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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4737 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 4 June 2024**

**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 Sandy LANDERS (Bracken Ridge) – LNP

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| --- | --- |
| **LNP Councillors (and Wards)** | **ALP Councillors (and Wards)** |
| Krista ADAMS (Holland Park) (Deputy Mayor)  Greg ADERMANN (Pullenvale)  Adam ALLAN (Northgate)  Lisa ATWOOD (Doboy)  Fiona CUNNINGHAM (Coorparoo)  Tracy DAVIS (McDowall)  Julia DIXON (Hamilton)  Alex GIVNEY (Wynnum Manly)  Vicki HOWARD (Central)  Steven HUANG (MacGregor) (Deputy Chair  of Council)  Sarah HUTTON (Jamboree)  Kim MARX (Runcorn)  Ryan MURPHY (Chandler)  Danita PARRY (Marchant)  Steven TOOMEY (The Gap)  Andrew WINES (Enoggera)  Penny WOLFF (Walter Taylor) | Jared CASSIDY (Deagon) (The Leader of the Opposition)  Lucy COLLIER (Morningside) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)  Emily KIM (Calamvale)  Charles STRUNK (Forest Lake) |
| **Queensland Greens Councillors (and Wards)**  Seal CHONG WAH (Paddington)  Trina MASSEY (The Gabba) |
| **Independent Councillor (and Ward)**  Nicole JOHNSTON (Tennyson) |

## OPENING OF MEETING:

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

Chair: I declare the meeting open.

## APOLOGY:

Chair: Are there any apologies?

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

**606/2023-24**

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS, and he was granted a leave of absence from the meeting on the motion of Councillor Jared CASSIDY, seconded by Councillor Lucy COLLIER.

## MINUTES:

Chair: Confirmation of minutes, please.

**607/2023-24**

The Minutes of the 4736 meeting of Council held on 28 May 2024, copies of which had been forwarded to each Councillor, were presented, taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Councillor Julia DIXON, seconded by Councillor Alex GIVNEY.

## QUESTION TIME:

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

Councillor PARRY.

**Question 1**

Councillor PARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES, hot on the heels of Fiona Hammond’s candidacy for Stafford, we’ve seen the State MP (Member of Parliament) and, for the first time, the Transport Minister raise concerns about the Hamilton Road and Western Avenue intersection, something he has refused to touch for the last four years. Can you please update the Chamber on the history of this project, including why you are sceptical about the Member’s comments.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you so much, Madam Chair, and thank you, Councillor PARRY, for the question. Councillor PARRY, of course, has been a very keen advocate for progress on Hamilton Road. Now, Hamilton Road is a key east-west link through the central northern suburbs of Brisbane city, and it has some of the worst intersections—excuse me—it has the worst intersection, I think, in the city, which is of course Hamilton Road, Gympie Road, which Anika Wells promised to provide some money for, which has yet to appear, which Stirling Hinchliffe, despite my advocacy, refused to address.

Now the State Government has the temerity to say that we are not acting properly on some of our intersections. Well, considering the Labor Party’s deep and sincere record of inaction when it comes to improving that roadway, it became fascinating when I saw Mr Sullivan, the MP for Stafford, take a moment to go on Facebook, and record a video, talking about his passion for the Hamilton Road access point to The Prince Charles Hospital. Now, just for those who don’t recall, retired Councillor Hammond tried to meet with Jimmy Sullivan on 19 occasions and was refused at each and every one of them.

The fact that Mr Sullivan refused to meet with her, and the fact that he was quite dismissive about this particular matter is one of the reasons that the retired Councillor Hammond is seeking to be the Member for Stafford, because Jimmy Sullivan does not care for that community. No, don’t ask me about that. His local branch members actually challenged him being the only incumbent Labor MP to be challenged. Now, there could be a number of reasons for that. One of them would be the fact that he ignores key safety issues in his own community, like Hamilton Road. The other one could be that the video presentation was outrageously bad.

Now, I’m going to break some bonds here with the public. You don’t actually have to put up the first one you do when you do a Facebook video. Hopefully that was the first and only take that Jimmy did because if that was the best one, he’s got some work to do. Now, the other thing that was really interesting about that video was that he was there with a man called Minister Bart Mellish. Bart Mellish made a really interesting claim. Bart said in the video, “we’ve got some big money invested in fixing road congestion across the northside, and we really want to step up and make a contribution”.

Well, how much? It’s an interesting figure, but obviously it’s big money. Big money is what they’re saying out the front of Hamilton Road. Now, to talk about what sort of project this is, this is a $21 million upgrade. Mr Sullivan is criticising us because one of the principal beneficiaries of that upgrade is the hospital, which is 100% the State Government’s property. They have employees who work in that facility. They have patients and patients’ families who must be tended to in that facility. It is 100% their jurisdiction. Now, just to talk, as I say, it’s a $21 million project. I’m really interested that Mr Mellish says there’s big money now available, and he wants to come to the table, because I have here a letter from the former Minister for Health Yvette D’Ath, who wrote to us very recent. In December 2021, this was received.

In that, she writes, “Metropolitan North Hospitals or Metropolitan North Health has advised Council that it does not have funds available to contribute to the Hamilton Road access point. Hamilton Road is not a State road, and therefore neither they, nor main roads, are available to contribute towards the cost of the access to their own facility”. So here we have a big money Bart Mellish telling us there’s money available for Hamilton Road. Yet the first sign of activity, the first approach they make to us isn’t to reach out to us and offer mutual support, which we have written to them on a number of occasions seeking, but rather to go to Facebook, make a very bad video, where they say there’s big money available.

Well, I look forward to seeing that big money from big money Bart Mellish, and that they make a meaningful contribution. When I say meaningful, I don’t mean single‑figure millions, I mean 10s to $20 million towards that intersection, actual big money, to fix the issue that they are criticising us for that is 100% their responsibility.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 2**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, Councillor Tracy DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS, I’ve been advised that the Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre will have its weekend hours slashed and will now only be open from 9am to 12pm. I’ve already been contacted by distraught volunteers, who think this is a terrible decision. Are you cutting these staff hours as part of your so-called sensible savings?

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I thank the Councillor for the question. What I can assure the Councillor is that no staff member, a casual that is currently working at Boondall environment centre will have less hours. So we are working, of course, closely with the environment centres at the moment, but I can be assured that no staff member will have less hours working for Council. Now, that might not look like being at the Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre. My understanding is that there is some conversation at the moment that some of those staff, those casuals may be relocated to assist at the Planetarium at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.

I can assure the Councillor that no hours will be reduced for any of those staff. I do think it’s really important to mention, of course, that tomorrow is World Environment Day, while we’re on this topic. All of our environment centres are undertaking some activities or hosting activities, so people can go to either the Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre, one close to my home at Downfall Creek, and of course out at Karawatha. I know that a lot of the local schools in the area are hosting events, and I’m sure some of our Councillors will be able to attend some of those, because Brisbane City Council does support the schools in some way, particularly with giving out of free native plants. So, Madam Chair, we will continue to support our environment centres. They’re important to our local residents to be able to access. Again, I can assure the Councillor that no hours will be reduced for any of those casual staff. Thank you.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor PARRY.

**Question 3**

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

Councillor DAVIS, the Schrinner Council’s award-winning Bradbury Park project received some more news last week. Can you please share with the Chamber this exciting update?

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Through you, I thank Councillor PARRY for the question, because I know that Councillor PARRY is always excited to talk about Bradbury Park. I don’t blame her; I’m always excited to talk about Bradbury Park and what a fantastic project it is and, of course, the recognition that it continues to receive because just last week, Councillor PARRY, the Bradbury Park playscape took home yet another accolade at the Parks & Leisure Australia Regional Awards for Excellence, where it was placed first in the playscape over $500,000 category. The Regional Award for Excellence is conferred on a playscape project that contributes to the creation of a sense of place for its local community and exhibits landscape and/or structural design innovation that delights and aids childhood development.

I would say, Madam Chair, that Bradbury Park absolutely fits that bill perfectly. It appears that the industry leaders also agree. Of course, it’s structural design is the first thing that you notice. It’s absolutely massive. It really is unlike anything that we’ve ever seen. To get a structure like this to work, you have to embrace innovation and an innovative mindset. What makes it really special is that it encourages children to innovate as well, to challenge themselves, and to experience a new kind of play that inspires confidence and problem-solving. Bear in mind, Madam Chair, this is just the Regional Award, so Bradbury Park will now advance to the National Awards later this year.

Given the recognition that it’s received so far, I’d say that we are in with a very good shot at taking home the gold for that one too. After all, not only is Bradbury Park being recognised as the best playscape in our region, recently it was celebrated as Brisbane’s Building of the Year by the Australian Institute of Architects, which of course was an outstanding result. As I mentioned, this was just one of four titles that was taken home from those, where we also received the People’s Choice Award, the Commendation for Public Architecture, and a Commendation for Urban Design. So with the latest award from Parks & Leisure Australia, that brings the total to five awards for this amazing design.

I’m sure, Madam Chair, that there are many more down the track. Of course, those aren’t the only awards that come out of the Bradbury Park improvement project. In 2021, the scooter track won a Landscape Architecture Award, along with the Award of Excellence on the Magic Forest nature playscape. Anyone that’s been down to see the Magic Forest—I’m sure, Councillor PARRY, you have—it is a very, very, very special place for the little ones. Both are the highest awards, given their respective categories. So that’s a massive seven awards that we’ve seen now for one of Brisbane’s most unique suburban parks projects.

Once again, I think a big congratulations to the team on that effort. Madam Chair, it really does go to show that we are delivering more to see and do across the suburbs of Brisbane. We are fortunate to have an expense of open space in our city, with more than 2,000 parks and, of course, nature right on our doorstep. We saw during the pandemic how important access to world-class open spaces was to residents in their suburbs, especially when it wasn’t possible for them to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. Once again, in this cost-of-living crisis, we hear from residents just how amazing it is that they’ve got so much to see and do locally for free in our parks in Brisbane, and Bradbury Park playscape is just one of those.

So we’re very proud, not only of the awards we received but of our record of delivering for residents in the suburbs of Brisbane. It should be noted that since this LORD MAYOR came into office, we’ve added 68 new parks to our growing network, and that’s an additional 264 hectares of new open space. Of course, that’s not including what will be created through the VHBB (Voluntary Home Buy‑Back). As we saw in the quarterly progress report last week, in just the last three months, we’ve delivered 41 park projects, with 11 more underway. That’s not something that you hear the Opposition talk much about, Madam Chair, which is a bit disappointing because much of it’s happening in their wards.

There’s of course the Archerfield Wetlands district park in the Moorooka Ward. In recent months, we’ve also delivered new playgrounds at Dunvegan Street park and Heathwood Park in the Calamvale Ward, with six more underway, including in Morningside, Calamvale, and Deagon Ward. Of course, there’s the Sun Safe Suburban Playgrounds program, which continues to roll out. In fact, I believe we’ve recently installed six shade sails in the Forest Lake Ward, with another two underway, Councillor STRUNK. So these aren’t all Bradbury Park, Madam Chair, but they are important to their local communities, and they are something that we are continuing to invest in across the city. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor COLLIER.

**Question 4**

Councillor COLLIER: Thanks, Chair. My question is to the Civic Cabinet Chair for Finance and City Governance, Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM. Given your previous comments and actions in this place over the last few weeks, we’re unsure. Do you believe that workers performing basic Council work on a contract deserve the same amount of respect as workers on Council’s EBA (Enterprise Bargaining Agreement)?

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Madam Chair, and thanks to Councillor COLLIER for the question. Week in and week out, we have come into this Chamber, and explained that we need to make sensible savings at Brisbane City Council. That means that 90% of the work that Council does for the residents of Brisbane will continue to be done. Councillor COLLIER is talking about workforce arrangements. We have been very clear with all Council employees that if you are a permanent employee of Brisbane City Council, you have absolutely nothing to be concerned about. Week in and week out, they come in here, and fearmonger, and try to whip up some kind of sense of disaster. It’s just not true, Madam Chair. If Councillor COLLIER has very specific examples that she would like to raise with me, she can do so. In fact, in General Business of our Committee, the entire time, she has not asked me one question this term. I’m very happy to discuss items with Councillor COLLIER. This is—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: I want to take Councillor CUNNINGHAM at her word right now and ask you to direct the Councillor to answer the actual question that was asked, and whether the Chair believes that contract staff deserve the same amount of respect as Council employees. She’s not answering the question.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, can you come back to the question? You still do have three minutes to answer.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Certainly, Madam Chair. All staff deserve our utmost respect for improving the lives of Brisbane residents. Brisbane City Council has a number of job types. Contrary to what the Opposition suggests, through their misleading statements in this Chamber every week, the vast majority of our workforce are permanent employees. Week after week, I have said that the permanent employees of Council who are protected by our EBA will continue to be protected through our EBA. Like most large organisations, Council does use supplementary workforce suppliers. You see, Madam Chair, they’re only used when suitable internal resourcing is not available to meet the operational requirements, and quite often it’s used for project work.

It’s not just Council that does this, Madam Chair, it’s the whole workforce of Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. There is nothing against the law. All employees deserve our respect, and that is what they get. Very serious matters. Now, if Councillor COLLIER, through you, Madam Chair, has specific examples of cases, like, I have said week in and week out, she’s welcome to raise them with me. She has never raised them with me. She comes in here, tries to whip up fear and concern, representing her union officials, not representing the people of Brisbane or the residents of her ward.

Now, Federal Employment Minister Tony Burke previously told the National Press Club—and this is interesting. I wanted to bring this up because he says there are lots of appropriate uses for labour hire. At different times that I’ve been an employer over the years, I’ve used labour hire. So it also must not be ignored, Madam Chair, that for a number of reasons, there are many employees who actually choose these arrangements. Right? These reasons include things like being able to work across a whole lot of different industries or projects. Perhaps it’s work life balance or for more flexibility. Supplementary workers aren’t paid any less than the applicable rates.

There is an agreed process that Council has to use these suppliers. Once again, they do obviously deserve our respect. We have been very clear that permanent employees of Council have nothing to be concerned about. Now, once again, I challenge Councillor COLLIER, if she has specific examples, tell me about them. Every week, you sit opposite me in Committee, and you have never raised this. So, Madam Chair—

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor HUANG.

**Question 5**

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

Councillor MURPHY, the Schrinner Council’s Kangaroo Point Bridge is getting close to completion, with a recent milestone achieved. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest in this project?

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you, Chair, and thank you through you, Chair, to Councillor HUANG for the question. What a significant week it has been for the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge. The final 25-metre span for the bridge was craned in this week and secured into place. We know it’s been two long years since the bridge work started. We’re starting to get a little bit excited on this side of the Chamber, Chair, because the final span being in place means that this bridge that’s been talked about since the 1800s is almost complete. We know residents are excited about the bridge as well, Chair. We couldn’t help but notice the buzz on social media that occurred over the last week as pictures of the 100-tonne span being streamed in, as it made its journey down the river, from all sorts of people posting about it.

Now, what will happen is the concrete will be poured into the deck unit. Once that is complete, the final span will feature a public viewing platform on both sides. It will embrace 360-degree views of the river and the city. With all major structural elements now complete, we’re getting to work on the finishing touches that will make this bridge an icon of the river city. Installation of the stainless steel balustrade has now begun, with around 25% installed to date, and construction of the seats and planters is commencing soon. Work has also begun in C.T. White Park on the Kangaroo Point side to construct the stairs and elevator leading up to the bridge, as well as some privacy screens on the bridge for Scott Street residents.

All Councillors will recall that this bridge is the only steel cable-stayed suspension bridge in Brisbane, and one of only a few in Australia. That has meant we’ve had to bring in significant international expertise and know-how to install and stress the 32 steel cables which bind the bridge deck to the main mast. This is delicate and precise work, Madam Chair. I advise the Chamber that the cable stressing has now been achieved to all of its design outcomes, and it’s been achieved to within three millimetres of accuracy. All 32 cables have been installed and stressed, which now means that the bridge is self-supporting.

I know what you’re all probably wondering. What about the restaurant and the cafe? Well, I met with Michael Tassis from Tassis Group last week, and he assures me that’s all coming along very nicely. The steel structure for the above-water restaurant has arrived, and the upper section of the roof has also been installed. Concrete flooring, walls, and the roof have all been poured in the last month in preparation for the final works at the CBD Plaza, linking into the new signalised crossing on Alice and Edwards Streets. This will provide a connection into CityLink Cycleway that will give a safe and accessible link for an estimated 6,100 pedestrians, cyclists, and scooter users that will use this bridge every day.

This number, we expect, will be a lot more than we originally anticipated, Chair. We only need to look at our newest bridge at Breakfast Creek, where the daily trips have actually nearly tripled from the original forecast of 1,300. Trips on surrounding infrastructure, like Lores Bonney Riverwalk, are up nearly 50% for some modes of active transport. We’re very hopeful, Chair, that the growth will be the same for the Kangaroo Point Bridge and its supporting network. We know that it’s not just investment in big infrastructure, it’s important to invest in the supporting network as well.

That’s why at each end of this bridge, we are providing new connections that will ensure a safer and more efficient journey for everyone. At Kangaroo Point, a new pedestrian footpath connecting Main Street and Deakin Street has been constructed through a new underpass via the Story Bridge. Deakin Street has also been realigned to provide a 300-metre pathway and a two-way off-road bike path. All of this will be complemented by a raised wombat crossing on Main Street, Kangaroo Point that provides direct and dedicated access for pedestrians, cyclists, and scooter users to the bridge.

This is a step forward towards realising our goal of improving active travel trip times between the eastern suburbs and the CBD. East Brisbane residents will save 15 minutes if walking, or four minutes if riding, when travelling to Eagle Street Pier. I’m excited to announce, Chair, that one element of this project, Christmas has come early. It’s Christmas in June, not July, because this afternoon, we will be opening the Main Street and Deakin Street connection of the Kangaroo Point Bridge. This is a much better, much safer arrangement than the existing unsafe, narrow underpass, which is very close to the road underneath the Story Bridge.

We aren’t stopping there either, Chair. We are currently awaiting the State to sign a funding agreement that will connect Kangaroo Point Bridge with the eastern suburbs fully. This will fill in the missing link between Deakin Street and Shafston Avenue. We very much hope that they will sign that agreement before they go into caretaker mode later this year. All I can say is that we’re looking forward to the next few months of the project as we get closer to the opening day.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, your time—

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you very much, Chair.

Chair: —has expired.

Councillor MASSEY.

**Question 6**

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. My question is for the LORD MAYOR.

After years of advocacy from the Greens, you adopted our proposal to build a green bridge connecting West End and Toowong. The delivery of this crucial piece of infrastructure is long overdue—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: —and your commitment holds immense significance for our community. The West End to Toowong Green Bridge will enable high density populations of Kurilpa, South Brisbane, and West End to access more public transport options, like train stations, enable access to shopping centres, enable the use of safe, active transport routes, like the Bicentennial Bikeway. For residents of Toowong and Milton, they will be able to access greenspace destinations like Davies Park Markets, the Cultural Centre, and allow a safe, active transport route to the Kurilpa Peninsula and beyond. The West End to Toowong Bridge will transform how residents on both sides of the city connect. It will undoubtedly reduce car usage and congestion on Montague Road and Coronation Drive.

Chair: Is there a—

Councillor MASSEY: Here it is.

Chair: —question? Thank you.

Councillor MASSEY: LORD MAYOR, can we count on your commitment to deliver these bridges within the next two years, or will you continue to disappoint these residents by breaking your promise?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: So much going on with that question. Apparently, the new Bridges for Brisbane Program was an initiative of the Greens. I’m just learning that today, because I do remember the former local Councillor for The Gabba Ward campaigning against the West End to Toowong Bridge because of the loss of greenspace that would be created in the park, down on the river there. Remember that? It was against the loss of greenspace from the bridge landing pylons, piers in the park. We all remember that don’t we? Campaigning against it. What’s more, I didn’t seem to notice a Greens Party commitment to build this bridge in the election. Did anyone hear that? There was no commitment. There was—

Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR: —apparently—

Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR: —several elections ago—

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, you’ve asked your question.

