for the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, following the 2022 flood event, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) has been working to deliver the voluntary home buyback scheme. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest in this program, including Council’s involvement to date?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, through you Mr Chair, to Councillor ADERMANN for the question. I know it’s a question which all Councillors will no doubt have an interest in. We saw, following the flood earlier this year, an aligning of the planets where for the very first time all three levels of government committed towards two programs. First of all, a renewed flood buyback program, but also secondly, to the resilient homes—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

LORD MAYOR: —the resilient homes program. So all three levels of government onboard for both of those. Now the State and Federal Government have committed $741 million in total, but obviously that funding has to be spread across quite a large area because it is not just for Brisbane, it is for the State of Queensland and those flood-affected areas in other councils as well. So we have been working with the State Government and in particular the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, on how this program might work. Obviously we are all interested—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

LORD MAYOR: —we are all interested in how it might work and today I can confirm that just in the last seven days—so in the last week, we have received the first payment of funding for the flood buyback scheme, that is a payment of $50 million. So the way it will work is that the State Government sets the criteria and the eligibility, but they then give money to local councils to administer the scheme in terms of running the acquisition process. Now to be very clear—and it was asked of me a number of times, this is not a resumption process, this is not councils resuming homes; this is a voluntary buyback scheme. So what has happened at this point in time is the State Government has called for registrations of interest for buyback. At this point in time we have been advised of 171 applications for buyback in the Brisbane City Council Local Government Area.

Now obviously if you start doing the math and you think about how much it might cost to buy back a home, with property values and market values as they are, you start to realise that that then equates to quite a significant amount of money. So we have received the initial payment of $50 million. We have also been advised that there are 16 properties that have been approved for us to proceed forward and so we are in the process now, today and over the coming days, of making contact with those first 16 properties to start the process. Now obviously there’ll be many people saying well, you know, how quickly will this happen? As with any property negotiation that happens this will require Council and the owner to come to an agreement on what the purchase price will be.

So there will be some to-ing and fro-ing on the properties and there are many people who have registered for this buyback program who through this negotiation process may or may not say yes when it comes to signing the dotted line. So we’ll initiate that process now, we’ll be starting the first tranche of acquisitions and those acquisitions will be happening in many different suburbs, but particularly ones that won’t surprise you in those heavily flood-affected areas. So we’ll see acquisitions happening in Windsor, Rocklea, Oxley, Clayfield, quite a few in Windsor actually, another one in Herston, Boondall, Yeerongpilly, Archerfield, Carina and that’s just the first tranche. So as soon as the State Government signs off on the next tranche of properties, we’ll get on with talking to those people as well.

So what we will do here is we’ll make sure that we’ll progress this as quickly as possible, but obviously we rely on the State Government notifying of which properties are eligible for this program. So we’re keen to get on with it, we will be getting on with it. We’ve made that initial contact, or will be over the coming days with the owners and then we’ll be progressing from there. So hopefully we get these issues resolved quickly. But I would also point out that while some people have suggested a lot in this place that the flood buyback is some kind of silver bullet, there were 23,000 properties in Brisbane that were flooded, yet the State Government received 171 applications for buyback.

So you can tell by that response alone that there are many people that were flooded that do not want us to buy back their home, many people, many people. So this is a fraction of the properties that were flooded and so this is just one suite of many responses to natural disasters and floods that we can use, but it is by no means a silver bullet. That goes for virtually every component of our response, whether it’s the flood-resilient homes, the flood buyback, drainage improvements—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 2**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. Tomorrow 12 recommendations from the Brisbane City Council 2022 flood review are due. We know one of the biggest issues for people who were affected by creek flooding in February this year was a lack of warning and instructions on how to evacuate. You said following the release of your flood review that you wanted more people signed up to Council’s controlled early warning system. Back in February, just 14% of Brisbane residents were signed up to the system. How many residents are signed up today?

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Look, it is positive that the Leader of the Opposition thinks it’s a good thing that people are signed up to our Council warning service. The severe weather warning alert service that we run, otherwise known as Weatherzone or operated by a group called Weatherzone. That’s the system that quickly and effectively sent out more than 2.7 million messages in the days preceding the flood and during the flood earlier this year. This is distinct to the early warning alert system, which is a national system. This is a voluntary system that we are talking about. So with any voluntary system obviously the challenge is to get people signed up to that and to encourage them to understand the benefits of signing up.

More people signed up in the lead up to summer is exactly what we want to see and so we will be, from tomorrow in fact, kicking off a major campaign with the community to encourage them to sign up to our alert service, the Brisbane Severe Weather Alert service. That will not just be encouraging people to get access to that information, we’ll be incentivising it as well. So as part of that incentivisation, we will be—we have worked with some tourism operators in South East Queensland to provide some prizes, so that people that sign up to this alert service in the month of September, starting tomorrow, go into the draw to win some really fantastic prizes. They include things like a tourism opportunity out at Tangalooma, including several nights accommodation. They include—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Very fascinating and loving this information, but the question was how many residents are signed up today to the early warning system.

Chair: I think the LORD MAYOR is responding to the bulk of your question.

There was a specific question there, LORD MAYOR, about the number of people who have signed up.

LORD MAYOR: Yes, so what I was pointing out is that from tomorrow a major public campaign will begin to get people signed up in the lead up to the next storm season. So this is something—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I wonder what Councillor CASSIDY has done to encourage people to sign up, other than playing cheap politics, I wonder, I wonder.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Oh he put it on his Facebook page, he put it on his e-news. Three people have access to that. The local Labor branch members have access to that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Order, Councillors, order.

Excuse me, LORD MAYOR, order.

Councillor CASSIDY, please allow the answer to be heard in silence.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. We can all relax, he put it on his Facebook page. We can all relax.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

LORD MAYOR: Look, it’s quite clear that despite their distaste for *Living in Brisbane*, they don’t read it, because every single household in Brisbane is regularly reminded—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, point of order.

Councillor CASSIDY: I’d love to hear how successful his campaign in *Living in Brisbane* has been. If he can just tell us how many people are currently signed up to Council’s controlled early warning system, that was the question.

Chair: Yes and it relates to the campaign that’s underway to get more people to sign up. The LORD MAYOR is answering the question.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor.

Councillor CASSIDY: You just said that that was related to my question about a campaign, it wasn’t. My question was specifically how many residents have signed up to that? What the LORD MAYOR says he can say, but you can’t say that that is relating to my question, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR, do you want to add to your answer?

LORD MAYOR: Yes, sure. As you know, Mr Chair, I have five minutes and it’s important for context that I explain to Councillors that as of tomorrow we’re beginning a major campaign in the lead up to summer to get people signed up. So what we saw is a figure in February, so the sign ups or the people registered in February were 165,697 and as of yesterday the sign ups were 173,039, but that’s before our major campaign.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Yes, that’s right. I’m sure we can attribute the increase to Jared’s Facebook page, I’m sure.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, please refer to Councillors by their full title please.

LORD MAYOR: It’s got nothing to do with the fact that it has been in *Living in Brisbane*, it has been across Councillors’ social media in various other channels and as—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please.

LORD MAYOR: —and as of tomorrow we’re beginning a major campaign, which I encourage the Opposition Councillors to support rather than criticise, because it is important that everyone gets behind this and everyone understands the importance of signing up. But also in this case, we are quite clearly incentivising the program to make sure that more people sign up and that it’s not only of interest in terms of natural disasters, but also when it comes to things like high tides that happen from time to time and the summer storms that come in on a short, sharp basis across Brisbane on a regular basis. So it is good that we’ll be kicking that off tomorrow for the entire month of September. We look forward to seeing even more people sign up to this great service and certainly I would encourage Councillors across the political spectrum to encourage the community to sign up to this system.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor HAMMOND.

**Question 3**

Councillor HAMMOND: Thank you, Mr Chair. My question is to the Acting Chair of the City Standards Committee, Councillor TOOMEY. Councillor TOOMEY, Labor Councillors continue to make false claims about footpaths. Can you highlight for the Chamber Labor’s hypocrisy when it comes to footpaths and provide them advice on how to deliver new footpaths for their wards?

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Chair and can I thank Councillor HAMMOND for the question. I note with interest your strong track record in delivering footpaths to the Marchant Ward and I thank you for that. You’re right in saying that in Questions on Notice today, the response to Councillor GRIFFITHS’ questions highlights Labor’s hypocrisy.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor TOOMEY: You were the one who had the highest performance last financial year along with Councillors ALLAN, CUNNINGHAM and McLACHLAN, who have been very busy delivering on residents’ requests for new footpaths. So it was quite a shock to see just how little Labor Councillors have been doing when it comes to building new footpaths. Their record, especially shocking, given their public claims about Council not delivering enough footpaths. A mistruth they have been peddling for many, many years. Only last weekend they were complaining about not enough footpaths being delivered, surprise to no one really. Well it has been shown clearly today that their claims are entirely false. More than that, today’s response shows that when it comes to new footpaths, some Labor Councillors have not even spent—anyone guess?—a single cent on new footpaths in their wards.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: I’m struggling with the facts before me, Councillor ALLAN, I am truly struggling. As Councillor COOK—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, please.

Councillor TOOMEY: I’ll just repeat it for Councillor STRUNK because I know he’s speaking, he can’t hear. As Councillor COOK likes to say, a budget is about values and priorities, values and priorities. There is some truth in that, values and priorities. So let’s have a look at the values and priorities of Labor Councillors. When it comes to spending more than half a million dollars of funds that are allocated to them by the LORD MAYOR for projects in their ward, there’s only one Labor Councillor who managed to really deliver new footpaths last financial year and that was Councillor GRIFFITHS. Can we have a round of applause for Councillor GRIFFITHS please.

Councillor GRIFFITHS was way above all the others, he prioritised six new footpaths to be delivered in his ward. So we congratulate Councillor GRIFFITHS on that. Credit where credit is due, Councillor GRIFFITHS worked with the community to get support to install new footpaths and worked with Council officers to get them built. Now I suspect this has led the Councillor to lodge his Question on Notice which is being responded to today in the papers. He must sit in caucus and oppose this dishonest Labor strategy to say only 18 new footpaths, 18 new footpaths are being delivered, when he ensured six were delivered in the Moorooka Ward alone. These figures published today are indeed shocking, so let’s run through them. When it comes to the priority projects for footpaths in the Morningside Ward, Councillor COOK came up with one—not even one, sorry, footpath delivered last financial year.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: Yes, thank you, Councillor WINES. I could have shortened that sentence by just saying zero, but yes, my apologies for that. But she wasn’t alone. Councillor STRUNK, who we’ve heard this afternoon interjecting, saying not one footpath has been delivered in his ward, who’s meant to deliver them? Councillor STRUNK. He couldn’t manage to find a footpath to deliver at all last financial year, not one, not one.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: It was zero, it was zero. So in the footpath race we have Councillor COOK at zero and we have Councillor STRUNK at zero. That’s a pretty clear statement on their values and their priorities to me. Zero. Councillor CUMMING managed to do a little better, he worked with Council officers to build one single footpath at Natasha Street in Wynnum West. Well done, Councillor CUMMING.

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY, your time has expired.

Councillor TOOMEY: That’s a shame.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

**Question 4**

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Thank you, Mr Chairman, my question is to the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, during the February 2022 flood event this Council had only two designated evacuation centres set up for residents. These centres were inaccessible for many residents, with numerous roads cut. You have only funded two full-time positions in relation to the disaster resilience team who are looking into these situations. Can you advise how many additional evacuation centres we will have in the future and where they will be located?

Chair: Thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Well first of all, I don’t accept the claim that there’s only two people associated with this particular project. We have a well‑funded and resourced disaster resilience team or City Resilience team and so the claim—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

LORD MAYOR: —the claim on that, I would encourage everyone to treat with scepticism, because we know time and time again that Labor Councillors and Opposition Councillors come in here and they make completely false claims. When it comes to evaluation centres, we are working hard on a program which will see us very well prepared as we go into the next storm season. That will include a system of both formal evacuation centres, but also community facilities and community hubs that can also be stood up to provide local support as well. So we know that there are many organisations who are keen to help, so there is a role for them in this. Now not all of those organisations will have beds for people to stay in overnight. There will be those formal evaluation centres but there will also be a network of community hubs as well. So we are working with organisations that are interested.

We’ve already been through and scoped out and engaged with 39 different locations across the city. Now I’m not saying that there’ll be 39 evaluation centres, but these are the organisations that we’re approaching to see whether they’re interested in assisting and supporting our efforts and whether they’d be suitable to be either an evacuation centre or a community hub. So we’re working on that process now. What I can say though is that there will be additional evacuation centres compared to the 2022 flood. So there will be more centres made available and that’s what I can confirm at this point in time. But in terms of the specific locations, we’re going through the process to lock those in and we’ll be sure to let people know as soon as that process is finalised.

But it’s something like the many things we’ve been working on since the flood, there is a strong focus as part of our flood recovery, resilience and rebuilding program and it’s why we invested such a significant part of the recent budget in this process. That’s why that over the coming years there is $500 million-plus that’s been allocated to these activities and that includes a myriad of different components that we’re working on. So thank you, Councillor GRIFFITHS, for your recent interest in this matter. It’s something we’ve been working on and we didn’t need a question from you to prompt us to work on this matter.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor MACKAY, you have the floor.

**Question 5**

Councillor MACKAY: Yes, thanks Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, Councillor DAVIS. Councillor DAVIS, last week it was announced that the Queensland Government is looking at alternative options for a new inner west primary school. Can you please remind the Chamber of the Schrinner Council’s efforts in securing this outcome for the inner west community?

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair and through you, I thank Councillor MACKAY for the question, because I know how hard Councillor MACKAY has worked with his local community to ensure that their voice was heard regarding the location of the proposed new primary school. Mr Chair, there have been concerns as far back as 2020, when the State first started investigating the Toowong Indooroopilly areas for a location. Those concerns became even greater when residents became aware that the former Toowong Bowls Club site at Perrin Park was shaping up as the preferred option. Mr Chair, Councillor MACKAY has continued to be a very strong advocate for his residents through this journey and it’s been his dogged efforts in highlighting their very real concerns that in no small way has led to the Education Minister, Grace Grace, announcing last week that her department was reconsidering the decision.

Mr Chair, in February I moved a motion in Council, seconded by Councillor MACKAY, calling on the State Government to first purchase and then gift at no cost to Council new land to offset the land required for the new school. During the debate, the value of education to the community was recognised, that the State has a role in delivering educational facilities and a new primary school responded to the increased demand. However, this side of the Chamber made it very clear that ratepayers and residents should not have their greenspaces treated as a land bank by the Department of Education.

Whilst the debate centred around the proposition that the State Government should step up, identify and gift to Council the equivalent greenspace to account for the loss the construction of a new school would mean, Councillor MACKAY on behalf of his residents raised a range of issues about the inappropriateness of the Perrin Park location option. These concerns included potential traffic and congestion impacts to the local area and the proximity to the nearby sewage plant. Not to mention the flying fox camp along Toowong Creek which may present an ongoing risk if there was an increase in usage and interactions with this native fauna. That the precinct also houses our Perrin Park depot, which provides a significant footprint in the western suburbs for our Public Space Operations, as well as the State Emergency Service teams that operate from it.

But the reference he made to the fact the former Toowong Bowls Club being built in a flood zone and was so impacted from the 2011 floods that they were unable to recover, supported the local community’s position that a new school should not be built on that site. Councillor MACKAY and the residents were right to have been concerned about the flooding impacts to the parkland, because in February when the city experienced a weather event and flooding like no other, Perrin Park was significantly impacted with two metres of floodwater recorded on the site. I wrote directly to the Minister after the debate to ensure that our concerns were highlighted, but disappointingly there was no response or acknowledgement from the Minister.

Mr Chair, some may recall that the nearby Milton State School was heavily impacted by the 2011 flood and although it was built to be flood resilient, the school was cut off by floodwaters in 2022. With Perrin Park inundated with over two metres of floodwaters it would likely be the same scenario, a flood‑resilient building that could not be accessed. The Education Minister, who herself reflected upon this last week in her announcement and called it disastrous flooding. Only now has the Minister asked the Education Department to carry out further due diligence regarding whether Perrin Park remains the best site.

Furthermore, the Minister last week acknowledged that through the consultation process that the inner west community had indicated that they were not supportive of the construction of the new school at that location. Having said that, it is a great outcome that we have been able to save this land for the Toowong community and I do thank the State Government for finally listening to the concerns raised. I know that Councillor MACKAY will continue to advocate for his local community on this matter. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

**Question 6**

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. My question is to the Mayor. LORD MAYOR, it’s 2022 and the West End Library still doesn’t have a publicly available toilet at all, there’s just no toilet for the West End Library. There’s a small, very old toilet at the top of an old flight of stairs that’s available to staff only. Obviously that’s not wheelchair accessible and if ever a librarian with impaired mobility wanted to work at that facility, they wouldn’t be able to because there’s no disability accessible toilet for staff either.

So we have a library building with no toilets for the general public and no wheelchair accessible toilets for staff or members of the public. So my question to you is if you have the money for all these big road-widening projects, if you have the money for any number of other vanity projects across the city, why has your Administration still not allocated any funding to give the West End Library a toilet?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well the Councillor for The Gabba Ward would be well aware that there was an opportunity just recently that came up to have a brand new West End Library. It was in a building that was proposed by Aria that he opposed. The greenest building in the world fact, you remember that one? You remember that one? The greenest building in the world with 1,000 trees, with a new library at the base of it and he opposed it. So let’s not talk about priorities here, because we can see what the priorities of this local Councillor are and that is opposing the construction of new homes and the construction of new libraries in his ward. So this is a question that is asked with forked tongue and it is one that you can’t take the local Councillor seriously on. Because the local community could have had a brand spanking new library—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

LORD MAYOR: —and Councillor SRI opposed it.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’ve asked the Mayor a question in good faith and the Mayor knows very well that there was no serious proposal for a Council-funded library on that Aria site. So I’d ask him—

Chair: Councillor, you’re now debating your point of order.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: So I’d ask him to reflect on whether the term forked tongue is appropriate language in this Chamber and whether he could just answer the question. So it’s a point of order about both relevance and about appropriate language in this Chamber.

Chair: There’s been, LORD MAYOR, a challenge to that expression. Would you like to alter it please?

LORD MAYOR: No, not at all. I think that it’s quite clear that Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN says that he cares about certain things, but when he’s got the opportunity to actually support certain things he doesn’t. Whether that’s green and sustainable buildings with 1,000 trees on them or a new public library in his ward, he opposed it. So I would suggest that there’s a fair degree of hypocrisy in his question. I would also suggest that Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN has a really good ability to support the provision of more housing in his ward as well, which he says he cares about and instead of—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: On relevance, the question was when is West End Library—the existing West End Library, when is it getting a toilet for the public to use?

Chair: To the question, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: The existing West End Library is quite clearly not big enough to meet the future needs of the community, which is why we have identified that West End needs a new library. So when someone comes forward with a proposal to build the world’s greenest building with 1,000 trees and includes a public library at the base and then Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN opposes that, read into that what you will.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Again on relevance, the question is when is the West End Library building getting a new toilet? The LORD MAYOR is not answering the question, he’s talking about a private development proposal in another suburb. That’s a suburb of South Brisbane, that’s not even the same suburb.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

LORD MAYOR, if you can confine the answer to the particular library—

LORD MAYOR: Well apparently, Mr Chair, every suburb needs a library now. There are 190 suburbs in Brisbane and apparently they all need a library according to Councillor for The Gabba Ward. The reality is the building that I was talking about serves the same community that the West End Library does. I don’t know, can I have a show of hands? Do other Councillors have a library in every suburb? No?

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I know that those Councillors opposite have a very clear history of shutting down libraries. We remember that, they shut down libraries, they reduced the number of libraries. We have never done that. All we have done is invest in libraries—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

LORD MAYOR: —right across the city, right across the city.

Chair: Excuse me, LORD MAYOR.

Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: You’re being very lenient with the Mayor here. The question was very specific about when the West End Library will get a toilet and you are not holding him to the point. It’s a simple question, I should get a straightforward answer.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, to the question.

LORD MAYOR: Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN may want a new toilet for an inadequate library, but we want a new library. That’s what we want, that’s our priority. So he may be happy to settle for second best while he continues to oppose the construction of green buildings and new homes in his ward and new libraries now⎯add that to the list⎯but we want to see the investment in a new library, a new library. So that is our priority for his local residents and certainly adding a different toilet to what is quite clearly a small library that is not suitable for the growth of the community, is not the outcome that we’d like to see. We’d like to see a new library, which is why it is in the LGIP (Local Government Infrastructure Plan). You know that document that he likes to criticise, there’s a new library in there for his ward.

So that’s the outcome we would like to see and of course, because we are interested in making sure that we drive value for ratepayers’ money. If we can provide a new library in partnership with private funding, as was proposed here, then that could be a really good outcome that will help cut the cost down for the people of Brisbane, because you get more when it comes to this sort of arrangement. This is the smart way of doing things. This is the way that we built the library out at Wynnum. You remember that fantastic new library that was delivered by CBIC (City of Brisbane Investment Cooperation)? There was a Woolworths down below and a library up above, fantastic new facility, that’s the kind of facility that could be delivered potentially in Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN’s ward if he opened his mind to the possibilities, if he opened his eyes and stopped opposing development.

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

Councillor ATWOOD.

**Question 7**

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Chair. My question is to the Acting Chair of the City Standards Committee, Councillor TOOMEY. Councillor TOOMEY, spring cleaning will shortly begin across Brisbane and with the Schrinner Councillors making it easier for residents to dispose of their household waste. Can you please update the Chamber what offers are being made available at our resource recovery centres this coming September?

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Chair and can I also thank Councillor ATWOOD for the question.

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor.

Conversations outside please.

Thank you, continue, Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Chair. Under the leadership of the LORD MAYOR, our city has achieved a lot to create a clean and green city for future generations. We are particularly proud of the achievements we’ve made in the waste and resource recovery space. Together with our residents, we have worked hard to reduce the amount of green waste, food and household items going into landfill each year. Free hazard waste and free green waste drop-off days at Council’s four resource recovery centres are popular events that are offered to the residents of Brisbane. Councillor ATWOOD, through you Chair, you will be pleased to know that the next free drop-off for unwanted hazardous waste will be this Saturday, 3 September at the Chandler Resource Recovery Centre from 7.30am until 3.30pm. If you cannot make it that day, the next opportunity will be Saturday, 3 December at the Nudgee Resource Recovery Centre out in Councillor ALLAN’s ward.

Household hazardous waste includes items such as bleach, garden and pool chemicals, ink cartridges—which I’ve noted that Councillor WINES says we now put the toner ink into our road surfaces, so thank you very much for that initiative—batteries and cleaning solvents. It’s particularly important that these items are disposed of appropriately due to the risk that they pose to the community and to the environment. Disposing of hazardous materials in toilets, sinks, general waste or recycling bins are not safe and they can be flammable, corrosive and toxic. Residents should check Council’s website for details and acceptable items and litre containers⎯there are limits.

Mr Chair, sometimes a big garden clean-up can create a lot of waste and a free tipping weekend makes it quick and easy for residents of Brisbane to dispose of their green waste. This spring, on 10 and 11 September, our free green waste tipping weekend will be at all four resource recovery centres, allowing residents to drive in and dispose of their green waste, including palm fronds, weeds, bark and other garden waste. Properly disposing of green waste also benefits the environment, with all green waste received turned into mulch and compost is then reused—great initiative of this Council. For those residents who may not be able to participate with those dates, we have additional free green waste tipping weekends in the September school holidays. Make sure you mark your calendar weekends for 17th, 18th, 24th and 25th. So that’s 17, 18, 24 and 25 September in your diaries. Stopping green waste going into landfill and responding is part of our plan to ensure Brisbane remains clean, green and sustainable.

