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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4736 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 28 May 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)  Kim MARX (Runcorn)  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)  Steve GRIFFITHS (Moorooka)  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.

Councillors, before I continue with the business of the meeting, I want to address a number of matters that arose during last week’s meeting. After last week’s meeting, I sought guidance following my ruling that a Councillor who in my view had met the requirements of the Meetings Local Law when seeking to suspend the standing rules should cease speaking. In this matter, I erred in my ruling, and I apologise to all Councillors involved. I also wish to address the use of the word lie during the debate in this place. I have now had time to consider the ruling of a previous Chair of Council that this word in any form is not to be used. I advise the Chamber that this too will now be my view going forward.

On a similar issue, I have had time to consider the use of the word corrupt as an allegation against another Councillor in this place. I now advise the Chamber that I believe that the use of this word in any form as an allegation against another Councillor is unacceptable and is not to be used. If any Councillor genuinely believes that corrupt behaviour has occurred, you have an obligation to refer the matter immediately to the appropriate authority. I have also reflected on my need last week to issue a reprimand to a Councillor for speaking with the clerks in an inappropriate fashion. I say to all Councillors that if you have concerns with my rulings, take it up with me in accordance with the Meetings Local Law, and please do not berate the clerks.

There is a significant imbalance of power in such a situation, which is completely unacceptable. We should recognise that the clerks are Council staff and are entitled to a safe workplace. Finally, let me address the unsuitable behaviour that occurred last week on both sides of the Chamber. I acknowledge that this is a place of robust debate. However, I will not allow unsuitable meeting conduct to continue unchecked. I will give Councillors the opportunity to rectify their behaviour, but if this is ignored, I will refer to section 21 of the Meetings Local Law, and issue orders as appropriate.

## APOLOGIES:

Chair: We will now move to the next item on the agenda, which is apologies.

Are there any apologies?

Councillor DIXON.

**579/2023-24**

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillors Ryan MURPHY and Sarah HUTTON, and they was granted a leave of absence from the meeting on the motion of Councillor Julia DIXON, seconded by Councillor Alex GIVNEY.

## MINUTES:

Chair: Confirmation of minutes, please. Councillor DIXON.

**580/2023-24**

The Minutes of the 4735 meeting of Council held on 21 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.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Are there any—

Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Just seeking your advice based on your opening remarks in terms of unsuitable meeting conduct. You’ve specifically addressed the use of the words lie or liar, and corrupt or corruption. Do you believe that the use of the term groin-rub is covered under unsuitable meeting conduct?

Chair: Yes, Councillor CASSIDY, I do, and I ask that people do not use that comment. At the last meeting, the DEPUTY MAYOR did apologise for that.

If Councillors believe anything—any words are inappropriate, you can raise it by a point of order, and I will make a ruling.

Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY.

## 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 LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, the State Government recently announced an incentive to increase public transport use. Can you please update the Chamber on your thoughts about the new 50 cent fares policy?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you, Councillor PARRY, for the question. Well, the end of this year is shaping up to be very interesting indeed, and I’m not talking about the State election, I’m talking about an interesting time for public transport in South East Queensland. We know that there’s been concerns about affordability on our transport network for many years. We also know that the responsibility for addressing those concerns has always been the Queensland State Government, who sets fares and collects fare revenue. So this recent announcement is something I welcome.

I welcome it for a couple of reasons; number one, because unlike in the past, it’s not a case of Council subsidising State Government fares, as some people have proposed, it’s a case of the State stepping up within their area of responsibility and taking action. Secondly, I’m excited because there’s been a lot of, I guess, speculation for many years about the impact that increased affordability will have on public transport patronage. Will reducing fares significantly lead to a significant increase in patronage? There’s been various views on this, but we get to find out later this year, and I’m excited about that.

It will be effectively a large-scale opportunity to put this to the test, and that is something I welcome. The other thing that can happen though later on this year is if we get a new contract signed and agreed to between Council and the State Government, we can have the very first Brisbane Metro Services being used by people for just 50 cents a trip. That means not only more affordable services for people taking the metro but more affordable services for people riding on our new network, which is something we’ve been working on for quite some time and looking forward to commencing on day one of metro operations.

So, to be clear, on day one of Brisbane Metro, we also propose to introduce a whole new bus network. That bus network involves extra routes being implemented. It involves the opportunity for 160,000 extra services each year. It provides the opportunity for capacity of an extra 30 million trips by the time the Olympics comes around. So the culmination of this new network, the new metro services, and cheaper fares will have the opportunity for people to experience the biggest boost in improvement to transport services we have seen in over a decade. That is something I find very exciting, and so I welcome this initiative from the State Government to reduce their fares.

Also, I would urge them once again to come on board our proposal for the new bus network, to come on board our proposal to get metro services up and running by the end of this year, and lock in a new deal for public transport that sees the State Government stepping up their level of investment to match the increase that Council has put in over many, many years. We plan to continue to increase our investment in public transport over the coming years, and we’d like to see—and it’s not an unreasonable request—the State Government matching that increased investment with their own increased investment.

If we can get all of these things happening, then we can see so many more people potentially jumping on board public transport later on this year. I would love to see that. We need it for our city, we need it for traffic congestion on the roads, and this provides a golden opportunity to boost public transport patronage but also to boost services as well—and not just with the metro but also with increased investment by both levels of Government in regular bus services as well, services to those areas of parts of the community that are growing and need additional services added on, services where there’s a requirement for increased frequency. These are great opportunities that we have, and I’m very much looking forward to working with the State Government to make sure that we can get more people on public transport and get people home sooner and safer.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor COLLIER.

**Question 2**

Councillor COLLIER: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee, Councillor Danita PARRY.

Are you aware that your LNP Administration ordered 24 too many metro buses, costing over $100 million? What is your explanation to the ratepayers and renters of Brisbane in this time of Council’s, quote, unquote, sensible savings?