LORD MAYOR: —several elections ago, apparently. Well, they certainly didn’t revitalise that commitment in the recent election. There was no commitment made by the Greens to build that bridge. There were lots of commitments made, but certainly not that one. So the idea that somehow the Greens have been champions for this project is absolute ludicrous. It is ludicrous. They have campaigned against it, they have said all types of things about it, but they certainly didn’t commit to build the bridge itself.

Councillor MASSEY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: The question was, LORD MAYOR, can we count on your commitment to deliver these green bridges within the next two years—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you, Councillors.

Councillor MASSEY: —or will you continue to disappoint these residents?

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MASSEY. The LORD MAYOR is still answering the question. I ask all Councillors to please remain quiet while he does.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. I can confirm exactly what my commitment is in relation to new bridges. My commitment is that we will proceed with purchasing the land for the West End to Toowong Bridge, and so that process is underway. Funding has been set aside for that purpose. I understand we’re waiting for gazettal. Is that correct? That gazettal process happens through the State. So we have taken the steps to secure the landing site on what was known as the former ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) site. We have a landing site on the other side, which is opposed by the Greens. It’s in the park.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Well, it is true. It is true. Councillor, well, former Councillor Sri stood in this place, and said he was against the loss of greenspace that would be created by the building of a bridge in this location. I remember it very clearly. We can, if you like, dig up the records. There’s a long list of records that former Councillor Sri added to. What we have committed to is that we would go to the Infrastructure Australia and make the case for further investment of Federal and State funds in these important projects. We committed that we would invest up to $550 million over 10 years in building new bridges. We have the first one already open at Breakfast Creek.

The second one is expected to open imminently, as Councillor MURPHY was just talking about. Our commitment is very clear to progressing these projects. We have allocated the funds to purchase the land on the Toowong side of the river, but it was always the case from day one. It was made very clear from day one that we would need investment from other levels of government. We are grateful for the investment of more than $60 million from the Federal Government in the Kangaroo Point Bridge, and so they have made that investment. They are excited about the bridge opening. Councillor MURPHY wants to throw a party for the Prime Minister to attend when the bridge opens.

The price keeps going up because we need to make it appropriate for a Prime Minister to be there. Him and the Minister can take two private jets separately to attend that, I’m sure. It won’t be a case of the urn and the Milk Arrowroots, as you’ve said. We need an appropriate celebration of the Federal Government’s commitment in this project. We’ll be making sure that the community is involved, and they enjoy that celebration. The point is this. For further bridges to be built, we will need contributions from the other levels of Government. Now, that could be the Federal Government making a contribution, it could be the State Government making a contribution, or it could be both. We have made that very clear, and that’s what will need to happen to progress this program, because we have certainly done—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor DIXON.

**Question 7**

Councillor DIXON: My question is to the Chair of the Economic Development, Nighttime Economy and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, Councillor ADAMS.

DEPUTY MAYOR, recent news reports show that the Brisbane businesses are doing it tough. Can you please update the Chamber on what the Schrinner Council is doing to support local businesses through these tough economic times?

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Councillor DIXON, because we do know our small businesses, our local small businesses are doing it tough right now. There is a raft of unprecedented challenges amid a cost-of-living crisis, and mounting costs of doing business is creating a perfect storm of financial strain. This is being felt right across the board, but it’s particularly those labour-intensive industries like construction, retail, and hospitality that are feeling it the most right now. We all know the cost of living—the cost of building has never been higher, and these construction companies have been some of the hardest hit.

We’ve seen that with the insolvencies across South East Queensland, followed closely by hospitality industries who are grappling with tight margins, as ingredients, utilities, wages, insurance, and rent costs continue to soar. Consumers are tightening their belts and cutting back on discretionary spending, skipping that night out at the local restaurant or those concert tickets or maybe the weekend away. Everyone is really budget-conscious right now, including Brisbane City Council. We are starting to see the real effects of this as businesses are either having to make some really difficult decisions to keep afloat or even harder decisions to shut up shop.

There’s no significant sign of relief coming for small business in the Federal budget. This morning, we see reports and the Queensland Treasurer using weasel words to avoid ruling out any tax changes on businesses and industry. So at a time when every dollar counts, this is the kind of uncertainty that is really creating angst within the business community. Just a few days ago, a Brisbane-based hospitality group ceased trading across seven businesses; more than 90 staff affected: King Street Bakery in Bowen Hills; Mica Cafe had two locations, in Newstead and the CBD. A couple of weeks ago, we also saw the iconic music venue The Zoo and sister venue Stranded shut the doors after more than 30 years in business. It’s been a massive loss for Brisbane and our Fortitude Valley for, in particular, our live music scene.

The owners are listing a perfect storm of forces which are actually causing these closures: insurance costs doubling; less people going out to see gigs; sales on alcohol having fallen off a cliff; additional costs on things like security and ID scanners only adding to the expense list to keep doors open. So when every dollar counts, spending tens of thousands of dollars on compulsory ID scanners and extra security is only hurting our nightlife, deterring people from going out, and shifting the problem to other areas. It doesn’t make sense, and it hasn’t made sense for a long time, and it needs to be reviewed.

Last week, I met for the first time this term with our Small Business Roundtable, a group of industry leaders representing everything from hospitality, family and small business, retail, music, and entertainment. Each and every one of them are in furious agreement that Brisbane and Queensland are being left behind when it comes to supporting our nighttime economy. Off the back of this, I’ll be putting together our first nighttime economy advisory group to work through exactly what needs to be done to breathe new light into the night. It includes representatives from Brisbane’s live music scene, restaurant, bars, retail and commercial property, and key industry advocacy groups.

There has to be a balance. Safety is absolutely paramount. We need to look at other ways that we can create a safe, open, and welcoming environment for everyone at all times; more carrot and less stick. In other cities like London and New York and Sydney, they can find ways to keep the city thriving late into the night and keep everyone safe without archaic lockout laws. Surely Brisbane can do this too. Things like extending public transport services late into the night would be a great first step, like we’ve proposed for Metro; looking at precinct-wide security and coordinating police services, shifting the onuses off individual businesses.

We already work closely with QPS (Queensland Police Service) through our City Safe team to help keep people safe and deter antisocial behaviour. We’ve got the resources in place. More events and activations right through the day and night, creating a positive vibrancy in our precincts, also creates a tremendous impact. It all starts with a proper independent review. These lockout laws have been in place since 2016 but, as yet no commitment from this State Government to take a serious look at these issues. Are these safe night precincts actually improving safety or just hurting our nighttime economy? The question needs to be asked.

We’ll be pooling together a list of recommendations and looking at ways that we can help create both a safe and vibrant nighttime economy right across the city and into the suburbs. It’s not a one-size-fits-all, but we know it’s not working, and we know that changes need to be made before it’s too late, and really before we welcome the visitors of the world to our shores in eight years’ time. I look forward to updating the Chamber.

Chair: Councillor COLLIER.

**Question 8**

Councillor COLLIER: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the Transport Committee Chair, Councillor Ryan MURPHY.

Last week, your Acting Chair for the Transport Committee claimed that the ham‑fisted election commitment that is the Fitzgibbon Metro Depot will be underway in the next three years. Does this mean that a full business case for the Fitzgibbon Depot has been completed?

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Well, thank you very much, Madam Chair. Thank you to Councillor COLLIER for the question. I would just say, firstly, the only party in this Chamber that has been committed from the very beginning to the Brisbane Metro has been the LNP. It’s been this LORD MAYOR, when he was the Transport Chair under the former Mayor Quirk, who progressed Brisbane Metro through the early stages, the detailed design reports, the business cases, the various modelling elements that needed to be done. It was then this LORD MAYOR who took Brisbane Metro from the design and consultation process into the construction phase.

It will be this LORD MAYOR who, at the end of this year, cuts the ribbon, and opens Brisbane Metro, in spite of the massive Opposition that has been played by the Labor Party, both in this Chamber and at the State Government level, in delaying and denying approvals, in going slow, in throwing every single barrier up in our place. Why we know residents want Brisbane Metro to the northern suburbs is because they believe in this solution. They believe that by utilising the infrastructure that we already have in this city, the fantastic busway, the 27 kilometres of busway that we have that is world-class and is renowned all around the world by expert—

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order.

Councillor MURPHY: —transport planners.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order, Chair. I just asked on a very specific element of the Metro regarding the Fitzgibbon Depot, and whether or not a full business case has being completed. It’s a pretty simple question. I ask that you draw the Chair back to directly answering the question.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor. Thank you, Councillor.

Councillor MURPHY, can you come back to the question?

Councillor MURPHY: Well, thank you very much, Madam Chair. What I can say is that you cannot run Brisbane Metro to the northern suburbs if you do not have a depot. That is what we committed to at the last election was building a depot for Brisbane Metro that can also be used for zero-emissions buses in the meantime at Fitzgibbon, provided that the State can deliver the Northern Transitway to connect that depot in with the infrastructure. So we’ve committed to the depot. We can run zero-emission buses out of the depot. Then eventually, that depot will be ready for Metro services when the Northern Transitway is complete. It’s pretty simple. It’s pretty simple. We could not run Brisbane Metro version one without the depot at Rochedale. The depot is a really essential component of the transition.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: Well, the depot follows what you want to do. Remember, Madam Chair, and I know Councillor COLLIER wasn’t here at the time, but we need to remember that Brisbane Metro actually didn’t start as an electric bus project; it started as a light rail project. What we found through that detailed—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MURPHY: Again, Councillor COLLIER is laughing. I know she wasn’t here. We did a detailed design report.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you, Councillors.

Councillor MURPHY: We know she was spinning for Yvette D’Ath at the time, Madam Chair—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: One moment, please, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: —but not very well.

Chair: I’m just going to ask all Councillors to please be quiet while the Chairs are answering questions, please.

Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. We know that Brisbane Metro started as a light rail project. When we went through the detailed design process, and the LORD MAYOR was a part of that, we found that it was literally not feasible to shut down the busway for two years and rebuild Victoria Bridge. Those are the two things that would’ve been required to do light rail in this city. So we—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: One moment please, Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor CASSIDY, I just asked all Councillors to please be quiet while Councillors are on their feet speaking.

Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you, Madam Chair. I know they don’t want to hear about Brisbane Metro because Brisbane Metro is so popular.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: One moment, please, Councillor MURPHY.

I will caution you, Councillor COLLIER. I’ve asked everybody to stop calling out.

Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Madam Chair, we know Brisbane Metro is so popular with the residents of Brisbane, and they cannot wait to catch it at the end of this year. They support the extensions to the airport, to the east, and to the north. How many times do Brisbane residents need to reject Labor’s plan to can Brisbane Metro? Because that’s what you took to the election, Councillor COLLIER, through you, Madam Chair. Between the Labor Party and the Greens, they took a program to the election of cancelling Brisbane Metro and moving towards more bus services. Now, none of it was funded. In fact, if their multi-billion-dollar commitments had actually gotten through the election, what they’d be talking about right now is a 20% rate rise in our city to pay for their unfunded promises.

What we took to the election was a sensible funded plan to deliver a zero‑emissions bus depot, Metro depot, in the northern suburbs at Fitzgibbon. We know, and we’ve costed it in respect of the price of the depot at Rochedale, a very similar amount of money. What we’ll need to do is we’ll need to see some firm commitments from the State around connecting the Northern Transitway to that depot, because residents in the northern suburbs of our city deserve to have high‑frequency, reliable, accessible public transport, just like the residents in the southside will enjoy with metro by the end of this year. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, thank you.

That now ends Question Time.

LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee (E&C) report of 27 May 2024.

## 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 27 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, Madam Chairman. I’m seeking further information about item B with respect to the contracts and tendering report on page 6. That is item number 3, contemporary cost model consultancy services. It’s very unclear what that is. Can you provide additional information to us about what that contract for $1 million is for?

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON. The LORD MAYOR may address that during his report.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Before I go on, the Finance Chair will address that particular question in her response today. As I always do, I wanted to update you on the lighting up of Council assets. Last night, our assets were lit up in blue, white, and green to recognise Mabo Day. On 3 June 1992, the High Court of Australia handed down a landmark decision in the Mabo case, overturning the concept of terra nullius, land belonging to no one. The decision paved the way for the Native Title Act in 1993. Last night or yesterday was Mabo Day, and the assets were lit up in the colours of the Torres Strait Island flag.

Tonight all of our assets will be lit up in red to support Haemochromatosis Week. Haemochromatosis is an overload of iron in the body, which can cause cancer, arthritis, and diabetes. One in seven Australians carry the gene which causes this disease. On Wednesday night, all our assets will be lit up in maroon for game one of State of Origin. Queensland are gunning for the hat trick this series, after our back‑to-back wins in 2022 and 2023. The first game of the series will be played in Sydney. On Thursday, all our assets will be lit up again in maroon for Queensland Day. This Thursday marks 165 years since Queensland separated from New South Wales as its own independent colony in 1859.

On Friday, all our assets will be lit up in green to support Go Green for EcoMarines. The EcoMarines Foundation educate young people and businesses on the impacts of daily activities on our local environments and waterways. The light up supports their efforts in this respect. On Saturday night, all our assets will be lit up in teal for two different causes: Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month, and Tourette Syndrome Awareness Week. Myasthenia gravis is an autoimmune disease, which cripples the communication between nerves and muscles, resulting in those muscles becoming weak and breaking down. Tourette Syndrome Awareness Week raises awareness about the disease Tourette’s, which affects around one in 100 people in Australia.

Finally, on Sunday night, our assets will be lit up in purple to support Hidradenitis Suppurativa Awareness Week—that is a tricky one—which is an inflammatory skin condition which causes small painful lumps to form under the skin. On other matters, negotiations are continuing between Brisbane City Council and Transport and Main Roads in the State Government for a new deal for public transport in Brisbane. We know that the population is growing. We know that the demand for public transport services is growing. We know that we have to get people onto public transport to deal with the traffic congestion issues our region faces.

We know that Council has been doing the heavy lifting when it comes to public transport in the city. Our bus network carries two-thirds of all passengers in South East Queensland. We have been, year-in, year-out, increasing our investment in that bus network well over and above inflation, double digits and more. We plan to continue increasing our investment well above inflation because we know that this is important for the people of Brisbane. This is important for congestion. This is important for a city as it grows. Now, the cost of running Brisbane buses and ferries has gone up significantly faster than the CPI (consumer price index), and it’s gone up faster than the growth in State funding.

So we are advocating very strongly for increased State investment in public transport so that we can give the people of Brisbane the services that they deserve in a growing city. Those discussions are going well. What do we want, Councillor MURPHY? Big money. I think we want big money. Now, Minister Mellish is promising big money for intersection upgrades. We hope that he’s willing to commit big money for public transport as well. Big money Bart, we are looking forward to his commitment of increased investment in public transport. Now, we will, as I said, continue to increase our investment, year-in, year-out, as we’ve done.

The increases that we’ve funded, and will fund going forward, far outweigh the increases that the State Government has put on the table. They’ve capped their increases to CPI. In the past, as well, they’ve said, you can run the metro services, you can pay for all of metro, but we’ll keep the fare revenue, thank you. Is that a fair deal, Councillor MURPHY? That is not a fair deal. Now, unlike some people in this Chamber, a lot of people are excited about Brisbane Metro, not only line one and 2 operating later on this year, as we’re planning, but also future stages of Brisbane Metro.

We don’t need a business case to say that a depot is required to run services to the northside. There is no business case required; that is basic fact. You cannot run Metro services to the northside of Brisbane without a northside Metro depot. I can save everyone the cost of a business case that is required. Guess what? Is it more cost‑effective to build something on land that Council already owns than to purchase land and then build a depot? Of course it is. I can save you the money on a business case for that too. What we do need though is a commitment from the State Government that will see their transitway finished or a busway created, as they originally proposed on the northside.

We know that there is a great deal of excitement from Brisbane northside residents about the opportunity for Metro services to run to the northside. The Gympie Road corridor is the most congested major corridor in the city. To have high-frequency mass transit services running along that corridor is something that we do not need a business case to show is required. What we need is a commitment from the State Government that they will help us make it happen. We are prepared to put in our investment, which is to facilitate the land and our expertise in the construction of the depot, just as we’ve done in Rochedale.

We didn’t do a separate business case for the Rochedale Depot. We didn’t need that because you can’t have a Metro without a depot. While we did a business case for the whole of the Metro project, and that business case showed that it was a much better financial investment than Cross River Rail, and in fact any other public transport project of scale in the country, we know that this is a smart investment to make, and it’s one that is much needed by the people of Brisbane. We’re not going to waste money on a study. We’re going to put money into public transport. We’re going to put money into more Metro services for the northside of Brisbane or facilitating those. That’s what our commitment is.

Now, as Councillor MURPHY said, we know that the Labor Party wants to cancel Brisbane Metro. They’ve been against it from the beginning. Why? Because it wasn’t their idea. We know that some people, for political reasons, and the State Government have tried to stall and stop this project, but they haven’t been successful. They’ve been successful in stalling it, but they haven’t been successful in stopping it because it is a good project. Not just a good project because we say it’s a good project, but because Infrastructure Australia says it’s a good project, because advocates like RAIL Back On Track say it’s a good project, because RACQ says it’s a good project, because academics and transport experts say it’s a good project.

Councillor CASSIDY and Councillor COLLIER know better than all of those people. They think it should be cancelled, and we should go back to just standard buses on congested roads. That is their plan for transport in Brisbane, as far as I can tell. The Labor State Government, when they talked about zero-emission buses, and then they decided to buy a whole heap of diesel buses instead, this is where Labor is heading with their transport plan, not only just more buses on congested roads, more diesel buses on congested roads. We’re going fully electric. We’re going for a mass transit solution with its own dedicated right of way, either by a busway or a transitway.

That is the future of mass transit and public transport in Brisbane, and particularly the future for the northside that desperately needs a mass transit solution. We’re committed to it. Labor can snipe all they want about this project. Their sniping will be just as effective as the sniping they’ve done for the last six years, two elections. It has been rejected by the people of Brisbane because they want real investment and real solutions for public transport, not sniping against a project which is accepted by Infrastructure Australia, the Federal Government, even the State Government now, RACQ, RAIL Back On Track, and pretty much any other transport expert you can ask.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

**608/2023-24**

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

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Madam Chair, we won’t be deterred by negativity. We won’t stop investing in better and more public transport. We look forward to getting a new deal with the State Government for public transport in Brisbane to take us forward. These contracts are genuinely important negotiations because they determine whether the people of Brisbane get more and better services. They determine whether Metro can be expanded and rolled out, as we have planned. Just remember, this contract negotiation was a requirement of the State Government. In their Metro approval, they said before Metro can start, we must negotiate and sign a new contract for public transport in Brisbane. So this is not just about Metro; it’s about all Brisbane City Council bus and transport services. We look forward to getting a good deal for the people of Brisbane so we can deliver more for the people of Brisbane.

The items in front of us, item A is the Street Naming Policy. This was a policy first adopted by Council in the 1980s. Obviously there’s a few things that have changed since then. One of the things that this policy deals with in particular is that there has been an increase in private roads being established. Now, those private roads may be in sort of body corporate scheme areas or estates where it’s not a Council‑owned road, but it is a road nonetheless.

This particular policy deals with the challenges that delivery agencies, utility service providers have when it comes to delivering to private roads. So this deals with that issue. It’s been an outstanding issue for a little while, and obviously getting more and more of a concern over time. So we’re updating the policy for that purpose. Additionally, the current policy doesn’t allow for the naming of roads within five kilometres of an existing or similar sounding name—sorry—a road of an existing or similar sounding name. So, given the modern mapping tools, this is no longer the same type of issue it has been in the past.