Outside of the green waste tipping weekends, residents can use their waste vouchers to dispose of green waste for free in order for the green waste—or order a green waste recycling bin. As September is right around the corner, residents should jump on to Council’s website to find out where their nearest resource recovery centre is. Mr Chair, it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the passion and hard work of our officers in the Waste Resource Recovery Services branch. The officers do an amazing job in this space and I want to thank them all for what they do each day for the residents of Brisbane. I would like to encourage Councillors to promote these free tipping events, as it is a great opportunity for the residents involved in contributing to making Brisbane cleaner, greener for the future generations to come. Thank, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further questions?

Councillor COOK.

**Question 8**

Councillor COOK: Thank you, Mr Chair, my question’s for the LORD MAYOR. LORD MAYOR, during the February floods, residents were lining up for three hours for sandbags in some locations. In other locations sandbags were locked away and inaccessible. There were only a handful of sandbagging machines for the entire city. This disastrous situation was because this LNP Council had no plan to deal with flooding events. LORD MAYOR, have you purchased more sandbag machines and arranged more locations for sandbag collection?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, Mr Chair, there’s several inaccuracies in that question, because we were very much going into the 2022 flood in February with a significant pile of sandbags. I’m not sure if the Labor Councillors had an interest in the lead up to that event because they certainly didn’t raise this issue then. So we can only assume that they’re talking with the benefit of hindsight⎯which is a benefit to all of us, of course⎯and is a benefit that has helped us when we’re preparing for the next storm season. So what I can confirm is that already as of today we have far more sandbags available and ready to go in a stockpile than we did in the 2022 event already, as of today, as of today. We’ll be announcing further details as well on that over the coming weeks. But certainly—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor JOHNSTON.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: We have enough machines for sandbags and certainly we have already a larger stockpile of sandbags than we did—than we distributed in fact in the lead up to the event earlier this year. So once again, these are things that we’ve been working on, these are things that we’re making sure are in order as we approach the next storm season. Residents can be confident that if they need access to sandbags there will be sandbags available and not only will be there more sandbags available than in the flood earlier this year—

Councillor COOK: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor COOK.

Councillor COOK: Very interesting but also have you purchased more sandbag machines? We heard, the LORD MAYOR said we have enough, presumably the answer is no and arranged more locations for sandbag collection. What are the locations, or none?

Chair: You’re now debating the point of order, Councillor COOK. The question related to the availability of sandbags in a storm, the LORD MAYOR is answering the question.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: I notice the question has now changed, but I’d like Councillor COOK to point to a recommendation where it says we need more sandbagging machines. Because if there was a recommendation that we need more sandbagging machines, we would have purchased more sandbagging machines. But apparently Councillor COOK knows better than—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please. Order, please.

Councillor COOK. Councillor COOK, please.

LORD MAYOR: So when Councillor COOK can point to that recommendation, I’ll be quite happy to apologise to her and say—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor COOK.

LORD MAYOR.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor COOK, please.

LORD MAYOR: We see the flood experts to my right who seem to know better than—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor CASSIDY.

LORD MAYOR: —the independent de Jersey review.

Councillor CASSIDY: There was in fact specific recommendations in the de Jersey review about the availability of sandbags in more locations. Councillor COOK asked very clearly if more machinery had been bought and where the additional locations would be.

Chair: The question is about the availability of sandbags.

LORD MAYOR.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order. Do you want the question we—re-asked? I listened very carefully to that question. It asked how many additional sandbag machines have been purchased and where the additional locations for sandbag collection will be.

Chair: The answer is being relevant to the question.

LORD MAYOR.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Well we’re hearing from the Councillor who made media comment on the review before he had actually read the review. Remember that day, when he made comments about the review when he hadn’t read the review?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, you are disrupting the meeting. I consider you’re displaying unsuitable meeting conduct, in accordance with section 21(4) of the Meetings Local Law I hereby request that you cease interjecting and conducting your unsuitable meeting conduct.

You had a point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I do.

Chair: Okay.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It is relevance. I and every resident in my ward wants to know if there are additional sandbag locations⎯people in my ward cannot get to Darra. It’s a legitimate and reasonable question and if the LORD MAYOR doesn’t know he should take it on notice so that we can communicate with our residents prior to the adverse *La Niña* event that is forecast by the BOM (Bureau of Meteorology).

Chair: Thank you. You’re now debating—

Councillor JOHNSTON: So please ask him to provide the locations as per the question.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you’re now debating the point of order.

The question related to the availability of sandbags in more locations.

LORD MAYOR, do you want to add to the answer?

LORD MAYOR: Well look, I’m not sure that the Opposition Councillors are interested in the answer. They’re just asking political questions here.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

LORD MAYOR: So if you’re actually interested.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I find that the LORD MAYOR’s comments about us not being interested in flood recovery to be offensive and are unsuitable meeting conduct and I’d ask that that is withdrawn. I absolutely want to know this information and more and I’ve even texted the LORD MAYOR while this meeting’s going on.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, the LORD—

Councillor JOHNSTON: So that’s unacceptable behaviour.

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

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: First of all, I didn’t say that any Councillor wasn’t interested in the flood recovery. I said they weren’t interested in hearing the answer, okay? So don’t deliberately twist around the things that I say for your own purposes.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Are we finished?

Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Councillors, that ends Question Time for today. Before we continue—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

**100/2022-23**

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

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, as you know, to suspend standing rules with a motion, you must establish why you weren’t able to put your motion forward on to the notice paper before 1pm today. You have three minutes to establish why 9(3) of the Meetings Local Law couldn’t be established.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I have a resident who literally yesterday asked me about this and I don’t know the answer. I thank Councillor Kara COOK for asking the LORD MAYOR the question. She is genuinely interested in trying to find out what’s happening. We’re not getting any answers from Brisbane City Council. It’s now a month ago since I asked for the documents from the Flood Recovery Taskforce and the Divisional Manager, City Administration and Governance⎯the senior, second most senior manager of this Council⎯his office is refusing to hand over any documents for me to review. Not a single document.

I’ve been asking questions, dates for the de Jersey review are coming up and we’ve just heard the LORD MAYOR here today unable or unwilling, or both, to answer Councillor COOK’s question about where the sandbag locations are. If it is the four existing depots, he needs to be clear so that we and other residents of Brisbane can take steps to deal with the situation. If there are new locations that are identified, he needs to tell our communities so that they can prepare. There’s no point keeping secret sandbag locations so that residents of Brisbane are not prepared for the floods. If the LORD MAYOR doesn’t know, he should lean over and ask the DEPUTY MAYOR, if she’s not on a junket in Korea or—

Councillor MURPHY: Point of order, Chairman.

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor JOHNSTON, point of order against you.

Councillor MURPHY: Point of order, Chair. Can we just take the temperature down a bit? I mean this is getting a bit ridiculous here. It’s just an urgency motion, let’s make it— let’s get on with the meeting.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, thank you for your point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON, your debate is to establish why you are asking for a suspension of standing rules please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Or he can lean over and ask his Infrastructure Chairman, who’s chairing the secret Flood Recovery Taskforce, or he can text one of his 20 staff, or he can text the CEO and the 9,000 staff that are in Brisbane City Council. But how hard is it to provide a list of locations for sandbag collection one day before spring in this city in response to a recommendation by the de Jersey review? Councillor Kara COOK has asked a valid question that the LORD MAYOR did not answer.

It was a simple question. He did not provide those locations. They should be on the record now, he’s had three minutes to check this after I’ve asked and it needs to be on the record now. This secrecy and political game playing is not good enough. Provide the locations, if they are the same as they always have been, great, we can take it from there. If there are new locations, our community needs to know so they can properly prepare. Provide the locations, LORD MAYOR, as a matter of urgency right now.

Chair: Councillors, 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, will you move your motion please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Shit⎯yes, thank you. My motion is that the LORD MAYOR immediately provides the locations for sandbag collection for the City of Brisbane. I would just say look, it’s a very simple question. I want to know, residents want to know if it’s existing locations, if there are new locations and I certainly welcome—

Councillor WINES: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order.

Councillor WINES: Is this the resolution or is this the debate? We just need the resolution moved and seconded, then we can move to substance.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you need to move what your motion is.

**101/2022-23**

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

*That the Lord Mayor provide a list of all existing and new sandbag collection locations in Brisbane.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, to your debate please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you very much. I again want to thank Councillor Kara COOK for asking the LORD MAYOR this question, which has exposed the problems that we have with flood recovery in this city and the problem is secrecy. I do not know why the LORD MAYOR decided to politically attack Councillors who are simply seeking information about where sandbag locations are in this city. We know that the existing locations—the closest one to me is Darra, which no one can get to in a flood—were inadequate. We know that Paul de Jersey, the former Supreme Court Justice and the Governor of Queensland, made recommendations for additional locations for residents, but we don’t know where they are, we don’t know where they are. It’s six months since the floods, Council is supposed to be providing outcomes to these recommendations pretty much from now.

We heard today that the LORD MAYOR wanted to attack Councillors for asking these questions, rather than provide the answers. It’s not complex information. If the answer had have been to Councillor COOK it’s the four ones and we’re working on another 10, I think that we might have been understanding, but he chose not to do that and he chose to attack Councillor COOK and that is wrong. We just want to know what is happening with flood recovery and we want to know what Council is doing in response to the de Jersey recommendations. I can tell you, I am asking and this Council is blocking the release of information so that we can find out what’s happening with flood recovery.

Again, I say to the Divisional Manager, City Administration and Governance, and his team, release the documents that I have called for under section 172 of the City of Brisbane Act and stop trying to hide information about flood recovery in this city. It has been weeks and they are blocking the release of the information and here we have the LORD MAYOR doing the same thing publicly. Please provide the locations. If there are some that aren’t confirmed, tell us where you’re thinking about. It might even be good to get some feedback from us as local Councillors who flooded about where it would be good to have them.

Some pop-up sandbags will be better than the shopfronts that are filled with bloody yellow balloons down there on Adelaide Street. So Council can get round and fill shopfronts up with yellow balloons, but we couldn’t possibly have a pop-up sandbag location somewhere in the wards that are going to flood that we can get to. So LORD MAYOR, you’ve had several minutes now to sort this out, where are the locations? Provide them to us or tell us when you will provide them and again, thank you to Councillor Kara COOK for asking the question. Because it is an important issue and this LORD MAYOR and this Council are hiding information and they are not sharing it with us and the community and we need transparency and accountability so that we are prepared for the storm season this year.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor LANDERS: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

**102/2022-23**

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.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 16 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Thank you.

This item is moved to the end of today’s agenda.

Councillor JOHNSTON, if you could circulate that motion please so it’s put on to the agenda for everybody to read and see.

We move on to E&C (Establishment and Coordination Committee), but before I do, before we do, I’d like to acknowledge former Councillor, Councillor Geraldine Knapp, in the Public Gallery. She told me not to do so, so that’s why I’ve done that. Thank you, everyone.

LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee report please.

## CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER), Chair of the Establishment and Coordination Committee, moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Today we’ve seen a continuation of the political strategy from the Opposition to ask a question and then not to listen to the answer of the question and just constantly interrupt, constantly interject, constantly interrupt. It is quite clear that they are not interested in the answer, they are not interested because they are constantly interrupting, they do not want to hear the answer. We’ve seen time and time again in the past where I have answered a question, they don’t listen to the answer and they continue to perpetuate the myths and lies and mistruths that they have been perpetuating, regardless of the fact that the information is provided in this forum.

Now what I can confirm and this is something that I would have said in the question if I wasn’t continually interrupted throughout the entire question, is that we have a new way of doing things with sandbags in the lead up to the upcoming storm season. What we’re going to do for the very first time ever is we’re going to have a sandbag collection during the month of September, so that people can collect sandbags in advance of any potential event. Not when it’s raining, not—

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So apparently the sandbags are available right now, from Councillor JOHNSTON. You need to tell us when they’re available. No, they’re available now. This is how ridiculous this line of questioning is. She claims that there’s sandbags available now, yet she’s demanding to know when they’re available. They’re on the Council website, Councillor JOHNSTON, like they always have been. But I can confirm that we have, as of 17 September, a super Saturday for collection of sandbags in advance. By that day we will have a collection of 150,000 sandbags available for people to take⎯150,000 sandbags. So get rid of that initial collection and we’ll get as many of those out as possible and then we will continually be making more. We have enough machines.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: I’m just really interested. Will the LORD MAYOR just take a quick question? I’d love to clarify something.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, will you take a question?

LORD MAYOR: Well I am clarifying, I am clarifying, so no, I won’t take your question. So on that super Saturday, 17 September, we will be making sandbags available at various locations around Brisbane so that people can have them in advance. So there’s not a last-minute rush when right at the point where people are concerned about flooding, but they have them in advance. More importantly as well, I’ve asked for it to be made quite clear to people, for example, through educational videos that people can easily access on the best way to use sandbags in different situations, so how to install them, how they can be used. There’s a lot that we’ve learnt from this last event and one of them is making sure that we can get these out early so that you don’t have that situation of panic right when it’s raining, where everyone’s rushing to get them. They’ll have them in advance.

People already know this year the areas that could be potentially subject to flooding, they know it because they’ve been through it. In those areas we’ll be encouraging people to get access to sandbags early. Now to put it in perspective, across the entire flood event that we had earlier this year there were 177,000 sandbags distributed. So already, as of mid-September, we will have 150,000. The vast bulk of what was distributed during the entire flood event earlier this year and that’s not it. We don’t just stop making sandbags at that point, we continue the process so that we can replenish the stockpile and have even more available.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Will the Mayor just take a quick question?

LORD MAYOR: No. So we will make sure that once we get sandbags out in that super Saturday, that we keep replenishing the stocks and that we also have more locations available as well. The other thing I wanted to point out is that every flood event, every storm event, is different. I think you can assume that we will not have the same flood event that we had earlier this year next year or this summer. It will be different, it will be different, if it happens. So there will be flood events that involve river flooding, there could be flood events that involve creek flooding, it could be different combinations. But to have the same repetition of the same weather pattern is very highly unlikely. It would be, if it happens again, a different kind of event.

We saw that between 2011 and 2022 and we saw that difference between 1974 and 2011. They are all different events and we’re making sure that we’ve got all of the bases covered when it comes to preparedness and that includes getting the sandbags out early. This is the first time we would have done this on a very large scale like this. Why? Because we have learnt lessons from the 2022 flood and we’re doing things differently. So Opposition Councillors can try and score political points all they like, but we have already amassed a stockpile of 150,000 sandbags, comparing to the total of 177,000 that were distributed across the entire event earlier this year. So the suggestion that we don’t have enough machines, I’m not aware of that claim, I am not aware of that claim. So that’s something that I’m happy to have verified by the people that know, but certainly no one has said to me that you must buy more machines for the next.

It’s things need to be done differently, lessons need to be learnt, but we have already a massive stockpile amassed and we’ll be getting that out to the community, to the people that need it. We’ll also be making sure that people are better informed on how to use sandbags effectively, because this is one of the important responses. As I said earlier, there is no single silver bullet to the issue of flooding in Brisbane. There are multiple strategies and we’re taking all of them seriously, we are responding to all of them. We’ve done an incredible amount of work to this point and that work will continue. You’ll see week after week, going forward, more information being released about different aspects of our flood preparedness as soon as it becomes ready, but there’s been a lot of work done.

The issue of evacuation centres was raised and as I mentioned, we’ve already been in touch with 39 different organisations to talk about opportunities for additional evacuation centres or community hubs. So we are doing the work and we had planned already for some time to make sure that we communicate about our Severe Weather Alert service as well, which is why tomorrow the advertising program kicks off to remind people and the incentive program kicks off to encourage more people to sign up. Yes, we have had more people sign up since the 2022 flood, but we want to have even more people on board and that’s what will happen during the month of September.

So we are working through⎯recommendation by recommendation⎯we are working through to make our city more resilient, our community more resilient and to make sure that everyone is more prepared. So we will continue to do that because it is important, as I said, that whatever might happen in this coming summer, that we are as ready as we possibly can be as a city. That’s what I have asked the CEO and all of the officers, that’s what Councillor WINES has asked the CEO and all of the officers, we are on the same page to make sure that we are as ready as we possibly can be. So while the lessons of 2022 are fresh in our mind, we’ve been taking the action that needed to be taken.

Mr Chair, the lighting up of Council assets this week. Last night and tonight the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge, Reddacliff Place and the Tropical Dome will be lit up blue, white and red to support Legacy Week. Legacy Week runs from 28 August to 3 September to raise awareness and funds to support the volunteers as they care for veterans’ families. The Legacy Week appeal has been running since the 1940s and I would also point out that as part of an arrangement that was put in place with the opening of the Legacy Way Tunnel, every year this Council donates $100,000 to Legacy as part of the arrangement from the tolls in that tunnel. So $100,000 is donated from Council to Legacy and that’s part of what I believe is a great honour, to be able to name the tunnel the Legacy Way Tunnel after that amazing organisation. So we will continue to support them through that initiative with the $100,000 in funding, which makes a real difference in the lives of veterans’ families.

Tomorrow night City Hall will be lit up in purple to support International Overdose Awareness Day. This awareness day is one of the world’s largest campaigns to end overdosing on alcohol and drugs. Tomorrow night the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge, Reddacliff Place and Tropical Dome—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**103/2022-23**

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

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Tomorrow night the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge, Reddacliff Place and Tropical Dome will be lit up in gold and green to support Wattle Day. A lot of people aren’t aware that the wattle is our national floral emblem, that’s where the green and gold colours come from. So they know our Olympic team and athletes, when they’re dressed in the green and gold, that originates from the Australian wattle. They may not know that there are also 1,000 different species of wattle or acacia that grow right across—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: The golden wattle is one of those unique ones though that doesn’t add to allergies, which is a good thing obviously. So we’re supporting Wattle Day with the lighting up of assets. On Thursday night we’ll be lighting up the Story Bridge, Tropical Dome, Victoria Bridge and Reddacliff Place in red, white and blue to celebrate National Flag Day. I have talked about my admiration for the flag and my support for the flag before. I’ve been criticised by certain Councillors for my support for the flag and I think that while everyone’s entitled to their view, we will continue to support our chief national symbol, the national flag, as a symbol that brings us together as a nation and no, we don’t have three national flags; we have one national flag. We have one national flag, Councillor CASSIDY.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR: The flag, as I’ve mentioned before, was the very first flag in the world to be designed by a national competition, where ordinary Australians had the ability to have their say on the design. On Thursday night City Hall will be lit up in blue to support Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia is the country’s leading community-based organisation for prostate cancer research, awareness and support. Also on Friday night all of the assets will be lit up in pink for what, Councillor ADAMS? What’s happening on Friday night?

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Brisbane Festival, that’s right and Councillor HOWARD is also very excited. This time we’ll see a slightly different start to Brisbane Festival. Riverfire is at the beginning rather than at the end of Brisbane Festival. So Riverfire starts the festival with a bang this Saturday night and then we’ll see many, many days after that of an amazing Brisbane Festival right across different locations in the city and suburbs and we’re proud to continue to support Brisbane Festival. Also on Saturday night the Story Bridge and Victoria Bridge will be lit up in green and gold to support the Matildas as they take on Canada at Suncorp Stadium. Then on Sunday assets will revert to pink for the Brisbane Festival again.

Item A in front of us is the amendments to the Biosecurity Plan for Brisbane and obviously this seeks to change and update our Biosecurity Plan. Under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* the State delegates Council as the responsible entity to manage invasive plants and animals in the city. So Council has been doing this under the current plan since February 2018, when it also came through the Chamber and this current plan is about updating our existing arrangements when it comes to managing biosecurity. The new plan continues on the good work of the last one, but there is an amendment which includes the removal of appendix 4, which is the NALL (Natural Assets Local Law) list, an updated classification of the yellow crazy ant, taking it from low risk to high risk, as well as various administrative changes.

The NALL being removed from the document will allow Council to add and remove items from this list without having to come back to Council each single time. It gives us the ability to adapt as new threats evolve. We know that new species of weeds or other non-natives come in and they can happen quite quickly and we need to be able to respond quickly and so this will give us the ability to do that. As a result of the yellow crazy ant being upgraded to a high risk, it allows Council to proceed with an eradication program and we’ve received a grant of $100,000 through the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative to get on with that plan. The plan will next be renewed in 2027.

Item B is the report of the Audit Committee meeting from 4 August and the Audit Committee continues to review Council’s internal audit reports, including operational risks and control measures. Throughout the year Council works with the Audit Committee and also the Queensland Audit Office, who independently ensure that we meet all of our audit requirements. This can be seen in the report today before us, with the Audit Committee receiving updates from various areas of Council, as well as representatives from the Queensland Audit Office. Finalisation of Council’s annual financial statements for the 2021-22 financial year and the final QA (quality assurance) audit was a key matter discussed in the meeting. Also of note was an update from the Chief Information Officer on cybersecurity and the continued progress on risk mitigation in this space. The work of the Audit Committee is incredibly important and we appreciate the committee and its members for their efforts.

Item C is the Cannery Creek Sewer Upgrade project involving Council consent for this project. Cannery Creek is a relatively narrow tidal creek that experiences strong flows during intense rainfalls. Since 2019, Urban Utilities and Council have been working on a solution to help manage these flooding impacts on the suburbs of Northgate and Banyo. Both Council and Urban Utilities have been working with the local community to design a nature‑based solution that helps ease the flooding issues. So maybe Hanlon Park miniature version, we are taking some of the learnings from Hanlon Park here and QUU (Queensland Urban Utilities) has been doing a fantastic job in making sure this project is a good one for the local community.

The project involves building a screening chamber, wet weather pump station, a two-kilometre pipeline, sedimentation basins and also wetland and bioretention basins. The item today grants Urban Utilities a number of easements and also a licence to enter and construct in a separate agreement involving the Commonwealth land as well. Once this has been executed, construction of the program will begin. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. I’ll speak on all these items.

**Seriatim - Clause B**

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause B, REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 4 AUGUST 2022, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks. So on item A, the amendments to the Biosecurity Plan for Brisbane, what we see here before us today is this LNP Administration designing our city’s Biosecurity Plan around the minimum requirements to receive State Government funding for the Wipe Out Weeds program basically. Also some external funding, as the Mayor has said, to do a yellow crazy ant eradication program. Don’t see any Council money going into those programs, but what we are seeing is Council’s policies and Council’s plans are now being massaged around these external funding sources, because clearly this LNP Administration is dumping all of our ratepayer moneys into these inner city programs that are sucking the budget dry.

So all those suburban communities, particularly those community groups that are working really hard about out in our bushland areas and natural environment and trying to work together as a community, are no longer really supported by this LNP Administration. They just seek to get some external grant funding to roll out programs and are redesigning whole plans around that. Appendix 4, as the LORD MAYOR has said, has been removed entirely, so we don’t have any Council-based fine-grained planning around locally invasive pest species anymore. The LORD MAYOR’s used the excuse of saying that that’s to ensure that this Biosecurity Plan can be more up-to-date than the Local Law, but then went on to say that the Biosecurity Plan won’t be updated again until 2027, which is another five years away.

So if in fact those changes needed to be made, that Natural Assets Local Law could be changed in a much more timely fashion and there are mechanisms for that to occur in this Council Chamber. So this is really just the next step in a long line of this LNP Administration whittling away the great work of previous administrations and I include previous Liberal and LNP administrations in picking up that great work that started in the late 1980s and early 1990s. But what we see before us today is the sort of lazy approach, the lazy approach of this LNP Mayor and this LNP Administration. We wouldn’t have these sorts of plans that we need to have and the community engagement and the funding for these programs if it wasn’t for the Labor administration of the 1990s, of course, Chair, which secured thousands of hectares of bushland and really got that program off and running in a really big way.

The LNP, I’m sure someone will get up and say oh no, it was Sallyanne that did all that. When you look at those bushland preservation reports, one’s come through Committee today, you see that one property that the Atkinson Liberal administration bought and then you see the thousands—because they were worried about the Greens back then, weren’t they? Everything old is new again, isn’t it, in this place when it comes to the Liberals. But the thousands and thousands of hectares that were purchased under the Soorley administration, which really got that program off and running, we now see these lazy plans that this LNP Administration brings to this place that just whittle away that good work is really quite disappointing.