Chair: Sorry, Councillor COLLIER, your question should be directed to a Chair of Council. Would you—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Oh, sorry. Yes, she is, sorry. Thank you. My apologies, Councillor COLLIER, you are on the ball.

Councillor PARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Councillor did call me Deputy Chair, not Acting Chair, so that’s probably where the confusion came from. I have to thank Councillor COLLIER for the question. I know that those opposite often espouse the importance of equality in this Chamber. It’s wonderful that I’ve had the opportunity after six Council meetings, being new, and being the Deputy of this Committee, to get up here and answer a question. I know that those opposite would not ever use an opportunistic moment when the Chair is unwell, and I’m standing up as the Acting Chair for the first time, to ask a question like this. I know they wouldn’t do that, so that’s wonderful.

Like I said, it does give me the opportunity to stand up here and talk to the benefits of the Brisbane Metro and what it will deliver for this city. That is, we are a Council that is going above and beyond in delivering infrastructure, transport infrastructure for this city. We have a 20-year record of doing so. I believe that the residents of Brisbane backed that back in March when I stood in my Ward of Marchant, and I backed the metro being expanded to the northside of Brisbane. That was a wonderful announcement, and that was backed by the residents of Brisbane. So, to your question, to your exact question, Councillor COLLIER, I am not aware of it. I am not aware of what you asked me. What I am aware of is that we are batting well above what we should be doing as a local council when it comes to public transport. What we need is a State Government to back us to be able to deliver more for the residents of Brisbane.

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Further questions.

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY. One moment please, Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor COLLIER: Just seeking your clarification. If the Acting Chair is unable to answer the question, is she taking it on notice?

Chair: Councillor COLLIER, she has answered your question to the best of her ability.

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Yes, Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Respectfully, she said she wasn’t aware, and couldn’t answer the question.

Chair: I think she wasn’t aware of what you raised. One moment. I’ll clarify.

Councillor PARRY.

Councillor PARRY: I think it was a yes or no question, was I aware? The answer was no.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor PARRY: Is that right?

Councillor COLLIER: Point of, Chair. That actually wasn’t the question.

Chair: I don’t uphold your point of order, Councillor COLLIER. She did answer the question. We’re moving on.

Councillor TOOMEY.

**Question 3**

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Infrastructure Committee and my neighbouring Councillor, Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES, the Schrinner Council has a plan to keep Brisbane moving, which includes backing a tunnel on the northside to get drivers home sooner and safer. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest move by the State Government, which is blocking the progress of our much anticipated tunnel?

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Councillor TOOMEY. Can I recognise Councillor TOOMEY’s keen, enthusiastic support of getting his residents home sooner and safer, and his commitment to an even better transport system for the northside. This has been an item well discussed in this place. Because of traffic congestion on State roads on the northside, there is significant time lost for commuters to a productivity value of about $312 million a year. Now, that’s how much productivity is lost by people being stuck in traffic. We are a unit, as you well know, Madam Chair, who is committed to the northside, and improving the circumstances of people who live in that wonderful part of the world.

I was part of a team who delivered a series of proposals funded by the Federal Government that were able to consider road, active transport, public transport, and subterranean rail options that would satisfy issues through both Gympie Road and through the South Pine Road corridors, to some extent addressing the Stafford Road corridor. Now, at the time of release of our projects, the then Minister—excuse me, I’ve got to use his title correctly—the failed Minister Mark Bailey called our work feeble and of a low quality. The current Minister and his neighbour Mr Sullivan, the current Minister Bart Mellish and his neighbouring electorate representative Jimmy Sullivan came out and attacked it on Facebook and said that it was effectively stupid to even consider this sort of proposal.

Now, somewhere between five and seven weeks later, those two gentlemen were standing up, announcing their commitment to a duplication of our work. Now, I know that some Councillors sometimes forget, and some people are new, but I just wanted to take a moment to show everybody our work. As you can see, this is the proposed Gympie Road bypass tunnel. As you can see, it’s blue with an orange location for where the tunnel would go. Of course, as we know, the State tried, and they revamped the whole proposal, as we well know, by making a blue one. Their tunnel was blue, and the surrounding roads were orange. That’s effectively the effort that they went to, to show the difference between our tunnel and their tunnel.

Now, the new proposal—so, as I said, our $10 million got us a whole range of work. The State have proposed $35 million. Now we learn in *Brisbane Times* in an article from 22 May that Labor is now refusing to release any information. Right now, they’ve called our work feeble. Rather than accept our work in a meaningful way, they’ve spent more than three times that much, and are now keeping it a secret from the public. Now, we’ve called for this study to be released. The RACQ has called for the information to be released. We have called for the public to know what is their plan. Do they intend to proceed with this proposal? Do they intend to shelve it? We don’t know.

We have seen in recent weeks the State Opposition come out in support of a tunnel through that corridor. Right now, all we’re waiting for is whether the State, who have been critical of this idea in the past, whether they will buy in to what is, in my view, a necessary and vital piece of infrastructure. That being said, once it’s completed, there are a lot of questions. What will happen to traffic on Bowen Bridge Road in Fortitude Valley and Spring Hill? What will happen? Does the State have any intention of correcting the worst intersection on the northside, the Gympie Road, Hamilton Road intersection? Do they intend to properly address the Gympie Road, Beams Road intersection? At this point, the answer appears to be no.

So while this is a good start, there is much more work that the State’s required to do on the northside, recalling that their tunnel does not—the tunnel discussion point does not speak to a public transport solution. In State Parliament this week, we saw an interesting motion debate, where both Mr Mellish, as discussed earlier, and Mr Sullivan attacked this Council for wanting to build a tunnel, and saying that we wanted to demolish the North West Transport Corridor bushland which, of course, we absolutely do not. I noted in their work, there is a pointed and hard effort for them not to outline their plan, which is to put a train line through that very important bushland corridor. So their work—

Chair: Councillor WINES, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor MASSEY.