So we’re allowing some more flexibility when it comes to the naming of roads within that five-kilometre precinct. I think these changes should be largely uncontroversial and practical, and help, in small ways, improve the situation. Item B is the contracts and tendering report for April 2024. Seven out of the eight contracts are being awarded to local suppliers, being 87% of the contracts. So far, financial year to date, 87% of all contracts have been awarded to local suppliers across the entire year, which is a total spend of $1.37 billion with local contractors. That is a really good outcome.

I’m very proud that this Administration introduced the very first local buy policy and, month-in, month-out, that continues to support local business in this way, and local jobs. Some of the contracts in front of us include the Voluntary Home Buy‑Back package number 19 for either demolition or relocation of flood-affected houses as they come on board, with the Voluntary Home Buy-Back package. It includes storm water pipe cleaning and surveying, and cleaning of the storm water gullies. There’s also a consultancy to support the delivery of Council’s updated Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. The ERP is, at the moment, a SAP program. Obviously, that’s a system which we’re in the process of updating, and there’s work that needs to be done in preparation for that.

Finally, at item C is a submission for the sale of land for overdue rates. Now, this is the first time that Council has proposed the sale of land for overdue rates since Lamb House was proposed for sale in 2020. Councillors will have seen just recently the result there. We saw that there was an important heritage house in Kangaroo Point, which unfortunately was in an increasing state of disrepair. There was a real risk of that house being lost either through storm damage or maybe vandalism. Also, there was a significant outstanding rates bill on that property. The result of the sale of that property has been that a new owner has purchased the property, has renovated it into the wonderful character or heritage home that it once was.

The ABC recently created a documentary on this project. We should all be proud as a Council that we have, through our actions, not only recovered unpaid rates but helped to save an important part of Brisbane’s heritage through that. What we have here is a number of properties that have had overdue rates for a significant period of time. While this list coming through may have been a surprise for some Councillors, it certainly is not a surprise for the owners of these properties because, under our policy, we don’t move forward in a way like this, generally, unless rates have been outstanding for more than three years.

In the case of vacant land or commercial land, we don’t move forward unless there is a judgment order against the owner, and unless the rates have been outstanding for more than a year. There has been every effort made to facilitate payment plans for these outstanding rates. There has been every effort made to keep in contact with the owners of these properties. Unfortunately, time and time again, we have seen these properties falling further and further behind. It is not fair on the people of Brisbane who do pay their rates. We understand that with cost-of-living pressures and the bills mounting up, it can be challenging, which is why, as a general course of business, we offer payment plans to people who are struggling to pay their rates.

This is not that. This is situations that evolved over many, many years. In fact, if you have a look in the submission, it’s detailed that some of these properties have had outstanding rates since 2016. So this is not a recent cost-of-living thing that we’re talking about; this is a long-term challenge that we’ve been trying to deal with. We’ve been fair and reasonable. We’ve offered payment plans. We’ve made every reasonable effort to make sure that the owners can pay their rates. Unfortunately, it has come to the point where we’ve had to move to take this action. What I can tell you though is the experience in the past where we’ve brought through these submissions and moved forward, only one in 10 properties has ever actually been sold, in fact, less than one in 10 properties.

So when we get to this point, usually what happens is the rates are paid. So in nine out of 10 cases, the bill is paid, they keep their property, and everything’s good. In only one out of 10 cases are the properties sold. So that is, if you go back all the way to 2002, and look at the records between now and then, there’s been 165 properties put forward in this way, and less than one in 10 of them actually ever got sold. So this action will help us recover the rates. I suspect, in line with the history of this sort of submission, the vast majority of these property owners will pay their rates and will get their account up to date.

If it is necessary to sell some of these properties, we’ll obviously do that. In most cases in the past, that hasn’t occurred, and it hasn’t been necessary, as I said. So out of the 165 properties since 2002 that have been listed in this way, only 12 sales have ever occurred. I mentioned one before, which was Lamb House. Obviously, we’re moving forward with this and, in essence, the essential gist of this submission is one of fairness to other ratepayers who are diligently paying their rates, even in times of pressure, as they are at the moment. So it’s not fair on the ratepayers that are paying their rates faithfully that people can go for long periods of time and simply not pay their rates.

Obviously, rates are the essential funding mechanism for so many of the things that we do, and whether it’s the maintenance that occurs, mowing of the parks, fixing the footpaths and roads, all of these things are contributed to by rates, and it is important that people contribute their fair share. So we’re moving forward with this submission. We do hope that the bills will be settled before any sale has to occur, but obviously this—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

LORD MAYOR: I’m finished.

Chair: Thank you.

Is there any debate?

Councillor CASSIDY.

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

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause B, CONTRACTS AND TENDERING – REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR APRIL 2024, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor CASSIDY: Starting on item A, we acknowledge and accept the importance of updating this policy. AP153, the Street Naming Policy, as we’ve heard, was first developed in 1981, and the technology that Council uses for mapping the density suburbs, decreasing vacant land, of course, almost none. There’s a little bit still being developed, with new streets, and new streets being named in my area in Boondall and Taigum, particularly. I know quite a bit happening out at Pallara at the moment. That has reduced dramatically since 1981. So we do accept that this is an appropriate policy that does adapt to meet these changes. It’s important to note the consideration of emergency services access in updating this policy as well.

There’s some more work to be done in terms of the management of streets, street widths, parking requirements and access requirements in new developments as well. We’ve had situations in Taigum, particularly, where a year after the finalisation of a new development, low density housing development that entire sides of newly named streets had to be—have yellow lines painted down the entirety. Because emergency services vehicles, as well as garbage services and other services, couldn’t access those properties. So we support that aspect particularly and think Council needs to do more work in terms of managing that aspect of development.

We note that the policy is also including an item to rename the term allotment numbering because of the huge increase in subdivisions and allotments across the city as well. So while not a lot of new land to develop, awful lot, as well subdivisions occurring and different lots being split with a—looking at one of them just now in Boondall, one into two. That’s happening quite regularly as well. So we understand the policy does need to include that. So we accept and support that item before us today.

On Clause B, I’m also very interested to hear—obviously I won’t be able to make comments after we hear the information that Councillor JOHNSTON has requested. I certainly won’t and I’m sure Councillor CUNNINGHAM will be up next to speak in terms of that contract. A very—a very interesting contract. I’ll get to that one shortly.

The first one that stood out to me was the drainage contracts, the ones for the excavation and CCTV work for drainage, our drainage system. These are good contracts, it’s work that need to be done and one that is, on balance, better done by external contractors and experts in their field, we accept that.

However, I know from speaking to lots of people in my community and right around Brisbane, that they certainly have a view that more work needs to be done when it comes to maintaining our drainage systems. More investment in these excavation contracts, more investment in upgrading our existing drainage and investing in new drainage.

This is the most basic of services, maintaining the drainage system that we currently have. But it’s also one of the first things that falls on the cutting block, on the chopping block, when this Schrinner LNP Administration seeks what they call, and I quote, sensible savings. That’s code for cuts.

They’re certainly, as we’ve heard today, not looking at making any savings when it comes to overseas travel. Not looking to make any savings when it comes to bridge opening parties anything like that. But we hear that contract staff labour hire staff and basic services are all on the chopping block.

We know the drainage system in Brisbane is extremely old. We also know this because we’re at a situation now in 2024—and this has been the case for quite a few years—where this LNP Council spends more money on depreciating existing assets, in accounting terms and in an accounting exercise. Expends more money depreciating existing assets than investing in new drainage assets. I think that says an awful lot about this LNP Administration’s commitment to the suburbs of Brisbane.

So there’s no denying there’s an awful lot of maintenance work that needs to be done. You can understand why millions and millions of dollars before us today needs to be spent on stormwater cleaning and pipe surveying. If you’re going to do it, make sure you do it properly. These are the services that Council should be investing in and we should see more of these contracts coming through after the June budget. That’s one of our hopes.

We continue to ask the question, how many floods does this city have to go through? How many flooded streets and flooded garages and flooded homes on 50 millimetres of rain or 70 millimetres of rain over a weekend have to occur before we see Council get more serious and put more money into this?

We know that a lot of localised flooding can be alleviated when drains are clean and clear. It sounds silly having to say that out loud. But my experience lately and in this five months or so since the start of this year, is that a whole lot of that work has become really reactive and not proactive. Particularly when we had a stormy season at the start of the year.

It has taken, in Station Road in Deagon, properties to be flooded three or four times before one of these services that we’re talking about here, one of these pipe cleaning services, was engaged to clean out a simple drain in a simple street. Which, all of a sudden magically, as if magically, stopped that flooding from occurring from normal storms.

So why isn’t more of this work done proactively? Why aren’t gulley traps cleaned more proactively? Rather than when someone rings the call centre in the middle of a localised flood saying my garage is flooding right now and it seems to be all of the debris covering the gulley trap across the road. Well, we know why. We do know why the answer to that question is—there’s not enough staff and not enough resources within Council to carry out this work on a day-to-day basis.

There is work being done but we know there’s many maintenance jobs in suburbs right around Brisbane that are waiting to be completed. Because our Council staff are so far behind, because of the lack of resources, those jobs are just exponentially growing now. So what we want to see is more investment in basic services like this as well.

On to the contract that Councillor JOHNSTON raised a concern about, and I certainly have concerns about this one as well. Mostly based on the lack of information. Contact 3. There is only three contracts too—

Councillor interjecting.

Councillor CASSIDY: —at the moment. We’ve got three items, three very simple items on the E&C agenda after the last month of having just about nothing that this LNP Council are doing. So the third contract that is with us today is for nearly $1 million, $975,000 being spent on consultancy services.

What we do know and you know we sort of get a bit of a taste of the proclivities of this LNP Administration, based on the answers that the Chair of the Finance Committee and the LORD MAYOR have given over the last couple of weeks about how they feel about staff they deem different to permanent staff, contract staff and labour hire staff.

Over the last four years, more than $200 million have been spent on consultants and a whopping $400 million spent on labour hire. We heard from Councillor CUNNINGHAM today that if that work is ongoing and basic work, it should be done in house. Which completely contradicts what the LORD MAYOR has consistently said over the last couple of years. Which is that he no longer believes that, he just thinks that if it’s a cheaper contract then he’s just going to award it. But it turns out it’s not in the long run. It turns out these contracts are never actually cheaper in the long run.

What we now see is 20% of Council’s funding going towards external contracts and so much of that is on basic work. When—like the example I just gave in terms of practice maintenance on our drainage assets, isn’t done in house on time by an internal workforce—external contractors being paid at a premium have to be engaged because that work has to be done out of hours, or for a special project. It’s not basic ongoing work for those contractors, it’s extra work. So it ultimately costs ratepayers an awful lot more.

Councillor interjecting.

Councillor CASSIDY: So the contract before us today for nearly $1 million is for contemporary cost model consultancy services from a group called the Boston Consulting Group. They describe themselves as a top consulting firm helping clients with total transformation, driving complex change. Significant workplace change is a specialisation they have. So the way we see it, it could be one of two things and we certainly want to find out a little bit more information before we vote on this.

Is this Brisbane City Council staff being overwhelmed and needing guidance because of the LORD MAYOR’s cuts and changes? Or is this work that Council is preparing for even more shake ups across Council under this LNP Administration? Either way, this confirms the Administration aren’t interested in protecting internal staff and secure jobs. They’re spending millions outsourcing basic work.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

Further speakers?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise to speak on item A, AP153, the Council’s Street Naming Policy. As everybody in this Chamber would be aware, Brisbane is now largely an infill city, though there’s certainly some subdivision happening a bit further out. I think, well we looked at one recently in Councillor DAVIS’s ward and I know that there’s some subdivision our in Pallara as well. So certainly there is still an amount of subdivision occurring.

Now, historically Brisbane has been a city that’s grown through new subdivisions and obviously through that process new streets were named. We are, however, increasingly seeing infill development and redevelopment in inner city precincts. However, there is still subdivision occurring across the city and in those locations, particularly, we are seeing new roads being provided by developers. There’s also potential for new roads to emerge in some of our suburban renewal precincts.

As noted earlier, this particular policy AP153, was created in, I think, 1981. It’s served us well for a long time. However, the world has moved along and with residents now using online shopping platforms and the associated couriers and meal delivery services and even NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) and care services. All this means there’s a lot more private operators coming to homes where street naming and street numbering is relevant.

I think the LORD MAYOR touched upon the fact that also our waste collection services and emergency services obviously need to be able to quickly locate addresses and street numbers. So it has an important role to play and obviously it’s important for us to do this update.

So the policy update that is before us today incorporates the Australian Standard approach to both road naming and street numbering appropriate for our infill city. The updated policy also incorporates the *Chapter 6 - Streets, Bridges, Culverts, Etc. Local Law* section on street numbering. In the one, easy to follow policy for applicants creating new streets and new house numbers as we continue to improve housing supply in our city.

Council approve street names and street numbers through the plan sealing stage as new housing is delivered and through the plan registration process and Council systems. These addresses become live in all manner of Council geospatial systems and online mapping such as Google Maps. I’m pleased to recommend this policy update to the Chamber today to modernise Council’s approach to street naming and numbering fit for our city, thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak briefly on the contracts for stormwater infrastructure cleaning. Now, Council maintains over 3,700 kilometres of underground drainage infrastructure, over 100,000 gulley inlets and gulley baskets and multiple stormwater treatment assets and backflow devices, throughout Brisbane. Obviously to ensure that Council’s stormwater infrastructure and assets are performed as designed, it requires an ongoing maintenance and regular checking of those services.

So before us today we have actually got three programs of work. Planned and reactive cleaning of stormwater drainage infrastructure and gulley baskets. Closed circuit television inspection to locate blockages and assess the structural condition of stormwater pipes. Also vacuum excavation. So this is in the event of construction, excavating around the roots of significant trees and geotechnical ground condition work.

So this is a really important program of work. So I’m not quite sure where CASSIDY was going—Councillor CASSIDY, sorry, through you, Chair, was going in regards to the fact that he was very happy to see it happen.

Councillor interjecting.

Councillor HUTTON: But it’s never enough, it’s never enough.

Councillor interjecting.

Councillor HUTTON: So I think it’s fantastic the work that we are doing here and I think it’s a very important program of work. So I recommend it to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Sorry, my mic wasn’t on there, sorry. Thanks, Madam Chair. First to item C. We have an extremely compassionate approach to rates debt management here in Brisbane City Council. We want to work with residents experiencing hardship and we can work with residents to set up sustainable payment plans. We offer discounts to encourage on time payment and we have, by far, the most generous pensioner rebate scheme. We also have the cheapest residential rates in South East Queensland, something that we’re very proud of.

*At that time, 2.22pm, the Deputy Chair, Councillor Steven HUANG, assumed the Chair.*

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: What we have in the case of the properties on the sales’ list this afternoon. Is situations where an owner’s whereabouts are unknown. Deceased estates, where the beneficiary has not maintained rates’ payments and where there have been no responses to Council contacts or payments made in several years. When it comes to the sale of properties with overdue rates, this is not something we have traditionally done often. It is only used as a very last resort. Where, after repeated attempts and significant legal processes, we were unable to set a path which would see the debt repaid.

If you don’t pay your car registration and are caught driving it, significant fines apply. If caught multiple times, the State Government can impound the vehicle. If your utility bills are unpaid for some time, you can be disconnected. In the case of local governments through, the Queensland Government has determined that our last resort is to sell the property to recover any unpaid rates and charges.

There are many, many Councillors in this Chamber who were not here the last time a list of properties was brought through and that includes myself. It is important context to know that since 2002, Council has approved 12 sales’ lists, consisting of 165 properties. As the LORD MAYOR alluded to earlier, of these 165 properties only seven per cent proceeded to sale at auction. 93% of properties approved for sale, indeed had their rates’ accounts paid prior to the auction.

Ultimately that’s what this is about. It’s not about selling homes, it’s about recovering debts on behalf of other ratepayers. This is about fairness for the ratepayers who are doing the right thing in Brisbane. Not just for those how pay on time consistently but especially for those doing it tough. Those who talk to Council about what issues they might be having and set up a payment plan, in agreement with Council, to manage the issue. It is not the situation of properties before us—that is not the situation of the properties before us today though, Mr Chair.

On item B and specifically to Contract 3. This is related to our Enterprise Resource Planning Digital program. Which was the topic of our Committee Presentation last week, actually, Mr Chair. You will recall it. Specifically, the contact provides independent consultancy advising on cost models, business and operating models to assist Council with the significant upgrade of its Enterprise Resource Planning design and associated systems.

Council is reviewing aspects of its enterprise design to support our new ERP, S/4HANA, which we have spoken about before. The consultancy will provide best practice business model recommendations. Which will be used to ensure that the foundational ERP enterprise design supports all the capabilities that are planned to be deployed and means that we can realise the full benefits of the SAP implementation.

So, in summary, Mr Chair, this work is simply advising our team, who is implementing this fundamental and critical ERP project for Council and I commend it to the Chamber.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just very briefly on the three items before us today. Firstly, with respect to the Street Naming policy, I appreciate that an update is required. However, I do not support the change in AP153, which allows roads of the same or a similar name to be named the same, within five kilometres. I think this is going to cause more problems. It’s already problematic when you have two streets with the same name that are in the same kind of geographic area. But essentially now you can have them in the same suburb, which is just going to cause a lot of problems. So I think that’s a retrograde step in this. Otherwise, I certainly understand the policy needs to be updated.

Secondly, with respects to the Contract and Tendering report and the information provided by Councillor CUNNINGHAM. So a huge international consultancy firm is being paid $1 million by Council to provide some advice, that’s what’s happening. Now, Councillor CUNNINGHAM says that’s important advice and that Council needs it. The things I think are important are fixing footpaths, fixing roads, making sure we fund the upgrade of community facilities.

I’m not sure why we have to pay consultants $1 million for a little bit of advice about how this Council is run. This Council has highly paid executives who are highly qualified. This kind of expertise should be available within Council to undertake the project. It’s all very strange, enterprise resource design, SAP. I mean this is a black hole of funding goes into these projects to start with. So I just think this money can be better spent, rather than paying a big, international consultancy $1 million to do work that Council should be able to do itself.

Finally, with respect to item 3, the sale of land for overdue rates. I have been here when these have been done. I do have concerns with some of the sales. In particular, there are some that obviously where people can’t be contacted there’s a fairly serious problem and we need to do that. But the sad part of this process is, as Councillor CUNNINGHAM has outlined, the purposes of this is to force people to pay their rates. But the mechanism to do so is to say we apply to the courts to sell their homes.

Now, it’s completely different to an energy company saying they’re going to turn off the electricity. It’s not like they’re going to remove all electrical fittings from someone’s home. Or take the power poles out so that people can’t do it. But this is a very different thing. There are some of these—I won’t go into detail, but there are some of these that I think are quite problematic.

Councillor interjecting.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, borderline, borderline, thank you, that’s a good word. So I have some concerns with what is proposed here today. This is a blunt instrument. It’s not, as Councillor CUNNINGHAM outlined, a State Government decision. This is a Council decision, this is why it’s being brought forward to Council today. So I have some real concerns about some of these sales, so I don’t support this.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Thank you to all Councillors who contributed to that debate. There’s been some interesting comments from the Opposition about contractors. There were some questions in Question Time on that as well. You know you would, I guess, believe that from what we’ve said here, that the Labor Party is dead against reducing expenditure on contractors and consultants.

But in the recent Federal budget, I’ve got right in front of me a media release from Senator, the Honourable Katy Gallagher, the Finance Minister. The media release is titled, Labor to achieve and additional $1 billion in savings from consultants and contractors. “The Albanese Government will deliver a further $1 billion in savings from reducing spending on consultants, contractors and labour hire in the 2024-25 budget.”

They say this saving is in addition to the $3 billion in savings from reducing spending on external labour that the Government delivered in the 2022-23 budget, bringing the total savings delivered to $4 billion. So they say one thing here in the Council Chamber, but in Government, they’ve actually slashed $4 billion out of consultancies and contractors.

So, I wonder if the Federal Government shows respect to contractors, using the same logic that we see at play here. The Council Opposition is saying that this is somehow an indication of a lack of respect. Yet, they’re turning a blind eye to the $4 billion cut to consultants and contractors at the Federal Government level. I wonder what that says about respect.