The document mentions a few things that are of critical importance to our biodiversity and the future of our environment across the city and one of those is feral cats and we know that is a really big issue, but Council washes its hands all too often under this Administration around the responsibility of managing both feral cats and domestic cats that are not contained within a property. While any cat, whether it’s a feral cat or a domestic cat, is roaming our suburbs right across Brisbane and through our bushland areas, we know that thousands and thousands of native wildlife will be destroyed in that cat’s lifetime.

To see the table of responsibility, I suppose I’d call it, in this document here about whether those things need to be reported to State Government or Council and who takes responsibility for managing that, it’s like a spreadsheet, it’s all very bureaucratic, there’s no real care or concern about actually getting out and doing this work on the ground. It’s sort of a tick and flick exercise for this LNP Administration. We accept we need to have one of these plans, we will be supporting this plan today because we can’t be without a Biosecurity Plan, because this LNP Administration wouldn’t be able to go begging to other levels of government to get funding without it. We realise that money will support the great work of the community out there, but we can do so much better, we can do so much better. Labor administrations in the past have done so much better. They’ve cared about the suburbs that make up this city and the people that do that great work and we will again in the future as well, Mr Chair.

On the Audit Committee report, there’s a few interesting items in the Audit Committee report this month. Particularly about the Council’s CEO now has a conflict of interest and is now acting as the Chair of the CBIC. We of course know that this officer in Council is the one that can take direction from the LORD MAYOR and carry out the LORD MAYOR’s missives, I suppose. He really should be at arm’s lengths from those decisions that are being made, should be completely independent. That’s supposed to be the idea of CBIC, but we see in this report today, we’ve haven’t been made aware of that other than what’s in the Audit Committee report today.

The decisions that this CBIC, the City of Brisbane Investment Corporation, are making are clearly now able to be directed by the LORD MAYOR. Technically that is correct because the Chair of the Board is an officer, a senior executive in Council that can be directed by the LORD MAYOR. Now let’s not forget some of the decisions that CBIC have made in recent times. The LORD MAYOR talks a lot about Council’s roles and responsibilities when it comes to addressing the housing affordability crisis in Brisbane and says that Council is just a body that approves development and that’s about it, offers 18 homes, I think it is, to the community housing program in Council. But it was just a few years ago that CBIC using ratepayers’ money engaged in private property development.

We all remember those units they built, those luxury, high end, very expensive units over at Augustus Street, Toowong. I’m sure they made a motser speculating on the property market and driving up property prices. Well this is this LORD MAYOR’s property development company, the CBIC, making those decisions and that was sort of at arm’s length, I guess. But now we find out that Council’s CEO is the Chair of the CBIC and that’s a Council officer that this LORD MAYOR can direct to do certain things. So that’s a bit of a concern to us to find out that.

The LORD MAYOR talked about the financial statements that the Audit Committee has looked at. We all, of course, know that we will never see them again when it comes to budget reviews, particularly the final set of financial statements that we had last week in the Council Chamber here because of those decisions that this LNP Administration made to make sure that the budget remains secret, or variances, I suppose, in the budget. So they just slosh it around, what’s $100 million here or $100 million over there? Now I’m not sure whether the—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I do believe this speech is getting towards defamation or at least imputing motive and I ask him to get back to the audit.

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: Sue me, he says.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, if you can bring it back to the report please.

Councillor CASSIDY: These are political decisions this LNP Administration made. There’s no secret, there’s no secret in the way in which they have designed the budget now is that Councillors in this Chamber, unless there are overall program changes, that funding for individual items that were listed in the appendix will now no longer be brought to this Council Chamber. Now maybe they’ll be taken to the Audit Committee and discussed, but we’re never given any of that information either. That is all kept behind closed doors in an Audit Committee that has more observers than Councillors sit in this room, but none of them are us, none of them are us and we don’t get any of that information before these reports come to Council and we’re supposed to be supporting them.

I note there’s an update about Council’s EBA (enterprise bargaining agreement) in there as well, Chair, but this agreement that they’re getting an update on hasn’t even been signed off yet. This is years, this has been negotiated, so-called negotiated, for years and years. Council’s about to start another EBA negotiation with workers before the previous one was even signed off. They’re fighting workers about issues like pay and conditions, access to toilets, simple things like that. That speaks volumes about this Administration. They like to go around—the LORD MAYOR likes to use the word teal these days and wear the green jackets and the green boots, but deep down, deep down we know he is an LNP politician through and through. He is giving the marching orders, I am sure, in these EBA negotiations to drive a hard bargain. What that is impacting on is the take-home pay and the conditions of our Council workers.

Now we know how those EBAs have worked, or rather not worked, for Brisbane bus drivers, as Councillor GRIFFITHS was alluding to before, in terms of their access to basic human rights, like access to a toilet or their take‑home pay. Now what we know is because we go out and talk to bus drivers, of course, I’m not sure whether any member of the Administration—

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

**104/2022-23**

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

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you, I thank the Chamber for that ringing endorsement for a few more minutes. We go and talk to bus drivers. Now I’m not sure if members of the Administration, I’m not sure if Councillor MURPHY does or the LORD MAYOR does and talk to them about their take-home pay. Now I was talking with some full-time, permanent full-time bus drivers just a couple of weeks ago at the Virginia bus depot and over the last 10 years some of those drivers have not seen an increase in their pay.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: If it was an EBA report absolutely fine, but relevance to the very specific just one line in the Audit Committee, not about the detail, which is his argument every week, to the report.

Councillor CASSIDY: I’m giving the detail, I’m giving the update that this Council should be getting.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, where in the audit report is the consideration of the EBA?

Councillor CASSIDY: Talk about the EBA, okay. You’ll just have to bear with me, I’m going to find it for you now.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Point for the CEO’s update, Mr Jensen provided an update on Council business, including the progress update on the enterprise bargaining agreement, progress on the office relocation, accommodation requirements, so clearly Council is talking in the Audit Committee about the matters pertaining to the EBA. What is the main reason for having an enterprise bargaining agreement? It’s to set the pay and conditions of Council’s workers. Now they don’t like hearing this but it is the truth, bus drivers for the last 10 years, permanent full-time bus drivers, have not seen an increase in their take-home pay.

I’m not saying it was eaten up by inflation, I’m saying the dollar figure 10 years ago on their payslip is the same as the dollar figure on their payslip today. Because every time those hard-fought wins are made, whether it’s a 2 or 2.5% or 2.75% increase each year in those EBAs, their rosters are fiddled with and they’re played around with. Those broken shifts are longer, which are only on half pay and their take-home pay is eroded. These are the decisions that are being made by this LNP Administration that have been in power for far, far too long. They are being more political, they are being more true to their LNP masters than they are to the workers in Brisbane City Council.

This report also mentions a significant cyber risk. We remember—we don’t know exactly—remember what—know what the cyber risk is, it doesn’t really talk about that, but we do know some of the cyber risks that this Administration has faced over the last couple of years. It could be talking about that, who knows? But Council, remember, was ripped off for half a million dollars, I think it was a Nigerian prince, I think, got them that time. So this high-profile organisation was done by scammers. We certainly hope that those practices have been tightened up over the last couple of years and ratepayers aren’t footing the bill for fraud being perpetrated against this Council.

The Audit Committee also noted lessons learnt from the Metro project. It will be very interesting to see if—so the Queensland Audit Office were very interested in this one when they were observing, according to the minutes before us today. We wonder whether they think that was a well-budgeted and well-run project, considering it went from, was it $944 million to $1.7 billion currently today? Currently, at the moment, let’s see where that lands, it’s collapsing Adelaide Street left, right and centre, causing mass carnage to public transport users on the network and it’ll deliver, what is it, 60 Swiss‑made buses? That’s right, yes, which will increase, I think, the peak hour capacity by about 1,500 seats or something like that, for $1.7 billion. I’m sure they didn’t form a very positive view of that project.

Finally, on Cannery Creek project, I’d just like to put on record my thanks and congratulations to Leanne Linard, the State Member for Nudgee, for getting this project off the ground with Urban Utilities. What this report shows is that this LNP Administration’s happy to let this project happen, but we know at the northside that that community wasn’t very well represented by their local LNP Councillor, Councillor Adam ALLAN, who has absolutely been dragging his feet on this project. I’ve seen the chatter, don’t worry, Councillor ALLAN, I know that Leanne Linard, the State Member, was out on the front foot working with the community while the local LNP Councillor was running and hiding on this.

We know why, because this LNP Administration is so reliant on every bit of external funding they can get other than ratepayers, because we know they’re jacking up rates, almost seven per cent in some suburbs, of an average of five per cent. People aren’t getting good value for money out of those rates. But what we also know is that this budget has got so big because of projects like the Metro that this LNP Administration needs to get external sources of revenue as well. We know what one of those is, we know what the big cash cow for this LNP Administration is, it’s our 85% stakeholder—85% share as a stakeholder in Urban Utilities.

We know that that $200 million comes in each and every year and we know, some of us who have conversations around the place, know that Urban Utilities were a bit worried about that level of profit being taken out of the business, because it was impacting on their ability to deliver the infrastructure upgrades that needs to happen around our city and neighbouring councils as well that are shareholders in Urban Utilities. But we know this LNP Administration is desperate for every cent they can get from every source, because they’re wasting ratepayers’ money on these inner city white elephants like the Metro.

So without the advocacy of people like the State Member for Nudgee in getting this project off the ground, we know these things just simply wouldn’t happen if it was left to LNP Councillors, who are seeking to take as much profit as they can and driving up the cost of water bills for residents out in the community. So we certainly support this and congratulate Leanne Linard once again on making sure that this project has got off the ground and there was genuine community consultation around what the community wanted. Making sure that there were genuine suburban benefits when it comes to addressing flooding.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Well thank you, Mr Chair and I rise to speak on item A, the Biosecurity Plan for Brisbane. Mr Chair, under the Queensland Biosecurity Act, Council must update its Biosecurity Plan every five years. This update is very necessary to ensure that Council can continue to deliver in relation to invasive species management responsibilities under the Act, as well as the programs that we undertake which are unique in Brisbane. It’s been very disappointing to have to sit here and listen to the waffle from the Opposition Leader of the work that PPI (Program Planning and Integration) do in terms of our Wipe Out Weeds program, which is fully funded under the Bushland Preservation Levy, was really disappointing. Because it also reflects on the really hard work of our habitat groups that work on concert with Council officers to deliver on that program.

Mr Chair, the updated plan is substantially the same as the existing plan, with only small changes of an administrative nature, including the title and the inclusion of the yellow crazy ants and the removal of appendix 4. There aren’t any other obligations for members of the public under the plan. So the work currently being undertaken by Council to protect Brisbane’s biodiversity willing to continue will include, as I said, the Wipe Out Weeds program in our parks and natural assets, ensuring Moreton Island remains toad-free and managing aquatic weeds through weevils grown at Council’s innovative biocontrol facility.

With regards to yellow crazy ants, we’re taking further steps to respond to threats in the updated plan. The yellow crazy ant will be reclassified as high risk to reflect the species management as a top priority for Council. Yellow crazy ant has significant biodiversity impacts and is listed as one of the world’s first 100 worst invasive species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Yellow crazy ants are known to swarm in super colonies. Instead of biting or stinging they spray formic acid as a defence and to subdue prey. This acid can be lethal to wildlife, including birds and marsupials and can require medical attention in humans.

Yellow crazy ants are also known to farm sugar secreting scale insets and encourage the growth of sooty moulds which can cause dramatic impacts on our vegetation. This in turn leads to habitat destruction and food scarcity for other native animals, such as koalas, possums and flying foxes. Following a successful Queensland Feral Pest Initiative grant, Council will begin a trial eradication program of the yellow crazy ant under the updated Biosecurity Plan before us. The program will commence in September 2022 until December 2027, across three significant infestations at The Gap, in Acacia Ridge and in Stafford.

Mr Chair, with regards to the removal of appendix 4, this came following consultation with CARS (Compliance and Regulatory Services) to remove the list from the new plan, but it will be made publicly available on the corporate website alongside the Biosecurity Plan. While it was originally thought that the inclusion of the list would provide CARS officers with greater weight managing these species, the inclusion of the list within the plan itself has in fact made it more challenging to respond to biosecurity developments as it can’t be modified without coming through Council. So these species will continue to be managed by Council under the NALL, with greater flexibility to efficiently respond to emerging biosecurity threats. But I think it’s really important, Mr Chair, to share with the Council that the Biosecurity Plan in front of us allows us to go beyond what the State law requires of us. So the laws are prescriptive of nature and we are required to adhere to them. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, I rise to speak on item A. Firstly, can I just say regarding the Biosecurity Plan and Council’s on the ground practical land management for weeds, that it is grossly inadequate and has been for many years. Every year in the information request sessions I ask for a list of the Wipe Out Weeds projects. There’s usually somewhere between $2 million and $3 million in funding annually provided for weed removal, which is grossly inadequate. The people who do the hard work in our community are actually bushcare groups and I have a number of active bushcare groups in my area. They are out there every weekend, every month⎯the creek carers in my area are out every week, pulling weeds out. They are doing Council’s job for them and they are doing it as unpaid labour. It is just not acceptable that it is down to the same volunteers to do this work.

It is incredibly difficult to get Council to manage weed infestations on public parkland and again, I had officers out⎯it’s about the third time since I inherited the Colwel Street Park in Oxley. It was in an horrific state when I first saw it, it’s right on the banks of Oxley Creek. Council did some clean‑up but they still haven’t got rid of all the invasive weeds that are out there and they started encroaching well into the park yet again. But the bigger problem here is what Council says in this actual plan itself⎯and I’m just on page 30, which is the biosecurity surveillance program objectives for high-risk species in Brisbane. The high-risk species are a lot of the most common and invasive weeds, as you might expect, including things like cat’s claw, which are really nasty, out my way.

But the operational objective of Council’s weed management strategy is—and I quote—to manage, eradicate and respond to high-risk species. So that’s great, the word eradicate appears in Council’s process. Now managing weeds is often very difficult, I appreciate that⎯that implies it’s ongoing. Eradicating weeds though is pretty clear, it wants to get rid of these weeds in certain areas. Now I then go to page 34, which is the Management Strategy for the surveillance and treatment of weeds on Council land. This is finer grain detail about what Council’s going to do and this is where the problem arises. It states that collectively this information is used to identify—and I quote here—the highest value sites that warrant the greatest protection and investment, with focus also given to the management of the source of the infestation.

Now very clearly Council is saying that it is only some—and I quote, high-value sites that this Council is going to use its weeds strategy effectively—well I don’t even think it’s effectively—to manage. So what is a high-value site? That’s not public information, that’s not in this report. I think all the public spaces in my ward are high-value sites, including Oxley Creek, which when it is overgrown, causes enormous problems for local residents. It blocks open drains, it impacts on wildlife, it blocks the creek itself, it blocks easements, it causes problems for wildlife, you name it. We’ve got areas along the Brisbane River corridor⎯which again I think would be a high-value site⎯where Council I don’t think has ever done any weeding whatsoever.

Now we’ve just had a major landslip in one of these areas and I’ve been able to see again a site I inherited from another ward. I’ve been able to see the extent of the weeds in this area in the Brisbane River corridor. I do not think what Council says it’s going to do and what it actually is doing marries up and the proof is here on page 34. So I say to Councillor DAVIS that my next question out of all of this is going to be what are the highest value sites? Who are the winners that you are going to pick to have weed management undertaken? What about all those areas out there that aren’t really fancy but are absolutely overgrown by weeds? Drains in Yeronga, drains in Oxley, river corridor areas all the way through Carinda and Oxley and you name it. I’ve got so many of these areas where weeds are a massive, massive problem and invasive weeds. So, what are the highest value sites? Why is it that our stated objective is to manage and eradicate invasive weeds but then in the fine print, you say you’re only going to do it on high-value sites? That is not acceptable. If we’re accepting a biodiversity plan that says we are going to eradicate these species—and they’re listed in here in terms of their significance, from high significance through to low significance—the objective should be to deal with those of the most severity that are having the most impact on our local community.

Instead, I presume that high-value sites means marginal LNP wards because that’s the way this LNP Administration runs this Council budget generally.

Councillor TOOMEY: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Mr Chair, I struggle to see why that side of the Chamber seem to continually try and change definitions. High-value site has a definition; it’s a high-value site. It doesn’t mean LNP wards. Can we bring it back to a proper debate, please?

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, to the content of this report, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I think anybody reading this report will know I’m speaking directly to it and again, I point you to page 34 where the fine print is. What are the highest value sites? What are they, Councillor TOOMEY? You’re the Deputy Chair of City Standards. I would like to know what these sites are because I know where I ask for weed management and I know what happens, which is pretty much nothing, or I’m told, oh, your bushcare group’s doing that. I know how hard they work because I’m out there supporting them, but what I don’t know is what the highest value sites that warrant—that warrant—the greatest protection.

Where are they? Where is the list? Where is the list? If it’s not marginal LNP wards, what is it? Provide the list to us. Be transparent. Publish it on the website. Publish it as another appendix to this plan. But what I want to know is that when we log jobs for weed eradication—and we’ve had a fight at the end of Logan Avenue in Oxley just to get Council to acknowledge that it’s a Council drain that needs to be cleared out and it is chock-a-block full of invasive species. Chock-a-block. I don’t even know that this is going to get fixed within the next year, let alone any time before the storm season.

So, the devil is in the detail here. If you have these highest value sites that warrant the greatest protection, what are they? What are the criteria? Are they the areas of significant—what is it—ecological significance, the high categories of ecological significance in City Plan? Is it those? Is it some sort of independent measure that we can point to, to say, yes, it’s these areas, it’s the Brisbane River corridor? Because they are the places where I want to see this money being spent.

I’ll finish where I started, which is the $2 million to $3 million a year that Council spends on Wipe Out Weeds is grossly inadequate. Grossly inadequate. The fight that we had for about three years to try and get the riverbank at Yeronga cleaned up was just extraordinary. Residents went to the Ombudsman⎯I think residents went to the Ombudsman. It is a battle on every occasion with this Council to try and get action. What we need is clarity. We need KPIs and we need accountability in how these programs are delivered.

So, Councillor DAVIS, if you think that trying to get some duck crossing signs is going to be a complicated issue, you’ll be getting this as the next question.

Chair: Councillor HUANG.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item B of the E&C report, report of the Audit Committee from 4 August 2022. This is the report of Council’s Independent Audit Committee meeting, held on 4 August this year and which is presented to Council in accordance with our City of Brisbane Regulation obligations. Our Audit Committee has oversight of Council’s internal audit reports on operational risks and control measures. There’s a significant amount of work done by the Independent Audit Committee to ensure Council’s effectively managed on behalf of the ratepayers of Brisbane.

The Audit Committee is independent of the business of Council with its responsibilities and scope outlined in the Brisbane City Council Audit Committee Charter. The Audit Committee has oversight and advisory responsibilities under this charter and pursuant to section 201 of the Regulation. This includes reviewing and providing recommendations on internal audits and progress on previous reports, the annual financial statements and the QL audit report.

In the report before us today, we can see the Audit Committee received updates from the various areas within Council as well as representatives from the Queensland Audit Office. The finalisation of Council’s annual financial statement for the 2021-22 year and the final QL audit were the key focus areas. I thank the members of the Audit Committee and our internal auditors for their important work and I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. I just rise to speak on the biosecurity policy amendment and I just wanted to highlight two fairly minor issues, maybe in the context of things. The first is it’s not really mentioned in this document because it’s a little bit—the document’s a bit high level—but I’m seeing a significant problem and bushcare groups are raising it with me and a whole bunch of environmentalists are raising it with me that Council contractors are often inadvertently spreading invasive weed species when they mow one park or they whipper snipper one park and then carry seeds to another area.

So, I just wanted to make sure that that was on the Chair’s radar. It’s I think something that could be looked at more closely in terms of the standards we set for Council contractors and maybe just a little bit of education. Often, it’s the crews on the ground who maybe don’t realise what they’re doing but if the bushcare groups in my area can point to a few examples where weed species have been introduced to a park or a bushland area by Council maintenance crews or subcontractors of Council. I think the Council officers themselves are probably more alert to this risk and it’s probably some of the private contractors who are more likely to be guilty of this.

It’s not something that’s directly mentioned in the report so I just wanted to make sure that the Council is aware of this concern from community groups and maybe the Chair could just reassure me in the closing remarks that this is something that is being considered and looked into where possible.

I also just wanted to point out that the document in terms of identifying invasive species appears to conflate the dingo with wild dogs. This has been the subject of a lot of commentary and debate in environmental conservation circles and the general consensus is that the dingo is a native species and the wild dogs that are descended from domestic dogs are not. But this document appears to conflate the two and says, look—it basically applies the same goals and objectives to both dingos and dogs that aren’t dingos. Maybe that’s an area for further reform and for the Council to investigate in greater detail.

I presume there aren’t many dingos around the Brisbane Local Government Area but the fact that we don’t distinguish in our own strategies and documents is perhaps something that needs to be looked at because I for one would be quite concerned if the Council was trying to exterminate or relocate or whatever native dingos because native dingos are just treated as wild dogs. They are different species, they play different roles in our ecosystems and in this document at least I don’t see that distinction being drawn.

It’s pretty clear there from the—I don’t have the page number now in front of me, I was reading it before—it’s pretty clear from the way this document is written that there isn’t that clear distinction between dingos and wild dogs and that’s something that I’d hope Council officers would look at in future, particularly in terms of how we manage those known species. Ideally, we should be undertaking some genetic testing of wild dog populations and identifying to what extent they could reasonably be described as dingos versus—I think it’s *Canis familiaris*, is the scientific name for the domestic dog.

Ideally, that’s what we’d be doing. I accept that we might not have the resources to do that alone but there are State Government projects and partnerships that could be explored here so that if there are dingos in any of Council-controlled parks or recreation reserves, we can identify them as such and not find ourselves poisoning native animals because we think they’re feral dogs, when actually they’re native species. Thanks.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. I just rise to provide further information and clarity around item C, the Cannery Creek Sewer Upgrade project⎯Council consent. So, this is a major sewerage upgrade being facilitated by Urban Utilities, or Queensland Urban Utilities for the true believers. The corridor requires Council’s consent so this group has to approve the use of this space for this sewerage easement upgrade. So, to provide further context to the Council, this is a Council-owned land and the Council also holds parts of it in trust on behalf of the Federal Government.

We need to provide this consent to allow this important triparted agreement to occur. The project will take 2.5 years to complete. What is it that we’re trying to address or what is it that Queensland Urban Utilities is trying to address? So, during a deluge or a heavy rainfall, the sewerage infrastructure is at capacity or can be at capacity, which means there is a risk that waste may overflow from this site into either Council land or potentially onto private property, something which is not acceptable to me and I hope not acceptable to other members of the Council.

It’s been a longstanding issue at this particular location and there has been consensus now between Urban Utilities, the Federal Government and the Council that this work is both necessary and beneficial for both local residents and the public space around them. This is the kind of work that we do continually, however, as I said, a 2.5-year project that requires Council’s consent to use the land is on the larger end. However, it’s important to take a moment to reflect that ongoing upgrades of sewerage is a fundamental part of what Council is able to provide through one of our subsidiaries.

The creek banks will be rehabilitated and beautified, including the construction of a new shared path. QUU has also worked with Council and the community to design a number of nature-based solutions involving the construction of a screening chamber, wet weather pump stations through that two-kilometre pipeline, sedimentation basins and there’s also a final wetland and bioretention basin, so this is a way of preserving and protecting both the natural environment, the public amenity but also the actual physical asset itself.

A number of those items are there to make sure that the issue of potential damage to the sewer line is reduced through major events. Local consultation occurred in 2019 with about 4,500 notices sent out to locals to participate in the ongoing information process and there has been ongoing consultation since that time. The feedback has been largely positive and people are looking forward to the work and we can also credit local residents as being those who came up⎯and they can be credited with the proposal for the nature-based solution, along with another group of initiatives in that area to make it even more attractive and pleasant.