**Question 4**

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

For years, the Greens’ free public transport policy has stated that reducing the cost of public transport and increasing its frequency and the reliability will reduce congestion on roads and increase patronage. Over the weekend, we saw a significant step forward, as the State Government took their lead from sensible Greens policy to cut public transport fares. In a recent letter to State MPs, you admitted that over the past 10 years of LNP leadership has seen bus trips in Brisbane declining by 82,000, earning Brisbane the title of the only capital city in the country where public transport has gone backward.

With metro buses scheduled to start service later this year, will you follow the State Government in continuing to implement sensible Greens policy to reduce costs, reduce congestion, and increase patronage by subsidising residents metro bus fares by making them completely free, or are you content to give wider Brisbane the same treatment as you have Kangaroo Point?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, Madam Chair, there was an incorrect statement there. They talked about sensible Greens policy. There are no such thing. I am yet to see a single Greens policy that has any sense, they are nonsensical policies, they are fraudulent policies. They took an entirely fraudulent agenda to the election. The idea that everything should be free, well, no, it’s not free. Someone has to pay. It’s called ratepayers or taxpayers. It is fraudulent. The idea that somehow—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, Madam Chairman, I seek your ruling. Given that corrupt is no longer suitable meeting conduct, is the word describing the actions of other Councillors fraudulent an appropriate, suitable conduct?

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

LORD MAYOR, I think perhaps if you could choose different wording to that, please. Thank you.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. Misleading in the extreme, misleading in the extreme is what we saw. The idea that a public service is somehow free is just beyond the realms of credibility. So what we see time and time again is the Greens trying to promise things that they could never possibly deliver, that never could be delivered, and then trying to claim credit for decisions that other people make. Now, if you listen to the Greens, they are responsible for Victoria Park. They are responsible for building new bridges on the river. They are now responsible, apparently, for reduced transport fees.

The reality is they’re responsible for none of those things, and they had no role or influence in any of those decisions. This is what you get with the Greens. They will say and do anything to try and win a vote, but they can’t deliver anything. So, in terms of my view on free public transport, well, this has actually been tried in a number of cities around the world. If you actually have a look at the results, it is far from an overwhelming view amongst transport planners that that is a good policy. In fact, I would say that the overwhelming response is that where it’s been tried, it hasn’t been replicated by other cities because it is not the silver bullet that the Greens would suggest that it is.

It is not necessarily the silver bullet that is being proposed, and cities that have chosen to do it have had various pros and cons associated with those issues. If it was the silver bullet to get everyone on public transport, why isn’t every single city in the world doing it? It’s been tried before. If it’s so great, why is every city in the world not doing it? The reality is it is not the perfect solution that is being suggested. What I would like to see is—as I made clear in the answer to my question earlier from Councillor PARRY—not only a reduction in fares, which we’ve seen proposed by the State Government, but also an increase in services, which is exactly what we’re proposing to do in our new contract with the State Government.

We are currently in detailed and intensive negotiations with the State Government about what the new transport network in Brisbane will look like, and how that will be funded. As I said before, we are absolutely stepping up, and we are planning to increase our investment over and above what we’re already putting in, over and above the fact that we’ve put in over $1 billion into the State Government’s transport network with the Brisbane Metro project. We want to put in more, but we just want them in a fair way to increase their investment as well. What will that do? That will mean the people of Brisbane will benefit. The people of Brisbane will benefit whether or not they catch public transport or not, because getting more people onto public transport with more services, more frequent and reliable services also means a reduction in traffic congestion as well on our entire network.

So our priority is to provide real funded solutions in partnership with the State Government to the transport and traffic challenges, not to make false and empty promises, like the Greens do.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor MARX.

**Question 5**

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

Councillor DAVIS, last week we heard Councillor GRIFFITHS cry poor about an apparent lack of funding for his area. For the benefit of the Councillor, can you please update him on the recent investment into the Moorooka Ward by the Schrinner Council?

Chair: Councillor DAVIS. Thank you.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Through you, I’d like to thank Councillor MARX for the question. I know Councillor MARX was as bewildered as I was about Councillor Griffith’s assertions last week because the week before, Councillor MARX joined me on an excursion to the Moorooka Ward to see the progress of the Archerfield Wetlands district park, which is an investment of $20 million by this Administration in a project in his ward. This is a project which is going to deliver a magnificent outcome for residents, not only in the Moorooka Ward but also in Forest Lake Ward.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Just one moment, please, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS, please don’t call out.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order. I didn’t get an invite to that trip.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor GRIFFITHS. Please don’t call out while other Councillors—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: All Councillors, it’s okay when you are supporting each other, I understand that, but calling out across the Chamber while someone is speaking, you must remain quiet, please.

Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: As I was saying, this magnificent outcome will not only benefit those in the Moorooka Ward but for the neighbouring wards of Forest Lake, Tennyson, Jamboree, and even Calamvale Ward. I know you, LORD MAYOR, through you, Madam Chair, were just as excited to visit the site last week, and to see how impressive this project is, and to see how it’s coming along so splendidly. Madam Chair, this four-hectare district park and its transformation is taking shape very quickly now. Even though it’s still under construction, it’s easy to see that this is going to be something truly spectacular when it’s complete.

What’s important to note is that the Archerfield Wetlands district park is just the gateway to the 150-hectare Archerfield Wetlands Parklands, which is so massive that it encompasses parts of five different suburbs. That is Archerfield, of course. There’s Oxley, Durack, Rocklea, and also Willawong. So it’s always disappointing but, sadly, we’ve come to expect that Councillor GRIFFITHS will stand up in this Chamber and just want to criticise when the investment in the Moorooka Ward is delivering many things, including this incredible project. Brisbane Sustainability Agency (BSA) is leading the delivery of this significant project, which is just one of the elements of Oxley Creek transformation to which this Administration continues to fund the commitment of $100 million over 20 years.