So what we see here is not a well thought through position from the Opposition. The reality is when you want to deliver savings for the people of Brisbane and keep rates and rents low, you have some decisions to make on how to sensibly do that. We’ve been quite clear, the permanent staff of Council have nothing to be concerned about. We will find sensible savings in a way that doesn’t impact on those permanent staff of Council. We’ve made that clear from the beginning and we remain to committed to that.

As we go through future EBA negotiations as well, we want to make it clear to our staff that if you are an employee of Brisbane City Council, you’re a permanent employee, that we don’t want to see the same situation as up at George Street or down in Canberra where forced redundancies can be brought in. We don’t want to see that situation. We are one of the last remaining governments anywhere that has a policy of no forced redundancies.

We believe, absolutely, that that should be protected. We’ve made that clear year‑in, year-out, through former EBA negotiations and we will make that clear going forward. That sets us apart as an employer of choice that looks after its employees and values and respects its employees and we are absolutely committed to that. So whatever the Opposition might say in here, the reality is our record shows that we do value and respect our employees.

The Opposition’s comments in this Chamber are not reflected by the actions at the State and Federal Government level when they are in government. They’re quite happy to offer forced redundancies for staff at the State level and the Federal level. But we do not do that and we’ve made it clear that we won’t do that.

So look, just one other thing. I neglected to mention this earlier but just wanted to put on the record some comments that I made last week and to clarify those comments, particularly in relation to the third budget review submission that came through. Now, I mentioned that there was $40 million in Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) funding that hadn’t been approved and a result that the money was going to be removed from the budget.

Now, while it’s true that some of this money is being removed, not all of it is being removed permanently and that some is being carried over to future years. So that amount is approximately $28.4 million which is being carried over.

But I can confirm that overall we applied for $165 million in funding through the QRA and, of that, $72 million has not been approved. So the reality is that many of the submissions that we put in for funding were not approved by the QRA. Some of that funding has been removed permanently from the budget because it has not been approved by the QRA. Also some of that funding has been moved forward to a future year. We hope we do get that funding but obviously time will tell. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Now we will put the item A and C of the E&C report to the vote.

**Item A and C put:**

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

Deputy Chair: Now we put item B of the E&C report to the vote.

**Item B put:**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 18 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

ABSTENTIONS: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK, Seal CHONG WAH, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Sarah Hutton.

#### A *AP153 STREET NAMING POLICY*

**109/268/608/98**

**609/2023-24**

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

2. Council is committed to delivering an accessible, well connected and well-designed city. *AP153 Street Naming Policy* (AP153) (refer Attachment C, submitted on file) ensures that a systematic and consistent approach is applied when naming roads and numbering allotments across the city.

3. AP153 was first adopted by Council in 1981 and has not required any major amendments through annual reviews. However, Brisbane has developed significantly in recent decades, with population growth and infill development creating more private roads. Australian Standards, publicly available mapping services, and the range of service deliveries to addresses have also evolved in that time.

4. A recent review of AP153, and feedback from residents and businesses, highlighted a number of key issues:

- AP153 does not incorporate the principles for the naming and numbering of private roads. This is impacting residents when emergency services, utility providers and delivery services have difficulties locating their properties.

- AP153 does not allow the naming of roads within five kilometres of existing or similar sounding names of roads. This limitation is no longer viable given the growth of Brisbane and modern mapping and delivery methods mean this is no longer an issue.

- AP153 does not currently contain the guiding principles for the numbering of allotments that is outlined in *Chapter 6 – Streets, Bridges, Culverts Etc. Local Law.*

5. The proposed amendments to AP153 (refer Attachment B, submitted on file) seek to:

- incorporate the principles of allotment numbering that were previously omitted from AP153

- incorporate the naming and numbering of allotments for private roads on common property that were previously omitted from AP153.

6. The proposed amendments to AP153 aim to support the continued growth of the city and ensure that the inclusion of the guiding principles continue to assist emergency services and utilities providers to identify and locate properties with ease. It is also proposed that the policy be renamed to *AP153 Road Naming and Allotment Numbering Policy.*

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO *AP153 STREET NAMING POLICY***

As Council:

1. considers it appropriate to make amendments to *AP153 Street Naming Policy*,

then Council:

1. approves amendments to *AP153 Street Naming Policy* as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file).

**ADOPTED**

#### B CONTRACTS AND TENDERING – REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR APRIL 2024

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

**610/2023-24**

9. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

b. the value of the contract

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

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

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

15. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR APRIL 2024, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, hereunder.

**Attachment A**

| **Report of Contracts Accepted by Delegates of Council for April 2024** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contract number/contract purpose/successful tenderer/comparative tender/price value for money (VFM) index achieved** | **Nature of arrangement/ estimate maximum expenditure** | **Unsuccessful tenderers/VFM achieved** | **Comparative tender price/s** | **Delegate/**  **approval date/start date/term** |
| **BRISBANE INFRASTRUCTURE** |  |  |  |  |
| **1. Contract No. 533997**  **DEMOLITION VOLUNTARY HOME BUY‑BACK PACKAGE 19**  **Logan City Demolitions Pty Ltd – $500,000**  Achieved the highest VFM of 15.30 | Lump sum  **$500,000** | DEMEX Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 15.28  W J & M Allendorf trading as WMA Demolition  Achieved VFM of 15.17  Paterson Demolition & Recycling (Brisbane) Pty Ltd as trustee for Paterson Demolition & Recycling Trust  Achieved VFM of 11.33 | $492,460  $609,775  $693,142 | **Delegate**  Executive General Manager, City Projects Office  **Approved**  05.04.2024  **Start**  17.04.2024  **Term**  14 weeks |
| **CITY ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **CITY PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **LIFESTYLE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES** | | | | |
| **2. Contract No. 512132**  **STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CLEANING, CCTV (CLOSED‑CIRCUIT TELEVISION) PIPE SURVEYING AND VACUUM EXCAVATION SERVICES**  ***Category 1 – Stormwater Infrastructure Cleaning Services***  **Pipe Management Australia Pty Ltd – $7,581,614**  Achieved the highest VFM of 11.34  **Aussie Hydro-Vac Services Pty Ltd – $7,115,800**  Achieved VFM of 10.19  **CSA Group Pty Ltd – $7,483,104**  Achieved VFM of 10.16  ***Category 2 – CCTV Pipe Survey Services***  **Aussie Hydro-Vac Services Pty Ltd – $242,281**  Achieved the highest VFM of 33.02  **Pipe Management Australia Pty Ltd – $278,915**  Achieved VFM of 30.65  ***Category 3 – Stormwater Gully Basket Cleaning Services***  **Pipe Management Australia Pty Ltd – $154,100**  Achieved the highest VFM of 55.81  ***Category 4 – Vacuum Excavation Services***  **Hydrovac Excavations (Aust) Pty. Ltd. – $4,150,750**  Achieved the highest VFM of 19.64  **Safedig Services Pty Ltd – $4,514,550**  Achieved VFM of 18.94  **Vacuum Excavation Australia Pty. Ltd. – $4,880,000**  Achieved VFM of 18.65 | Corporate Procurement Arrangement (Panel and Preferred Supplier Arrangements)  Schedule of rates  **$60,000,000** | ***Category 1 – Stormwater Infrastructure Cleaning Services***  *Shortlisted offers not recommended*  Cleanaway Industrial Solutions Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 9.81  Total Drain Cleaning Services Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 8.51  Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 8.43  *Offers not recommended*  Safedig Services Pty Ltd\*  Tipper Industries as trustee for Tipper Family Trust trading as Aquadig Vacuum Excavation\*  VAC2U Excavation Hire Pty Ltd\*  Rangedale Qld Pty Ltd\*  Patriot Tankers Pty Ltd\*  Loader VAC Solutions Pty Ltd\*  as the trustee for Loader VAC Solutions Trust\*  Dynamic Hydro Excavations Pty Ltd\*  ***Category 2 – CCTV Pipe Survey Services***  *Shortlisted offers not recommended*  Safedig Services Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 24.39  Total Drain Cleaning Services Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 23.88  Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 19.75  *Offers not shortlisted*  Tipper Industries as trustee for Tipper Family Trust trading as Aquadig Vacuum Excavation\*  Cleanaway Industrial Solutions Pty Ltd\*  Patriot Tankers Pty Ltd\*  CSA Group Pty Ltd\*  Rangedale Qld Pty Ltd\*  Dynamic Hydro Excavations Pty Ltd\*  VAC2U Excavation Hire Pty Ltd\*  ***Category 3 – Stormwater Gully Basket Cleaning Services***  *Shortlisted offers not recommended*  CSA Group Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 27.82  Cleanaway Industrial Solutions Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 12.24  Total Drain Cleaning Services Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 10.45  Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 7.09  *Offers not shortlisted*  Safedig Services Pty Ltd\*  Tipper Industries as trustee for Tipper Family Trust trading as Aquadig Vacuum Excavation\*  VAC2U Excavation Hire Pty Ltd\*  Rangedale Qld Pty Ltd\*  Patriot Tankers Pty Ltd\*  Loader VAC Solutions Pty Ltd  as the trustee for Loader VAC Solutions Trust\*  Utility Location Services Pty Ltd\*  ***Category 4 – Vacuum Excavation Services***  *Shortlisted offer not recommended*  Pipe Management Australia Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 16.10  *Offers not shortlisted*  Total Drain Cleaning Services Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 12.09  VAC2U Excavation Hire Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 12.00  Tipper Industries as trustee for Tipper Family Trust trading as Aquadig Vacuum Excavation  Achieved VFM of 10.65  Cleanaway Industrial Solutions Pty Ltd\*  Aussie Hydro-Vac Services Pty Ltd\*  CSA Group Pty Ltd\*  Rangedale Qld Pty Ltd\*  Elite Drilling Solutions Pty Ltd\*  Utility Location Services Pty Ltd\*  Patriot Tankers Pty Ltd\*  Dynamic Hydro Excavations Pty Ltd\*  Loader VAC Solutions Pty Ltd  as the trustee for Loader VAC Solutions Trust\*  *\*Tender price and VFM not applicable as offer did not meet minimum non‑price requirements.* | $8,355,426  $8,341,032  $10,968,541  Not applicable (N/A)\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  $270,580  $349,633  $420,236  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  $289,386  $669,714  $641,383  $1,304,217  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  $4,504,000  $5,457,134  $5,460,600  $5,682,750  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\*  N/A\* | **Delegate**  Chief Executive Officer  **Approved**  29.04.2024  **Start**  01.07.2024  **Term**  Initial term of three years with a maximum term of five years. |
| **3. Contract No. 534097**  **CONTEMPORARY COST MODEL CONSULTANCY SERVICES**  **The Boston Consulting Group Pty Ltd – $975,000**  Achieved VFM of 80 | Lump sum  **$975,000** | One offer received. | N/A | **Delegate**  Chief Procurement Officer  **Approved**  17.04.2024  **Start**  29.04.2024  **Term**  Nine months |
| **TRANSPORT FOR BRISBANE** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |

**ADOPTED**

#### C SALE OF LAND FOR OVERDUE RATES – LIST NUMBER 281

**173/52/212/105 and 381/70/5(P2)**

**611/2023-24**

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

17. Council has powers under the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* and the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* to sell land to recover any unpaid rates and charges.

18. Generally, land must have rates outstanding for more than three years before it can be sold by Council. If the land is vacant or only used for commercial purposes and Council has judgement against the owner, sale can occur where rates are outstanding for more than one year.

19. Attachment B (submitted on file) contains a summary of the nine parcels of land recommended to be sold to recover outstanding rates. These parcels of land are categorised as follows:

- five owner-occupied residential

- two commercial

- two non-owner-occupied residential.

20. Attachment C (submitted on file) contains case histories on each parcel of land.

21. Council officers have exhausted all available avenues to resolve the matter including where relevant:

- issuing of a letter of intention to commence sale action to the owner/s and all listed encumbrances on the title deed

- inspecting the parcel of land during business hours and attempting to contact neighbours

- attempting to contact the owners via mail, telephone, email, and in person on multiple occasions across a period of many years.

22. Council is committed to a socially responsible approach to managing rates debt, recognising that our residents may face unexpected financial challenges. To address this, Council offers flexible payment plan options and other mechanisms to support landowners. At the same time, Council has a responsibility to ensure that unpaid rates are recovered in a fair and equitable manner. This is crucial for maintaining the financial sustainability of Council’s services and infrastructure, which are essential to the well-being and quality of life of our city.

23. Applications for rates relief had been issued to eligible landowners. No completed applications have been received for review by the Independent Rates Relief Tribunal.

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

25. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORISE THE SALE OF LAND FOR OVERDUE RATES**

As:

1. rates on the land described in Attachment B (submitted on file) has been outstanding for more than three years
2. all appropriate legal action, where possible, has been taken by Council to recover those rates but such legal action has been unsuccessful
3. there are no current legal proceedings pending regarding the liability of the owners to pay any of the rates specified in Attachment B,

then Council:

1. resolves to sell the land and authorises the taking of necessary action to effect such sales under Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*.

**ADOPTED**

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS, Economic Development, Nighttime Economy and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee report, please.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, NIGHTTIME ECONOMY AND THE BRISBANE 2032 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES COMMITTEE

Councillor Sandy LANDERS, Deputy Chair of the Economic Development, Nighttime Economy and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven TOOMEY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor LANDERS: Last week we received a presentation from our manager of Economic Development on the Growing Precincts Together program. The Growing Precincts Together program delivers hands on support to help promote and activate business precincts. We have over 300 local business precincts in Brisbane, ranging in size from just a few tenancies to a few hundred. This program is all about bringing the businesses together to build a sense of community and develop a shared vision for the precinct. Rosalie Village and Racecourse Road in Ascot were our first two pilot precincts. Our second round of pilot precincts are underway in Banyo and Wynnum CBD.

It starts with the understand stage, working through various audits and insights from businesses and customers to understand where the opportunities lie and where some improvements could be made. It’s a chance to get under the hood of what drives these local precincts. What challenges businesses are facing and how precincts can grow to attract more visitors.

The next step is to engage, bringing the businesses together to run through the findings from customer surveys and precinct audits. It’s also an opportunity, in some cases, for businesses to meet each other for the first time, get to know each other and start to build their business-to-business relationships.

This is where it all comes together. There’s no single solution but rather a combination of different support measures that are tailored to suit the needs of each of the businesses and the precinct as a collective.

The precinct playbook creates a framework of opportunities under key themes, promote, support, refresh and activate. We’ve seen some fantastic outcomes working with these businesses through one-on-one business coaching, shopfront makeovers and vacant shopfront activations, digital marketing training and precinct promotion campaigns.

The last step is the legacy precincts. Our team continues to provide ongoing support to precincts to ensure they continue to thrive. They will have a dedicated business engagement contact, ongoing catch ups and further support to hold their own events and activations.

Deputy Chair, it’s a fantastic program bringing together the community and our local businesses. To ensure they are receiving the support they need to continue to thrive and grow. I leave further debate to the Chamber.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor GIVNEY.

Councillor GIVNEY: Thank you, Chair. Ladies and gentlemen of the Chamber. Today I stand before you to thank Brisbane City Council for the Growing Precincts Together initiative, undertaken to support the vibrant Wynnum town centre businesses, locally known as the Wynnum CBD. This program stands to support the economical development of our suburban business hubs.

Since last year I have been thankful to be invited to the sessions with the Council Economic Development team through my ongoing engagement with the Wynnum Commerce Inc. I have actively supported the Wynnum owners with this project. Sam and her team have specifically crafted a program based on feedback from the business owners. In Wynnum this program offers one-on-one business coaching sessions that have been tailored to address the specific needs of our area. They offer up to 10 hours of personalised guidance.

Additionally, food-based businesses have been provided with specialised support across various crucial areas, such as business strategy, menu optimisation and staff management. Recognising the importance of visual merchandising and enhancing the retail experience, we are exploring opportunities to—options to deliver virtual merchandising workshops. These workshops aim to empower businesses within Wynnum, the Wynnum precinct, to refresh they shopfronts and interior displays. Ultimately aiming to boost sales and customer engagement.

Following the success of Wynnum’s regular UpLate events, which are offered on Friday nights throughout the year, including one this Friday night if anyone wants to come to Wynnum for UpLate, Council will be funding two further events that will activate our precinct. These events aim to draw visitors from neighbouring areas, providing local businesses with opportunities to showcase their offerings and attract new customers.

As we look ahead, our focus remains on continued support of the Wynnum town centre and the other legacy precincts. We will continue to engage with businesses, provide resources through the precinct playbook and focus on online marketing. Including a website refresh and fostering connections through The Coffee Connect that we’ve done previously.

Amanda Munn, who is the owner of local homewares boutique, Hali Home, has given me her thoughts on the initiative and I’d like to share them with the Chamber. “We’ve been so pleased to see the precincts project continue to develop and gain traction. Retail is extremely challenging at the moment so additional supports and funding from Council has been extremely welcome. As foot traffic and general consumer confidence continues to drop, support like this from Council will be vital for ensuring that smaller strips and precincts like ours will service this challenging business environment.”

In conclusion, it’s initiatives like this one that has been outlined today, that will absolutely support our Wynnum CBD. Together we will continue to cultivate thriving precincts that serve as the heart and soul of our community, thank you.

Councillors interjecting.

Deputy Chair: Further debate?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I’ll rise just briefly to speak on this item. As mentioned earlier, the Growing Precincts Together program encourages residents and local businesses to share their thoughts about local suburban precincts. Through this program, hands-on support is provided to businesses. Additionally, Council works with the businesses to better understand the precinct’s unique offerings, identify opportunities for growth and identify future opportunities for the precinct.

One of the precincts identified in the 2023-24 financial year is Banyo Village. Initially we invited businesses, workers and customers to share their thoughts about the precinct in September last year, via an online survey. We wanted to hear their thoughts about what they valued the most, what challenges businesses are facing and how the precinct could grow to attract more visitors and achieve business growth.

Following this, Banyo businesses were invited to attend an event in October. During this event the Council team were able to share information about, firstly, analysis of the precinct, including business vacancies and business mix; feedback received from the survey earlier in the process; initial ideas and inspiration to promote, activate and refresh the precinct and also possible support programs for businesses in the precinct. Attendees also had the opportunity to ask questions, network with other business owners and meet with Council officers. I was fortunate to attend a number of the meetings they’ve held to date,

Businesses within the Banyo precinct are also able to apply for a range of free one‑on‑one business support programs. The diverse suite of programs will support businesses to promote and activate their business, with the aim of attracting new visitors to the precinct.

During the most recent business meeting held in the precinct in May, it was identified there was a need for a digital presence for the businesses in the village. A logo has recently been developed and agreed for the Banyo village. This will now be used to develop a website for the village businesses and that will be supported by a six month media strategy.

Mr Deputy Chair, I look forward to continuing to work with Council’s Economic Growth and Activation team to deliver initiatives and actions and promote, support, refresh and activate the Banyo Village. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor LANDERS?

Now I put the Economic Development, Nighttime Economy and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee report to the vote.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of the report of the Economic Development, Nighttime Economy 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 Sandy Landers (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Julia Dixon and Steve Griffiths.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Jared Cassidy.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – GROWING PRECINCTS TOGETHER

**612/2023-24**

1. The Manager, Economic Development, City Planning and Economic Development, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Growing Precincts Together program (the program). He provided the information below.

2. The program develops a partnership between Council and local businesses to achieve a vision for each precinct, increasing the promotion and activation of the area. In the 2023-24 financial year, the second round of pilot projects are being delivered at the Wynnum Town Centre and Banyo Village precincts.

3. The program aims to:

- build a sense of community within the precinct and increase opportunities for local businesses to connect and collaborate

- develop a common language to describe what the precinct offers

- increase the number of local stakeholders, including businesses, residents and community groups, involved in precinct growth activity

- increase the number of events, activities and promotions delivered within the precinct

- capture and analyse data for local precinct performance

- encourage new, return and longer visitations.