Considering what could happen, it would be far more attractive and available to the public for their enjoyment. Can I encourage all Councillors to support item C when it’s proposed later on?

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to add a local context to item C, the Cannery Creek Sewer Upgrade project. The project, as Councillor WINES indicated, was initially initiated in early 2019. I’ve been quite close to this project since that time. Cannery Creek is a challenging environment in the Northgate Ward. It’s worth bearing in mind for the benefit of the Chamber that Cannery Creek was previously known as Cannery Drain and the naming was changed to Cannery Creek by my predecessor.

Cannery Creek, as it’s now known, is in fact a tidal stormwater drain that is bordered on one side by industrial businesses and on the other by residential homes. Over the years, there have been a number of challenges that have emerged in this location. Firstly, in heavy rain events stormwater can infiltrate the sewer system, which results in sewerage entering people’s properties, yards and the creek itself and can contribute to strong odours in the area. Secondly, the creek adjoins an industrial area and there is risk of contaminants entering the creek from these adjoining industrial businesses.

In recent times, we’ve identified instances where contaminants have escaped from those businesses and we have an ongoing process to monitor contaminants from those businesses and we work in conjunction with the Department of Environment and Science. Thirdly, as it’s a tidal drain, which is tidal to Shaw’s Canal, the drain has become inundated with mangroves, which create odour problems when the pods drop in warmer months.

As the drain is tidal in nature, the water velocity is very low so the ability of the tide to clear these pods out is minimal and that can create quite significant odour problems. The only time these pods can effectively be cleared from the drain is during heavy rainfall. Now, the project that is being progressed by Urban Utilities will alleviate these problems and will use both green and traditional infrastructure. It will deliver a much better environmental outcome for the community.

It will also deliver some great public realm outcomes, including dual shared pathways on either side of the creek and a new footbridge to improve public accessibility to what will be a much-improved public asset. It will provide improved connectivity to Progress Park and between Earnshaw Road and Nudgee Road. The project has been actively supported by a number of stakeholders, including the community via the Community Planning team, Council, State and Federal agencies and Urban Utilities contractors and consultants.

Now, Councillor CASSIDY indicated that the local State Member had been a key catalyst in this project and I suspect he’s living in some sort of a parallel universe. I’ve been involved in this project since the very beginning in 2019 and other than Urban Utilities having the grace to provide the local State Member with updates on this project, I’m not aware of her having had any contribution at all. Importantly, in today’s submission, the State Government isn’t even mentioned, so honestly, this notion that the State Member was instrumental in this as I said is absolute nonsense.

Now, moving on. The Urban Utilities delivery partner, which is Fulton Hogan, have commenced initial works on the site. They are there now. As the local Councillor, I’ve seen the challenges in this location. I’m delighted to see that the work has now commenced. It is a long project; it will take a little while to land, but what I am confident of is that we are going to have a terrific community outcome in this location and I commend the resolution to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further debate?

LORD MAYOR, summing up?

LORD MAYOR: No.

Chair: Okay. Thank you.

We now move to the vote on these items in the E&C report. Item B is seriatim for voting so move for a vote on items A and C, items A and C.

**Clauses A and C put**

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

Chair: Item B.

**Clause B put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 16 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Kara COOK, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN and Nicole JOHNSTON.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A AMENDMENTS TO THE BIOSECURITY PLAN FOR BRISBANE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE BIOSECURITY PLAN FOR THE BRISBANE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA)

**131/625/273/185**

**105/2022-23**

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

2. The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) delegates responsibility to local governments to undertake activities relating to the management of invasive plants and animals. Since its enactment, this responsibility has been delivered in accordance with the current *Biosecurity Plan for the Brisbane Local Government Area* which was approved by Council on 6 February 2018 (the Current Plan).

3. Council has been managing Queensland Government declared invasive species through programs, such as pest management activities and the Wipe Out Weeds program, since this time.

4. The biosecurity programs included in the Current Plan expire in December 2022, and an update is required to continue to deliver the Council’s statutory obligations under the Act.

5. In addition, a new biosecurity program is required to be endorsed to deliver a Queensland Government‑funded grant for the management of yellow crazy ants.

6. Minor amendments have been proposed including a change of title to the *Biosecurity Plan for Brisbane* (the Plan) (refer Attachment B, submitted on file) as well as:

- slight editorial amendments

- amendments to the pest fauna species list

- amendments to biosecurity prevention programs

- amendments to the appendices including the removal of Appendix 4: List of locally significant pest vegetation species managed under the *Natural Assets Local Law 2003*

- providing clarity on Council’s responsibilities in relation to responding to the Commonwealth’s Threat Abatement Plan in relation to cane toads on Mulgumpin (Moreton Island).

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A  
Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE *BIOSECURITY PLAN FOR BRISBANE* (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE *BIOSECURITY PLAN FOR THE BRISBANE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA*)**

As:

1. pursuant to section 53(1) of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act), Council is required to have a biosecurity plan for invasive biosecurity matters for its local government area
2. section 54 of the Act requires Council to keep a copy of its biosecurity plan available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public
3. Council must, by resolution, authorise a biosecurity program containing the information required under section 236(1) of the Act,

then Council:

1. approves the amendments to the *Biosecurity Plan for Brisbane* (the Plan) as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file)
2. approves the provision of the Plan to the Director-General of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for the authorisation of programs in accordance with section 239 of the Act
3. approves the public release of the Plan.

**ADOPTED**

#### B REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 4 AUGUST 2022

**109/695/586/6-003**

**106/2022-23**

9. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

10. 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.

11. 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.

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

13. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 4 AUGUST 2022, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A** (submitted on file)**.**

**ADOPTED**

#### C CANNERY CREEK SEWER UPGRADE PROJECT – COUNCIL CONSENT

**161/20/439/517**

**107/2022-23**

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

15. The Cannery Creek Sewer Upgrade project by Urban Utilities (UU) will combine both green and traditional infrastructure and includes building a screening chamber, a wet weather pump station, a two kilometre pipeline, sedimentation basins, and final wetland and bio-retention basins. These works will divert wet weather flows from the Virginia branch sewer to a new wetland and prevent uncontrolled sewer overflows onto private properties and public areas near Cannery Creek.

16. In addition to reducing uncontrolled wet weather overflows onto private property, the project objectives include delivering better environmental outcomes, and enhancing liveability for the communities local to Cannery Creek.

17. UU has engaged the local community of Cannery Creek since 2019 when a Community Planning Team (CPT) was formed. Approximately 4,000 invites were sent out to the local community, of which 25 residents responded and formed the CPT. The CPT has been actively involved in shaping the concept design of the project.

18. To facilitate construction of a sewerage rising main and sediment basin, UU requires the following from Council.

- The granting of easements to UU for sewerage purposes, over Council land described in Attachment B (submitted on file).

- The authority to temporarily occupy Council land described in Attachment B (submitted on file).

- Council entering a Tripartite Deed of Consent between the Commonwealth of Australia, UU and Council over land held in Trust by Council, being part of the Kedron Brook Floodway Park and described as Lot 3 on SP272478 and Lot 32 on RP208498 (Trust Land). This relates to land that the Commonwealth of Australia transferred to Council by way of a Trust Deed and will effect the Commonwealth’s consent to Council allowing UU’s works on the Trust Land as required under the Trust Deed.

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

20. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A  
Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANTING OF EASEMENTS, LICENCE TO ENTER AND EXECUTION OF A TRIPARTITE DEED OF CONSENT TO FACILITATE URBAN UTILITIES CONSTRUCTION OF THE CANNERY CREEK SEWER UPGRADE PROJECT**

Council approves:

(i) the execution of an agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia and Urban Utilities, to obtain the Commonwealth’s consent under the Trust Deed for Urban Utilities’ development works and Council’s granting of access and easements to Urban Utilities on the Trust Land, on terms acceptable to the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance.

(ii) the granting of easements to Urban Utilities on Council land described in Attachment B on terms acceptable to the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance, and the Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure and in accordance with the easement plans noted in Attachment C, with any amendments to those plans acceptable to the Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure.

(iii) the granting of a Licence to Enter and Construct to Urban Utilities on land described in Attachment B on terms acceptable to the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance, and the Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure and in accordance with the access plans noted in Attachment C, with any amendments to those plans acceptable to the Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| --- |
| **108/2022-23**  At that time, 3pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the meeting adjourn for a period of 15 minutes, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors locked.  Council stood adjourned at 3.02pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Thank you, Councillors.

DEPUTY MAYOR, the report of the Economic Development and Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee meeting please.

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

The DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), Civic Cabinet Chair of the Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. First of all, my update on the mentoring programs and workshops coming up in the next week at the Hub. On the 31st which is tomorrow at 9am, How to Motivate and Manage High Performing Teams in 2022, it’s an interactive workshop about the power of the Sparketype framework, being presented by Anna Hebron, certified Sparketype advisor. On 6 September at 9am, How to overcome Cognitive Overload to Refocus your Business, an informative session to teach participants a clear set of tools to help improve productivity and refocus your business. That’s being presented by Co-Lab People & Culture.

Also on the 6th at 12.30 to 2pm, Pitch Like A Pro, an interactive workshop sharing some of the tools and tactics the advertising world applies to get buy‑in from people that matter most. That is being delivered by Pitch Camp, so again we thank our business experts and partners on the delivery of these free programs for all businesses across Brisbane. We hope they can get on to businessinbrisbane.com.au and go to workshops and events to figure out what is on in our fantastic Business Hub.

I also wanted to mention, just as we’re heading into the last day of our Rediscover Brisbane campaign that has been held on the Brisbane app over the last month, where we have had an opportunity to enjoy a tourism experience right across Brisbane for just $20. So every morning at 10 o’clock a visitor experience came online and if you were the first ones in for however many were on offer that day, you would get that experience for $20. There have been some fantastic experiences: trips to Tangalooma, beer tours through Felons, winery tastings through City Winery, hot air balloons, climbing the Story Bridge, just to name a few.

But it is about the support that our local businesses will get. These are all local tourism experiences but from the business app and those that are on the business app we have had an increase of 94,500 from December 2021, but 140% increase since the Rediscover Brisbane from the same three-week period in the previous month. So at the moment, at 10am in the morning 600 people per minute are opening the Brisbane app at 10am to find out what deals are on offer. I can assure you on Day 30 that every deal has sold out to date. So those who were lucky enough to get a $20 deal have until 31 December to actually use those deals and I’m hoping that means people will go out, have an experience and spend a bit of extra money in our beautiful city as well.

So there was actually also growth with our guide views off the back of Rediscover Brisbane as well. So we had 29,500 guide views were tracked the weekend of 26 August. That was a 63% increase compared to the same week last month as well and a total of nearly 75,000 guide views, which is an increase of 515% from the same three-week period the month before that. So it is campaigns like this that not only promote Brisbane and what there is to see and do that get people on to the app and then also get supporting all of those businesses that have registered themselves on the app. Again I ask Councillors, as I know those opposite, particularly the only one that is here opposite, Councillor STRUNK, has done a great job of promoting the app and letting their businesses know that it is there for them to use for free advertising to promote what they do in the What’s On to see in Brisbane.

Last week’s Committee presentation was about the Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct, which is a 29-hectare once-in-a-generation opportunity to utilise an entirely government-controlled land to create one of the most accessible sporting facilities in the world. We have worked very hard with Brothers Rugby Club and Queensland Cricket to create the Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct and look forward to continuing our discussions that we’ve been having with the State Government, other key stakeholders and Games partners to progress this concept.

We know through the future host agreement that this is the new proposed Brisbane Indoor Sports and Para Centre, but it could be an absolute landmark all-abilities venue that will accommodate basketball, wheelchair basketball, goalball, netball, volleyball, badminton facilities and a para-athletic training gym. The sports centre would be one of the most accessible all ability sporting facilities in Australia and it would be built to globally recognised accessibility standards. So the proposed centre at the moment, we are proposing to build it on the Brothers Club site at Crosby Park. Brothers Club relocated to Breakfast Creek on the other side of the precinct⎯which, through you Mr Chair, an avid supporter of Brothers Rugby Club, makes you that little bit closer to the Breakfast Creek Hotel, which I don’t think anybody’s complaining about⎯as well as new facilities and additional sporting fields as well.

So as the centre of Olympic basketball and Paralympic wheelchair basketball events, the centre will need a 12,000 person seating capacity. Let’s be totally honest here, this greenspace is extremely vital with the development and the growth we’ve seen in that inner north precinct over the last few years. Bowen Hills around the RNA (Royal National Agricultural) and the Northshore Hamilton PDAs (priority development areas) have resulted in a massive undersupply of additional greenspace for sporting facilities and parkland in these areas. If we were to adhere to Council’s desired standard of service, as we do in all of our neighbourhood plans, Bowen Hills should have contributed 111 hectares of new sport local and district parkland, but they only delivered six. That is right, six hectares instead of 111.

Hamilton Northshore should have contributed 68 hectares, but delivered five, with another 3.9 in the plans. So Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct, as we are proposing, would result in a 185% increase in public greenspace. Crosby Park parkland, dog off-leash areas to be retained, additional greenspace added, a generous green corridor connecting Crosby Road right through to Breakfast Creek and 130% increase in community sporting facilities and fields in an area that addresses not only their community need for indoor sports and sporting fields in the inner north, but gives us a fantastic legacy from the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I’ll leave the report to the Chamber, thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any debate? No debate.

We now move to the vote on the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Jared Cassidy.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BREAKFAST CREEK SPORTS PRECINCT

**109/2022-23**

1. The Legacy and Precinct Planning Manager, Brisbane 2032 Host City, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct concept. She provided the information below.

2. A comparison of the size and scale of Brisbane to the Olympic Cities of London, Paris and Los Angeles demonstrated that although the size of each city is similar, the population of the City of Brisbane is significantly less. Maps showing the locations of Olympic Games venues in proximity to the Host Cities of Sydney, London, Paris and Brisbane demonstrated that Brisbane’s Olympic venues are relatively dispersed in comparison to London and Sydney, however is similar to Paris.

3. The venues for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (the Games) are concentrated within the City of Brisbane. Of the 32 competition venues, 18 will be located in Brisbane and 56% of events will be held within five kilometres of the Brisbane CBD.

4. An aerial image of the venue master plan for inner Brisbane identifying proposed locations of various existing, upgraded, new and temporary facility was shown to the Committee. The proposed new centres are the Brisbane Indoor Sports and Para Sports Centre, the Brisbane Arena and the Athletes Village.

5. The Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct (the precinct) concept site plan demonstrates key sites, transport facilities and features of the precinct. Site ownership of the precinct is shared between Council and the Queensland Government.

6. A comparison of the IOC endorsed plan and the precinct’s proposed concept plan was shown to the Committee, which displayed the new proposed layout and locations of the Brisbane Indoor Sports and Para Sports Centre, Allan Border Field, Brothers Rugby, baseball and multisport fields, cricket, netball and volleyball facilities, public and active transport connections and car and bus parking with driver amenities.

7. Concept plans of the Brisbane Indoor Sports and Para Sports Centre was shown to the Committee, demonstrating the features to be used at the Games and its legacy. Cross-sections of the centre show the dimensions and scale of the facilities and topography.

8. Key benefits of the precinct are:

- 29 hectares of sustainable sport and recreation facilities

- a new Brisbane Indoor Sport and Para Sports Centre

- an increase of 185% in public greenspace

- an environmentally sustainable and efficient design

- an increase of 130% in community sporting facilities and fields

- improved car parking facilities

- improved access and public transport connectivity

- reduced lighting and noise impacts.

9. Stakeholder engagement was undertaken with existing tenants, partners of the Games, Urban Utilities, the Queensland Government, Members of Queensland and Federal Parliaments, businesses and community organisations. The precinct will be promoted to the community via the Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct concept webpage on Council’s website, and a newsletter that will be distributed and available.

10. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Legacy and Precinct Planning Manager for her informative presentation.

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, Transport Committee report please.

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Ryan MURPHY, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Transport Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thanks, Chair. Look, the Schrinner Council is all about delivering safe and efficient transport networks so people can get home quicker and safer. Right across the city we are working on projects to ensure our transport network is modern, it’s fit for purpose, that it’s accessible for all and that it’s ready to support this city’s capacity to grow into the future. With so much happening across Brisbane, Mr Chair, I want to just provide the Chamber with a quick update on some of the projects within the Transport portfolio and their progress in recent weeks. At the centre of our vision for Brisbane’s future is of course the Brisbane Metro project, which will revolutionise our city’s public transport network.

In Brisbane we’re really lucky to have 27 kilometres of segregated busway, but with Brisbane Metro we can make better use of this world-class asset. Along the busway, works are taking place at several suburban stations. At UQ (University of Queensland) Lakes, progress is now well underway on the new platform 3, which will increase capacity of this station and allow it to cater for Metro vehicles into 2024. The existing platform 1 will also be extended and upgraded, with pantograph charging arms installed for our new battery electric Metro vehicles. On the other side of the Eleanor Schonell Bridge, work has begun on the charging infrastructure which will support the chargers at the station itself.

At the Cultural Centre, major works have now commenced to transform the station into a new open green plaza. Many Councillors that do do the morning commute will have noticed the switchover to the temporary platforms has occurred there⎯and has occurred, by the way, Chair, I should say, absolutely seamlessly. I want to thank the tremendous transport planners and engineers right down to the bus operators within Transport for Brisbane, who’ve been working on making this a seamless transition for our customers here in Brisbane. They’ve done a fantastic job and it is operating without a hitch. Of course at that station, new landscaping, wider footpaths, seating, shade and a new modern platform environment will ensure that we can cater to Metro services from 2024 and beyond.

Very soon, major works will commence at Buranda station to lengthen the platform and improve the surrounding plaza. I know that there already has been some works commencing there. We can tell that these works have commenced because we’ve started to receive some complaints about nightworks noise, as you sometimes do, Chair. Work is also well underway at the Brisbane Metro depot at Rochedale, with initial earthworks nearing completion, as well as the tunnel portal on Adelaide Street. Work is continuing to progress well and very much later in this year tunnelling works will commence under the surface at this location, which will be a great moment for the city. Of course, Chair, many residents have also seen our Metro vehicles, either out and about during testing or at the Ekka earlier this month. Now that we’ve placed our order for the remainder of the initial fleet, we can expect to see more Metros arriving ahead of 2024 as well.

As I flagged a few weeks ago, Mr Chair, in October we will launch Brisbane’s most extensive bus network review in over a decade, to evolve the current bus network to include our new high-frequency Metro service and unlock more connections and key destinations across our city. There is already a survey online for residents to complete about how they use public transport in our city today. But in October we’ll be releasing a draft network to the residents and the community for feedback. This will help shape the final network before it’s implemented in 2024.

Of course, Mr Chair, I can’t forget about our ferry network. Thirteen of our terminals are already back online following the floods and we are continuing to progress repairs on the remaining eight terminals. These terminals require further repairs before they can return to service. This work is now well underway at six of the eight remaining terminals and we expect these terminals to return to service late in 2022, subject to weather and site conditions. We’re also working hard to provide better active transport connections, Chair, through our Green Bridges Program. Our Green Bridges Program along with Brisbane Metro are now both listed as priority projects by Infrastructure Australia, recognising the importance of these connections and the capacity that they provide.

Work is full steam ahead on both the Kangaroo Point and the Breakfast Creek Green Bridges with barges in place on the river and piling work underway. At Kangaroo Point, marine piling will continue over the coming months to install seven piers that will support the bridge structure. We’re also constructing the pedestrian and cycling connections for Kangaroo Point landing, which will provide access to pedestrians, cyclists and e-mobility users from the city to Kangaroo Point, Woolloongabba and beyond. The bridge will be an icon on our Brisbane River, a tourist destination in its own right and it will link our CBD to the new Olympic Stadium at The Gabba. I recently spoke, Mr Chair, at the start of major works on Breakfast Creek Green Bridge as well, with piling now underway on that.

The Schrinner Council is also leading the way in active transport, continuing to expand the use of e-scooters in Brisbane, with trials underway in our Bayside suburbs down at Wynnum Manly and at Shorncliffe. Mr Chair, we are continuing to improve and deliver cycling connections for residents as well, which brings me to our Committee meeting last week, where we had a presentation on retrofit separation devices for our roads. Council has been trialling different separation devices, including flexible bollards, rubber kerbing and low-profile strips, to investigate options for physically separating bike lanes from general traffic lanes to improve the safety for cyclists using those facilities.

As part of the trial, there have been devices installed at three locations on Melbourne Street in South Brisbane and at two locations on Wynnum Road, Morningside. These sites were selected as they are key cycling routes with actually quite high traffic levels for on-road cycling facilities. Procurement for the independent trial of our evaluation process is currently underway, which will involve assessing video footage that we have been taking for many, many months at those sites, as well as traffic counts as well. We will be looking at key learnings from the trial, including ways in which the device is secured to the road surface and how to manage driveway crossings, as well as very simple things, Chair, like how many times a certain bollard was hit by a car or a truck and taken away.

Obviously these are fairly new devices around the city, it’s taking some time for both motorists and cyclists to adapt to them, but the feedback that we do consistently get from cyclists is that they definitely feel better with those bollards in place than without them at all, but that those bollards are no replacement for safe, separated bidirectional cycling facilities. But acknowledging of course that our city is a city that was very much built around the motor vehicle, anything that we can do to improve safety in the short and medium term ahead of major cycling facilities being rolled out all across the city is a good thing and something that we should definitely look forward to. So I look forward to seeing the results of the trial and I’ll leave further debate to the Council Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

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

We now move the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Ryan Murphy (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Angela Owen (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Steven Huang, David McLachlan and Jonathan Sriranganathan.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Jared Cassidy.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – RETROFIT SEPARATION DEVICES FOR BIKEWAYS

**110/2022-23**

1. The Policy Strategy and Planning Manager, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update and evaluation on retrofit separation devices (RSDs) for bikeways. He provided the information below.

2. Council identified a number of locations to trial RSD treatments such as flexible bollards, rubber kerb, low-profile strips or humps to retrofit physical separation between on-road bicycle lanes and general traffic lanes. A 12-month trial of RSDs was undertaken at the following five locations from 27 May 2021:

- three installations at Melbourne Street, South Brisbane

- two installations at Wynnum Road, Morningside.

3. The locations were selected as they:

- are primary cycle routes

- have high volumes of traffic including a mix of vehicle types

- have known vehicle incursions into cycling lanes.

The RSDs will remain in place until the completion of the evaluation project and determination of outcomes in early 2023.

4. The Committee was shown images of the RSD trial on Melbourne Street, where flexible bollards were installed at the intersections of Edmondstone, Cordelia and Merivale Streets. Due to Brisbane Metro construction, the flexible bollards at Cordelia and Merivale Streets will be removed, with the potential to be reinstated once construction is complete, subject to the evaluation outcome.

5. The Committee was shown images of the RSD trial on Wynnum Road where the following treatments were installed:

- flexible bollards at the intersection of Wynnum Road and Jack Flynn Memorial Drive

- flexible bollards and rubber separation kerbing, including vertical delineators, at the intersection of Wynnum Road and Junction Road.

6. While there were no reported complaints or public feedback on the RSD trial at Melbourne Street, there were some challenges at the Morningside trial. On Wynnum Road at Jack Flynn Memorial Drive, bollards on the outbound lane were being frequently struck by trucks and heavy vehicles requiring access to properties. As a result, the installation method was changed from glue only, to glue with a DynaBolt. On Wynnum Road at Junction Road, some bollards on the outbound lane approaching the intersection were struck by vehicles, and there were issues with vehicle access and movement to Downtown Toyota conflicting with cyclists travelling inbound.

7. Council is undertaking procurement to appoint a consultant by mid-October to undertake an independent evaluation of the RSD trial, using post-installation video monitoring and traffic counts. The evaluation aims to assess the effectiveness of the trial with regards to:

- frequency and type of vehicle encroachment into bicycle lanes

- frequency and time of any RSDs that are struck and the factors contributing to strikes

- increased bicycle and e-mobility trips

- informing how to improve RSD treatments and effectively implement in other locations.

8. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Policy Strategy and Planning Manager for his informative presentation.

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor WINES, Infrastructure Committee report please.

### INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Councillor Andrew WINES, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Fiona HAMMOND, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. The presentation last week was around the project’s office work to upgrade the intersection of Melton and Hows, which is very near to your ward, but is in fact in Northgate Ward. So to orientate the Council, this particular intersection upgrade was right—approximate to the old Toombul Shopping Centre on the eastern side. The project features were—there was construction of a new roundabout with splitter islands and pedestrian refuges, the installation of a new pedestrian refuge crossing with a median to the south of the intersection on Melton Road, construction of a 2.5‑metre-wide shared path on Melton Road and a 1.5-metre-wide footpath on Hows Road, the installation of bike ramps on Melton, upgrades to stormwater drainage, street lighting and line marking in the intersection and landscaping around the intersection, including the planting of eight new trees.

The project took 10 months to complete and has achieved practical completion in August⎯so only weeks ago. The intersection had proven to be—so there were some concerns about safety for motorists and pedestrians. Also there’s a special reflection on this project, there was an individual who lived nearby who was of impaired vision⎯of a low vision. We worked with that particular individual, also the Human Rights Commission and the team to make sure that there was a continued safe crossing for people with low vision in this area. So I just wanted to make special mention of that and the commitment that this Council has to addressing concerns for people with sight issues or mobility issues, whichever needs to be addressed at the time. But I just want to reassure the Council that we did a great deal of work to make sure that this was safe to use for all pedestrians of all abilities.

Now there were three petitions considered. The first two were supported by the local Councillor and the third one was not. The third petition considered today is about speed limits. If Councillors will reflect on the Council resolution and the Council debate of last week, it was determined that this is in line with that discussion we had last week about speed limits. So the matter was resolved in the negative to that request, that’s also the case with this petition.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No further debate, I move the—sorry, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. I just wanted to speak on the petition—apologies, thought someone else might want to chat, speak first. We’ve been here before with some of these petitions, so I guess I find myself wondering is it really worth pushing the LNP on this stuff when I know what they’re going to say already. But with petition D, we had a petition to decrease the speed limits in a few streets around the new high-density precinct of West End. So Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street, Ferry Road, I think Duncan Street was another one down there. This is an area where several thousand residents live in a few blocks. It’s probably one of the most high-density neighbourhoods in the entire State of Queensland.

There’s very high volumes of pedestrian traffic, lots of people walking to work or walking for leisure, walking to the shops, bus stops, et cetera and compared to the high volumes of pedestrian traffic, the car volumes are not that high. These streets don’t lead to anywhere else, they basically just stop at this residential precinct. You can’t drive down Kurilpa Street or Ferry Road to get to any other locations. I think the residents in this area were rightly saying look, we don’t feel safe when cars are roaring down these streets at 50 kilometres an hour and there’s no need for them to be roaring down these streets at 50 kilometres an hour, because the streets don’t lead anywhere anyway. Can we drop the speed limit to 40 or 30 kilometres an hour and if necessary, can we introduce some traffic calming to slow things down?

But to my great frustration, the response from the Council officers was that no, we don’t need traffic calming on these streets because they’re not being used to shortcut anywhere else. That’s not the only reason to put in traffic calming. That’s certainly one of the reasons to install traffic calming on residential streets, because a lot of heavy vehicles might be shortcutting through that area to get to another neighbourhood. But another legitimate reason to install traffic calming is simply to slow down the cars on that particular street, to make it a safe and comfortable environment for local residents. Through you, Chair, to Councillor WINES, I think there’s actually a pretty significant cultural problem among the BCC (Brisbane City Council) traffic engineers, who are still very car-centric in their thinking and who are very resistant to installation of traffic calming and to lowering speed limits.

So with this petition, the response was borderline defensive, in my view. The Council officers just did not even want to open up conversation about dropping speed limits to 40 kilometres an hour, despite the fact that this is the sort of high-density residential precinct, a high activity use area, that’s described in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices as the sort of place where we would want to have lower speed limits. So Councillor WINES, I know you probably didn’t look personally at this one too closely, you’ve got a lot on your plate and one lowly petition about speed limits probably didn’t rate high on the agenda. You were inclined to just trust the advice of the officers who looked at this, but your officers are wrong. Your officers are prioritising high speed limits and the presumed convenience of motorists ahead of the safety and comfort of pedestrians.

That’s the wrong decision to be making in an inner city, high density neighbourhood, where we’re trying to encourage public and active transport use. So I don’t necessarily think that this outcome is any different to some of the other petitions we’ve had for traffic calming and lower speed limits in other parts of my ward, but I just found it a bit frustrating that they wouldn’t even list it. Normally if there’s a petition for traffic calming, the officers will at least say yes, we’ll list it for traffic calming. They don’t actually intend to do it, there’s not going to be any money to do it, but they at least acknowledge, yes, we’ll put it on the long list and maybe it’ll get delivered at some point.

In this case though they didn’t even want to list it. They were like no, we don’t need traffic calming here because it doesn’t meet the criteria. But their interpretation of the criteria was incorrect. The criteria lists a number of reasons for which traffic calming can be introduced and this area met at least a couple of those criteria. It didn’t meet all the criteria, in that it didn’t meet the requirement that the streets are being used as a shortcut to get to somewhere else. But those criteria that are listed in Council’s policy are not—you only need to satisfy one of those criteria to qualify for traffic calming, you don’t need to satisfy all of them. So your own officers here are misinterpreting and misapplying the Council policy and then being, I think, a little bit defensive when they’re questioned on that.

So I think this is a really good example of how car-centric thinking is still entrenched within Brisbane City Council and is perhaps a space where the Council’s middle management and upper management within these teams need to look more closely at the decisions that their lower ranking officers are making and enquire as to whether they really are in line with the Council’s purported strategic directions of encouraging active and public transport. Because if you have a neighbourhood where people are petitioning for lower speed limits and those streets don’t lead to anywhere else and no one’s really going to be affected by it, other than the people who live in these streets, surely there’s no great harm in dropping that speed limit to 40 kilometres an hour. Certainly I would have liked to see it go down to 30 kilometres an hour, but at the very least 40 kilometres an hour would seem reasonable.

So through you, Chair, I hope Councillor WINES will look into this one a little bit more closely and can maybe at least satisfy himself that the decision has been properly made here. Because I don’t think the Council officers have interpreted their own criteria correctly. I don’t think they’ve properly considered the evidence from residents and the information that I’ve provided, that this does meet the criteria of a high activity area. There’s quite a few ground level businesses, there are corner shops and groceries and that sort of thing. There’s a giant Woolworths supermarket just around the corner. There’s, as I said, thousands of residents living in this precinct, a very high‑density neighbourhood with tall apartment towers and a lot of people moving around on the footpaths and crossing back and forth across the streets and that sort of thing.

So this is exactly the sort of precinct where Council should be saying look, this is a walkable neighbourhood, we want to prioritise pedestrians, walkable neighbourhood equals lower speed limits. That should be the dominant approach in these sorts of areas, but instead the Council officers are saying no, 50 kilometres is fine. Anyone who goes down and visits Kurilpa Street or Ferry Road or Rogers Street will see that it clearly doesn’t make sense to treat these as 50 kilometre an hour roads. In fact a lot of people are driving a bit slower, at 30 or 40 kilometres an hour, it’s just those rare few motorists that roar through at 50 that give everyone a fright and make parents too scared to send their kids to school on foot.

If we want to reduce traffic congestion and make it safe for kids to walk to school and make it safe and comfortable for people to walk to the local bus stop, et cetera, we need to tolerate and embrace these lower speed limit proposals rather than obstructing them, as the Council officers have done in this case. So very unhappy with this petition response here today obviously, I won’t be supporting it.

**Seriatim - Clause D**

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| --- |
| Councillor Jonathan SRIRANGANATHAN requested that Clause D, PETITION REQUESTING COUNCIL DECREASE THE SPEED LIMIT TO 40 KM/H OR 30 KM/H AND INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING ON KURIPLA STREET, ROGERS STREET, FERRY ROAD AND SURROUNDING STREETS IN WEST END, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Yes, but just as a more general principle, I hope the LNP will consider more deeply why—what benefit does it serve to be so resistant to 40 kilometre an hour speed limits in residential neighbourhoods. What purpose does that serve to just disappoint and piss off a whole bunch of local residents who really want this change, when there’s no one else who’s going to be negatively affected by it. Just make the change and we can all move on with our lives. It doesn’t even cost that much, it’s a little bit of signage to install some 40 kilometres an hour signage, it doesn’t have to be a big thing. Instead we’re all wasting our time dealing with these debates in the Council Chamber when the Council should just be listening to the local community.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further debate?

Summing up, Councillor WINES?

Okay, we now move to the vote on items A, B and C in the Infrastructure Committee report.

**Clauses A, B and C put**

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

Chair: Vote on item D in the Infrastructure Committee report.

**Clause D put**

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – MELTON ROAD AND HOWS ROAD INTERSECTION UPGRADE

**111/2022-23**

1. The Program Director, Civil and Transport, Project Management, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Melton Road and Hows Road intersection upgrade (the project). He provided the information below.

2. Melton and Hows Roads, Nundah, are classified as district and neighbourhood roads respectively under *Brisbane City Plan 2014*. The intersection carries approximately 15,500 vehicles, 35 cyclists and 130 pedestrians per day and is located close to the Toombul Shopping Centre and Sandgate Road.

3. Prior to the upgrade, the intersection was operating at capacity during peak periods, causing heavy congestion along Melton and Hows Roads and the surrounding area. Traffic modelling from 2019 indicated the intersection was already operating beyond optimal capacity, with an increase in the volume of traffic using the infrastructure expected to increase. Council was also aware of misaligned signage on Melton Road, causing poor sightlines for drivers. An intersection upgrade was required to resolve safety issues and improve existing infrastructure for better traffic flow.

4. The objectives for the project included:

- improving overall intersection operations for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians

- improving safety for all road users

- reducing traffic congestion and improve travel time reliability

- improving connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

5. The Committee was shown the project plan map. The scope of the project was multifaceted with the construction of a new roundabout, with splitter islands and pedestrian refuges in all directions, being the key component of the upgrade. The project also required:

- installation of a new pedestrian crossing with a median refuge south of the intersection on Melton Road

- construction of a 2.5-metre-wide shared path on Melton Road and 1.5-metre-wide footpath on Hows Road

- installation of bike ramps on Melton Road

- upgrades to stormwater drainage, street lighting and line marking at the intersection

- landscaping around the intersection, including the planting of eight new trees.

6. The project took place over a 10-month period, starting with the finalised design in October 2021 and practical completion in August 2022. The Committee was shown a timelapse of the project from start to completion. Civil construction on the project commenced in January 2022, but was disrupted by a four‑week delay due to the February 2022 major flood event, which required Council’s contractor to redirect its resources to flood recovery work. The flood also impacted the Telstra and NBN relocation works by three months, which were necessary to lay asphalt at the roundabout. Council’s contractor was required to reschedule the construction program to mitigate further delays to the project. The project was primarily funded by the Australian Government’s Roads to Recovery Program, which contributed $4.2 million to the $5.4 million upgrade.

7. The Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Program Director for his informative update.

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL SUPPORT A 40 KM/H SPEED LIMIT BE APPLIED TO SHORNCLIFFE PARADE AND ALLPASS PARADE, SHORNCLIFFE

**137/220/594/85**

**112/2022-23**

9. A petition requesting Council support a 40 km/h speed limit on Shorncliffe Parade and Allpass Parade, Shorncliffe, was received during the Autumn Recess 2022.

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

11. The petition contains 63 signatures. Of the petitioners, 23 live on Shorncliffe Parade and eight live on Allpass Parade.

12. Shorncliffe Parade and Allpass Parade are classified as neighbourhood roads under Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014* road hierarchy and operates under the default built-up area speed limit of 50 km/h. Neighbourhood roads connect to the major road network, providing direct property access and are suitable for most types of vehicles. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows a locality map.

13. The petitioners request for a 40 km/h speed limit to be applied to Shorncliffe Parade and Allpass Parade has been noted. Council evaluates requests for 40 km/h speed limits based on the guidelines outlined within the Queensland Government’s *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). Roads identified as potentially suitable for reviewed speed limits are then subject to a formalised speed limit review process, which takes into account the road’s function, recorded traffic speeds and volumes, environmental characteristics and crash data.

14. The recommendation from the review is then presented to the Speed Management Committee (SMC) for endorsement. The SMC has representatives from the Queensland Police Service (QPS), the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Council.

15. Under the MUTCD, 40 km/h zones can only be installed in very specific circumstances. Typically, this is limited to areas of very high pedestrian activity adjacent to the road, such as streets within the CBD, esplanades, hospital zones, entertainment areas or where traffic calming devices have been installed as part of a local area traffic management scheme.

16. The first step of reviewing a speed limit requires the collection of current traffic data to identify current traffic speeds and volumes. The outcomes of these surveys will guide which measures, such as potential changes to speed limits, are able to be considered further. Council intends to undertake these surveys, which are anticipated to be completed by mid-September 2022 where the results will be used in conjunction with the assessment guidelines in the MUTCD to review the speed limits along these streets.

17. The petitioners’ comments about near misses have been noted. Reckless driving is primarily a behavioural issue. Enforcement of such behaviour is under the jurisdiction of the QPS as Council is unable to enforce moving traffic violations. The petitioners are encouraged to raise any concerns with speeding motorists directly with the QPS via the Hoon Hotline on 13 HOON (13 46 66).

Consultation

18. Councillor Jared Cassidy, Councillor for Deagon Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

21. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/85

Thank you for your petition requesting Council support a 40 km/h speed limit on Shorncliffe Parade and Allpass Parade, Shorncliffe.

Your request for a 40 km/h speed limit to be applied to Shorncliffe Parade and Allpass Parade has been noted. Council evaluates requests for 40 km/h speed limits based on the guidelines outlined within the Queensland Government’s *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). Roads identified as potentially suitable for reviewed speed limits are then subject to a formalised speed limit review process, which takes into account the road’s function, recorded traffic speeds and volumes, environmental characteristics and crash data.

The recommendation from the review is then presented to the Speed Management Committee (SMC) for endorsement. The SMC has representatives from the Queensland Police Service (QPS), the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Council.

Under the MUTCD, 40 km/h zones can only be installed in very specific circumstances. Typically, this is limited to areas of very high pedestrian activity adjacent to the road, such as streets within the CBD, esplanades, hospital zones, entertainment areas or where traffic calming devices have been installed as part of a local area traffic management scheme.

The first step of reviewing a speed limit requires the collection of current traffic data to identify current traffic speeds and volumes. The outcomes of these surveys will guide which measures, such as potential changes to speed limits, are able to be considered further. Council intends to undertake these surveys, which are anticipated to be completed by mid-September 2022 where the results will be used in conjunction with the assessment guidelines in the MUTCD to review the speed limits along these streets.

Your comments about near misses have been noted. Reckless driving is primarily a behavioural issue. Enforcement of such behaviour is under the jurisdiction of the QPS as Council is unable to enforce moving traffic violations. You are encouraged to raise any concerns with speeding motorists directly with the QPS via the Hoon Hotline on 13 HOON (13 46 66).

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Maheshi De Silva, A/Senior Transport Network Officer, Transport Network Operations, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 8841.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### C REQUESTING COUNCIL UPGRADE FOOTPATHS AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS IN NEWSTEAD

**CA21/1007949**

**113/2022-23**

22. A petition requesting Council upgrade footpaths and provide additional pedestrian crossings in Newstead, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 31 August 2021, by Councillor Vicki Howard, and received.

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

24. The petition contains 308 signatures. Of the petitioners, 165 live in suburbs within the inner city suburbs, 58 live in other suburbs of Brisbane and 85 live in states outside of Queensland.

25. The petitioners raised concerns of footpath accessibility and pedestrian crossings within Newstead for people with disability. The particular streets of concern include Chester, Leopold, Stratton, Longland, Kyabra, Doggett and Ann Streets, and Commercial Road. Chester, Leopold, Stratton, Longland, Kyabra and Doggett Streets are classified as neighbourhood roads in Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014* road hierarchy, providing access to local residential properties, with a speed limit of 50 km/h at the time this petition was received. Commercial Road has a posted speed limit of 60 km/h and is classified as a district road, facilitating the movement of people and goods to and through suburbs, including buses and heavy vehicles. Ann Street has a posted speed limit of 60 km/h east of the intersection of Creek Street and is classified as an arterial road. Arterial roads connect major centres of the city and provide an important link in Brisbane’s public transport and freight network. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows a locality map.

26. To improve safety for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists, Council recently reviewed speed limits in the Newstead area and presented the outcomes of this review at the Speed Management Committee, which includes representatives from the Department of Transport and Main Roads, the Queensland Police Service and Council. The outcome is that speed limit reductions from 50 km/h to 40 km/h have been endorsed and implemented on Longland, Stratton, Kyabra, Doggett, Masters, Wyatt, Wyandra and Helen Streets from 8 June 2022. It is expected that the speed limit reduction will significantly improve road safety in the Newstead area, particularly for pedestrians crossing these neighbourhood roads.

27. The petitioners request for additional pedestrian crossing points is noted. Council investigates requests for pedestrian crossings such as zebra crossings and pedestrian refuges in line with the requirements outlined in the Queensland Government’s *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* and in conjunction with Australian Standard AS 1742.10-2009 . There are specific guidelines within the standard as to where such crossings are appropriate with consideration to approach speeds, consistency of pedestrian demand, available sight distance and local environmental factors.

28. Installing formal mid-block pedestrian crossing facilities, such as pedestrian refuge islands or zebra crossings, on streets where sustained high crossing demand is not prevalent, and where crossing activity is random, is not good practice. In Council’s experience, pedestrians will cross a road where it is most convenient to do so. Installing pedestrian crossing facilities mid-block also results in a removal of on‑street parking due to sight line requirements. On-street parking in the Newstead area is a valuable community commodity and therefore any removal requires careful consideration.

29. As part of the review of speed limits, pedestrian counts were also conducted in the area, and as a result of pedestrian demand, new pedestrian crossing facilities have been identified for further detailed investigations at intersections along the Commercial Road corridor and also at the following locations:

- Leopold Street at Chester Street

- Stratton Street at Longland Street

- Kyabra Street at Longland Street.

30. The current pedestrian facilities along Chester, Longland, Doggett, and Ann Streets, have been reviewed and are considered to be appropriate at this time, and additional facilities are not proposed.

31. Further detailed investigations will be prioritised against other similar new infrastructure projects across the city, as part of Council’s annual budgetary process. New pedestrian crossing facilities will also continue to be considered and conditioned as part of new development approvals in the area.

32. The petitioners’ comments about footpath conditions are also noted. In response to the petition, footpath repairs were programmed for several locations along Commercial Road, as well as along Doggett, Chester and Leopold Streets, Newstead. These works have now been completed.

Consultation

33. Councillor Vicki Howard, Councillor for Central Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

35. The Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed.

36. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** CA21/1007949

Thank you for your petition requesting Council upgrade sidewalks and provide additional marked crossings in Newstead.

To improve safety for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists, Council recently reviewed speed limits in the Newstead area and presented the outcomes of this review at the Speed Management Committee, which includes representatives from the Department of Transport and Main Roads, the Queensland Police Service and Council. The outcome is that speed limit reductions from 50 km/h to 40 km/h have been endorsed and implemented on Longland, Stratton, Kyabra, Doggett, Masters, Wyatt, Wyandra and Helen Streets from 8 June 2022. It is expected that the speed limit reduction will significantly improve road safety in the Newstead area, particularly for pedestrians crossing these neighbourhood roads.

Your request for additional pedestrian crossing points is noted. Council investigates requests for pedestrian crossings such as zebra crossings and pedestrian refuges in line with the requirements outlined in the Queensland Government’s *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* and in conjunction with Australian Standard AS 1742.10-2009. There are specific guidelines within the standard as to where such crossings are appropriate with consideration to approach speeds, consistency of pedestrian demand, available sight distance and local environmental factors.

Installing pedestrian crossing facilities, such as pedestrian refuge islands or zebra crossings, on streets where sustained high crossing demand is not prevalent, and where crossing activity is random, is not good practice. Historical data shows pedestrians will cross a road where it is most convenient to do so. Installing pedestrian crossing facilities mid-block also results in a removal of on-street parking due to sight line requirements. On-street parking in the Newstead area is a valuable community commodity and therefore any removal requires careful consideration.

As part of the review of speed limits, pedestrian counts were also conducted in the area, and as a result of pedestrian demand, new pedestrian crossing facilities have been identified for further detailed investigations at intersections along the Commercial Road corridor and also at the following locations:

- Leopold Street at Chester Street

- Stratton Street at Longland Street

- Kyabra Street at Longland Street.

The current pedestrian facilities along Chester, Longland, Doggett, and Ann Streets, have been reviewed and are considered to be appropriate at this time, and additional facilities are not proposed.

Further detailed investigations will be prioritised against other similar new infrastructure projects across the city, as part of Council’s annual budgetary process. New pedestrian crossing facilities will also continue to be considered and conditioned as part of new development approvals in the area.

Your comments about footpath conditions are also noted. In response to the petition, footpath repairs were programmed for several locations along Commercial Road, as well as along Doggett, Chester and Leopold Streets, Newstead. These works have now been completed.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Kevin Chen, Senior Transport Network Officer, Transport Network Operations, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 2019.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### D REQUESTING COUNCIL DECREASE THE SPEED LIMIT TO 40 KM/H OR 30 KM/H AND INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING ON KURILPA STREET, ROGERS STREET, FERRY ROAD AND SURROUNDING STREETS IN WEST END

**137/220/594/55**

**114/2022-23**

37.A petition requesting Council decrease the speed limit to 40 km/h or 30 km/h and install traffic calming on Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street, Ferry Road and surrounding streets in West End, was received during the Summer Recess 2021-22.

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

39. The petition contains 70 signatures. Of the petitioners, 21 live in Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road, 47 live in other streets in The Gabba Ward and two live in other wards of the City of Brisbane.

40. Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road have a 50 km/h speed limit, and all are classified as neighbourhood access roads under Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014* road hierarchy, providing access to local residential properties. Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road provide access to local destinations only and do not have through access. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows a locality map.

41. The petitioners’ request for traffic calming devices on Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road to reduce speeding and poor driver behaviour has been noted. The installation of traffic calming devices, such as speed platforms and traffic islands, are used to discourage use from non-local traffic and to moderate vehicle speeds, providing a safer environment for all road users. Traffic calming devices are generally applied to local and neighbourhood access roads, which primarily provide access to dwellings, residential buildings and other local streets with limited traffic movements.

42. Council’s assessment has identified that most vehicles using Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road are either local residents and their visitors, or motorists accessing local businesses and community facilities. Generally, non-local traffic would be associated with avoiding another route for a particular reason such as a set of traffic signals or speed platforms. Given the configuration of the local traffic network, there would be no reason for large volumes of motorists to use Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road as a shortcut. As such, Council has no current plans to investigate further traffic calming measures.

43. The petitioners’ request for a 30 km/h or 40 km/h speed limit has also been noted. Speed limits on all roads in Queensland are assessed and set in accordance with the Queensland Government’s *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices*. This ensures that speed limits are set in a consistent and credible manner across Queensland. Roads identified as potentially suitable for reviewed speed limits are then subject to a formalised speed limit review (SLR) process, which takes into account the road’s function, recorded traffic speeds and volumes, environmental characteristics and crash data. The recommendation from the review is then presented to the Speed Management Committee (SMC) for endorsement. The SMC has representatives from the Queensland Police Service (QPS), the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and Council.

44. Council generally only considers implementing 30 km/h and 40 km/h speed limits if the streets meet one of the criteria-based assessments below:

* High Active Transport User Area
* Foreshores
* Shared Zones
* Local streets with conducive speed environments.