It’s easy to see that Archerfield Wetlands district park will soon rival Brisbane’s other destination parklands. The first thing that you notice, Madam Chair, when driving up the parkland is the framework for the new adventure playscape, which is enormous. It’s completely bespoke in its design, which has been inspired by the park’s industrial heritage. I don’t think that it’s an exaggeration to say that the southside will soon have a playscape as unique as Bradbury Park in the north. There’ll be a dry creek bed for nature and water play, which connects the playscape to the new events and activity lawn, which has plenty of room for cultural and community events, as well as a youth hub with a basketball court and a football shooting range.

We’ve also partnered with local First Nations artists to add a touch of artistic flair to the youth hub, which will include artwork on the court and the industrial‑inspired designed picnic shelters. The park also has some pleasantly simple features, Madam Chair, I noticed on my visit there also a small, turfed hill. That’s actually been designed especially for rolling down activities. So I’m sure that will provide endless hours of fun for kids of all ages. The park also boasts custom-built picnic and barbecue facilities right next to a bush tucker garden trail, which will be open for park visitors and community members to add a little flavour to their barbecues and picnics.

What makes this Archerfield Wetlands different to other park projects, Madam Chair, is that a lot of these new elements are actually repurposed industrial facilities from the wastewater treatment plant. Not only is this a more sustainable approach to building new infrastructure from scratch, it also delivers something that is architecturally unique, and will be quite iconic when it’s completed. We aren’t just building a world-class open space here. The project also includes a brand new community facility and a catchment centre for the Oxley Creek Catchment Association (OCCA). As Councillor MARX will tell you, OCCA are currently operating out of a room in a house, so we know that they’re very excited for their new home. Madam Chair, this is a very exciting project, a fantastic project that—

Chair: Councillor DAVIS, your time has expired. Thank you.

Councillor DAVIS: —we know the community is excited about, if only the local Council was excited about it too.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

**Question 6**

Councillor JOHNSTON: My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, has this Council reestablished the 105 Yeronga West bus loop in its bus network review, following feedback from the State Government to address the community’s concerns about Council’s proposed cuts to this service?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: The nature of the future bus network or Brisbane’s new bus network is now dependent on the negotiations that are underway with the State Government. They are obviously dependent on the funding that is allocated by both levels of Government. Our funding is obviously on the table because it’s actually in the budget. We have budgeted—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: My question is an issue around relevance. My question was not about funding. It was whether Council has reestablished the Yeronga 105 bus loop.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON. The LORD MAYOR is getting to your answer.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Madam Chair, I would think that establishing or re-establishing a bus route is related to funding. I would think that there’s a clear link there because there is. As I was pointing out, Madam Chair, these discussions that are going on at the moment will decide what elements of our new bus network can go ahead, and they will also decide the future growth opportunities for new services as well. So, in terms of the question that Councillor JOHNSTON has asked, we have submitted all of our work on the new bus network to the State Government, and we are effectively waiting for their approval, but we are waiting for their approval as part of the new contract negotiations that are happening right now as we speak.

So we would like to see increased investment in the network, or we are proposing to increase our investment in the network. With increased State investment, then we can deliver some great improvements to services, including new services in the network. Now, one of the things that is up for discussion with the State Government is an ongoing process of review of the network so that—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: My question is specifically about the Yeronga West bus loop that the Council has proposed to cut. The State has provided feedback that that needs to be addressed.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Councillor JOHNSTON: The LORD MAYOR is talking about a general bus review, which is not relevant to the question.

Chair: I believe the LORD MAYOR is relevant, so I don’t uphold your point of order. He’s talking about—I’m sure that’s part of the whole network.

So, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Councillor JOHNSTON is well aware, Madam Chair, that bus services in Brisbane are jointly funded by the Council and the State Government. So any decision on a service either being added in or taken away is absolutely a joint decision to be made.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: I note your claim of misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: These decisions do not just happen in some kind of isolated vacuum where Council makes a decision. This or any changes to the network are signed off and approved by Translink, which is a State Government department. So Councillor JOHNSTON is well aware of this. This idea, which I know where it’s coming from, I know who’s peddling it, is coming from people who denied Council funding, in fact, one person who denied Council funding for year in, year out as the former Transport Minister, and was quite happy to see no real increase in State Government funding for bus services in Brisbane, while pouring all of the money into a giant hole called Cross River Rail, while starving the Brisbane bus network of funding. Now, trying to—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point or order, Madam Chair.

LORD MAYOR: —stir up some concern—

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. The residents that I represent in Yeronga West are very keen to know the answer to this question—

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —and I ask you to—

Chair: That’s not a point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —ask the LORD MAYOR to address it, instead of Cross River Rail.

Chair: That is not a point of order. The LORD MAYOR is addressing the question.

LORD MAYOR.

Okay.

Further questions?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Sorry. Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I have a point of misrepresentation.

Chair: Oh, sorry, my apologies. Please go ahead.

Councillor JOHNSTON: My question today was in respect to the 105 Yeronga West bus loop, and whether Council had restored it. The LORD MAYOR said I was well aware that bus services were funded jointly by Council and the State. I certainly am well aware that Council directly funds numerous bus services through its budget, not just through the arrangements the LORD MAYOR raised.

Chair: Thank you.

Further questions?

Councillor MARX.

**Question 7**

Councillor MARX: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS, Brisbane is the koala capital of the world, and we are doing everything we can to increase Brisbane’s koala population. Can you please update the latest project protecting Brisbane’s koalas?

Chair: LORD MAYOR—

Oh, sorry, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Through you, I’d like to thank Councillor MARX for another great question, because Councillor MARX, like the LORD MAYOR, is absolutely passionate about protecting our wildlife, and making Brisbane the koala capital of the world. Madam Chair, I was delighted earlier this month to inform the Chamber of the latest in our world-leading Koala Recovery and Resilience project, with the release of two-year-old Adam into his new home at Pooh Corner. Just last week, another young koala François was successfully released into the Reserve. So bonjour to François.