4. The program features four key steps.

- Step 1 – Understand: workers and customers were invited to share their thoughts, including what they value most and ideas to promote and activate the precinct, to inform how Council can support the precinct.

- Step 2 – Engage: information sessions were held in November 2023 at both the Banyo Village and Wynnum Town Centre precincts. Regular emails were also shared with local business owners, keeping them informed on the initiatives available.

- Step 3 – Precinct playbook: using the precinct playbook Council provides opportunities that promote, support, refresh and activate the area based on its needs and business mix.

- Step 4 – Legacy precincts: providing ongoing support to precincts to ensure they continue to thrive. This is achieved through:

- dedicated business engagement contacts

- biannual coffee connect events

- regular email updates outlining available support for businesses

- encouraging sponsorship applications for precinct promotion and activation.

5. Promotion is a key objective of the program. Council engaged *Style Magazine* to deliver a suite of online promotions in November 2023 and May 2024 to promote both precincts. This involved:

- publication of online articles

- direct marketing emails

- Instagram reels and competitions, with winners receiving vouchers to use at businesses within the precinct.

Instagram reels promoting the precincts received a total of 7,686 engagements, while Christmas focused articles received 3,312 page views.

6. Support programs were designed and delivered after analysing feedback from local business owners. Council matched selected businesses with a business coach to provide this support, which included:

- business coaching support - up to 10 hours of tailored one-on-one business coaching for selected businesses

- food business coaching support - up to 12 hours of personalised support on scale and growth, developing smart and profitable menus, public relations, front-of-house operations and effective rostering, staff attraction and retention.

7. The program is currently exploring options for a visual merchandising workshop to provide businesses at the Wynnum Town Centre with the opportunity to learn how to refresh their shopfront and interior visual displays. This will allow businesses to improve their shopping experience and encourage return visitations.

8. The Vibrantly Vacant program is another way in which Council supports precincts. Property owners and agents with vacant shops for lease can apply to have vibrant decals temporarily installed on the premises. The themed decals are designed to attract new tenants by making vacant shopfronts more visually appealing and highlighting their potential business use, while also improving the streetscape.

9. Activation of a precinct creates a space or event where people can stop and engage, the aim of which is to encourage visitation to the area from surrounding neighborhoods. Local businesses are given first opportunity to have stalls and are encouraged to offer deals or vouchers to encourage patronage. The program has procured Tom Oliver Productions to deliver two market activations for the Wynnum Town Centre in July and August 2024.

10. Council also supports precincts through its Local Retail and Activation toolkit (the toolkit), which has been developed to help businesses in suburban retail strips come together to increase the visibility of their area and drive customer growth. The toolkit is freely available on Council’s website and has been developed based on best practice research combined with interviews and case studies.

11. The program will continue to work with businesses in the Banyo Village and Wynnum Town Centre precincts, support legacy precincts and develop further resources to support all business precincts in Brisbane.

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

13. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY, Transport Committee.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you very much—sorry, thank you very much, Deputy Chair. Just before I move to the Committee report. I’d just like to talk, I guess, briefly, about the bus contract negotiations. The LORD MAYOR touched on it—

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY you have to move the motion first.

Councillor MURPHY: Oh, yes, sorry, of course, Chair.

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Ryan MURPHY, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Transport Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Danita PARRY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Deputy Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you very much, Deputy Chair. As I said, just before I move to the Committee report, I’d like to talk briefly about the bus contract negotiations. I think Councillors heard from the LORD MAYOR just then that he is quite optimistic about the way in which negotiations are proceeding now, having now been effectively negotiating with them for over a month.

He is of the strong belief that things are headed in the right direction and that is, I think a good thing. It’s a good thing for the people for the City of Brisbane to have the State Government and the Council at the table talking together about how we can improve public transport for commuters.

So far, I would say we have seen Minister Mellish and his department having been responsive, communicative and collaborative in that approach. We do appreciate that. But what I will say is that we have seen a lot of this before with the Department. We have seen collaboration and communication a really strong working relationship at the officer level. Then have seen, under the previous Minister, Minister Bailey, the rug pulled out from underneath Council at the last minute.

We’ve seen a lot of fruitful work and great modelling, a lot of effort put in by our officers, thrown out the door through political interference. So I will just flag that Brisbane City Council and this Administration is here in the interests of the travelling public in Brisbane. We are absolutely not interested in a political fight with the State Government on the eve of their election, we are not. We would like a deal in the best interests of the ratepayers of this city and the travelling public of this city.

However, we are very well prepared to have that fight if that is what the State seeks and we will not be backing down from this one. We have been here before. As I said, the LORD MAYOR can be the optimist here, I’m definitely the pessimist. So we will see where things wash out.

But we have—I think Council has 12 weeks until the State enters caretaker mode. So we have 12 weeks to strike a deal with the State that has the potential to provide hundreds of millions of dollars in additional funding to Brisbane bus services every year, to provide new routes, to fix bus to rail, to provide collaborative mechanisms with which to continually review and improve the network. To deliver a massive transformation that will be possible through the 50 cent fares, which we welcome and we congratulate them on. But also the opportunity for new services which commence at the end of the year with Brisbane Metro and then into 2025-26 with the introduction of Cross River Rail services.

We are at a great turning point in the history of this city when it comes to public transport. New train stations, new forms of transport with Metro, an entirely refreshed and revisited bus network, but we need the right structure and the right funding in order to be able to deliver that. To quote General James Mattis, the State will have no greater friend than Council, if they choose. But they will have no worse enemy. We have only a few more weeks to find out which one of those paths they would like to go down.

Now, Chair, we had a presentation last week to Committee. The presentation was about Active School Travel. Now, we received a fantastic update on that. This is one of the programs that is one of my favourites, Chair. This provides primary schools across the city with a range of free resources and incentives to encourage parents and students to leave their cars at home and travel actively to school. We’ve had over 175 primary schools in the program, 150,000 students over the last 20 years and an estimated $11.6 million in health benefits to each of the schools that signs up. So a really great program.

2023 was one of our best years on record, Chair. We had active travelling in schools rise from 23% to 40%, those schools that participated in the program. We had more than 1,500 students walking to school each week—1,500 more than we had in 2022. So some really great outcomes, 93% of the schools reported an increase in their physical activity levels, 100% said that it fostered a greater sense of community in their local areas, 85% of parents told us that their child’s road safety awareness had markedly improved because of the program.

Last year we tried to duplicate the success we’d had with Active School Travel in Kindy Active Travel. This was a pilot program we undertook in partnership with the State Government. Didn’t work, Deputy Chair. It did not work. So we had effectively a zero per cent increase in active travel from parents with toddlers and kindy-age kids at the two schools that participated in the pilot.

So I don’t think the pilot will be going too much further. The discussion between the State and Council is that our resources are perhaps better spent targeting high schools and involving them. I think it is just a reality and, we have many working parents in the room here, it’s just a reality that for parents of kindy-age children, where they can’t help them to get to their kindy unassisted and by themselves, they’re going to be using the car. There’s obviously very little impact in us encouraging them to use active travel to get their toddlers to and from kindy, from what we see in the program results so far.

So we did choose two kindergartens that were serviced by active transport infrastructure in Hanlon Park and in Norman Creek Bikeway, so we tried really hard, but it just didn’t work. So we will have more to say about replacement of this program and potential future work that we’re going to do with other elements, in terms of primary school and high school, as we roll out the Safer Schools program in the coming budget. Councillors will have to wait until next week to see how that will go. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber, thanks, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Deputy Chair. Listen, I rise to speak on this particular item. I was—my ward actually has—about 40% now of our primary schools are taking part in Active School Travel now and I’m quite proud of that and the schools that are undertaking that, to mention the Inala State School, Grand Avenue State School and St John’s Anglican College at Forest Lake Primary.

Now, as you say the program is to encourage parents to drop off their kids at a particular—maybe a park or another destination, which is close to the school. So that they can actually walk and then try to reduce that congestion that actually has, especially when they’re being dropped off. Probably more especially when they’re being picked up, as far as the congestion goes. But it’s really about dropping off the kids to a destination, a fair distance, a reasonable fair distance from the school. So they can walk in, reduce that congestion.

Now in order to that, of course, you’ve got to have some footpaths that are actually in good condition. I did bring up recently in another debate in regards to the Inala State School who undertook this program earlier this year. They—one of their sites was down in Elizabeth Bruce Park, which is in Japonica Street. I raised it in the Chamber here of the really poor construction, or what’s left of the construction of the footpaths leading from there up to the school. Up Japonica, Biota and then to Rosemary Street.

Of course, I mean we do even have a program, right, which is Safer Pathways to Schools, right. which we have. I’ve been a beneficiary of that as well at the Forest Lake High School, this year as well.

Now as far as footpaths go, it’s really important that kids are able to walk on a safe footpath, undertaking this program. We found out, actually back in 2010 there was about 900 kilometres or a bit less than 1,000 kilometres of footpaths that were needing repair. Now—and then 2021 we had some figures and it had doubled to 2,000.

So I don’t know what it would be today, four years later. But it’s important that we do maintain these footpaths so that the kids can actually safely travel. It’s not just the kids, it’s also the staff members as well, of the school. As I said in the previous debate, it was really embarrassing to come up Japonica Street and just see how bad it was. It really is bad. There’s been no funding allocated for that, that I’m aware of.

So listen, a great program. I support it, I’m sure every Councillor I here would love to have all their schools doing it. Because it would certainly reduce the complaints that come into the office, especially at the start of the year. Where Council officers have to go out and start fining people for doing the wrong thing. Because there’s just not enough space around most of the schools to be able to handle that congestion.

So anyways, I just encourage—I hope the LORD MAYOR has allocated a lot more funds for reconstruction because we certainly do need it. We need a lot of new ones but we need those ones to be maintained as well. Thank you, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor MURPHY. No right of reply?

Well now I’ll put the Transport Committee report to the vote.

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 Danita Parry (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Lucy Collier, Julia Dixon and Emily Kim.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Ryan Murphy (Civic Cabinet Chair).

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL UPDATE

**613/2023-24**

1. The A/Manager, Policy, Strategy and Planning, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the 2024 Active School Travel program (the program). She provided the information below.

2. Participating primary schools receive a Council supported three year travel behaviour change program which has proven to reduce single car journeys and increase the number of families travelling by foot, bike, scooter, public transport or car-pool. Since the program began in 2004, 177 primary schools and 147,000 students have participated. Now in its 20th anniversary year, the program is the longest running active school travel program in Australia.

3. The program:

- encourages heathier travel options

- promotes road safety and safer streets around schools

- reduces congestion

- develops student independence

- creates closer community

- provides an estimated $11.6 million in health benefits over three years.

4. In 2023, the active travel rate across newly participating schools rose from 23% to 40% with walking remaining the most popular way to actively travel. The program was successful in increasing overall physical activity levels, road safety awareness and fostering community cohesion in schools. The program also created collaboration between Council divisions, Cycling Brisbane, RACQ and the Queensland Government through bike safety checks, litter prevention, data and idea sharing, public transport advocacy and road safety programs.

5. Council also trialled the Kindy Active Travel program (the Kindy program) with Stones Corner Community Kindergarten and C&K Arnwood Place Community Childcare Centre. The Kindy program was partially funded by the Queensland Government’s Cycle Network Local Government Grants Program and aimed to reduce single family car trips by 10% over the 2023 school year.

6. Opportunities for the 2024 program include:

- an analysis of Griffith University’s research on a tailored high school program

- options for calculating the health and environmental benefits of the program using validated metrics

- improved data collection

- collaborative opportunities with partners.

7. Schools commencing the program in 2024 include:

- Darra State School, Darra

- Grand Avenue State School, Forest Lake

- Northgate State School, Northgate

- Rainworth State School, Bardon

- Sherwood State School, Sherwood

- Shorncliffe State School, Shorncliffe

- St Aidan’s Anglican Girls’ School, Corinda

- St John’s College, Forest Lake

- St Kevin’s School, Geebung.

8. Applications to join the program in 2025 will open on 9 July 2024 and school principals can apply via Council’s website.

9. The Deputy Chair thanked the Manager for her informative update.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Deputy Chair: Councillor WINES, Brisbane Infrastructure Committee.

### INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Councillor Andrew WINES, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven TOOMEY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Deputy Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Yes thanks, Mr Deputy Chair. The Committee last week heard a report that we have during most sessions, the inner city projects construction update. It allows Committee members a line of sight on some of the teams inside the TPO (Transport Planning and Operations) branch. To see the sorts of things that they consider, the things that are presented. But also the things that are under consideration at that particular team within the branch works on.

I think it’s a really good opportunity for Committee members to see the work that they do but also an opportunity to consider the context with which we operate and how factors beyond Council sometimes influence and affect matters within Council. So can I just thank the officers in that particular team for their ongoing work.

Can I also recognise the manager, Jamie Mullins, who has been the manager of that team for a long time but has taken up a new opportunity with the Department of Transport and Main Roads or Queensland Rail. I apologise for forgetting which one. But she’s been a wonderful member of the team here in Brisbane City Council and we wish her all the best.

Can I take a moment to also note some other good work by members in our team. We recently received a letter from the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) thanking our officers for their contribution to both ALGA and the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors. The letter was from Ms Amy Crawford, the CEO of the ALGA. Who passed on her thanks, saying that our officers were a wealth of knowledge and she was pleased they were able to donate their time. She advised us that without their time and expertise, they would not have been able to complete such a complex project. It makes me, once again, very proud to have such committed professionals within the Program 2 area.

So, as I say, this is a presentation that we consider on a regular basis, on a routine basis for the benefit of Committee members. I trust that any comments will be reflective of that report.

Deputy Chair: Councillor DIXON.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

|  |
| --- |
| **614/2023-24**  At that time, 3.01pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Julia DIXON, seconded by Councillor Alex GIVNEY, 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 3.04pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

*At that time, 3.21pm, the Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, resumed the Chair.*

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. I rise to speak on the Infrastructure Committee report, just briefly. It’s been absolutely illuminating to be part of the Infrastructure Committee over the past few weeks, and I particularly want to note the significant pattern of behaviour that’s been happening with Infrastructure Committee reports that is brought into stark focus by the report before us today. It would seem that Councillor WINES wants to have Committee meetings about matters that do not fall within his portfolio. Now, why he’s doing this, I’m not entirely sure, but the inner city construction update that we were given covers four major projects, Cross River Rail, Brisbane Metro, Queen’s Wharf, and the Kangaroo Point Bridge.

Now, two of those projects, the Brisbane Metro and the Kangaroo Point Bridge, are Councillor MURPHY’s responsibility under the Public and Active Transport Committee. Now, I know this because when I’ve asked questions about the Metro in Councillor WINES’s Committee, he says no, no, it’s not his responsibility, but it’s very interesting when it comes to filling his time as the Infrastructure Committee Chair. Instead of talking about projects in his own area, he’s talking about projects in Councillor MURPHY’s portfolio, but it gets better because then we got a presentation about the Cross River Rail project, the State Government and what was happening with that project. That’s obviously a State Government project, not a Council project. Then, we got an update about the Queen’s Wharf project, which is a private development in the city of a casino.

Now, of course, these projects do have an impact on the cityscape, right? In asking questions during the Committee last week, the only thing that Council does with respect to these projects is largely around road closures. So, I asked the question about how many road closures had Council approved as part of these four projects, because that’s the only aspect of these four projects that falls into Councillor WINES’s portfolio. I received a response earlier this morning from the manager saying that it was too hard to answer my question about the number of road closures for these projects because it would require too much work.

Now, the perverse situation with this is that’s the only part of the presentation that actually was relevant to the Committee before us, and that was too hard for Council to provide the information about the number of road closures that had been issued and whether or not any road closures were refused, but of course Councillor WINES was more than happy to have the manager wax lyrical about State Government projects, private property projects, and projects being done in Councillor MURPHY’s portfolio. Next week’s Committee presentation is even better.

So, I just am wondering what’s the point of Councillor WINES and the point of the Infrastructure Committee? Because if this Committee cannot deal with issues within the portfolio, in the Committee designed to discuss issues about the portfolio, then what’s its purpose? Why is it that Councillor WINES has been unable for several weeks to bring forward projects that are Infrastructure Committee and portfolio related? We understand that probably a lot of them have been cut. Now, we know that. We’re at the end of the financial year and Councillor WINES has said repeatedly in answer to Councillor STRUNK’s questions about this that there will be some rollovers, which are essentially cuts, projects that were announced to be delivered this year that won’t be, and that will be reannounced to be delivered next year, which probably won’t be delivered then, either.

We don’t know how many they are, but I suspect because Councillor WINES can’t find enough projects in his portfolio to talk about, there may be quite a few, but it was very informative to hear about the other levels of government and their projects, the private sector and their projects, and Councillor MURPHY’s projects in the Public and Active Transport Committee. All I would suggest is that the Infrastructure Committee actually discusses and receives presentations on matters that are relevant to the Infrastructure Committee going forward. That would be helpful.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor WINES?

We’ll now move the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Andrew Wines (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Steven Toomey (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Steven Huang, Nicole Johnston, Kim Marx and Charles Strunk.

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

**615/2023-24**

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

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

- Cross River Rail (CRR)

- Brisbane Metro

- Queen’s Wharf Brisbane (QWB)

- Kangaroo Point green bridge.

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

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

- The Star Casino, Star Hotel, associated restaurants, Riverline Park and Neville Bonner Bridge are expected to open by the end of August 2024.

- William Street between Elizabeth Street and Margaret Street will reopen at the same time.

- The remaining hotels and residential developments will progressively open once completed.

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

- Exhibition station – construction of the new Exhibition station continues with station fit out, track commissioning and energisation of the overhead electrical in progress.

- Roma Street station – canopy construction has commenced with the first of five steel roof truss segments delivered to site. These will be positioned on site with an 800‑tonne crane.

- Albert Street station – works progressing on station entrances and cavern fit outs.

**-** Woolloongabba station – escalator installation and fit out work continues.

- Boggo Road station – site works continue with construction of internal walls in readiness for canopy installation.

- Southern tunnel portal – fit out works within the tunnel continue; landscaping works will commence shortly.

- Princess Alexandra (PA) Hospital connection bridge – concrete bridge deck, approach ramps, drainage, service installation, canopy and privacy screen works continue.

- Dutton Park station – currently closed with retaining walls, station entry and fit out of the pedestrian overpass which was installed in December 2023.

- Fairfield and Yeronga stations – have reopened with finishing/defect works ongoing.

- Yeerongpilly station – currently closed as construction activities continue including the installation of services, station platform, lift construction and signaling works.

- Moorooka station – now open.

- Rocklea station – currently closed as construction activities continue including drainage works, station fit out and commuter car park construction. The station is expected to reopen mid-2024.

5. The Committee was provided the following update on Brisbane Metro.

- Adelaide Street Stage 2 works have commenced on Adelaide Street between George Street and King George Square in Brisbane CBD. Stage 1 works between King George Square and Edward Street are nearing completion with new paving, bus shelters and seating installed.

- Tunnelling activities continue beneath Adelaide Street, Brisbane City.

- Screen door replacement continues at King George Square which has resulted in the relocation of some bus services to temporary bus stops in William Street and George Street, Brisbane City.

- Cultural Centre station platform 2 reopened on 22 April 2024 and temporarily includes the West End platform. Works in the surrounding areas continue, temporarily impacting pedestrian movement in front of QPAC at the Grey Street and Melbourne Street intersection and along Melbourne Street in South Brisbane.

- Construction works continue in and over the Buranda Busway station to extend platforms. Eastbound lanes of O’Keefe Street, Woolloongabba, remain closed with westbound lanes remaining open to maintain ambulance access to the PA hospital.

- Buses are operating under a new stop layout at UQ Lakes. Stop A on platform 1 will be a dedicated Metro testing stop.

- Practical completion of the Rochedale Metro depot is expected in mid-2024.