45. It is considered that Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road do not meet any of the above criteria‑based assessments as the streets do not have high enough pedestrian volume consistently throughout the day, is not located along a foreshore, is not a shared zone and does not currently exhibit a road environment where a 40 km/h speed limit would be appropriate.

46. Additionally, a review of the Queensland Government’s crash data has been undertaken for the past five years for Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road. This review did not identify any crash relating to speeding vehicles, suggesting these streets have a safe speed environment. As such, Council does not propose conducting a SLR and considers the 50 km/h speed limit to be appropriate at this time.

47. Council will continue to monitor traffic movements on roads in West End and will conduct investigations into potential traffic calming treatments and will conduct SLR’s where warranted.

48. Speeding and driving recklessly are behavioural issues. Enforcement of such behaviour is under the jurisdiction of the QPS as Council is unable to enforce moving traffic violations. The petitioners are encouraged to report speeding directly with the QPS via the Hoon Hotline on 13 HOON (13 46 66).

Consultation

49. Councillor Jonathan Sriranganathan, Councillor for The Gabba Ward, has been consulted and does not support the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

51. The Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed.

52. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/55

Thank you for your petition requesting Council decrease the speed limit to 40 km/h or 30 km/h and install traffic calming on Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street, Ferry Road and surrounding streets in West End.

Your request for traffic calming devices on Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road to reduce speeding and poor driver behaviour has been noted. The installation of traffic calming devices, such as speed platforms and traffic islands, are used to discourage use from non-local traffic and to moderate vehicle speeds, providing a safer environment for all road users. Traffic calming devices are generally applied to local and neighbourhood access roads, which primarily provide access to dwellings, residential buildings and other local streets with limited traffic movements.

Council’s assessment has identified that most vehicles using Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road are either local residents and their visitors, or motorists accessing local businesses and community facilities. Generally, non-local traffic would be associated with avoiding another route for a particular reason such as a set of traffic signals or speed platforms. Given the configuration of the local traffic network, there would be no reason for large volumes of motorists to use Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road as a shortcut. As such, Council has no current plans to investigate further traffic calming measures.

Your request for a 30 km/h or 40 km/h speed limit has also been noted. Speed limits on all roads in Queensland are assessed and set in accordance with the Queensland Government’s *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices*. This ensures that speed limits are set in a consistent and credible manner across Queensland. Roads identified as potentially suitable for reviewed speed limits are then subject to a formalised speed limit review process, which takes into account the road’s function, recorded traffic speeds and volumes, environmental characteristics and crash data.

The recommendation from the review is then presented to the Speed Management Committee (SMC) for endorsement. The SMC has representatives from the Queensland Police Service (QPS), the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and Council.

Council generally only considers implementing 30 km/h and 40 km/h speed limits if the streets meet one of the criteria-based assessments below:

- High Active Transport User Area

- Foreshores

- Shared Zones

- Local streets with conducive speed environments.

It is considered that Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road do not meet any of the above criteria based assessments as the streets do not have high enough pedestrian volume consistently throughout the day, is not located along a foreshore, is not a shared zone and does not currently exhibit a road environment where a 40 km/h speed limit would be appropriate.

Additionally, a review of the Queensland Government’s crash data has been undertaken for the past five years for Kurilpa Street, Rogers Street and Ferry Road. This review did not identify any crash relating to speeding vehicles, suggesting these streets have a safe speed environment. As such, Council does not propose conducting a SLR and considers the 50 km/h speed limit to be appropriate at this time.

Council will continue to monitor traffic movements on roads in West End and will conduct investigations into potential traffic calming treatments and will conduct SLR’s where warranted.

Speeding and driving recklessly are behavioural issues. Enforcement of such behaviour is under the jurisdiction of the QPS as Council is unable to enforce moving traffic violations. You are encouraged to report speeding directly with the QPS via the Hoon Hotline on 13 HOON (13 46 66).

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

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

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

### CITY PLANNING AND SUBURBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Adam ALLAN, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. In last week’s Committee meeting we were provided with an update on a recently approved DA (development application) for Peppercorn, The Good Food Company at 52 Trade Street, Lytton and perhaps a warning for those who are non-meat eaters in the Chamber, this report may have limited interest. However, Peppercorn was formed in 1997 in New South Wales and remains 100% Australian owned and operated. They offer gourmet, low-fat and low-salt sausages and have expanded to include burgers and meatballs. It’s all made from Australian meat and produce. Their product is available across Australia through Woolworths and leading independent supermarkets.

The development application included an internal refurbishment and an extension providing an additional 197 square metres of gross floor area. Half of the existing building is allocated to storing and processing raw meat into patties and sausages for distribution across Australia. Twenty-five metric tonnes of raw meat is envisaged to be processed annually—sorry, daily. The site includes 38 car park spaces, with access to the site remaining from the existing crossover to Trade Street. The development will not generate excessive noise or harmful emissions. The conditions of the approval limits storage of hazardous materials and waste products must be contained indoors for onsite collection of refuse.

The selling and cooking of products onsite is not permitted. The community benefits from this development include supporting the local food economy and food supply, enabling and expanding Australian owned and operated business in Brisbane, supporting current jobs and potential new jobs, supporting local farmers. It also provides for a reduction in distribution time and environmental impacts and it’s a good reuse of an existing building.

The development application was approved for the following reasons: it accommodates a regionally significant industry, occupying a strategic location in close proximity to transport infrastructure; it protects, facilitates and maintains the long-term viability of industrial uses on the site; it provides an amenity that is appropriate for the use and the locality and the proposed activities are compliant with relevant health, safety and environmental standards and aligns with the Hemmant-Lytton neighbourhood plan while contributing to Council’s vision as a smart, prosperous city. Mr Chair, I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate?

No further debate, we’ll now move to the vote on the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – PEPPERCORN – THE GOOD FOOD COMPANY, 52 TRADE STREET, LYTTON (A006000598)

**115/2022-23**

1. The Planning Services Manager, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on the development application (A006000598) at 52 Trade Street, Lytton (the site), by Peppercorn Food Company Pty Limited (the company). He provided the information below.

2. The Committee was shown an aerial view of the site, demonstrating its proximity to the Port of Brisbane Motorway, Lytton Road and surrounding sites including the Ingham’s factory and the Amazon fulfillment centre.

3. The development application (DA) was submitted the company which is owned by The Trust Company (Australia) Limited. The site area is 17,090 square metres with the land use identified as High Impact Industry (meat processing greater than 200 tonnes per annum). An internal refurbishment and an extension will provide an additional 197 square metres of gross floor area providing a total of 1,705 square metres. The hours of operation are from 6am to 6pm weekdays, and 6am to 10am on Saturdays.

4. The company was founded in 1997 in New South Wales, offering gourmet, low-fat and low‑salt sausages, and has expanded to also include burgers and meatballs. The company remains 100% Australian owned and operated, and their products, made from Australian meat and produce, are available throughout Australia from Woolworths and leading independent supermarkets.

5. Half of the existing building is used to store and process meat into the final products for distribution, where approximately 25 tonnes of meat will be processed on-site per week, with a maximum output of 80 tonnes per week. The development capitalises on its close proximity to regional transport infrastructure and separation from residential areas. Selling and cooking of products on-site is not permitted.

6. The development will not generate excessive noise or harmful emissions. The conditions of the approval limits storage of hazardous materials, and waste products must be contained indoors with on-site collection of refuse undertaken using bulk bins.

7. The Committee was shown the proposed site layout plan including an area for on-site vehicle manoeuvring and 38 car parking spaces. Access into the site is maintained from the existing crossover to Trade Street, and heavy rigid vehicle access and servicing is also maintained.

8. Community benefits include:

- supporting the local food economy and food supply

- supporting an expanding Australian owned and operated business in Brisbane

- supporting current jobs and potential new jobs

- supporting local farmers

- reduction in distribution time and environmental impact

- re-use of an existing building.

9. The DA was approved as it accommodates a regionally significant industry occupying a strategic location in close proximity to transport infrastructure. The development protects, facilitates and maintains the long-term viability of industrial uses on the site, and provides an appropriate amenity for the land use and location. The proposed activities are compliant with relevant health, safety and environmental standards. This development aligns with the Hemmant-Lytton neighbourhood plan while contributing to Council’s vision as a smart, prosperous city.

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

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Tracy DAVIS, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Mr Chair, item A was last week’s Committee presentation on the Lord Mayor’s Community Sustainability and Environmental Grants Program. The Lord Mayor’s Community Sustainability and Environmental Grants have been running for more than 15 years and offer funding for environmental and sustainability initiatives for community groups, non-profit organisations, schools and individuals. In 2021-22 grants were awarded across 66 organisations and individuals. There are four categories under which groups can apply.

The Environmental Grants provide funding to community-based groups and non-profit organisations, to undertake environmental initiatives that address local or citywide community environmental issues on Council land. In 2021, under this category, Brisbane’s Big Butterfly Count was a funding recipient. This initiative involved over 1,000 participants and 14 agencies undertaking 56 surveys over 24 locations. The participants were able to record 94 different species of butterflies, including the Tawny Coster which was not previously recorded in Brisbane.

The second category is the Sustainability Grants that assist organisations to undertake actions, programs and community facility upgrades, which support the reduction of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. We heard about how the community place in Stafford used their grant to replace old fluorescent lights with new energy-efficient LED lights and the old ceiling fans replaced with larger, more energy-efficient fans.

Council’s Cultivating Community Gardens Grants is the third category and aims to enhance Brisbane’s sustainability and liveability by providing funding to local non-profit community groups and organisations to establish, develop and maintain community gardens on Council-owned and other land. The Fitzgibbon Community Garden and the Bethania Street Community Garden in Lota are examples, with the grants enabling the groups to purchase equipment and materials to assist volunteers with maintaining the gardens and participating in activities, while connecting socially and sharing produce from the garden.

The fourth category is the Native Wildlife Carers Grants and these provide financial assistance to groups and individuals who are registered members of a wildlife organisation, involved in rehabilitating and releasing orphaned, sick and injured native wildlife, including koalas with the Brisbane City Council area. The funding was used for a range of projects, including the purchase of aviaries and materials to accommodate injured native birds, intensive care unit where orphaned and injured flying foxes can be treated and consumable items for caring and releasing animals.

While the first round of the Native Wildlife Carers Grants and Cultivating Community Gardens Grants closed yesterday, I’m pleased to advise that the Sustainability Grants and Environmental Grants will open in October. Further information about criteria and eligibility are on Council’s website and Council’s officers are available to assist the groups through every step of their application. Mr Chair, I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

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

We move to the vote on the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Tracy Davis (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor James Mackay (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Steve Griffiths, Sandy Landers and David McLachlan.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Jared Cassidy.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – LORD MAYOR’S COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

**116/2022-23**

1. The Parks and Natural Resources Manager, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on Lord Mayor’s Community Sustainability and Environmental Grants. He provided the information below.

2. The first round of the Lord Mayor’s Community Sustainability and Environment Grants opened on 25 July 2022 and closes 29 August 2022, which includes Native Wildlife Carer Grants and Cultivating Community Gardens Grants. Round two will open on 17 October 2022, which includes Sustainability Grants and Environment Grants for assistance with either administration or on-ground needs.

3. The Lord Mayor’s Community Sustainability and Environment Grants have been running for more than 15 years. Over the last three years, the grants have funded the following:

- Environmental Grants (funding to 60 projects)

- Sustainability Grants (funding to 30 projects)

- Cultivating Community Gardens Grants (funding to 47 projects)

- Native Wildlife Carer Grants (funding to 66 individuals or organisations).

4. Council officers are available at any stage throughout the year to provide advice to applicants on how to apply for grants, the grants process and feedback on their application. Guidelines and the application forms have also been simplified over the years to make it easier for applicants.

5. An example of the Lord Mayor’s Cultivating Community Gardens Grants is the Fitzgibbon Community Garden. The grant enabled the community to purchase raised garden beds, tools, equipment and garden products, increasing the accessibility at their community garden hub. Volunteers became more involved with maintaining the garden, participating in activities while connecting socially and sharing produce from the garden.

6. In 2020-21, through the Cultivating Community Gardens Grants, the Bethania Street Community Garden in Lota purchased soil testing kits, seeds, seedlings, organic fertilisers and mulch to keep the garden thriving. A mower was also purchased to assist volunteers in maintaining the site, and several Colorbond garden beds were purchased to replace deteriorated wooden beds.

7. In 2020-21, a recipient of the Lord Mayor’s Environment Grants, Brisbane’s Big Butterfly Count involved over 1,000 participants and 14 agencies undertaking 58 surveys over 24 locations. They engaged speakers for events and organised webinars, seminars, workshops, displays, pamphlets, surveys and walks, recording 94 butterfly species including the Tawny Coster which was not previously recorded in Brisbane. Other recipients of the Lord Mayor’s Environment Grants include Brisbane Catchments Network and Moggill Creek Catchment Group.

8. Through the Lord Mayor’s Sustainability Grant:

- Brisbane Golf Club installed a hybrid inverter and photovoltaic solar panels in preparation for the installation of a battery

- The Community Place Inc. replaced all old fluorescent lights with new energy-efficient LED lights, and also replaced old ceiling fans with larger, more energy-efficient fans.

9. Native Wildlife Carers Grants were provided to a range of native wildlife carers registered with Wildcare Australia. The funding was used in the purchase of:

- aviaries and materials to accommodate injured native birds

- an intensive care unit, where orphaned and injured flying foxes can be treated

- consumable items for caring and releasing animals.

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

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY, City Standards Committee report please.

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Steven TOOMEY, A/Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Standards Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Greg ADERMANN, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Mr Chair, during the E&C Committee debate on item A, Biosecurity Plan, Councillor—forgive me, first time I’m saying it to the record—SRIRANGANATHAN, indicated that contracts in this area were—contractors in the area were spreading seeds. Could I recommend that the Councillor forward those examples to the Chair of City Standards for investigation, thank you.

Mr Chairman, our Committee presentation last week was on the Compliance Coordination Unit (CCU) , also known as the triage team. The CCU is an area of Council that delivers improved community outcomes through responding to community issues by recording, triaging and allocating service requests. The CCU provides education and protects the environment, community safety, health and wellbeing of all residents, as well as building trust with the Brisbane community. I would like to thank the officers for all the hard work they do, often in situations of high tension and emotion. They are Council’s front line and we are very well represented by the wonderful work they do. We didn’t have any petitions, Chair, so I’ll leave the debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any further debate? No debate.

We move to the report on the City Standards Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – COMPLIANCE COORDINATION UNIT – TRIAGE TEAM

**117/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Services (CARS), Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide an overview on the Compliance Coordination Unit (CCU) Triage Team (the team). She provided the information below.

2. The CCU is an area of Council that aims to deliver improved community outcomes. The team enables Council officers to respond to community issues in a timely and cost-effective manner by collaboratively receipting, triaging and allocating service requests. The CCU also contributes to the protection of the environment, community safety, health and wellbeing; providing customer education and building trust with the Brisbane community.

3. The team was formed in December 2020, with the purpose of redirecting existing resources to consolidate the receipt, triage and allocation of work requests for the areas of City Safety and Community Standards. The team was created to service four primary disciplines: Schedule and Dispatch, Built Environment, Environmental Health and Environmental Management. Approximately 100,000 requests are triaged across the four disciplines each year.

4. The Committee was shown a diagram depicting the lifecycle of a request as it passes through the CARS branch. The diagram showed how the CCU is involved with triaging and resolving requests. During the 2021-22 financial year, the team acted as the first point of contact in CARS for the Council’s Contact Centre and Business Hotline. In this role, the officers were able to:

- triage 106,545 customer requests

- allocate 77,039 customer requests to respective work units across CARS and redirect requests to relevant Council work units where required

- close 29,271 incoming customer requests.

5. The team has been working to assist Animal Services, which is comprised of the Animal Management, Animal Attack, and Animal Triage teams. Animal Services is responsible for providing outstanding customer service, educating pet owners and managing situations involving dangerous dogs. The team has been integrated with Animal Services to increase workflow efficiency and improve job prioritisation by resolving low priority incoming enquiries and complaints. This enables Animal Service officers to spend more time conducting investigations and completing assessments.

6. The Committee was shown graphs detailing the number of phone calls and closed complaints the team have completed in Animal Services from January 2021 to July 2022. The team has been providing early education and intervention phone calls about pet management to reduce the number of complaints Council receives from residents. CARS has received positive feedback from the community on the integration of the CCU within Animal Services.

7. The team will continue to be integrated across the City Safety team to help deliver greater efficiencies in assessment processes and work allocation. The team will be provided with cross‑skilling opportunities within Animal Services to further assist with increased workloads in more specialised areas. Council will monitor the team’s performance through an ongoing review, which will assist with future decision‑making around process improvements for the customer and officer experiences. The introduction of case management in some areas is currently being considered.

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

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### COMMUNITY, ARTS AND NIGHTTIME ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Councillor Vicki HOWARD, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before moving to the Committee presentation, I would just like to talk just about a few things that have been happening in our beautiful Brisbane through this last week. Of course, it was Children’s Book Council Week and *Dreaming With Eyes Open* was the book that was chosen for this year. Each year since 1945 the Children’s Book Council of Australia has brought children and books together right across Australia through our schools, our public libraries⎯and I know I attended one of my local schools and I know many Councillors in the Chamber have attended our Gold Star and Little Stars Reading. It is fantastic to think that this is a great opportunity to allow us to encourage our young people to start reading very early.

While we’re talking about libraries, I really want to say a big thank you to Sharon Robertson who left Council after many, many years just recently and we had a farewell for her, which was attended by many of our librarians. It was clear to see that Sharon had touched the hearts of many people during her time here with Council. She’s off to start a whole new career for herself, so we wish Sharon every good will for the future.

We also of course had the wonderful Brisbane Fashion Festival and I know that it was fantastic to see King George Square come alive with all of the wonderful fashions that were there. It was held from 22 to 26 August and it is now the 15th year that the Brisbane Fashion Festival has graced us with their presence. It showcases the very best local fashion designers, including leading industry names, home-grown favourites and the brightest next gen talent. It really was again a fantastic opportunity to see our King George Square come alive and to have those wonderful fashions on display. I also want to mention one of the events that I attended on behalf of the LORD MAYOR last week, which was for swara. Now swara is something that not very many people—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please. Really?

Councillor HOWARD: Shall I continue?

Chair: Yes please, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Don’t be distracted. Look, this is the second time that I’ve visited and it really is the most amazing group of people. It was formed—it’s to celebrate Founders Day and the founders of course were the Pink Twins, Dorothy and Moyia O’Brien. We still have members of the O’Brien family who are members of the board. They have been operating for about⎯I think, 47 years, it said it was founded in 1975 by the Pink Twins and it works to help families and communities. Underlining the Pink Twins’ remarkable work was an understanding that many people with disabilities need a sense of value and a sense of belonging. They need relationships that are secure and not dependent on conformity.

So it was fantastic to join with the wonderful swara people to celebrate Founders Day and we had a fantastic guest speaker called Ahmed Kelly and Ahmed is also nicknamed ‘Liquid Nails’ for his tough as nails style of play. He is an Iraqi-born Australia Paralympian and his many achievements include two gold medals and a silver medal at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. He was an amazing young man and I think that everybody there on the day truly enjoyed hearing his story and how he has overcome a great deal of adversity within his life, but a really wonderful human being that was there for that particular event. Councillor McLACHLAN and I attended—

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Will Councillor HOWARD take a quick question?

Chair: Will you take a quick question, Councillor HOWARD?

Councillor HOWARD: Of course.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks. Through you, Chair, I’m not 100% sure of the truth of this, but is it true that the Pink Twins started swara by squatting in an abandoned property?

Councillor HOWARD: Not that I know of. No, the story that I was told was that they in fact had a premises up at Spring Hill and were there for many, many years and that their current premises was provided to them by the State Government.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Exactly, yes. I think that they’ve come from a family that was quite a benevolent family and one that supported the twins in their desire to help others and that continues today. As I said, the O’Brien family are still part of the Committee and in fact were present last week to help with the celebrations. So Councillor McLACHLAN and I attended the Reconciliation Queensland’s relaunch last week. As we know, BCC has supported the work of Reconciliation Queensland for several years through activities such as the Boundary to Boundary Street Walk. We are committed to progressing our reconciliation through our Reconciliation Action Plan and it was great to join in with many of the people who were there and we recognised many folk on the night. It was fantastic to see that there are people who are working with Reconciliation Queensland to relaunch and to provide that support that we’re very happy to provide as well.

I also attended Little Dreamers, which is a charity for supporting young carers. Councillor OWEN represented the LORD MAYOR and I just popped in, because it is the first time that the young carers have held their graduation ceremony and they held it here at the Museum of Brisbane. I just want to say a big thank you to the Museum of Brisbane, but more importantly a big thank you to all of those who have worked with the young carers. It was an amazing event to see and they were so excited that they were able to hold the event at the Museum of Brisbane.

I also attended the Young Writers’ Festival, which has been going for 25 years, at the Miss Demeanour restaurant in Rowes Lane. Now I have to tell you, I didn’t know that Miss Demeanour was down there in Rowes Lane, so I was very excited to attend and find yet another evidence of our nighttime economy being alive and well. What was even more fantastic was that this particular festival, which has been running for 25 years, held their launch here in Queensland. They’re Newcastle-based, but they felt they wanted to make sure that they had a presence here in Brisbane and so it was fantastic to join them on Sunday evening to do that.

Also while we’re talking about Sunday, we had the QUT (Queensland University of Technology) dragon boat race down at New Farm. Can I just say how fantastic New Farm Park looked on Sunday morning and it was just brilliant that we had all of the QUT people—we had the dragon boat racing people who were so excited that we were able to use New Farm Park. They were very excited because it means that the boats were able to be seen, because it’s quite close to the river. So they’re very much looking forward to holding that again in the future.

I then popped along to Sporties Charity Bakeoff to support our trans community. Yet again we were absolutely thrilled to be able to join that community and have quite a bit of fun, before I went off to the Holy Spirit parish fundraiser, where our multicultural communities all joined together. We had an excellent MC (master of ceremonies) who had us all dancing every different type of dance there was, from all of the wonderful people that attend the Holy Spirit. So it has been quite a week in Brisbane. It’s a fantastic opportunity for me to let you know all of the wonderful things that are happening in Brisbane.

I just want to turn to our presentation last week, which was library services and digital inclusion. We had the Manager from Library Services provide an update on our library services and digital inclusion. In 2021, the Australian Digital Inclusion Index showed that Brisbane is performing above both the national and State averages in terms of its overall inclusion score. So the goals of course are access, affordability and of course digital ability. So we heard about a number of the skills that are being promoted throughout our libraries, our Tech Connect, the fact that we have an introduction to podcasting, which was quite handy because I did my very first podcast with Nelly Harts the other week and I let everybody know that if they wanted to do more podcasting they could pop along to our Brisbane Square, our Indooroopilly or our Sunnybank Hills libraries to learn a little bit more about podcasting.

We have a new makerspace for adults and young people at Carindale Library and Council’s Tech Kids program is another wonderful way of us being able to enjoy our libraries. I will leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Is there any further debate? No further debate.

We move to the vote on this report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – LIBRARY SERVICES AND DIGITAL INCLUSION

**118/2022-23**

1. The Manager, Library Services, Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide an update on library services and digital inclusion. She provided the information below.

2. The Australian Digital Inclusion Index was first developed in 2015 through a collaboration between the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Swinbourne University of Technology and Telstra to ensure all Australians can access and use digital technologies effectively. Digital inclusion is measured through three dimensions:

- access

- affordability

- digital ability.

3. In 2021, the Australian Digital Inclusion Index showed that Brisbane is performing above both the national and state averages in terms of its overall inclusion score.

4. Council’s *Brisbane Vision 2031* outlines Brisbane residents as eager lifelong learners with libraries as one of the key pathways for learning. Additionally, Council’s *A City for Everyone: Inclusive Brisbane Plan 2019-2029* highlights digital participation as a key focus area, aligning with worldwide trends towards inclusivity.