François was found in Eric Sivell Park in Coorparoo in late 2023 after suffering a fall. He was nursed back to health at the Moggill Koala Rehabilitation Centre and is now ready to go out on his own and make some new friends and a new home in Wacol. As I said at the time, the successful reestablishment of koalas at Wacol is a culmination of years of work with Dr Sean FitzGibbon from the Koala Ecology Group at UQ (University of Queensland). It’s something we are really excited to be expanding. On the other side of the city, where we first found François, we are working with the experts to protect an already thriving population at Whites Hill Reserve.

As you will recall, Madam Chair, late last year, we commissioned Dr FitzGibbon to study wildlife movement solutions at Whites Hill Reserve to keep the koalas safe when moving between habitat areas. Dr FitzGibbon’s findings, which were tabled in the Chamber, identified additional fauna fencing opportunities to keep koalas safe while moving between the Reserve and habitat on the other side of Boundary Road, like Eric Sivelle Park and the Finger Gullies. I’m pleased to advise, Madam Chair, that earlier this month, we commenced the installation of the first length of new fauna fencing at Eric Sivell Park.

This is a great milestone and the first step in one of the largest fauna fencing projects we’ve ever undertaken, at 840 metres in length. Works are now continuing further along Boundary Road at the areas Dr FitzGibbon identified, and these are expected to be complete before the end of financial year. This is in addition, of course, to the fencing, DEPUTY MAYOR, through you, Madam Chair, we have just recently installed along Pine Mountain Road to the south of the reserve to help funnel koalas to a safer crossing point there at Bulimba Creek. Madam Chair, throughout last year, we saw Labor politicise the issue of fencing, with multiple motions that ignored the State Government’s own *Koala-Sensitive Design Guidelines* and the expert opinions from UQ and even the CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation).

This, of course, would’ve put more koalas at risk, and that’s not an approach that this side of the Chamber takes. We look forward to doing projects and undertaking works that enhances koala conservation with evidence-based and informed material available through our experts. We know that koalas are very mobile creatures, and that they need to move for food, mating, to escape danger like bush fires and entrapment. This is especially important when you have a thriving population like we have at Whites Hill. The UQ report found that there was significant koala presence on both the east and the west side of Boundary Road.

As Councillor CUNNINGHAM will tell you, locals around the Finger Gullies just really love catching a glimpse of a koala when they’re doing their afternoon walk. As Dr FitzGibbon points out, the combined area of the Finger Gullies, Eric Sivell Park, and Satellite Street Park is just under two hectares, which is way too small to support a viable population of koala, without connectivity to Whites Hill. It was recommended that the eastern and western populations be managed as one and the same, and part of that means taking an approach to fencing that limits vehicle strikes but also maintains that connectivity.

So, as well as new fencing, climbing poles will be installed to help the koalas escape the road corridor if they find themselves on the wrong side of the fence. Already we’ve made great progress to protect the koalas in Whites Hill Reserve, and the evidence is there in the report that the koalas are in abundance in the Reserve and its surrounds. This is in no small way because of the steps we’ve already taken to minimise the strikes, and to help koalas traverse the road safely. On top of that, the advocacy of both the DEPUTY MAYOR and Councillor CUNNINGHAM regarding the speed limit at Boundary Road will assist now that it’s been reduced to 60 kilometres an hour.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS, your has expired.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor KIM.

**Question 8**

Councillor KIM: Thank you, Chair. My question is for the Civic Cabinet Acting Chair for City Standards, Councillor Greg ADERMANN.

Over the next 10 years, how much in waste levy charges will Brisbane renters and ratepayers be expected to pay?

Chair: Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Thank you, Chair, and thank you to the Calamvale Councillor for the question. We have an existing arrangement with two of our landfills to convert landfill gasses into energy. Biogas captured from Willawong generates enough energy to power 1,000 homes every year. Council’s landfill sites generate green energy using the methane gas created by decomposing organic waste. At the bioenergy facility operated by LMS Energy, under a joint partnership with Council, around 65,000 megawatt hours of green energy are produced annually by harvesting landfill gasses. This is enough energy to power 11,500 homes every year. Since it was commissioned—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Councillor ADERMANN: —in to—

Chair: One moment, Councillor.

Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Just on relevance, I was listening along, and I think Councillor ADERMANN is talking about emissions abatement. I’m pretty sure Councillor KIM’s question was around waste levy charges, so what’s going in rather than what’s coming out.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor ADERMANN, relevance?

Councillor ADERMANN: Okay I’ll put that on notice, I’ll come back to you with an answer for that.

Chair: Further questions?

LORD MAYOR: I’m happy to take the question. What the Councillor for Calamvale was referring to was a State Government waste levy. So the question in itself was a loaded question.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just on procedural grounds, Madam Chairman, as I understand it, the rules say that the relevant Chair should answer the question. As far as I know, there is no provision for the LORD MAYOR to just take over. Councillor ADERMANN has correctly handled the question by saying he’ll take it on notice.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Councillor JOHNSTON: So I’m just querying whether you’re going to allow the LORD MAYOR to speak.

Chair: I’ll just check. I’ll just pause for a moment, and check. Thank you, Councillor.

Sorry. Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, it was put to Councillor ADERMANN, and he has answered the question. So we’ll move on.

Any further questions?

Councillor TOOMEY.

**Question 9**

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

Councillor WINES, the Schrinner Council’s Slow for SAM (Speed Awareness Monitors) program has been an effective tool in making our streets safer for all road users. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest milestone in this program?

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Madam Chair and can I thank Councillor TOOMEY for the question. Can I say at the beginning how excited I am to talk about our 100th School for SAM sign being placed. Now, Councillor TOOMEY and I share a number of borders, and one of those borders is Dawson Parade in Keperra. In Dawson Parade, there’s two schools. There’s Grovely Terrace, which is on—excuse me—Grovely State School, which is on Councillor TOOMEY’s side, and there is St William’s Catholic School on my side of the road. Now, together through coordination and the Safe School SAM project, there are four signs on what is a very significant feeder road, encouraging and reminding people of the importance of doing 40 kilometres an hour through that school zone.