6. The Committee was shown an image of the ongoing construction of the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### CITY PLANNING AND SUBURBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Adam ALLAN, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Penny WOLFF, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Last week, we had a presentation on plan sealing in Brisbane. A survey plan must be lodged with Council for approval at the completion of a subdivision, multiple dwelling or warehouse development where individual lots or units are to be onsold. So, this is effectively the final step in the process. It sort of starts at the beginning with a development application, construction, and then at the end, the plan sealing process which then allows the property to be passed on to the eventual owners. As I sort of noted, this tends to be a little bit forgotten.

The development assessment process or the development application assessment process gets most of the focus, but nonetheless, plan sealing is very important and plan sealing creates new land titles, easements, covenants, and the transfer of land to Council for parks, drainage or road widening. Plan sealing ensures quality assurance and development outcomes are delivered. The Building and Construction Management Team (BCMT) are responsible for endorsing the survey plan, which is also known as plan sealing, once a development is finalised. Additionally, BCMT are involved in development approvals, operational works and the construction stages. In 2023, the Schrinner Council completed 791 reactive inspections, 2,065 sealed units, 593 desktop inspections, 1,351 proactive inspections, 1,782 sealed lots, and 588 survey plans were endorsed.

BCMT also offer plan sealing pre-lodgement services and can provide advice on conditions compliance, documentation requirements, bonding of uncompleted works, and then questions relating to endorsement of standard format, building format, and volumetric survey plans. Plan sealing is legislated by the *Planning Act 2016*, schedule 18 of the *Planning Regulation 2017*, and the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997*. This ensures survey plans are consistent with approved drawings, community management statements comply with requirements of the development approval, conditions required to be complied with prior to plan sealing are met, development is connected to Urban Utilities infrastructure networks, infrastructure charges and rates are paid, allocation of house numbering—we spoke about that earlier—and assessment and approval of street names.

Endorsed survey plans are submitted to Titles Queensland, who undertake the registration of the lots. Upon registration, the Queensland Government will issue the title under the *Land Title Act 1994*. Developers can then complete settlement of the individual lots. Of particular note are two developments in Toowong that the Building and Construction Management Team worked hard to manage matters arising during the building process to ensure plan sealing could be endorsed. Specifically, they were 36 Sylvan Road, Toowong, which was a development of 63 units where the survey plan was endorsed in April 2023, and another one at 3 Archer Street, Toowong, where 62 units were completed and the survey plan was endorsed in March 2023.

Both developments are excellent examples of how the Schrinner Council’s Building and Construction Management Team manage the building process so that the survey plans can be endorsed and more housing delivered in Brisbane. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers? No further speakers.

We’ll now move 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 Penny Wolff (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Jared Cassidy, Seal Chong Wah, Steven Huang and Sandy Landers.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – PLAN SEALING IN BRISBANE

**616/2023-24**

1. The Manager, Development Assurance and Outcomes, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability attended the meeting to provide an update on plan sealing in Brisbane. He provided the information below.

2. At the completion of a subdivision, multiple dwelling or warehouse development, where individual lots or units are to be on-sold, a survey plan must be lodged with Council for approval. This provides an important final touch point for a development and ensures quality assurance and development outcomes are delivered.

3. Plan sealing is required to:

- create new land titles

- create easements

- create covenants

- transfer of land to Council for parks, drainage, road widening.

4. Council’s Building and Construction Management Team (BCMT) proactively engages with development sites under construction across Brisbane. BCMT officers coordinate the processes associated at the end of a subdivision of land or multiple dwelling development, where a survey plan must be lodged with Council for approval. Additionally, BCMT offer a plan sealing prelodgement service providing advice on:

- conditions compliance

- documentation requirements

- bonding of uncompleted works

- questions relating to endorsement of standard format, building format and/or volumetric survey plans.

5. In 2023, the BCMT completed the followings services:

- 791 reactive inspections

- 593 desktop inspections

- 1,351 proactive inspections

- processed 2,065 sealed units

- processed 1,782 sealed lots

- endorsement of 588 survey plans.

6. Council’s plan sealing assessments are completed in accordance with the *Planning Act 2016*, *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997* and Schedule 18 of the *Planning Regulation 2017*. This assessment ensures that:

- survey plans are consistent with approved drawings

- Community Management Statements (CMS) comply with the requirements of the development approval

- conditions required prior to plan sealing are met

- the development is connected to Urban Utilities infrastructure networks

- infrastructure charges and rates are paid

- allocation of house numbering and street names is accurate.

7. Development Services endorses a number of different plans and ways of defining land and buildings:

- volumetric format plan lots

- building format plan lots

- standard format plan lots.

8. A development that contains common property is managed by a body corporate and a CMS contains by‑laws required for on-going management of development outcomes including:

- refuse storage and collection

- screening

- lighting

- recreational areas

- car parking.

9. After a plan has been sealed, survey plans are submitted to Titles Queensland following Council endorsement. Titles Queensland will undertake the registration of the lots and upon registration, the Queensland Government will issue the title under the *Land Title Act 1994.* Developers can then complete settlement of individual lots.

10. Typical construction issues in Brisbane include:

- development approval not available on site

- screening, landscaping and streetscape outcomes

- car parking heights

- dust suppression

- erosion and sediment control

- building work noise.

11. The Committee was provided an overview of two recent survey plan assessments at Toowong.

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

13. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Tracy DAVIS, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Kim MARX, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Last week’s Committee presentation was on smart sensors, not to be confused with smart water meters. This is brand new technology which we’ve undertaken a pilot trial to help us monitor flooding in Brisbane. The sensors capture real-time creek water height and rainfall data to support our existing water level monitoring, using a radio frequency network to transmit data back to the FloodWise system. As part of the pilot, a total of 53 sensors were installed in and around smaller creeks and tributaries across Brisbane to complement the existing 96 hydrometric telemetry gauges across our catchments.

This is very much an emerging technology and there were some learnings about how it can be best employed to support the work that we do, but what is also exciting is that it’s a very cost-effective measure also. It was a great presentation which provided Committee members with another example of the very diverse nature of the work in Program 3 and our commitment to embracing innovation to deliver better services for residents. Madam Chair, we also had one petition, and I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak briefly on smart sensors, item A on this Committee report. Acknowledging that it was wonderful to hear about this really great trial of new technology, obviously learnings to be made. It’s the 53 low-cost sensors that were in place. What I will speak on briefly is about the fact that the trial was fantastic, the data was good that came from it, even though there were learnings, but we did find out during the presentation that this low frequency information depends on the hubs for the accuracy of the information. There are five hubs where the sensors directly give their information to. The closer to the hub, the stronger the signal, the more efficient the data is.

So, it was really interesting to note, as supportive as I am of this new technology and hoping to see what other rollouts will happen with it, that all five hubs that are currently in existence for the Brisbane City Council network are on the northside and there is none on the south, which is a problem, I would say, in the future because, of course, we have so much overland creek flooding on the southside, whether it be Norman Creek, King Fisher Creek, various other areas, and of course they touch onto—you know, it’s not just river flooding that affects The Gabba Ward.

So, as supportive as I am of this really great new technology, it’s important to highlight that, without these hubs being purposely built in the southside and with any expansion of this trial, you know, we’re getting a bit of a rough deal because we need this warning. We know the challenge has been previously the creek flooding, there wasn’t enough warning. This new technology, even though it is a low level of data that is going through, it’s not high res, is showing that it is efficient. It’s another tool in Council’s assets to be able to deliver real-time data on creek flooding. We need this to be expanded to the southside so we can make sure that the data that is received by any sort of future sensors in the future is getting accurate information from the southside.

I think the fact that there are only five sensors and they’re currently on the northside in Brisbane is something—I mean, it’s clear, but we just have to work on it because of the creek flooding that does happen on the south. I’m just going to speak briefly on that. I think it’s super necessary, again. I congratulate this team on this trial. The smart sensors are good, but we need those hubs on the southside if we’re going to expand this. We need them because of the southside flooding, the overland flooding. It seems completely like a lack of amenity for the south if there are five hubs that Council chose where to put, and none of them are anywhere across the river. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I thank Councillor MASSEY for her support of this great initiative and the trial that we’ve undertaken. I would say that there were a lot of examples on the southside of the city where we were undertaking this trial and the results were coming in extraordinarily well, and we will continue to look at where these monitors can be placed around the city. Thank you.

Chair: I will now put the report to the vote.

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 Kim Marx (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Alex Givney, Steve Griffiths, Trina Massey and Steven Toomey.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – SMART SENSORS

**617/2023-24**

1. The Manager, Water, Energy and Environmental Systems, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on Council’s rollout of smart hydrometric sensors (the sensors). She provided the information below.

2. The sensors capture real-time creek water height and rainfall data and complement Council’s existing hydrometric system. Council funds and manages the operation of Brisbane’s existing sensor network. A pilot trial placing 53 low-cost sensors has begun, which utilise a radio frequency network that transmits data to Council where it is used for operational flood management and uploaded to FloodWise, Council’s flood risk property reporting. One of the challenges for the existing sensors is the size of the system which restricted where sensors could be placed. The new sensors are cheaper, smaller and more easily placed across catchments where data is not currently collected.

3. The internet of things (IoT) is a network of interrelated devices that connect and exchange data with other IoT devices and cloud service. Emerging IoT technologies are offering possible enhancements to the sensor network at a reduced cost. Council’s low-power/long-range wide-area network provides a greater understanding of the costs, accuracy of data and reliability needed to inform future strategic plans for Brisbane’s sensor network.

4. The Committee was shown a map depicting signal strength of the sensors across Brisbane. The Committee was also shown an example of the new sensors used in the pilot program and provided information on how Council scopes sites with consideration given to signal strength, mounting locationand limitations due to vegetation and security. Examples of sensor sites at Wynnum West, Brighton and Herston were shown to the Committee.

5. Council opts to refurbish existing or unused signal poles and other infrastructure where possible to increase the signal strength of the sensors, allowing greater reliability of data. The Committee was shown an example of the dashboard used to depict raw incoming data from the sensors.

6. The Committee was shown examples of the sensors and data at sites across Brisbane, including Western, Coorparoo and Witton Creeks.

7. The installation of the sensors has undergone changes over time in response to lessons learnt. The ultra‑sonic sensors are prone to spider web accumulation which can provide false data spikes, with mitigation measures being investigated to manage challenges. The exact survey height of the new installation sites required additional surveys to be undertaken to figure out the exact height of the land, waterway and installed sensors. Key learnings have provided Council with ways to filter false data and improve the installation, operation and management of sensors over time.

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**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL CONSTRUCT PICKLEBALL COURTS IN WYNNUM

**137/220/594/245**

**618/2023-24**

10. A petition requesting Council construct pickleball courts in Wynnum, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 5 September 2023, by former Councillor Sara Whitmee, and received.

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

12. The petition contains 106 signatures. Of the petitioners, 55 live in Wynnum Manly Ward, 43 live in other wards within the City of Brisbane and eight live outside the City of Brisbane.

13. Council is committed to ensuring residents have free and low-cost opportunities to maintain good health and an active lifestyle. Council has delivered line marking and new pickleball courts within Brisbane local parks, including, but not limited to, the following locations.

* Mulbeam Park, Boondall: markings for three courts laid onto an existing basketball court.
* Boyd Park, Nundah: markings for one court laid onto an existing volleyball court.
* Ferguson Park, Bracken Ridge: markings for one court laid onto an existing tennis half‑court.
* Davies Park, West End: markings for two courts laid onto an existing basketball court.
* Joachim Street Park, Holland Park West: three new pickleball courts.
* The Lake Parklands, Forest Lake: markings for two courts laid onto an existing tennis court.
* Amazons Place Park, Sinnamon Park: two new pickleball courts.

14. Additional pickleball courts are scheduled to be built at Greenways Esplanade Park, Parkinson, and Sheriff Park, Wakerley, by mid-2024. Pending feasibility and assessment, new pickleball courts are also scheduled to be built by mid-2025 in the Enoggera Creek Sport and Recreation Precinct, Newmarket.

15. The Wynnum Tennis Association (WTA) located at 1 Colina Street, Wynnum, is a Council‑leased facility with 10 tennis courts, of which eight are artificial turf and two are hard surface. WTA has recently received grant funding from the Queensland Government to resurface the two hard court surfaces to artificial turf, allowing the WTA to host larger tennis tournaments. To accommodate pickleball, which is best played on hard surface courts, the WTA has been working with Council officers regarding the establishment of dedicated pickleball courts. Recently, WTA has requested Council approval to apply for grant funding to construct four dedicated pickleball courts with fencing and lighting at their leased site. The estimated cost of construction is $300,000. These proposed dedicated courts will assist in accommodating the growing number of pickleball players in the Wynnum, Manly and Lota area.

16. Therefore, Council does not plan to install additional pickleball courts in Wynnum at this time. The petitioners’ request will be included for consideration as part of Council’s future capital works program with funding dependent on several competing citywide priorities.

17. In the 2023/24 financial year, $15.1 million has been distributed evenly between each ward to build new footpaths and make local park improvements as part of their Suburban Enhancement Fund (SEF). As this request for park facilities meets the requirements of the SEF, the request has been referred to Councillor Alex Givney, Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward, for her consideration.

Consultation

18. Councillor Alex Givney, Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

21. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT 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:** 137/220/594/245

Thank you for your petition requesting Council to construct pickleball courts in Wynnum.

Council is committed to ensuring residents have free and low-cost opportunities to maintain good health and an active lifestyle. New pickleball courts are to be built in Greenways Esplanade Park, Parkinson, and Sheriff Park, Wakerley, for completion by mid-2024 and, pending feasibility and assessment, new pickleball courts are scheduled to be built by mid-2025 in the Enoggera Creek Sport and Recreation Precinct, Newmarket.

I can advise that the Wynnum Tennis Association (WTA), located at 1 Colina Street, Wynnum, has approached Council regarding the establishment of dedicated pickleball courts. WTA is working with Council to obtain approval for the construction of pickleball courts at their Council-leased site. Pending assessment, approval and securing grant funding, these courts will assist in accommodating the growing number of pickleball players in the Wynnum, Manly and Lota area.

Council has delivered line marking and new pickleball courts within Brisbane local parks, including, but not limited to, the following locations.

* Mulbeam Park, Boondall: markings for three courts laid onto an existing basketball court.
* Boyd Park, Nundah: markings for one court laid onto an existing volleyball court.
* Ferguson Park, Bracken Ridge: markings for one court laid onto an existing tennis half‑court.
* Davies Park, West End: markings for two courts laid onto an existing basketball court.
* Joachim Street Park, Holland Park West: three new pickleball courts.
* The Lake Parklands, Forest Lake: markings for two courts onto an existing tennis court.
* Amazons Place Park, Sinnamon Park: two new pickleball courts.

Therefore, Council does not plan to install additional pickleball courts in Wynnum at this time. Your request will be included for consideration as part of Council’s future capital works program with funding dependent on several competing citywide priorities.

In the 2023/24 financial year, $15.1 million has been distributed evenly between each Ward to build new footpaths and make local park improvements as part of their Suburban Enhancement Fund (SEF). You may be interested to know that the local Councillor plays a role in determining which footpath and park improvement projects are funded from their SEF.

As your request for park facilities meets the requirements of the SEF, your request has been referred to Councillor Alex Givney, Councillor for Wynnum Manly Ward, for her consideration.

If you would like to discuss your request directly with Councillor Givney, please contact the Wynnum Manly Ward Office on (07) 3403 2180.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Nick Te Tana, Sport and Community Officer, Connected Communities, Lifestyle and Community Services, on (07) 3178 0658.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor HUTTON, City Standards Committee.

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Sarah HUTTON, 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 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. On Tuesday, we had a presentation outlining a day in the life of a Rapid Response officer. The Rapid Response Group, which are better known as our RRG officers, provide an immediate response to complaints where there is a risk to public safety or the environment is considered to be high or an immediate priority. This includes immediate response and triage for water and environmental incidents such as pollution, immediate response to animal attacks, unauthorised building works, including noise complaints, unsafe structures and heritage character buildings, vegetation offences, and road and footpath safety issues. RRG officers are assigned to various jobs during their shift based on public reports, and on average, officers respond to over 15,000 reports each and every year.

As this Chamber knows, our RRG officers also provide a 24/7 support and response during severe weather events, providing on-ground information to disaster operations for citywide response and coordination. When a report is received to the contact centre, their work is triaged and prioritised at two points. Firstly, at the contact centre, where they gather the required information to help the job to be directed and escalated as a high priority if needed. The job is then sent through CARS (Compliance and Regulatory Services), Compliance Coordination Unit, Monday to Friday between 6am and 6pm, and after hours for the high priority work, to be escalated to ensure that our RRG operators are out there as quickly as possible.

During the presentation, Kirsty provided an overview of the various jobs that our officers do during a shift, and it is safe to say no two jobs are the same. I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone involved in the Rapid Response team and Compliance Coordination Unit for their continued and outstanding work. I would also like to thank Councillor ADERMANN, my Deputy, for his great work over the previous two weeks in my absence, so thank you so much. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

As there are no further speakers, we’ll put the report to the vote.

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 Greg Adermann (A/Civic Cabinet Chair), and Councillors Lisa Atwood, Nicole Johnston, Emily Kim and Steven Toomey.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Sarah Hutton (Civic Cabinet Chair).

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A RAPID RESPONSE GROUP OFFICER

**619/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Services (CARS), Lifestyle and Community Services (LCS), attended the meeting to provide an insight into a day in the life of a Rapid Response Group (RRG) officer. She provided the information below.

2. Council’s RRG provides 24/7 first response investigation of public safety related compliance matters. RRG converts to Rapid Assessment Teams during disaster events to provide field impact reporting for Council. RRG also collaborates with other CARS teams and Council work areas including:

- the Building and Construction Management (North and South) teams, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability

- Customer Services, LCS

- City Resilience, City Administration and Governance

- Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure.

3. Jobs are allocated to RRG officers during their shift and can vary depending on incoming reports from members of the public. The following jobs are an example of what an RRG Officer could be allocated during a typical afternoon shift.

4. The first job allocated during the RRG officer’s shift was a footway hazard. Footway hazards involve objects placed on a residential footpath which impedes the normal passage of pedestrian traffic and presents an imminent safety hazard to the community.

5. The RRG officer was then called to a suspected pollution incident. Pollution incidents include contaminants released into air, land or water. The most common incidents RRG officers attends are water related, involving discharges to waterways and storm water. In this situation, the officer collected evidence of the contaminant and interviewed the contractor on site.

6. The next job allocated to the RRG officer related to the seizure of dangerous dog. Animal management jobs require RRG officers to gather evidence and commence investigations.

7. The RRG Officer then received a report of a protected gum tree being removed. When RRG officers receive a report of interference with protected vegetation, they will attend the location to assess the matter. Pending this assessment, oral compliance directions are given if required and evidence is gathered for Council’s Environmental Management Team.

8. The next job is a report of a high-priority illegally parked vehicle. When an illegally parked vehicle is reported, RRG officers will attend the job to undertake an assessment and appropriate compliance actions.

9. RRG also provides assistance in gathering time-critical evidence after business hours. The next job is after-hours, the Built Environment team gather evidence of a home-based business operating during the evening. The RRG officer updated compliance reports with observations and evidence to pass on to the relevant team to continue their investigations.

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

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, Community and the Arts Committee.

### COMMUNITY AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE

Councillor Vicki HOWARD, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Community and the Arts Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Lisa ATWOOD, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, we had a presentation on the Lord Mayor’s City Hall Concerts and it was a very interesting report that we were given, and particularly as I think a lot of our Councillors of the Committee weren’t aware that, of course, we hold these concerts free every Tuesday between February and November from 12pm to 1pm in City Hall. Each year, the program features up to 44 concerts with more than 40,000 people attending. Madam Chair, it was also learnt that we have been delivering these concerts in Council since 1941. Prior to their current format, it consisted mostly of organ and classical concerts, but has now moved into a diverse and contemporary program which is very much loved by our residents across Brisbane.