5. Library Services contributes to Council’s digital participation goal. Digital literacy has become a core library service that is observed more broadly in public libraries across the world, taking its place alongside the more traditional thoughts of literacy in terms of reading and writing. Libraries fundamentally provide access to information and in an increasingly digitised world, people need digital skills to freely enjoy that access and participate effectively in the rapidly evolving digital world in order to live well and achieve their goals.

6. Libraries provide an accessible and affordable option to the public; supplying free, reliable and stable access to public computers with internet and other applications. Customers use these computers to apply for jobs, access health information and support, engage with organisations and services online, and to connect socially.

7. In 2021-22, there were more than 236,000 public internet bookings and more than 530,000 Wi‑Fi sessions in Council libraries. This was particularly noticed during the 2022 floods when libraries supported residents who lost access to technology due to loss of power or equipment.

8. Library staff are at the forefront of growing digital literacy skills in the community, supporting customers with walk-in or point‑of-need digital reference support such as assisting customers with printing or searching for online resources. Almost 160,000 digital reference queries were received in 2021, with the most common centred around printing, scanning, Wi-Fi, e-books, apps, emails, smart phones and tablets.

9. In addition to building community skills through responding to digital reference queries, Council’s Library Services also has an extensive suite of digital learning programs and initiatives that library staff regularly schedule, such as Tech Connect, Tech Kids and community engagement and outreach programs.

10. Tech Connect is a digital literacy training program for adults and has been designed to offer digital learning opportunities to contribute to digital ability. There are three tiers within Tech Connect which develop capability in:

- basic and advanced operational skills

- information navigation skills

- social skills

- creative skills

- automation skills (which refers to use of smart devices).

11. A recent addition to the Tech Connect learning suite is the ‘Introduction to podcasting’ sessions hosted at Brisbane Square, Indooroopilly and Sunnybank Hills libraries. A project officer was engaged to develop and pilot the public program and train library staff. Customers can book a podcasting kit for use within the library, free of charge, to record their own podcasts, with customer feedback highlighting the accessibility, relevance and informative and interactive nature of the sessions.

12. Another ongoing program within Tech Connect is the media conversion station sessions at Carindale and Chermside libraries. The programs have been popular since launching in 2021. Customers can attend an ‘Introduction to the media conversion station’ session to learn how to use the equipment, then book to use the equipment to undertake their own digitisation projects. Users can convert old media such as VHS tapes, slides, film negatives, photographs and cassettes into a digital format.

13. A new makerspace for adults and young people at Carindale Library opened as part of the refurbishment in 2021. The makerspace has created opportunities for digital skill building as one part of its creative programming. The space includes a laser cutter, which customers can book to use after completing the laser cutter induction workshop delivered by library staff.

14. Council’s Tech Kids program introduces children aged between five and 12 years of age to robotics, coding, electronics and the video game digital distribution service, Steam. The Tech Kids program provides opportunities for children to develop a wide array of skills both within and beyond the realm of digital learning such as:

- computational thinking

- programming

- device literacy

- directional thinking

- construction and engineering

- mathematics

- fine motor skills.

15. Council has approximately 15 different types of technology that form the basis of the Tech Kids programming, and libraries deploy this technology to run both scheduled and pop-up sessions including during school holidays. The Committee was shown examples of recent robotic additions to the program.

16. Library technology also lends itself to community engagement and outreach programs, enhancing engagement during site visits to local groups and organisations. These sessions raise awareness of what libraries have to offer and provide a reason for participants to engage further with a visit to their local library to experience more.

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

18. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Steven HUANG, Deputy Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Lisa ATWOOD, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 23 August 2022, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HUANG.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week the Committee presentation was from the Strategic Procurement Office to give a market update. It was a timely and informative presentation, given the very challenging external market conditions, which impact not only Council but governments, businesses and households around the world. Supply chain constraints have increased the prices of a range of key inputs. Steel, concrete and timber are literally the building blocks of our infrastructure and costs of all of these commodities are increasing and supply is very tight. The skills and labour shortage is also impacting project delivery and contractor availability.

The Strategic Procurement Office is responding to these challenges to protect ratepayers and support continued project delivery. This includes the increased use of rise and fall clauses to share market risks with suppliers, to ensure projects can go ahead and to not place an unreasonable risk burden on suppliers. We are also ordering materials further in advance and exploring new suppliers and market capacity, such as social enterprises. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Strategic Procurement Office for their important work and I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any debate? No debate.

We now move to the vote on the Finance and City Governance Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – PROCUREMENT UPDATE

**119/2022-23**

1. The Category Manager, Strategic Procurement Office, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to provide an update on procurement. He provided the information below.

2. Council’s procurement spend is across four categories:

- enterprise services

- transport and utilities

- information and communications technology

- construction and operations.

3. Supply chain constraints have caused an upwards pressure on price. Overseas conflict has impacted oil, fuel, electricity and food staples. COVID-19 responses such as lockdowns have impacted supply and continuity and caused delays and additional shipping costs.

4. The practical impacts of the supply chain constraints are evidenced by price increases on the following:

- steel

- pre-mix concrete and pre-case concrete products

- vehicles and equipment

- trucks

- traffic control

- trade labour

- timber

- oil derived products such as fuel, bitumen and bituminous products

- resins and polymers

- aluminium

- imported IT hardware

- personal protective equipment

- professional services.

5. Examples of how Council has responded to the price increases and supply constraints are:

- increased use of ‘rise and fall’ clauses, to share market risk with suppliers

- ordering materials further in advance

- exploring new suppliers and market capacity such as social enterprises

- reducing payment terms to 7 days to support supplier cashflow

- product substitution/redundance

- deferring purchases to level demand where practicable.

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

**ADOPTED**

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Councillors, are there any petitions?

Councillor CUMMING.

Councillor CUMMING: Two petitions, one is a—well I think they’re the same petition, but one’s an online petition opposing 27-storey development at Wynnum Manly and one is a hard copy petition on the same topic. Thank you, I’ll present those petitions.

Chair: Thank you, mic off.

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: I have one petition from residents at Mitchelton, seeking a traffic calming project in the northern parts of Mitchelton.

Chair: Thank you.

Any more petitions?

Councillor LANDERS.

**120/2022-23**

It was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sandy LANDERS, seconded by Councillor Charles STRUNK, 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** |
| 137/220/594/141 | Peter Cumming | Opposing the height of development of a 27-storey building at 89 Bay Terrace, Wynnum. |
| 137/220/594/139 | Peter Cumming | Opposing the height of development of a 27-storey building at 89 Bay Terrace, Wynnum. |
| 137/220/594/140 | Andrew Wines | Requesting Council install traffic calming devices on Glen Holm Street, Mitchelton. |

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

Chair: General Business.

Councillors, are there any statements required as a result of the Office of the Independent Assessor or Councillor Ethics Committee order?

No one rising to their feet.

Councillors, are there any matters of General Business?

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN first.

Councillor SRIRANGANATHAN: Thanks, Chair. Just wanted to speak about an issue that’s popped up in my area, which I think is a pretty significant social justice concern. I had hoped to be able to talk to Councillor MARX about it today but obviously she’s absent. Maybe it’s something that Councillor TOOMEY can at least make a note of to look into and I hope the DEPUTY MAYOR will take an interest in this one as well, because I intend to go to the media about it if we can’t get a resolution. I’m not going to mention the property address, but there’s a property in Woolloongabba, it’s an owner-occupied home where the resident has been living there for quite a long time now. She’s a disability pensioner, she’s had some pretty severe health issues, her disability makes it hard for her to pick up—to make phone calls and she doesn’t use the internet, et cetera.

A few years ago, Council became concerned that the property wasn’t being safely maintained and after a series of investigations and back and forth discussions with various Council teams, the Council issued the resident a show cause notice to make the property safe. Here’s where it starts to become a bit of a problem, the resident started to make repairs to the property, patch up holes in the floor, that sort of thing. Councillor TOOMEY, I’m sure you’ve seen these sorts of issues before, often we’re talking about vulnerable residents who have difficulty maintaining their property. Basically, she’s making repairs to the property, she’s doing as well as she can. Part of the property has been deemed not structurally sound and so the resident and her daughter aren’t living in that part of the building at the moment.

But the Council has now proceeded with enforcement action and they’re taking the resident to court and they want to fine her $5,000 because her own property is deemed unsafe to live in. Now this is in a context where the resident is trying to save up the money to make repairs to the property, is trying to find builders who can undertake the work and get the materials to repair the damaged parts of the property. So we all know how difficult it is at the moment to get builders and to get materials and here we have a situation where a disability pensioner is trying to repair her home, is trying to save up the money to pay for the repairs and the Council, in its infinite wisdom, has decided that it will fine her and take her to court. I believe the court date is 2 September.

So I’ve tried to raise this with Council officers, I only became aware of this on Monday. I haven’t had my calls returned yet, I’ve had one staffer tell me that they’ll get back to me but I still haven’t heard back. I think this is a really poor approach from Council. The logical thing to do would be to give the resident more time to support her to link in with services, to make sure that her property can be made safe. But instead what the Council is doing is saying look, you’re a low-income, disability pensioner, we’re concerned your house isn’t safe, so we’re going to fine you $5,000. We’re going to fine you $5,000 because we think your house isn’t safe and somehow that’s magically meant to make the situation better. It’s a really backwards approach from the Council officers.

I’m not asserting that the LNP Administration has had anything to do with this, I think it’s a series of poor decisions that have just been made at lower levels and no one’s thought to interrogate or cross-examine those decisions, but I do think this is a pretty serious misstep by the Council Administration. It’s not right that a disability pensioner should be fined in circumstances like this, she should be supported to make repairs. Just as the Council has recognised oh, look, it’s hard to repair stuff at the moment, it’s hard to get workers, it’s hard to get materials, we’ll give ourselves more time, the Council should be doing the same thing to residents who are the subject of enforcement notices. I think there can be good reasons for Council to issue enforcement notices for unsafe properties, particularly where property investors aren’t maintaining homes and they’re forcing tenants to live in unsafe housing situations, but that’s not what’s happening here.

This is an owner-occupier home, where the owner-occupier has lived there for a long time and they personally feel safe in that home and they’re avoiding the parts of the house that are no longer safe to live in. But the Council is issuing fines and pursuing them through the courts and I think that’s a terrible misuse of Council resources⎯I think it’s terribly unfair to the resident. I think it’s very disappointing that it’s gotten to this point. I understand that some of the Community Services Council officers have now been told not to engage with this resident because the Council’s taking her to court. So that means that other Council workers have been told they can’t support her anymore. I’m not 100% sure whether that’s correct, I hope that’s wrong, but it wouldn’t be the first time that that sort of thing has happened. So we have a resident who needs support, who needs to be shown care and consideration and instead the Council’s going with litigation. I think that’s really disappointing.

So I don’t know if the Mayor or the DEPUTY MAYOR are listening, I hope they’ll look into this one personally. In Councillor MARX’s absence I hope Councillor TOOMEY will at least take an interest, because this is an opportunity where Council could very easily say oh, look, we’re not going to proceed with court action, we’ll give the resident a few more months to repair her property and make it safe. That would be a much better outcome than putting people through the pain and stress of having to defend themselves in court because the Council has decided that the resident is not maintaining their own property satisfactorily. It’s just a misapplication of the way the rules were intended to work. I’ll leave it at that, but if any Councillors want to chat to me privately afterwards, I’m happy to talk further.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor MACKAY.

Councillor MACKAY: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak about Alderman L.W. Green, the former representative for Ithaca Ward. If you haven’t heard of Alderman Green, I’d be surprised. In fact, I think everyone in this Chamber is well familiar with his name, even if they’re not aware of it, having been exposed to his legacy every Tuesday for Chamber sittings. Chair, keen-eyed Councillors would know who Alderman Green is, in fact, every Tuesday they sit under a plaque dedicated to him. You’ll note that Alderman Green was killed in action fighting for Australia in Egypt on 1 September 1942, that’s 80 years ago this Thursday. Because of the poignancy of this moment, I felt it important to put on record some of his history and that of his unit.

While it was difficult to find much information specific to Alderman Green, I can tell you the story of the 2/15th Battalion of which he was a part. The 2/15th Infantry Battalion was raised at Redbank in Brisbane on 1 May 1940, as part of the 20th Brigade. The battalion did its basic training there and then did three months garrison duty in Darwin. At the end of 1940, the 20th Brigade, as part of the 9th Division sailed to the Middle East via India. It arrived at El Kantara in Egypt at the start of 1941 and moved to Palestine for desert training. They racked up some miles in March, travelling throughout the Libyan Desert to the frontline near Mersa Brega, including Mersa Matruh, Bug Bug, Tobruk, Derna, Tocra, Benghazi and Agedabia. The 2/15th moved to Gabel El Gira on 27 March and then Barce. German forces landed at Tripoli and were advancing eastward.

It was involved in the withdrawal of British forces to Tobruk, referred to as the Benghazi handicap. The withdrawal cost the battalion heavily, their commanding officer, second in command and 154 men were captured at El Gazala. The Battalion moved to Hill 69 near Gaza, where it remained into 1942. In early July 1942, the Second World War in North Africa became critical for the British Eight Army, where Axis forces reached El Alamein in Egypt. Australia’s 9th Division rushed from Syria to the Alamein area and held the northern sector for almost four months, while the British Eight Army reinforced under a new commander. The 2/15th remained there throughout August 1942.

At this time, the atmosphere in the Middle East was tense, very tense. The Axis forces were gathering—and literal storm clouds were gathering overhead. There was no doubt a battle of epic proportions was brewing. By 23 August, the British staff expected that Rommel would attack in the moonlight period between 25 August and 1 September, and it had been decided that as an immediate counterstroke, a diversionary raid would be made by the 20th Brigade. At 10.20 am on 30 August—that’s 80 years ago today, Australian sentries found a British soldier who had escaped the Germans as a POW (prisoner of war). He revealed vital information about the German defences.

So it was that Operation Bulimba was planned, where Australia’s 2/15th Battalion was to launch a mini-attack against the Germans on 1 September. I think it’s poignant that the operation was named Bulimba, not only did it have a local feel for a battalion raised at Redbank, but it was also the name of a former Brisbane Council in which a Brisbane Alderman was serving. By 5.15am on 1 September, the infantry were out of their trucks and formed 1,000 yards ahead of their own lines and 2,500 yards from their objective. They moved off exactly on time, with two companies forward on a 600-yard front and they reached the outer wire of the enemy’s minefield just before the artillery lifted.

As a lowly private, Alderman Green would have been right on the front line, right in the face of the biting bullets and with shells exploding all around. Tragically, this was no mini-attack, the fighting was vicious and sadly nearly half of his battalion was listed as a casualty, wounded, killed or captured. As an example of the ferocity I’ll read a brief passage. Corporal McLaughlin led a section that came under fire from an enemy outpost on the left. He bayonetted three men in this post and then, taking a submachine gun from a wounded man, attacked a second post and killed four of its occupants. He next attacked another post 200 yards ahead, killing four Germans with grenades and then, having no ammunition left, assaulted four Germans using his Tommy gun as a club. One of these men attacked him, but he knocked him out with a kick and disposed of the rest with a grenade. You can see how tense the fighting was.

In Operation Bulimba, on 1 September 1942, 140 German prisoners were taken and estimated 150 were killed. The 2/15th Battalion lost 39 killed, 109 wounded and 25 missing. Alderman Green was one of 183 casualties in his battalion that day. We have only one national flag, which was first flown in 1901. Through you Chair to Councillor COOK, you once asked if the Australian flag was a hill worth dying on. Well Alderman Green and the other 38 Australian soldiers died on a hill for our flag and for our country. Hopefully from this point forward, people in this place will see and appreciate the plaque on the Chamber’s western wall with a renewed understanding and a greater respect. I respect Alderman Green’s service and I thank him for his sacrifice.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MACKAY.

Are there any further speakers in General Business?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I want to rise to speak on a couple of events that happened over the weekend, or from last Friday and through the weekend. The first of course is Legacy Week, which commenced on Sunday of course and goes through for the rest of the week. I encourage all Councillors and anyone watching to invest in a little bit of a pin—lapel pin, or anything else that they sell at the kiosks where the Legacy team is out there raising much needed funds. Now I didn’t really have a full understanding of what Legacy work—what the Legacy teams do and the work they do with the families. But I attended what they call a Backyard Assist Legacy event on Friday and met up with a group from Legacy. There were probably about seven or eight actually from Legacy, but there was also a large contingent of army personnel from the Enoggera Barracks that were in attendance.

What they were doing of course, was they were helping bring the garden—which was quite overgrown because the lady who resides there of course is a fair age and she’s not able to keep up with the quarter-acre block, which is quite a big sized block. But they were there going through it systematically and taking out those plants and trees, mostly palms, that she could no longer care for. They were bringing it into some sort of—they were making sure that the garden was a much easier garden to look after. Again, I didn’t really have a full understanding of how this work has been happening over the years of course, until you talk to a couple of the Legacy people and they tell you that they’ve been doing this work for—well Legacy Week actually as an appeal of course started in the 1940s.

But Legacy came out of World War I actually, as far as a project. Again, I didn’t have a full understanding, but evidently at the moment they’re looking after 43,000 partners and family of veterans who served this country and are no longer alive. So it’s really good to see that someone’s out there looking after the families. These Legacy people are really absolutely charming people to talk to and to deal with. You could just see everyone was smiling, the army contingent was out there as well, they just couldn’t speak highly enough of the work that Legacy is doing. It was just an absolute thrill to actually be there on Friday to see what was actually happening.

The second item that I wanted to speak about as well is in regards to a citizenship ceremony that took place at the Karawatha College—Brisbane Karawatha College. It’s not within my ward, but one of my team volunteered to help out for the catering and so she came back and told me who was there and put together some notes, which I very much appreciate. It was the first citizenship ceremony in all of Australia to be hosted by a Muslim organisation and it was the first Islamic school to actually act as host for the ceremony. So it was a first and I think that deserves to be talked about here tonight. Janeth Deen, who was one of the main drivers behind the ceremony being undertaken at the Islamic College, Janeth is a descendant of the first five Muslim families that settled in Brisbane.

She is a retired secretary, school teacher, a volunteer community worker, she is the director of the Muslim Charitable Foundation, trustee of the Holland Park Mosque, president of the Queensland Multicultural Council, cofounder of the—president of the Queensland Muslim Historical Society, curator of the Queensland Muslim Museum and board director of the Islamic College of Brisbane. One very busy lady. There were 100 people that were sworn in at the event. Dr Jim Chalmers, Federal Member for Logan and the Treasurer of Australia was the presiding officer. James Martin, MP (Member of Parliament) for Streeton of course, was there as well and there were many other representatives from other organisations that came along to witness the swearing in ceremony of 100 of our newest citizens.

I’d like to also commend Councillor Kim MARX for organising the plants for the ceremony. Now it was outside of her ward, but when she heard that they were—that none of the plants—that they needed some of those plants for the participants or the people who were being sworn in and their families, she stepped into the breach and made sure the plants were available. There were people from approximately 36 countries that took part in the ceremony and I just wanted to raise that tonight because it was a first in Queensland and Australia in regards to a ceremony that was undertaken by a Muslim organisation at a Muslim school here in Brisbane. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers in General Business?

Councillor CUMMING.

Councillor CUMMING: Thank you, Mr Chair. Mr Chair, I wish to speak briefly about the passing of a prominent citizen of the Wynnum Manly Ward and another Green, Mr Paul Green. Paul was a prominent rugby league player and then went on to be a very successful coach. He coached the Wynnum team to premierships in the State league competition in 2011 and 2012, and he also coached the Cowboys—the North Queensland Cowboys, to their one and only premiership in 2015, when sadly they beat the Broncos, but it was a great game. Paul was a born and bred Wynnum bloke, he was only 49 years of age when he took his life and, sadly, left a lovely wife, young children, 13 and nine years of age, and elderly parents of—I think his dad’s in his 90s and his mum’s in her late 80s.

So it was all very sad, but around about 1,000 people attended the event and that’s why I was late for Council today. Sorry, I just put that in as well and I didn’t even stay for the wake. Paul went through Wynnum High, got 990 TE (tertiary entrance) score, he’d done some courses at Harvard. He was a keen pilot and had a pilot’s licence and a helicopter pilot’s licence as well. He was working, he was doing other work developing—I think they called it high performance courses for the local developer, BMD, he’d done some work on them. So he could turn his mind to anything and as I said, very successful, very intelligent.

The service was very, very well done. His wife spoke, the two children spoke, which I found outstanding that they were able to—they spoke, spoke very well. The local head of Bartons motor vehicle company in Wynnum, Mark Beitz, spoke very well, as did Mick Power from BMD and also a number of Paul’s siblings. He was one of five children, he was the youngest of five and three of his siblings spoke as well. So there was around about 1,000 people there at the Kougari Oval Wynnum Manly Leagues Club and it was a great tribute to Paul. Character wise, as a bloke, he always liked to be at the party, what do you call it—life of the party, that’s it.

He also fancied himself as a singer—a karaoke singer at that time of night, but he did it on a regular basis. They had actually a clip of him singing and he wasn’t too bad, I thought, quite decent. But very sad that he would take his own life and I think it just shows the importance of mental illness, the importance of groups that have set up hotlines for people to ring up if they’ve got problems, if they feel there’s no future for them. I thought I should mention to the Chamber that that’s where I was and that it’s an important issue. I think we all should take on to a certain extent and I think we all do, supporting those types of issues in our wards and across the city. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, hear, hear.

Is there any further General Business? No further General Business.

## CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADJOURNED MOTION:

Chair: Councillors, we move to the urgency motion that was moved earlier by Councillor JOHNSTON, and the debate continues. Is there any further debate?

Councillor HUANG.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Excuse me, Councillor HUANG, just before you start, I should read it out because it’s been circulated, just so everyone’s aware of what the debate is. This was circulated by Councillor JOHNSTON.

Thank you for sending that through.

The motion is that the LORD MAYOR provide a list of all existing and new sandbag collection locations in Brisbane.

Sorry to interrupt you, Councillor HUANG. The floor is yours.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak in relation to this motion. The LORD MAYOR has addressed this matter earlier in his report. As Councillors are aware, the de Jersey review made recommendations in relation to sandbags, which Council is actioning along with every other recommendation. I wish to provide additional details sourced from the Council website, which may be of interest for other Councillors in the Chamber. ‘Sandbags can be used to reduce the impact of flooding on your home or business. Sandbags will not stop the water entirely, but can reduce the amount of water entering your premises. Brisbane City Council provides prefilled sandbags to residents and businesses in the Council area. From October to March, prefilled sandbags are available for collection 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Sandbags are provided outside these months when there is severe weather predicted, for example, in higher than normal high tides and heavily rainfall events. Sandbags can be collected at the following locations. In Darra, South depot, 28 Shamrock Road; Lota, Lota depot, 58 Herbert Street, Lota; Morningside, Balmoral depot, 9 Redfern Street; Newmarket, SES depot, 66 Wilston Road; Zillmere, North depot, 33 Jennings Street. As further locations are confirmed, the website will be updated. Given this information is publicly available and is ready on the Council website, the motion is not required.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Well the motion clearly was required because the LORD MAYOR wasn’t able to give an answer. He ranted and raved for seven minutes, the first seven minutes of his E&C contribution, saying that apparently we didn’t want to hear the answer to where these additional sandbag locations would be, but still didn’t provide them. Councillor HUANG has read verbatim—I was just following along with him, from the Council website, which was last updated on 8 March 2022. That was the last time the Council website was updated, so how regularly is it going to be updated? The recommendation was clear that more sandbag locations were required and that should be delivered on by 31 August. Today is the 30th, so will this be updated, through you Chair to Councillor HUANG, tomorrow? The website? I assume that’s what he meant, Chair, when he said this will be updated when new information is provided.