Now, as we have often spoken about in this place, we are sincerely committed to a safe and efficient road network. One of the best ways we can do that is to remind people of their obligations as a motorist, and to also improve signage but improve innovations around signage to make sure that motorists engage with those signs. We’ve talked about this often, but we change up the sign seasonally so that motorists do engage with them. The original Speed Awareness Monitor was actually put on Banks Street in Alderley, and it has been in place there for more than 10 years. We’ve allowed it to stay there to see if moving it or leaving a sign in place would work in the long term.

We know that driver behaviour actually doesn’t diminish with the length of time that a SAM sign is in place. The real achievement here is that four years ago, LORD MAYOR SCHRINNER and his team committed to putting 100 SAM signs out the front of schools right across the city and I can confirm that in the first quarter of this year, the 100th sign was placed. These signs are right across the city. Just so that you know the implementation regime of those signs, in financial year 2021, there were 31 placed, in 2021-22, there were 30 placed, in 2022-23, there were 22 signs placed; and in financial year 2023-24, there were 17 signs placed, with the 100th being installed at Centenary State High School, Yallambee Street, Jindalee, a school which caters for more than 1,700 students.

So we know that the typical SAM sign is highly effective, with our data showing promising trends that an average speed reduction of eight kilometres per hour occurs for vehicles compared to the previous non-electrified sign speed. The reduction not only enhances safety for pedestrians and cyclists but also contributes significantly to the likelihood—excuse me—it contributes significantly to the reduction in the likelihood and severity of motor vehicle accidents. Every sign for SAM was permanently installed in front of schools, as well as the relocatable ones, are strategically chosen to address traffic patterns, speeds, and school zone requirements.

With monitors right across the city, we were able to, I suppose, for want of a better word, celebrate the one-billionth person passing one of our Speed Awareness Monitors. So they are part of our Active School Travel program. Now they are of part of our ensuring that motorists are aware on high order corridors, because some Councillors may recall that 40 kilometres on main roads is a relatively new idea or hasn’t always been in place. So these signs allow and prompt motorists to better respond and navigate those circumstances. Now, speaking to the Speed Awareness Monitors in schools, I have in front of me a list of all schools, which I’ll happily table for the consideration of the Council.

I can say that the winner with the most number of SAM signs for schools was Councillor MARX in Runcorn Ward with eight, second place Councillor HUANG with seven, Councillor GRIFFITHS with seven, and Councillor ADAMS with seven. I can say that, in case there’s any questions of bias, the Enoggera Ward received three, in case there was any concern. These were a needs based, school based system. I note, for example, some wards have more schools than others, and some wards have schools more likely to be on main roads or on significant roads than others, which has led to that scenario. As I said—

Chair: Councillor WINES, your time has expired.

Councillor WINES: Thank you.

Chair: That now ends Question Time.

LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee (E&C) report of 20 May 2024.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Chair: Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, what’s your point of order? Did you say, point of order?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes.

Chair: What’s your point of order, Councillor?

**581/2023-24**

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

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I would like to suspend standing orders in order to move the following motion, which could not be put on the agenda yesterday because it only came to my attention this morning. That motion would be that Brisbane City Council urgently moves the streetlight built in the middle of the footpath on Kadumba Street, Yeronga, to align with other poles and signs closer to the kerb, to restore pedestrian access, especially for mobility-impaired people. Now, this matter is incredibly urgent and had to be put on the agenda today now because this morning in Committee, when I made inquiries about this issue, I was advised by very senior Council officers that there is no problem with the streetlight being built in the middle of the footpath. I table a copy of the streetlight that was built in the middle of the footpath. I was also advised that it was built in accordance with the plan. I’m also tabling a copy of the plan that shows that the streetlight—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —was not bought—

Chair: —just stick to why it couldn’t be put onto the—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you. I’m doing that by outlining the fact that there is a streetlight that has been built in the middle of a footpath, blocking pedestrian access, and it’s not been built in accordance with the plan. Upon raising this issue this morning with Council, Council did not address the issue. They said that the project’s not finished. We have a situation in Yeronga where pedestrians cannot walk down the footpath on a fairly busy main road. This is—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —incredibly important that it is—

Chair: —don’t debate. Stick to why it couldn’t be put on the agenda, please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s incredibly important that this motion comes forward today because this morning, upon asking Councillor WINES; the General Manager, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure; and the Divisional Manager, Brisbane Infrastructure, who were all present in the Committee, they did not acknowledge that this was a problem. They did not acknowledge that Council would do anything to address it. So it is incredibly important that this motion is put on the agenda today so that Yeronga residents can have safe footpath access restored, and people with disabilities or mobility issues can safely negotiate the footpath.

Chair: I will put the motion to suspend standing orders.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 8 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK, Seal CHONG WAH, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 17 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee report of 20 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 20 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

**Alteration of order of business in agenda**

In accordance with section 11(2) of *Meetings Local Law 2001*, the LORD MAYOR altered the order of business

set out in the Agenda by bringing forward item 6, the Presentation of Petitions; and item 7, General Business, to be considered upon the conclusion of item 4, the Consideration of Committee Reports.

LORD MAYOR: Before I move on to other items, I wanted to address two matters that have just come up in this meeting already. First of all, in terms of the issue that Councillor JOHNSTON raised, this was discussed at the Infrastructure Committee this morning. I understand Councillor WINES will say more about it in his Committee report shortly. It relates to work that is not yet complete, and certainly doesn’t require a motion without notice to have this issue resolved. So that will be resolved through our normal ongoing channels, and not through a motion.

Secondly, I just wanted to talk about the issue of the waste levy that Councillor KIM asked before, because there’s some important context that needs to go into any discussion on the waste levy that people need to be aware of. First of all, as I mentioned earlier, this is a State Government tax. It’s a State Government tax from a Government that promised no new taxes and has introduced 19 new taxes. At the time when it was first reintroduced by Labor in 2018, they said that this was all about stopping commercial waste coming across the borders from New South Wales into Queensland, and so it was very much about commercial waste. That was the public narrative around the reintroduction of the waste levy.