So, I really want to thank the officers for the presentation, but also to thank everyone who participates in the concerts, and particularly to Peter Styles Enterprises who, for the past 24 years, have been providing ushering services at the weekly concerts. It’s a fantastic opportunity for people to get to know each other because the same familiar faces are there every year and, of course, our beautiful City Hall organ also features prominently in some of the presentations, but the other interesting thing that we have introduced this year, of course, is that we have Auslan-interpreted concerts. That’s been a great addition to the concerts and we are very pleased that that’s been happening.

So, again, really want to thank everyone that’s involved in making these concerts happen. I know they are much loved across the city and I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

As there are no further speakers, we’ll put the report to the vote.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Vicki Howard (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Lisa Atwood (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Seal Chong Wah, Alex Givney, Charles Strunk and Penny Wolff.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – LORD MAYOR’S CITY HALL CONCERTS

**620/2023-24**

1. The Creative Communities Manager, Connected Communities, Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the Lord Mayor’s City Hall Concerts (the concerts). He provided the information below.

2. The concerts are free and held every Tuesday between February and November, from 12-1pm at City Hall. The concerts provide opportunities for Brisbane residents and visitors to enjoy diverse, professional performances free of charge and in an accessible setting. Each year, the program features up to 44 concerts with more than 40,000 people attending.

3. The most common demographic of attendees are people aged 55 years and older. Persons with disabilities also attend each week with their carers. Attendees often also dine at the Shingle Inn or the newly established Epicure Café, visit the Museum of Brisbane or partake in a City Hall tour.

4. These concerts are a program that has been delivered by Council since 1941. Since this time, the concert series has grown and developed from a program consisting of only organ and classical concerts into a diverse and contemporary program, catering to a wide range of audiences and musical tastes with genres such as classic, folk, opera, tribute concerts, world music and jazz.

5. The concerts provide valuable employment opportunities for local artists, producers and specialist staff, including ushers and technical staff. To ensure the program offered is diverse and caters to a wide range of tastes, Council engages four producers, each bringing with them unique experiences and ideas. For the past 24 years, Peter Styles Enterprises has been providing ushering services at the weekly concerts.

6. Last year, for the very first time in this program’s history, one of the concerts was Auslan interpreted. Since then, the program has included an additional three Auslan-interpreted concerts which Council will continue each year. These concerts are promoted as Auslan interpreted and reserved seating is provided each week for vision or hearing-impaired attendees to enhance their experience.

7. The Brisbane City Hall Organ is a key heritage feature of City Hall. Built in 1892 by Henry Willis and Sons, the organ was first played at City Hall’s official opening in 1930. Boasting more than 4,340 pipes, the organ was restored in 2014, with 2024 marking the 10th anniversary of the restoration.

8. Council’s Creative Communities receive positive feedback over the phone, via email and via post from regular attendees of the concerts, with testimonials provided to the Committee. The Committee was also shown images and a highlight reel from previous concerts.

9. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Creative Communities Manager for his informative update.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, Finance and City Governance Committee.

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 28 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Chair. Our Committee presentation last week was on Council’s Enterprise Resource Planning project, otherwise known as ERP. ERP refers to software and systems used by organisations to manage and integrate various core business processes that are critical to the efficient and effective running of an organisation. It enables the functions of finance, human resources, payroll, procurement, assets, supply chain management, inventory and works management. Council’s ERP digital program is a multiyear business and technology renewal of our corporate and shared services functions. It ensures we have core operating capabilities and modern systems for delivering community services and programs to the people of Brisbane.

For our employees, Madam Chair, the program will uplift operational capability, enable process improvements, improve the usability and performance of our systems. It means that we’ll also enable far better reporting and monitoring of performance. It will also improve Council’s customer service availability, with residents to be able to engage with Council at any time on any device with greater digital self-service capabilities in line with what residents expect for this day and age.

A key part of the foundation of the program is the upgrade of Council’s current version of its SAP system which has been in place since 2012 and is nearing end‑of‑life support in 2027. It’s important that this critical system is upgraded, Madam Chair, and that processes are modernised to enable effective operational management within Council, and I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, just briefly on this matter. Over many years, I have raised issues with the lack of support for ward offices when they log jobs with Council. Now, in the past, this Council has spent in my time here, I would say, billions of dollars on upgrading software, billions of dollars. As part of each review, nobody has considered how the functionality of ward offices are connected to Council operating systems. Now, it’s very interesting to me that this latest review probably doesn’t do this either, and I’m sure Councillor CUNNINGHAM will correct me if I’m wrong, but I think most people would be surprised to know that about 25%—and I think that was the figure that I recall—about 25% of jobs to Council come in through the ward offices, and those jobs are entered into a computer by our ward officers.

We log a job with Council, which might be fixing a pothole or resurfacing a road, but that does not connect, that system does not connect to Council’s operating systems. So, manually, a person in the Council call centre has to re-enter all the information that we provide on our ward office system into Council’s system for dealing with complaints, which are then allocated out to the various parts of Council. That’s the operating system that Councillor CUNNINGHAM has referred to.

Now, in the 16 years I’ve been here, no one has ever addressed what is the most inefficient, analogue and outdated management of Council’s systems, which are supporting ward offices who are essentially mini call centres. We all answer the phone and undertake work for constituents. We all do it, and no one, in the 16 years that I have been here has anybody addressed the disconnect between the ward office operating systems and the Council operating systems. Now, I don’t know how many millions of dollars or billions are going to be spent on this project, but I know that Boston Consulting Group is getting $1 million to provide some advice to Council about this. My advice is free.

I think that this Council needs to do more to improve the operating connectivity between ward officers and Council’s operating systems, and it should be a matter of when we make a request for a resident to clean a drain or fix a footpath, our system talks to Council’s system and it goes down the right chute to be actioned as quickly as possible. What should not be happening is somebody in the call centre entering the data again, and we’re all human beings. Sometimes, mistakes are made, the most regular one being, I note, that my ward office staff or myself are listed as the complainant, not the constituent, which makes it hard for us then to find who the request was for. That happens, I’d say, more than 50% of the time. So, there are processing errors that are happening that are just needless.

I’m presuming, in all the billions of dollars that Council spends on its IT, that this would be something that could be addressed. Certainly, I would think that if we’re about to give $1 million to Boston Consulting to look at improving its advice about operating systems to Council, this might be something, oh, they could do, perhaps? If we want to make sure that our constituents’ enquiries are being addressed in a timely and efficient way, we need to improve the connectivity and the operating compatibility between ward offices and Council systems. It is completely redundant in a contemporary operating system that we have an analogue process to deal with up to 25% of all the complaints that residents make in Brisbane. I think any person in Brisbane will be shocked to know that our systems don’t connect with Council systems, that we’re relying on a person to do this.

So, I’ll just say—through you, Madam Chairman—to the Finance Chair, my advice is free. I hope you take it onboard. I’ve asked previously about this. I actually reckon there’s more you could do when it comes down to this that would make it better for us. I raised this with one of the south regional managers many years ago and she said, there’s no way it’ll ever happen. At the moment, if we need to find out what the status of a job is, we’ve got to make a request, and that might be through your ward office liaison, it might be through the CEO, it might be by making a request on a piece of paper. It can take weeks to get some advice back, right, weeks.

Wouldn’t it be good if we could log onto the system and have a look at the status of the job and provide an update to the residents? That would mean Council records would have to be kept up to date. They would have to be providing advice on the status of a job in the operating system. Council has all these operating systems. We can’t see them. We don’t know what happens to them. Council spends billions every year doing this, but again, 25% of all jobs that come through our collective ward offices have an antiquated system of connectivity to Council. That needs to be fixed, and I hope some of $1 million that we’re handing over to the international consulting firm gets spent on fixing that problem. Thanks.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM?

We’ll now put the report to the vote.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Fiona Cunningham (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Steven Huang (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Lucy Collier, Julia Dixon, Trina Massey and Danita Parry.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING DIGITAL PROGRAM

**621/2023-24**

1. The Chief Information Officer, Information Services, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Digital Program. He provided the information below.

2. ERP refers to software and systems used by organisations to manage and integrate various core business processes that are critical to the efficient and effective running of the organisation. ERP enables the functions of finance, human resources, payroll, procurement, assets, supply chain management, inventory and works management. ERP allows Council divisions to have a centralised view and access to the same data, thereby streamlining operations, improving efficiency, maintaining compliance and aiding in decision-making.

3. SAP is one of the leading providers of ERP systems and software for large businesses and is used by 425,000 organisations globally, spanning multiple industries and governments. SAP software has approximately 11% of the global market for ERP systems and is used extensively in Australia by state governments and the Australian Government.

4. ERP facilitates many functions for Council.

- Council’s annual budget is allocated, tracked and managed using ERP, providing visibility over operational, program and project expenditure. ERP monitors Council’s financial performance and maintains compliance against audit, governance and risk requirements.

- Payroll transactions for employees are processed by the SAP ERP payroll system, ensuring employees are paid on-time and accurately across all awards and pay groups.

- Council’s $37 billion asset base is managed and maintained in the SAP ERP system including critical data such as the condition and geo-location of more than one million equipment records.

- Purchase orders to the value of $1.9 billion are processed through the ERP procurement systems annually. This includes 6,500 quotation requests and 221,000 purchase order items.

5. ERP enables the efficient functioning of Council as an organisation by supporting all common corporate processes and data. These include:

- maintaining and enhancing the financial strength and performance of Council through the management of budgets, expenditure and financial reporting

- ensuring sound corporate governance and security through SAP’s governance and risk control functionality, delegations and system security roles

- supporting the procurement lifecycle from sourcing to payments ensuring procurement processes are compliant, that suppliers have a good experience and vendors are paid accurately and on time

- automating and streamlining corporate processes that directly impact the quality and cost of Council services

- ensuring the effective management of Council’s human resources, business processes, IT and property assets

- enhancing and maximising asset performance and fleet services through the management of asset data, work orders and maintenance tasks.

6. Council’s current version of SAP software was first deployed in 2013 and will reach the end of its supported life in 2027. To limit the risk of having an out of date and unsupported critical business system, Council is initiating the upgrade to the next generation SAP ERP system, S/4HANA, through the Services for Brisbane program within Organisational Services. Modernising Council’s ERP will provide significant benefits to Council and improve efficiency, effectiveness and employee experience across a broad range of critical corporate functions. By improving operations this will contribute to lowering the cost to serve and allow Council to better plan resources to balance affordability and liveability for the people of Brisbane.

7. The Committee was provided with feedback which has assisted in shaping Council’s ERP deliverables as well as a breakdown of benefits by corporate function.

8. The Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Chief Information Officer for his informative update.

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Petitions.

Councillors, are there any petitions?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Madam Chair, I have a petition requesting Council implement traffic calming measures on Watcombe Street, Wavell Heights.

Chair: Further petitions?

Councillor DIXON, may I have a motion for receipt of the petitions?

**622/2023-24**

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

The petition was summarised as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **File No.** | **Councillor** | **Topic** |
| 137/220/594/318 | Adam Allan | Requesting Council implement traffic calming measures on Watcombe Street, Wavell Heights. |

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

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

There being no Councillors rising to their feet, are there any matters of General Business?

Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, thank you, Chair. I rise to speak about two traffic matters in the Pullenvale Ward. As my colleague, Councillor WINES, said in the Chamber a couple of weeks ago, the new traffic bridge at the Mount Crosby Weir will provide major benefits to residents in the western part of my ward, particularly if we experience future flooding issues. This bridge was built by Seqwater as part of the East Bank Flood Resilience Program and it is now open for use. As part of Seqwater’s arrangement with Council, the bridge will be handed over to us as an asset to manage going forward.

Chair, I was excited recently when asked by Council officers to provide a recommended name for the new bridge. This is a unique opportunity and I’m open to all suggestions, so I decided to write to residents in Mount Crosby, Karana Downs, Lake Manchester, Kholo, and Chuwar for their feedback on what it should be called. Before doing that, I spoke to the Mount Crosby Historical Society for their input and they provided me with some options. They included an acknowledgement to the original name assigned to Mount Crosby by John Oxley and Allan Cunningham 200 years ago, through to names of engineers associated with the building of the water treatment facility at Mount Crosby. I also reached out to a friend who is a First Nations leader of my community and asked for any suggestions his people may have for a name.

If the responses I have already received on my social media post a couple of weeks ago are any indication, I expect arriving at my recommendation won’t be an easy decision. Chair, my Facebook post has already reached 45,000 users and generated engagement among 6,500 of them, all that before I receive responses to the 3,000 letters that have gone out this week, but I look forward to the challenge that lies ahead and know from this that we will have a fitting name for this very important piece of infrastructure in the Pullenvale Ward.

Chair, I’d also like to provide a follow-up to a matter I raised in General Business last week. You’ll recall I spoke about the Google Maps issue of directing motorists unnecessarily down Pinjarra Road when the easier and quicker route between Kenmore and Bellbowrie was to simply stay on Moggill Road. Well, I was pleasantly surprised to take a call from a Google representative in Sydney late last week advising that the anomaly on their Maps app had been rectified and thanking me for bringing it to their attention.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor ADERMANN: Thank you. They provided me with contact details should we ever experience this issue again. So, I want to publicly thank Google for their prompt action.

Chair, I know Councillor STRUNK also mentioned in this Chamber last week an issue that he had with Google Maps in his ward, so in the spirit of bipartisanship, I have provided Councillor STRUNK with the details of the Google representative to help him have his issue addressed. Thank you.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CHONG WAH.

Councillor CHONG WAH: Thank you, Chair. I was recently at the Victoria Park / Barrambin Green Heart Fair handing out flyers with the Herston Kelvin Grove—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CHONG WAH: Sorry? Oh sorry, my apologies.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CHONG WAH: Oh sorry, I’m speaking about Victoria Park/Barrambin and the Bardon Mayfair and bushcare groups. My apologies, Chair. I was recently at the Victoria Park / Barrambin Green Heart Fair handing out flyers with the Herston Kelvin Grove Residents Action Group, who are dedicated to save Victoria Park. These volunteers are spreading awareness and obtaining signatures for a petition saying no to a stadium and yes to protecting this amazing, precious greenspace in our inner city. It’s vital that we protect the green lungs of our city. These greenspaces are going to be even more important for the future, reduce the urban heat island effect, and to enable Brisbane to have any chance of navigating the climate change crisis we are facing. It is crucial we create more biodiversity by rewilding the park which is a key solution in drawing down carbon dioxide for the atmosphere, maintaining balance and supporting life.

On Sunday, I attended the Bardon Mayfair along with Elizabeth Watson-Brown, MP for Ryan, and Michael Berkman, MP for Maiwar. This annual fair is organised and held by the Bardon State School. We had a great day with kids folding origami and connecting with the community. I want to thank and congratulate the parent volunteers, the Bardon State School, the P&C (Parents and Citizens Association) members, teachers, staff for creating a fun environment day for our community. I have personally been involved in helping organise many events and understand the time, hours and energy that goes into preparing and coordinating large school or kindy fairs. This fair was a huge success.

Lastly, I’d like to mention I visited two bushcare groups recently, coordinated respectively by Aidan Ameer and Bruce Gray. Both bushcare groups are associated with Save Our Waterways, which is a community catchment organisation working to restore the habitat of our creeks and waterways in Brisbane’s north and west. I had the privilege to be taken on a tour by Aidan, who runs the Glen Harding Park Bushcare Group, which is located along Ithaca Creek.

Aidan is an extraordinary young person who has a deep passion for the natural world and creating a space for authentic native species to this area. He has an extensive knowledge on native species and weeds and has carefully catalogued and collected native species to create a magical, manicured bush area by the creek line. It is wonderful to connect to country and see it restored back to what it would have looked like prior to colonisation. I highly recommend a visit to this area in Glen Harding Park to either weed, plant, mulch or simply connect.

Further along Ithaca Creek, another bushcare group operates called Greening Dawn Street which is coordinated by Bruce Gray, who has tirelessly, along with many volunteers, created a stunning, well-established forest. I love walking through this space, smelling the forest fragrance while many birds are singing amongst the trees.

I’m in my eighth week as a Councillor. It is nice to reflect on my role, as it is a privilege to be elected to represent my community and also to provide the resource and influence to work for them, to help our communities build a society where they and their children and grandchildren can flourish and enjoy this precious world we live in. So far, it has been an amazing journey that inspires me more every day to be the best local government representative I can be for the residents of Paddington Ward and the residents of Brisbane. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor ATWOOD.

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you. I rise tonight to speak about my Carina Women’s Shed and to provide a bit of an update to the Chamber. About a year ago, we held a Town Hall meeting at the Carina Bowls Club and I was expecting to have a few ladies show up to see if they’d like this idea, but we had about 200 attend and it blew me away. It was incredible to see the women just genuinely so excited about the idea of having a hub where they can come and gather and share their skills and support one another. From that night, we also formed our committee. It’s been an incredible journey to see this committee go from strength to strength.

From that, we went and visited so many of the other men’s sheds around to get an understanding of how they operate and to learn from their strengths as we’ve been on this journey. I wanted to give a massive shoutout to those committee members because, genuinely, it would not have happened without them. Our president, Lynda, thank you so much. To Jenny and Satrina, our two vice presidents, to Michelle and Anja, our two treasurers, to Melissa and Sam, our two secretaries, and then to Anna, Brooke, Maree, Gayle, Jane, Jan, Sasha, Suzanne, Helen, Karen and Alex, our general committee members—it is Alex—we want to thank you so much. We wouldn’t have gotten to where we are.

So, at the moment, we have our development application currently going through Council, and I understand it’s currently through that process. So, we’re just waiting on a few updates from our town planner to fill those requirements, but this Thursday night, we’re holding our first social event at the Carina Bowls Club, pizza and barefoot bowls, and we’re really excited to update the community on the journey that we’ve been on and to keep them in the fold, but yes, we’re going out to private industry and everyone to try to get that seed funding, as well. Also a massive shoutout to the Carina Leagues Club. They gave us $55,000 which enabled us to pay for the development application and those associated fees, so we wouldn’t have been able to do all of that without the Carina Leagues Club. So, really grateful to them.

I look forward to Thursday night, to updating our community, and hopefully we get a really good turnout. Yes, once again, so grateful and so proud of the committee for all the work that they’ve done. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Yes, thank you, Chair. I just want to rise very briefly to talk about a local resident of mine who passed away just last week. Les was a resident who came into my office most weeks. We called him the eye on the suburbs, but over the last 12 years, he actually became a very good friend to myself and my staff. Like I said, he would come in regularly. He also was a really big supporter of mine. He enjoyed doing roadsides for me pre-election, every election campaign for the last four elections. The last time I saw him was at my thank you event that I held for all the volunteers that worked on my campaign. He did say to me that night that he probably wouldn’t be seeing me at the next election because, at that point, he’d be 96 years old. I said, I’m sure you’ll still be around, but unfortunately, he had a fall last week and then passed away.

*At that time, 4.03pm, the Deputy Chair, Councillor Steven HUANG, assumed the Chair.*

Councillor MARX: In line with his family and his own wishes, he doesn’t want a fuss made, so unfortunately, there won’t be any funeral for myself and my staff to attend, but I thought it was fitting that I mentioned him here in the Chambers and what a fabulous man he was. My heart goes out to his wife, Barbara, and his little dog, who is missing him desperately. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on two items, the first one being my visit to Narbethong Special School and also my attendance to the Darkness to Daylight event last week.

Firstly, Narbethong, affectionately known as Narby, is a small, unique and very special school that provides specialist teaching for students with vision and hearing impairment, catering for students from early development programs to prepping Year 12 in group settings. The challenges that these students have are incredibly, caringly and understandingly faced by an incredible staff of incredibly specialised workers in the school. There are about 60 students. I was stoked to have been invited to attend assembly, but not only attend, but participate in learning sign language with the kids and also braille, and then also participating in a little bit of a dance with everyone where we can.