If that’s the case, if Councillor HUANG is saying the website will be updated tomorrow with the additional locations, why didn’t the LORD MAYOR just tell us where they were? This is a real issue, this is a real issue. I spent three days at the Zillmere sandbag depot, at the Zillmere depot, at the sandbag filling machine over that weekend in February—the last weekend in February 2022, where they had one single sandbag machine which was not able to keep up with demand. There weren’t enough Council staff available to run it anyway, because the breaks that those staff needed to take meant that for half an hour, or 45 minutes, or in between a shift changeover, an hour went by without any sandbags being produced whatsoever.

Now I know the LORD MAYOR went to a depot and got some photos on that weekend in February, on the last weekend in February in 2022, with a sandbag machine. Of those locations that Councillor HUANG read out from the website, I’m not sure, correct me if I’m wrong, Councillor CUMMING, through you Chair, I don’t think Lota has a machine, I think they were delivered to Lota. So then there’s four locations with a machine. I know Zillmere, which is for the entire northern suburbs of Brisbane. There’s the Newmarket, no one from Bracken Ridge or Aspley or Carseldine or Fitzgibbon or Bald Hills that’s flooding, or Brighton or Sandgate or Deagon or Shorncliffe or Boondall or Zillmere or Taigum or Aspley or Geebung that’s flooding, or Wavell Heights is flooding, McDowall out there and Banyo. They’re not going to Newmarket, they’re all relying on the Zillmere depot which was cut off pretty rapidly in floodwaters, where there’s one machine located.

So the review was very clear and that was one of the main parts of my contribution to the de Jersey review, was that the suburbs north of Zillmere are cut off from that depot, they need additional sandbag locations. In the past, Council officers, the regional coordinator for Asset Services as it was then known, organised for truckloads of sandbags to be dropped to Brighton in these events. Well they’re no longer allowed to do that, well those people don’t exist. Those officers didn’t even have any equipment to close roads, let alone organise trucks to deliver sandbags to communities that were cut off from these locations. So the recommendations are very clear, that more locations across the city, across the suburbs that make up Brisbane, need to have access to sandbags so we don’t have a repeat of previous disasters. It’s like lessons haven’t been learnt.

I presume that this website will be updated tomorrow. Why we couldn’t be told today is beyond me and the LORD MAYOR has the gall to say well, we’re playing politics on this side of the Chamber, when he is clearly playing politics with the flow of vital information when it comes to flood preparedness. Now we know that there are two officers in Council in that City Resilience branch who are tasked with disaster preparation. The LORD MAYOR clearly doesn’t like to hear that, that they’ve only resourced two positions and the one that was previously resourced prior to this year was paid for by the State Government—by a grant from the State Government. So Council didn’t even allocate one cent to fund positions within Council to help communities prepare for disaster.

Now after the February disaster, that has finally been boosted 100% to two, but it’s just not good enough when we’re getting on to the seventh month since this flood disaster and we’re having the LORD MAYOR either not know what’s going on, or does know what’s going on and is keeping it hidden from half the Chamber at least. So I certainly hope if the LNP aren’t going to support this that we can refresh this webpage tomorrow, Councillor HUANG, through you Chair, and find these additional locations so our communities can be prepared.

Chair: Thank you.

Further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you to those who’ve contributed to the debate. It’s interesting, isn’t it, the LORD MAYOR couldn’t be bothered to be here for the debate of this motion today. The Chair of the Infrastructure Committee who’s the Chairperson for the Flood Recovery Taskforce couldn’t be bothered to be here for this debate today and the DEPUTY MAYOR is not in the Chamber either. I think it is disgusting that this Council is hiding and obfuscating when it comes to flood recovery. Tomorrow, on 31 August, Paul de Jersey, who went above and beyond to get his report out early to Brisbane City Council, has 12 recommendations that are due to be reported upon and completed by Brisbane City Council, 12 of them and they range across a whole lot of issues to do with preparedness, planning, resilience.

One of those recommendations is about addressing the problems with sandbag delivery execution during February 2022. Now I know from feedback from local residents in my ward that they could not get to Darra to get the sandbags. Roads are cut out my way very early and then for days you can’t move around the ward, so it’s not possible to get to Darra. I know that the Newmarket depot was closed and there were massive traffic jams and there were no sandbags available during the extreme weather incident. I don’t know necessarily about the others on the northside, but I know that the only spot you can get a sandbag in the southern suburbs of Brisbane is at Darra. In the eastern suburbs there is Morningside and Lota.

It is beyond embarrassing and shameful that the response to a motion based on a recommendation by the former Governor of Queensland, Paul de Jersey, that a backbench LNP Councillor is sent out here to read verbatim what is on the Council website. That is the same information that was found wanting in the February 2022 flood that Paul de Jersey has said to Council you must address by 31 August. That is tomorrow. When asked about it today in Council by Kara COOK, Councillor Kara COOK, the LORD MAYOR went on the attack. He attacked Labor, he said they didn’t care.

He went for five minutes in his question and did not answer the question about whether any additional machines have been purchased and where any new locations are. We know now there are no new machines and there are no additional sandbag locations. The same defective locations for a whole heap of reasons, a whole heap of reasons, demand, flooding, lack of bags, whatever it is, there’s a whole heap of reasons for this. We know that Council’s response to a flood if one happened tomorrow is exactly the same as it was six months ago. That is not good enough. The LORD MAYOR has stood up in this place and publicly promised that all 37 recommendations from the de Jersey report would be actioned.

Well here we are on the eve of when 12 of the 37 recommendations are due, here we are and at the first hurdle the LNP Administration has epically failed on something as simple as working out where they could put some extra sandbag locations for residents to get to. Now after he realised his mistake in failing to answer the question, he then in his own speech also went on the attack and claimed there was some super Saturday sandbag day coming up in September. That’s three weeks away, he hasn’t told anybody about that and the only reason we know that is because another Councillor asked him a question and after he was embarrassed publicly at his lack of knowledge and understanding, he then got some information and stood up and said in his report there’s going to be some super sandbag thing.

Well we know, because it’s already been the case since as long as I’ve been a Councillor, that you can go during the summer months and get a sandbag from those depots. That’s not the issue, the issue is that when people want to get them they have to be able to get to those locations to collect the sandbags. Now most people don’t have a huge empty garden shed or empty garages or whatever it might be to store 10 cubic metres of sandbags to protect their houses. The only reason you really need sandbags is in an emergency, so most people don’t go and get them in advance. Now certainly we will all—I will and I already have, yesterday—encourage people to go and get some. However, this Council needs to take on board the de Jersey review recommendation and provide additional locations that are easily accessible.

Evacuation centres are supposed to be clear tomorrow as well. The LORD MAYOR was asked a question about that and can’t answer. Here we are, six months in to the floods and 12 report recommendations are due and the LORD MAYOR cannot answer any of the questions. This Council was woefully prepared back in February, they ignored all the advice from me and other Councillors that we’re flooding—that it was flooding. Even after telling the LORD MAYOR and senior Council officers it’s flooding in my ward, they denied it was flooding. This Council does not understand the task that is ahead and they have failed at the first hurdle. We now know, it’s very clear there are no new sandbag locations. It will be the same old business as usual by this LNP Administration and that is simply not good enough.

They must act on the de Jersey report recommendations. They have until tomorrow to do so, otherwise the glossy marketing saying ‘You’ve delivered’, which you put out after 2011, which clearly was false information at that point, will again be false as of tomorrow. It’s not just this one recommendation, there are 11 others due tomorrow. So I think that the failure of the LORD MAYOR to be present, the failure of the DEPUTY MAYOR to be present, the failure of the flood taskforce recovery Chairperson to be present, demonstrates what this Administration thinks about flood recovery in Brisbane. They can’t even be bothered to turn up, be part of a debate and to look at how to improve our responses to flood preparedness by having additional sandbag locations.

Now I’m pretty certain that among us we could easily find at least one other location in each of the regions in Brisbane, at least. There are Council facilities where sandbag locations would be useful and could easily be done. Even if they’re a pop-up location, which as Councillor CASSIDY mentioned, truck them in and deliver them. But this Administration is not even prepared to look at an innovative response like that. What they have said is information from 8 March 2022, that is exactly the same information that was available the day before the floods as the day after that flood. Go to the same old depots, doing the same old things and get your sandbags from there. That is not good enough.

This is the second flood that I have been through in this community and after 2011, Council failed, fundamentally failed to undertake flood recovery and resilience and preparedness actions. It’s centralised command and control and it made flood recovery extremely difficult for communities because we were shut out of any Council involvement. This time round, Paul de Jersey has given Council a blueprint, which to be fair is pretty light on—it wasn’t the most detailed report, but it did have some useful practical things in it, of which finding some additional locations for sandbags seems like a pretty quick win, right?

Remember the good old days? There’s still the odd Councillor here from when I started. Back then you’d get a few quick wins on the board and you’d be like yes, we’re doing X, Y and Z and the harder things we’re looking at, they’re going to take a bit longer. This Administration can’t even be turned up to the debate and their answer to a recommendation is we’ll do exactly the same thing that we did six months ago before the floods, now six months later. That is not good enough.

The LNP Administration should be ashamed of themselves and this shows very clearly why this LORD MAYOR and the LNP Council do not deserve to be running this Council Administration. They must be voted out at the election in 2024. If they’re not going to be accountable for flood recovery and actually actioning the recommendations of the de Jersey report, they do not deserve to be leading this Council, they do not deserve to be in this Administration. They are tired, out of touch and clearly are not interested in doing the work on flood planning and recovery.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, thank you, your time has expired.

We now move to the vote on this motion.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

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

NOES: 13 - Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Tracy DAVIS, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, David McLACHLAN, Ryan MURPHY and Steven TOOMEY.

Chair: I declare the meeting closed.

## QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

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

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (received on 25 August 2022)**

**Q1.** How much has been spent on social media advertising by Brisbane City Council in the 2021-2022 financial year, and the 2022-2023 financial year to date, broken down by the advertising campaign and social media channel (eg Facebook, TikTok etc)?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Platform** | **2021 – 2022** | **2022 – 2023 (to date)** |
| Facebook |  |  |
| Instagram |  |  |
| LinkedIn |  |  |
| Snapchat |  |  |
| Twitter |  |  |
| Other (any other advertising that does not fall into above categories) |  |  |

**Q2.** Provide a breakdown of all advertising to promote the Brisbane Metro project (by financial year):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ADVERTISING** | **2021 – 2022** | **2022-2023 (to date)** |
| Social media |  |  |
| Social Media Influencers |  |  |
| Newspaper |  |  |
| Brochures/ Flyers |  |  |
| Radio |  |  |
| Television |  |  |
| Other (any other advertising that does not fall into above categories) |  |  |

**Q3.** Please provide the total number of visitors to the Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre as per following table:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Visitor Numbers** |
| July |  |
| August |  |

**Submitted by Councillor Nicole Johnston (received on 25 August 2022)**

**Q1.** What is the total amount allocated for sponsorship of community events in the 2022-23 Council Budget?

**Q2.** Please provide a list of sponsorship events funded by organisation name, suburb and value that are already approved in 2022-23?

**Q3.** Please provide a list of sponsorship events currently awaiting approval by organisation name, suburb and value in 2022-23?

**Q4.** Please provide a list of sponsorship events funded by organisation name, suburb and value that were approved in 2021-22?

**Q5.** Please provide a list of bus routes by number, identified to date by Council for removal as part of the Metro Bus Network Review?

**Q6.** Please provide a list of bus routes, by number, identified to date by Council for truncation as part of the Metro Bus Networks Review?

**Q7.** Please advise how the $56,000 for Supporting Suburban Business in service 7.1.1.1 is being allocated? Please provide the name of any precincts as well as location and funding details?

## 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 23 August 2022)**

**Q1.** Please list all of the legal firms, or legal professional individuals, that Council engages for any type of legal services?

***A1.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Gilshenan & Luton* | *Clayton Utz* | *Gadens Lawyers* | *Ashurst* |
| *Colin Biggers & Paisley* | *McCullough Robertson Lawyers* | *Minter Ellison* | *Herbert Smith Freehills* |
| *HopgoodGanim* | *Ben Job* | *Ronald Yuen* | *Graham J Gibson* |
| *Douglas Quayle* | *Nicholas Loos* | *Tom Sullivan QC* | *James Lyons* |
| *John Joseph Ware* | *Christopher Murdoch* | *Rodney Litster* | *Andrew Herbert* |
| *Benjamin Dighton* | *Michael Trim* | *Benjamin Rix* | *Andrew N S Skoien* |
| *Georgia Kiss* | *Amelia Wheatley* | *Susan Hedge* | *Katherine Buckley* |
| *Gareth Beacham* | *Del Villar* | *Michael Trim* | *Mitchel Batty* |
| *Timothy Stork* | *Daniel Caruana* | *Salwa Marsh* | *Nikki Lee A Khavari* |
| *Richard Jones* | *Scott McLeod* | *Jane Bowness* |  |

**Q2.** How much funding will Inala Wangarra receive from Council in milestone payments in the 2022/2023 financial year and for what purpose is the funding intended for?

***A2.*** *$100,000. The funding is for the development of Inala Wangarra’s arts and cultural programs.*

**Q3.** Of the 1,400 Brisbane City Council employees that work in Brisbane Square how many are currently working from home?

**Q4.** How many of all Brisbane City Council employees across Brisbane are currently working from home?

**Q5.** How many Brisbane City Council employees across Brisbane are working from home for part of the week?

**Q6.** How many staff work from Brisbane City Council Green Square?

**Q7.** How many Brisbane City Council Green Square staff are currently working from home?

***A3 to A7.***

*This information varies on a day-to-day basis, and an accurate answer cannot be provided.*

**Q8.** Provide a list of all non-park projects completed under Suburban Enhancement Fund for 2021-22 financial year including the type of project (e.g. new footpath construction), a summary of works done, the total cost, park name and Ward.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PROJECT TYPE** | **SUMMARY OF PROJECT** | **COST BREAKDOWN** | **LOCATION** | **WARD** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

***A8.***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Bracken Ridge Ward* | *Denver Road, Carseldine - footpath* | *$32,091* |
| *Deagon Ward* | *Curlew St, Sandgate - footpath* | *$29,958* |
| *Deagon Ward* | *Rainbow St, Sandgate - footpath & bike rack* | *$18,820* |
| *Deagon Ward* | *Prince St, Brighton - footpath* | *$96,455* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Massey St, Ascot - footpath* | *$10,480* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Jackson St, Hamilton - footpath* | *$63,631* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Dawson Street, Kalinga - Footpath* | *$35,913* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Hampden Street, Ascot - Footpath* | *$52,125* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Lancaster Rd, Ascot - footpath* | *$181,154* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Sandgate Rd, Albion - footpath design* | *$11,916* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Pringle St, Ascot - footpath* | *$69,893* |
| *Hamilton Ward* | *Onslow St, Ascot - footpath* | *$36,694* |
| *Marchant Ward* | *Eustace St, Aspley - footpath* | *$12,660* |
| *Marchant Ward* | *Nevin St, Aspley - footpath* | *$38,168* |
| *Marchant Ward* | *Kroshanne St, Aspley - footpath* | *$26,258* |
| *Marchant Ward* | *Devona St, Aspley - footpath* | *$71,779* |
| *Marchant Ward* | *Yiada St, Kedron - footpath* | *$80,019* |
| *Marchant Ward* | *Kittyhawk Dr, Chermside - sign* | *$16,247* |
| *McDowall Ward* | *Grice St, Stafford - footpath* | *$26,797* |
| *McDowall Ward* | *Backford St, Chermside - footpath* | *$60,706* |
| *McDowall Ward* | *Kenna St, Chermside West - footpath* | *$38,608* |
| *McDowall Ward* | *O'Toole St Everton Park - footpath* | *$80,191* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Pedley St, Wavell Heights - footpath* | *$89,640* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Nudgee Rd, Nudgee - footpath* | *$15,961* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Killeen St, Northgate - footpath* | *$49,938* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Approach Rd, Banyo - footpath* | *$27,644* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Sturt St, Kedron - footpath* | *$41,830* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Acacia Ave, Northgate - footpath* | *$17,359* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *Maddocks St, Virginia - footpath* | *$46,873* |
| *Northgate Ward* | *London St, Nundah - concrete footpath* | *$102,905* |
| *Chandler Ward* | *Ridgeview Street, Carindale - footpath* | *$55,052* |
| *Chandler Ward* | *Stendall Street, Wakerley - footpath* | *$18,887* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Martha Street, Camp Hill - VPP contribution* | *$100,521* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Myrtle St, Woolloongabba - footpath* | *$17,685* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Norman St, Coorparoo - footpath* | *$63,262* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Wakefield St, Coorparoo - footpath* | *$24,629* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Spica St, Coorparoo - footpath* | *$22,478* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Ashton St, Camp Hill -footpath* | *$74,066* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Brian St, Camp Hill - footpath* | *$24,642* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Eva St, Coorparoo - footpath* | *$32,100* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Thomas Street, Camp Hill - footpath* | *$37,515* |
| *Coorparoo Ward* | *Heath St, East Brisbane - Seat Slabs* | *$7,029* |
| *Doboy Ward* | *Hemmant-Tingalpa Road, Hemmant - footpath* | *$50,464* |
| *Holland Park Ward* | *Moorbell Street, Tarragindi - footpath* | *$89,062* |
| *Holland Park Ward* | *Smith Street, Holland Park - footpath* | *$18,089* |
| *Holland Park Ward* | *Mt Gravatt Outlook, Holland Park – footpath & retaining wall* | *$54,855* |
| *Holland Park Ward* | *Ruby Avenue, Tarragindi - footpath* | *$33,150* |
| *Holland Park Ward* | *Hawkwood Street, Mt Gravatt East - footpath* | *$42,332* |
| *Morningside Ward* | *D'Arcy Road, Seven Hills - carpark formalisation design & construct* | *$337,391* |
| *Wynnum Manly Ward* | *Natasha Street, Wynnum West - footpath* | *$73,030* |
| *Forest Lake Ward* | *Forest Lake Blvd, Forest Lake - New median fence* | *$52,836* |
| *MacGregor Ward* | *Craig St, Wishart - footpath* | *$50,337* |
| *MacGregor Ward* | *Bellot St, Wishart - footpath* | *$56,786* |
| *MacGregor Ward* | *Kidd St, Robinson - footpath* | *$46,051* |
| *MacGregor Ward* | *Tolson St, Upper Mt Gravatt - footpath* | *$25,115* |
| *Moorooka Ward* | *Dora St Moorooka - footpath* | *$60,040* |
| *Moorooka Ward* | *Toohey Rd Nathan-footpath* | *$37,534* |
| *Moorooka Ward* | *Wallace St Moorooka - footpath* | *$49,455* |
| *Moorooka Ward* | *Sinclair St Moorooka - footpath* | *$27,528* |
| *Moorooka Ward* | *Amery St Moorooka - footpath* | *$74,269* |
| *Moorooka Ward* | *Blunder Rd Durack - footpath* | *$49,319* |
| *Runcorn Ward* | *Warrigal Rd, Eight Mile Plains - Fencing* | *$53,486* |
| *Runcorn Ward* | *Nemies Rd, Runcorn - Footpath* | *$7,035* |
| *Runcorn Ward* | *Lister St Sunnybank footpath (Gager Street Park)* | *$24,897* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Hodge St, Corinda - footpath* | *$52,522* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Tweedale St, Graceville - fooptath* | *$45,958* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Christianson St, Yeronga - footpath* | *$54,743* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Bell Tce, Graceville - footpath* | *$48,392* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Jutland St, Oxley - footpath* | *$93,104* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Dewar and Marlborough St, Sherwood – Pedestrian refuge* | *$26,110* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Clara St, Corinda - footpath* | *$19,858* |
| *Tennyson Ward* | *Ormadale Rd, Yeronga - footpath* | *$10,511* |
| *Enoggera Ward* | *Hall St, Alderley - Footpath* | *$86,702* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Amarina Ave Ashgrove tree planting - Investigations* | *$7,456* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Eidsvold Street Keperra - Laneway* | *$26,000* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Eidsvold St Keperra Stage one - Footpath* | *$87,915* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Keperra Street Keperra - Footpath* | *$33,633* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Barrabooka Drive The Gap - footpath* | *$37,307* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Kalimna Street The Gap - footpath* | *$36,201* |
| *The Gap Ward* | *Palana Street The Gap - footpath* | *$54,907* |
| *Pullenvale Ward* | *Bainbridge Drive Pullenvale - road* | *$31,743* |
| *Pullenvale Ward* | *Bindleys Rd Mt Crosby - road* | *$9,868* |
| *Pullenvale Ward* | *Pinjarra Road, Pinjarra Hills - Footpath* | *$81,130* |
| *Pullenvale Ward* | *Pullenvale Road Pullenvale - Footpath* | *$80,522* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Burbong Street Chapel Hill - fencing* | *$60,977* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *High Street – Tunnel upgrade* | *$33,688* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Landscape various sites* | *$27,034* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Frederick Street Taringa - footpath* | *$15,383* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Fairley Street Indooroopilly - Footpath* | *$34,763* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Woodstock Ave Taringa - footpath* | *$16,179* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Benson Street - Bike Repair Station* | *$8,022* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Fig Tree Pocket Road - Gani Gani Childcare Footpath* | *$30,000* |
| *Walter Taylor Ward* | *Jesmond Road Fig Tree Pocket - footpath* | *$46,000* |
| *Jamboree Ward* | *Monier Road, Darra – footpath* | *$21,614* |
| *Jamboree Ward* | *Emblem St Jamboree Heights - footpath* | *$51,957* |
| *The Gabba Ward* | *Hardgrave Rd West End Granville to Whynot - footpath widening* | *$133,799* |
| *The Gabba Ward* | *Vulture St, West End/ Thomas St - Design* | *$4,514* |
| *The Gabba Ward* | *Blakeney St Highgate Hill – build out design* | *$17,348* |
| *The Gabba Ward* | *Sch44 Deakin St KP Tree Surround* | *$21,226* |
| *Paddington Ward* | *Kent St, Red Hill - new footpath* | *$21,243* |
| *Paddington Ward* | *Fletcher Pde Bardon - new footpath* | *$41,884* |
| *Paddington Ward* | *Dunsmore st new footpath* | *$27,861* |
| *Paddington Ward* | *Rosewood st Bardon – footpath* | *$17,066* |
| *Paddington Ward* | *Simpson Street, Bardon - Footpath* | *$20,252* |
| *Paddington Ward* | *Picot St Kelvin Grove new footpath* | *$33,384* |

**Q9.** Advise the total number of properties made available through Council’s Community Housing Partnership Project during the 2021-2022 financial year, broken down by property type.

***A9.*** *18 free standing homes were made available.*

**Q10.** Advise how many Council mosquito treatment officers (excluding the entomologists) Brisbane City Council employs (actual and FTE).

***A10.*** *19 employees equalling 20 FTEs.*

**Q11.** Advise how many Council footpath repair officers Brisbane City Council employs (actual and FTE).

**Q12.** Advise how many Council new footpath construction officers Brisbane City Council employs (actual and FTE).

***A11 and A12.***

*Council officers have advised that there are no role types classified as “footpath repair officers” or “new footpath construction officers”. Council’s Civil Construction Workers perform a range of activities which can include kerb and channel, footpaths and bikeways, roads, bridges, drains, intersection upgrades, and other road improvements.*

**Q13.** Provide a list of all private bookings of CityCats or ferries for private functions in the last six months including the name the booking was made under, the date of function, booking fees, and vessel booked.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME OF BOOKING** | **DATE OF BOOKING** | **BOOKING FEES** | **VESSEL BOOKED** |
|  |  |  |  |

***A13.*** *Brisbane City Council does not hold this information. All bookings are managed by RiverCity Ferries.*

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 4.58pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Dorian Maruda (A/Senior Council and Committee Officer)

Courtney Randall (A/Council and Committee Officer)

Billy Peers (Personal Support Officer to the Lord Mayor and Council Orderly)