We were also told at that time that there would be no impact on households, and that it was all about commercial waste. Now, over time, as things have transpired, we have obviously seen a dramatic reduction in commercial waste coming across the border. That has obviously been a positive impact. What else has changed is that the waste levy has now become about households as well. It was never intended to be about households and, in fact, we were promised that there would be no direct impact on households, but that has in fact changed. So what has happened is that the Queensland Government has embarked on a year-by-year process of reducing the subsidy that’s provided to councils to offset the impact of the waste levy.

So, in order to meet their original commitment that there would be no impact on households, the State Government agreed that they would pay Council the equivalent of the waste levy for each Council area. That continued for a number of years, and that ensured that there was no direct impact on households. That has since changed. Each year, the waste levy goes up but, at the same time each year, the subsidy paid to councils is now going down. So if there is an impact on Brisbane households, it is because of that, and so many people are not aware of how this works, where it came from, who’s responsible for it, but that is the history of this matter.

So we have an ongoing situation where the red-top bin collection that occurs, as it goes into landfill will attract now an increasing component of the State Government’s waste levy because they are reducing their subsidy and, at the same time, they are increasing the rate of the waste levy each year. So any discussion about how much Brisbane residents will pay, well, they’re not paying us; they’re paying the State Government’s waste levy. That’s what’s happening. So it’s important to be clear on who’s responsible for this. As I always do, I want to talk about the lighting up of assets throughout the week.

Last night, the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge, and City Hall were lit up in black, yellow, red, blue, white, and green for Reconciliation Week. Reconciliation Week is a time to take stock of the progress that’s been made for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across the country, but also, we acknowledge the work that needs to be done and recommit ourselves to further progress. Today is LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Day, and our assets will be lit up in rainbow to show support for this day. Domestic and family violence (DFV) is a scourge in all of its forms, and this light up shows our support for members of the LGBTQ community who sadly endure this violence.

We know the figures that are coming out often are under-reported. The LGBTQ community suffers significant cases of domestic violence. It is something that, like any domestic violence across the community, we must push back against, we must fight against, and we must resist because it is unacceptable. Also tonight, City Hall will be lit up in red, blue, and green for Azerbaijani National Day. Azerbaijan declared independence from the Russian Empire on 28 May 1918. They were born out of the collapse of the Russian Empire following the Revolution in 1917. This day celebrates the creation of their country.

Tomorrow night, Reddacliff Place, Story Bridge, and Victoria Bridge will we lit up in purple to support Darkness to Daylight. Darkness to Daylight is Challenge DV’s flagship fundraising and awareness event, which includes an overnight run supporting the campaign to end domestic and family violence in our community. On Thursday night, the Story Bridge will be lit up in red, white, and blue to recognise Croatia Statehood Day. This is Croatia’s National Day and celebrates the constitution of the first modern multiparty Croatian Parliament in 1990. Also on Thursday night, City Hall, Victoria Bridge, and Reddacliff Place will be lit up in red to support World MS (multiple sclerosis) Day. 30 May every year is this international day, which recognises and supports those living with multiple sclerosis. Regrettably, there is no cure for MS, and research remains ongoing, and we all hope to find a cure for MS.

On Friday, our assets will be lit up in red to support 65 Roses awareness day, which supports those who are living with cystic fibrosis. This is their month of awareness, and something that we support each year, and looking forward to continuing to support it this year. On Saturday, the Story Bridge and City Hall will be lit up in blue for the Brisbane Marathon. Brisbane Marathon has been a staple in our city’s calendar since 1992 and sees thousands of local and international runners compete in multiple races on offer. Those who qualify here in Brisbane can then be accepted into the famous Boston Marathon in the United States.

On Sunday, our assets will be lit up in green, white, and red to recognise Italian Independence Day. Every year on 2 June, Italy celebrates *Festa della Repubblica*, Italy’s National Day. On behalf of the City, I wish all Brisbane Italians a very happy National Day this coming Sunday. The items in front of us, item A is the third budget review for the 2023-24 financial year. This budget review reflects the ongoing evolving financial situation, which is impacted by two major factors: a reduction in revenue, a significant reduction in revenue, due to economic factors and also an increase in costs and inflationary pressures.

This is something that we flagged last year as an emerging problem, which needed to be responded to. We obviously took action to make sensible savings by reducing expenditure across Council by 10%. This was done to protect Council’s finances and ensure that we keep the pressure off ratepayers and renters as well. The most significant change in this review is a $127 million reduction in revenue. Now, nearly one-third of that $127 million reduction in revenue is related to reduced development activity. This is effectively what we’ve been talking about for quite some time, which is builders are not building, projects are not feasible to go ahead at this point in time, which is why all three levels of government need to get involved in making projects feasible.

This is something that is a real issue and is having a real impact as well on the Council budget. Around more than $40 million of the $127 million reduction is related to reduced development activity or reduced building activity in the city. So at a time when we have a housing shortage, we are seeing lower than anticipated construction activity when it comes to development and building. So that’s obviously concerning. Unless all three levels of government can step up and get into this space to make sure projects are more feasible, we will see the housing shortage continue to be a challenge going forward, because the signs of new growth that we were hoping for are not necessarily appearing. In fact, there’s less growth and less building than we were hoping for in that private market.

Chair: LORD MAYOR your time has expired.

**582/2023-24**

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: Having said that, Madam Chair, there’s some positive news that’s coming out of the State Government, and we learnt just recently of a $350 million fund, which is all about working with home builders to help make their projects more financially viable and feasible. This is something that we welcome. We understand that a component of that $350 million fund will be effectively the State Government paying the infrastructure charges for certain types of new developments that are proposed. This is obviously something we would welcome because obviously infrastructure charges are one part of the equation when it comes to the financial viability of a project.