After that, I was pleased to have spent time with P&C president Bruce, the acting principal and deputy principal as we did a tour of the school, noting the fact that people are vision impaired and now also potentially hearing impaired or both. It was really interesting to be at a school that has these challenges for students, but actually be building up. It is a three-storey school. So, it was great to spend time with them, to understand the challenges and offer my support where I can. I’ll be back, Narby. I’m a huge fan, and please reach out if there’s anything that you need.

Secondly, I want to talk quickly about the Darkness to Daylight event which is an event about domestic violence. I was there at the opening ceremony on Wednesday last week that also launched the start of the event where we saw hundreds of people doing 110-kilometre runs or walks to raise money for domestic violence and also highlight domestic violence, at a time when the conversation about domestic violence continues with tragic cases related to domestic violence or domestic violence itself being the cause of death of women, happening almost at a weekly rate.

It’s so important that we find ways to support events like this, whether it is through our presence there but also in ways to participate. This event enabled a 110‑kilometre walk, a three-kilometre walk, and a 10-kilometre walk and jog. Unfortunately, I couldn’t make the 5am 10-kilometre jog because I’m not a jogger, but maybe I’ll work on that in the future. Thanks, Chair, that’s all.

Deputy Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor LANDERS: Thank you, Deputy Chair. I want to speak about two events that occurred recently in Bracken Ridge Ward, and one was a 10th birthday celebration on Carseldine Markets and the other was the opening of an upgrade to our Lions Park in McPherson Park, Bracken Ridge.

Carseldine Markets has become an institution in my area in Carseldine, and it celebrated 10 years. This was a fantastic day despite a light drizzle of rain. So many people turned up. Carseldine Markets has become a great place for local producers, local artisans, creators and makers who are able to sell their wares, and it’s somewhere where you can always, every Saturday, go and pick up something new, something different. If you’re looking for a birthday present, you’re bound to find something there. You’re never disappointed.

A lot of people—you know, some people will go early, six o’clock in the morning, and get all their wonderful fruit and veg for the week. Others wander in later and enjoy live music. It’s another place where our musicians are able to perform to an audience and, in fact, I have seen several musicians at Carseldine Markets which then go on to join The QUBE Effect program. So, I’m very quick to tell young people about this great program. It’s a great way for us to be aware of our local talent and to encourage them and promote them.

So, Carseldine Markets isn’t just the Saturday markets. There are a couple of signature days now that have come about. One of them is Barktober, self‑explanatory and it’s all about the puppies, but it is great fun, that day, and very focused on our lovely pups. There’s also Christmas in July, which everybody enjoys, and our twilight markets, of course, at Christmastime. So, it has become something that everyone looks for these events and they look forward to, every Saturday, being able to pop down there, somewhere close for us to be able to get locally made and fresh produce. So, I do give a shoutout to Mark and his team at Carseldine Farmers Markets and thank them for everything they have done for our community, and for there to be more to see and do.

The other one I wanted to talk about was opening up of our upgrades to the Lions Park within McPherson Park at Bracken Ridge on the last Train Day. So, we have some children in our local area who are in wheelchairs and it is one of the things I’m quite passionate about doing in my parks, and making sure we have more all abilities play equipment. I particularly wanted to have something for wheelchairs in this park because one of our lovely young residents, Hudson, he’s in a wheelchair and he goes to Little Athletics in McPherson Park every Friday during the athletic season with his brother and sister. So, he’s a frequent user of our parks, so I made sure that this was something that would suit him.

It was also something that I worked with the Bracken Ridge Lions on, as they, as you know, all your Lions Clubs would have celebrated 75 years. So, this was one of the projects that we collaborated on so that they could mark that event. It didn’t just include the all abilities carousel. We also, of course, had some extra seating put in, fencing. Anybody who has been to Bracken Ridge Lion’s Train Day—and I know Councillor CUNNINGHAM was there that day and brought her little ones over, and I know Charlie loved that he got on the train that was called Charlie. So, it was lovely to have you there and I do encourage other Councillors—Councillor COLLIER, you know, to bring Maisie over. I think she’d love it.

We actually have some fencing to improve the safety of that park. It’s very well used and on Train Day it’s quite hectic, as you can imagine, with trains and what have you around. So, that park has been made safer and also, we have the paths to the all abilities carousel. Now, Hudson can actually hop on there with his brothers and sisters and friends and play, as well. Of course, he officially, he didn’t cut the ring, but we had a lovely bow there and he pulled the bow and he opened it officially for us. I have to say, I was very relieved when he did laugh and he loved going around on the carousel, so, very special.

While on that topic, I would also just like to give a shoutout to his big sister, Phoebe Chadwick, who turned 18 last week. I was very lucky to be invited along to Phoebe’s celebration. I’ve watched Phoebe at Little Athletics, at Bracken Ridge High as she’s grown, and now she’s at uni. It was so lovely to be there. It was a bit of a who’s who of Bracken Ridge and Little Athletics, but it was absolutely fabulous to see the students who were in her cohort with her at Bracken Ridge High come together and hear about what they’re doing. So, I do want to give Phoebe a big shoutout. She’s a gorgeous girl, a lovely big sister, and I’ll leave it at that. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further speakers?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I’d just like to speak about some of the things that I wasn’t able to chat about in the Committee report. Thank you, Councillor LANDERS, for doing that. First of all, what’s happening at the Business Hub in the coming week, what’s happening in the month of June, because we’ve talked about the May Mayhem, and also to congratulate one of my local sporting clubs.

First of all, for the Business Hub this week, you need to make sure that you’re getting it out to your communities, just to let you know that we’ve got a couple of workshops on. First of all, on Wednesday 5th and Tuesday 11th, we’ve got Ignite Your Communication with Compassionate Candour. So, that one is being hosted by one of our groups about making sure how you can share what it is you love about your work, hopefully, and your profession and share that with your networking talent. We’ve also got the LMBA (Lord Mayor’s Business Awards) pitching workshop, as well, which is on Tuesday next week at 10 o’clock. Again, for those businesses that you’re encouraging to put their hand up for a Lord Mayor’s Business Award, get some inside knowledge from past winners, past judges and mentors on how you might be able to make your business stand out, as well.

In the month of June—so, we’ve finished the mayhem of May, which was a lot of sport. In saying that, though, we do have a big night tomorrow night. It is in Sydney, Councillor ADERMANN—through you, Mr Deputy Chair—but I’m sure it’ll be a successful night. You’ve got your little maroon tie there, in case, obviously. That will be coming back in July to Brisbane, but this month is Dine BNE Month, so this is the peak month to make sure you get out there and you enjoy everything that is culinary in the city. So, we have got over 50 restaurants participating this month for lunch and dinner deals like you’ve never seen before.

There are 90 deals across the city, from steak and chips to tapas to Greek to Chinese and everything else in between at extremely reasonable prices. You can just go on the dinebnecity.com.au to see what the deals are out there, whether it’s from Donna Chang or whether it’s from Mezze or Opa. They’re all in there, trying to encourage people to come into the city and taste their wonderful culinary delights. It is a project that is supported through BEDA (Brisbane Economy Development Agency) and through the Queen Street Mall levy which is paid for by the traders. So, we work with the traders to find out what they would like to see in their city and Dine BNE has been a popular one for many, many years.

There was quite a stacks on last year from those opposite who thought it was an outrage that we spend money on this, but we don’t spend money on this. We spend the levy money on it in consultation with the people who actually pay the levy on what they’d like to see. Dine BNE was extremely popular last year. We’ve seen it come back with more restaurants and more deals this year. It started on Saturday from 1 June, it goes right through to the 30th, so please hop on the Dine BNE City website and have a look at all the wonderful lunch and or dinner menus that are there at up to 50% off over the coming month.

I’d also like to take this opportunity to congratulate one of my local sporting groups, the Brisbane Metropolitan Touch Association, which have been located at Whites Hill Reserve, which is a fantastic sporting facility, for the last 36 years. On the weekend, they celebrated their 51st anniversary from when they were first established. I was around then, I won’t mention that, but a little bit too young to be playing touch, but I’ve been involved with that touch community for many years, well before I was a Councillor, as well, and then of course with my own children playing there and reffing there, and now as a local Councillor.

They do an amazing job to have more to see and do, whether it’s something from the Trans-Tasman Touch. They ran All Schools for very many years. This weekend, they had their anniversary touch competition and teams from all over Brisbane came out to enjoy the touch, the food, the drinks, the café, and everything that is so wonderful about Whites Hill Rec Reserve. So, I just want to do a shoutout to Zac and Cody and the wonderful work that they do at BMTA (Brisbane Metropolitan Touch Association). I know you’re bursting at the seams. We’re working on it, guys, but happy birthday for your 51st anniversary and may there be many more. Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair, and I rise to speak on the Brisbane Writers Festival and more to see and do in Brisbane, following on from the DEPUTY MAYOR’s wonderful report, because there really is so much to see and do in Brisbane that I think we could be here all night and not cover it all, but the Schrinner Council is proud of the support that it provides to enable the delivery of the amazing activities across the city that contribute to making Brisbane a great city to live, work and relax. While there’s no way that I could describe all of the great events recently or currently taking place across the city, I am happy to update the Chamber on a few of the amazing activities and events offered for both residents and visitors alike across the city, supported by the Schrinner Council.

The headliner for last week was, of course, the Brisbane Writers Festival, which kicked off on Thursday 30 May and ran until Sunday 2 June. Now, this amazing festival has a celebration of entertainment across four days and 150 events. The plot, full of twists and turns. The characters, a diverse cast of writers, readers and thinkers who come together to enjoy a lively lineup of panel discussions, salons, special events and more. So, from blockbuster bestsellers to literary luminaries and everything in between, this year’s Brisbane Writers Festival was an unmissable adventure from beginning to end.

It was clear that everyone had a great deal of excitement with this year’s Writers Festival, with sold-out events for people of all ages. Megan Daley’s What’s the Buzz About Beeswas one example of a sold-out show apart from this year’s festival, with lots of little ones keen to meet the author behind the beehive. The Love YA series for young adults was a hit sellout, too. As part of this year’s festival, aspiring writers were also encouraged to get firsthand advice from Mark Dapin on how to write true crime, from Nova Weetman on memoirs, and Amie Kaufman on how to get your story started.

The festival also had opportunities for Brisbane residents to attend the ever‑popular Word Play events with Charlotte Barkla, Katrina Nannestad, and Trevor Fourmile to dive into cultural storytelling. For more than 60 years, the Brisbane Writers Festival has been engaging, entertaining, inspiring and challenging readers and writers alike, with the Schrinner Council having long supported the great work that this festival does in achieving this outcome.

I’d also like to update the Chamber on the return of this year’s Brisbane Comedy Festival, which launched on Friday 26 April and ran until Sunday 26 May. Featuring a lineup of more than 350 hilarious events and more than 130 local and international comedians, this year’s festival raised the roof at four of Brisbane’s iconic venues, those being the Brisbane Powerhouse, the Tivoli, the Princess Theatre, and the Fortitude Music Hall. We all know the benefits of a good laugh in the company of family and friends, and following the success of the 2023 program, this year’s Brisbane Comedy Festival delivered exactly that.

Global headliners for this year’s festival included British comedy master Stephen K. Amos, Irish actor and comedian Ed Byrne, New Zealander Guy Montgomery, and Scotland’s Fern Brady. So, you can see we had quite an international lineup. Acts that also brought the laughs across alternative formats to standup included Australian entertainment icons Annabell Crabb, Judith Lucy, Kaz Cook, and Zan Rowe, just to name a few. Our Committee was privileged to hear from the CEO of the Powerhouse that over 80,000 tickets were sold as a result of this year’s Comedy Festival, which represents an over 70% increase when compared to ticket sales for the 2019 year.

So, fantastic to see places such as the Powerhouse delivering for Brisbane, and particularly, as the DEPUTY MAYOR has mentioned previously, when sad icons such as the zoo are closing, it’s fantastic to see that we can all get out and support some of the amazing venues across Brisbane.

The Lord Mayor’s Photographic Awards, I’d just like to remind everyone that they’re currently open, but not for very much longer. All of us here in the Chamber know that Brisbane is truly an amazing place to live, work and relax, and as part of this year’s Lord Mayor’s Photographic Awards, we are asking entrants to capture Brisbane in its best light by sharing the places, people and experiences that make our city shine brightly. So, as part of this program, entrants from across Brisbane go into the running to win cash prizes from $1,000 to $5,000, with a total of more than $15,000 available across eight categories.

So, whether it’s a shot of Brisbane’s precious native wildlife, our pristine bushland, the sands on Moreton Island, or the people who call our city home, we’re calling on photographers of all abilities to get snapping and showcase all that Brisbane has to offer. Each year, we receive thousands of submissions from residents showcasing the amazing moments and locations that make our city great, and we’re expecting this year’s submissions to highlight even more of those incredible moments from across Brisbane.

This initiative is yet another way that the Schrinner Council encourages Brisbane residents to showcase their creative spirits and celebrate the very best of Brisbane. So, a reminder that submissions for this year’s Photographic Awards close at 4pm on Friday 7 June, so not much longer to go. I encourage all of you here in the Chamber to share this initiative with the residents of your ward.

Through you, Mr Deputy Chair, I couldn’t leave out the Planetarium and *The Dark Side of the Moon*. Now, I have to tell you that my daughter recently got along to see *The Dark Side of the Moon*. It took her a little while to get there and I don’t know that she was around when the first part of it was on, but she certainly enjoyed this and they even took my granddaughter, which was quite amazing. So, I just want to make mention of our amazing Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium, which has been going from strength to strength in delivering new and exciting programming for the residents of Brisbane.

In particular, as I said, we have had over 400 screenings of *The Dark Side of the Moon Planetarium Experience* which has been the fastest selling planetarium experience to date, with over 33,000 attendees and around 97% of shows selling out in advance. So, I think that’s just quite amazing for Brisbane. So, to cater for this amazing turnaround, we have had to put on a number of additional shows and have extended the screenings up until December. We are encouraging residents to get in quick to avoid missing this once-in-a-lifetime experience. With tickets just $16 for adults and $12 for concession, this full dome spatial experience makes for an unforgettable night out.

I want to take this moment to particularly recognise Michaela Evans, our planetarium venue manager, for coordinating such an amazing experience. She’s doing a fantastic job out there, and so thank you very much, Michaela, to you and your team.

In closing, Deputy Chair, there really is so much for residents to see and do across the city, and it is this Schrinner Council who has committed to continually making Brisbane’s lifestyle even better. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further speakers?

As there are no further speakers, I declare the meeting closed.

## QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

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

**Submitted by Councillor Nicole Johnston (received on 28 May 2024)**

**Q1.** Please provide a list of projects, a brief description and location the Lord Mayor said have been cut from the budget at the Council meeting of 28 May due to cuts to the QRA disaster funding?

**Submitted by Councillor Nicole Johnston (received on 28 May 2024)**

**Q1.** Please provide a list of all projects submitted by Council including a brief description and proposed cost that were unsuccessful in obtaining “Queensland Government grant applications” as per p5 Annual Operational Plan Progress and Quarterly,y Financial Report March 2024 from the Council netting of 28 May?

**Submitted by Councillor Nicole Johnston (received on 28 May 2024)**

**Q1.** Please provide a list by location and ward for the 204 riding and 9 e-scooter workshops held in Brisbane as funded in the 2023-24 Budget as per p15 Annual Operational Plan Progress Report presented to Council on 28 May.

**Submitted by Councillor Jared Cassidy (received on 30 May 2024)**

**Q1.** Please list the positions Council staff fill on the 10 Brisbane 2032 Program areas, their roles, responsibilities and any remuneration involved.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Program | Member | Role | Responsibilities | Remuneration |
| Venues and Villages |  |  |  |  |
| Transport |  |  |  |  |
| Utilities |  |  |  |  |
| City Readiness and Operations |  |  |  |  |
| Security and Safety |  |  |  |  |
| Accessibility and Inclusion |  |  |  |  |
| Legacy Planning |  |  |  |  |
| Sustainability Planning |  |  |  |  |
| First Nations |  |  |  |  |
| Procurement and Supply Chain |  |  |  |  |

**Q2.** Please advise how many credit card transactions were made in 2022/2023 FY and 2023/2024 FYTD towards rates accounts payments?

**Q3.** What is the fee involved (if any) in making a rates account payment by credit card?

**Q4.** If transaction fees are charged, what was the total credit card transaction fees charged by BCC in the 2022/2023 FY and 2023/2024 FYTD?

**Q5.** Do any payment methods other than credit card attract a transaction fee when making a payment towards a rates account?

## 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 Jared Cassidy (from meeting on 28 May 2024)**

**Q1.** How many people completed the Translink Customer Satisfaction Survey? What are the results? If not available in Question on Notice Answer, where are the results available?

***A1.*** *As the name suggests, this is not a Council survey.*

**Q2.** What is the monthly cost of Living in Brisbane Live! Please itemise costs, eg. production, voice artists, etc.

***A2.*** *The total production per edition is $2,500 excl. GST. The invoice for this service is not broken down into itemised costs.*

**Q3.** What is the cost to Council, or expected/budgeted cost, to subsidise e-mobility trips taken from the closed-for-upgrade Mowbray Park Ferry Terminal, during the trial period of deploying additional e‑mobility devices in conjunction with typical replacement bus services?

***A3.*** *$0.*

**Q4.** In relation to the above question regarding alternative transport options at closed-for-upgrade Mowbray Park Ferry Terminal, when were these e-mobility devices deployed, and how long does Council expect this e-mobility trial to continue? Please provide an expected month and year.

***A4.*** *E-mobility devices have been on site since July 2021. They will remain on site for the foreseeable future.*

**Q5.** In relation to the above question regarding alternative transport options at closed-for-upgrade Mowbray Park Ferry Terminal, when will this option be listed on the Council Mowbray Park ferry terminal upgrade information page under the Alternative services section, assisting Brisbane residents in accessing this new alternate transport option during disruption?

***A5.*** *This information is on the Council website.*

**Q6.** How many traffic control staff does Council employ? Please advise by Full time, part time, casual etc.

***A6.*** *Council employs 20 full-time traffic controllers.*

**Q7.** Please list the traffic control equipment assets Council currently owns - please include medium to large equipment, such as mobile traffic lights or illuminated billboards, and exclude small equipment such as traffic cones or handheld/road side signage.

***A7.*** *Thirteen variable message sign trailers and 22 traffic control trucks with an additional five pending delivery. Traffic control trucks are fitted out with signs, sign frames, and traffic cones.*

**Q8.** From May 2023 to April 2024, how many BCC tenders included a weighted criteria for “Fair wage and employment practices”?

***A8.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to answer this question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001 as it would require multiple officers to be redirected from their day job for multiple days to provide a response.*

**Q9.** When did BCC introduce the criteria option of “Fair wage and employment practices” to possible criteria matrices for tender?

***A9.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to identify a specific date when this criterion was introduced. Tender criteria is determined based on the unique requirements and risks of each procurement activity.*

**Q10.** Please advise, as per below table, how many parking infringement notices were issued on Alderson St, Murrell St & Farm St, Newmarket:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar |
| 2024 | N/A | N/A |  |  |  |
| 2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2022 |  |  |  |  |  |

***A10.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Nov* | *Dec* | *Jan* | *Feb* | *Mar* |
| *2024* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *3* | *2* | *3* |
| *2023* | *4* | *6* | *1* | *0* | *2* |
| *2022* | *2* | *2* | *0* | *8* | *0* |

**Q11.** Please advise, as per below table, how many parking infringement notices were issued on Flinders Parade between Second and Twelfth Avenues, Sandgate:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar |
| 2024 | N/A | N/A |  |  |  |
| 2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2022 |  |  |  |  |  |

***A11.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Nov* | *Dec* | *Jan* | *Feb* | *Mar* |
| *2024* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *0* | *0* | *0* |
| *2023* | *0* | *0* | *0* | *0* | *0* |
| *2022* | *0* | *0* | *0* | *0* | *0* |

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 4.25pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Victor Tan (Council and Committee Coordinator)

Dorian Maruda (Council and Committee Officer)

Katie Edgley (Council and Committee Officer)

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