They are not the most important part, but they’re certainly one part of it. There are other parts of it as well, and action is needed on all of those parts of it. Of the $127 million reduction in revenue, there’s a further $41.9 million reduction which is related to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority flood claims. These are claims that we have made of the QRA, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, and claims that have not been approved. These are projects that we were wanting to move ahead with and haven’t been approved by the QRA. As Councillors are aware, the QRA is a State authority which deals with the disaster response and the reconstruction response after natural disasters.

Obviously, any expenditure that occurs through this involves us putting in applications, and then them making an assessment on whether that is approved or not. There’s $41.9 million of applications that we made that were not approved. Obviously, they’ve been removed from anticipated revenue in the budget, and that has a significant impact as well. Additionally, there’s a transfer to future years of $20 million in revenue associated with the Voluntary Home Buy-Back program, and a $9.6 million reduction based on our assessment of when we will receive financial assistance grants revenue from the Federal Government. So that’s a timing matter in relation to Federal Government revenue under the financial assistance grants.

Overall, there is a $229.6 million decrease in operating expense in the review. However, as part of the paper set out in the summary of recommendations, $224.4 million of this decrease is related to the Brisbane Metro returned works, which is an amount that’s been transferred to future years. To explain what this is, this is effectively us spending money on an asset that we do not own, through the Brisbane Metro project, and this is improvements to the busway network that we are making to accommodate Brisbane Metro, reflecting our $1 billion investment in Brisbane Metro.

We are effectively doing improvements to State assets, and so there’s an accounting treatment for that. It would be nice if the State did improvements to their own assets, but we know that that has not been the case for many, many years, since they stopped building busways in—I think it was around 2011 was the last time they built a busway. So, because of their inability to invest in their own network, we’ve obviously stepped up. As I mentioned earlier, we’re keen to see them step up, and do their fair share of the heavy lifting to make sure that we can get people onto public transport, and provide more reliable, frequent, turn‑up‑and-go public transport through Brisbane Metro and a new bus network.

This is the accounting treatment associated with that. That relates to $222 million of that accounting treatment. Further savings have been identified in current and future years as part of our sensible savings program to protect residents from rising costs of core inputs in Council’s budget. So those inflationary pressures which continue to linger, we are doing everything we can to protect residents and ratepayers from those pressures. By doing this, we’re keeping down the pressure on rates and rents. Item B is the annual operational plan, progress, and quarterly financial report for the period ending March 2024.

This shows our progress towards delivering a record year of infrastructure investment. $1.1 billion has been invested in the first nine months of this financial year. That is a remarkable investment. That is an unprecedented investment. This is more than an investment that previous administrations would make in an entire year, and we’ve made it in just nine months. So it reflects the record level of investment that we’re making in much needed road and transport infrastructure. This is important infrastructure for a growing city. Obviously, at the same time, we are under cost pressures, as every major constructor is at the moment, and so we’re continuing to manage those cost pressures, continuing to adapt and evolve, to make sure that we can keep the pressure down on ratepayers and renters. This report reflects the actions that have been taken in that respect.

The report shows revenue above budget at this point in time. But just reflecting on what I said earlier, that overall, revenue is expected to be significantly down for the full financial year. So this is a point in time and at this point in time, it shows that revenue is above expectations. But by the end of the financial year it will be well below expectations.

So just to be clear about the difference between this report and the one that I referred to earlier. Operating expenses are also below budget as of March and we will continue to monitor this closely. Just like every household is closely scrutinising their budgets and every dollar that goes—comes in and goes out, we’re doing the same thing. We’ll continue to do this, as I said, to protect the residents and renters, ratepayers of Brisbane from further cost pressures as we go forward.

Item C is the Newstead Park Conservation Management Plan (CMP). This is one of Brisbane’s most significant heritage listed parks. There are various elements and features within Newstead Park that are of great significance, including various memorials. This includes the Australian American memorial, Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Place, The Vietnam War Veterans’ memorial, The John Oxley Landing Memorial, The Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Association memorial. Also there’s an electrical tide gauge in the park. Which was donated by the British India Steam Navigation Company to the Queensland Government and then has found its way to this park.

There’s also Cunningham’s Fig, which is, I understand is 200 years old, or more than 200 years old. I’m not sure if there’s any link Councillor CUNNINGHAM—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: —to your family. But it is of significance. We know that Council develops conservation management plans for heritage listed parks, to support projects like master planning and ensure obligations in relation to the management of heritage places are met. The purpose of this CMP is essentially to act as a guide about the care of those heritage places. To make sure that any other work that occurs in the park has due respect for these heritage places and heritage trees, in this case.

So this CMP was prepared prior to the construction of the new Breakfast Creek Bridge and guided us during the construction of that project. Which is obviously now complete and being very well used by people from all over Brisbane.

We’re now in a position to lodge the CMP with the Department of the Environment, Science and Innovation and this sets out our management strategies for preserving Newstead Park’s heritage. While also improving its amenity for the community.

Just recently in fact, we’ve undertaken a number of sympathetic improvements including the construction of a new fully accessible and DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant toilet block. We’ve also undertaken pathway upgrades in line with the CMP, to better connect the path, which has also been an important part of the active transport network in the local area.

We’ll continue to invest in the maintenance and improvement of the park as we have done for many years, in accordance with this CMP and I commend it to the Chamber.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**S****eriatim - Clause C**

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause C, NEWSTEAD PARK CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor CASSIDY: I appreciate that, as the Brisbane Comedy Festival wraps up that the LORD MAYOR is able to participate. But keep such a straight face when he enters so much satire into the debate when it comes to the state of Brisbane City Council’s budget currently before us today. Well, as at the end of March, anyhow, the papers that we have before us today.

I did just want to touch on a few things before I go through some of the details of the report, in response to what the LORD MAYOR has just said. So he said that there’s $127 million reduction in revenue and said just over $40 million of that is due to lower than expected development activity. But he didn’t talk about then the $330 million plus reduction in capital and expenses—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —across just a couple of program areas, predominantly Program 2 and Program 3. Which is Council’s main bread and butter when it comes to delivering new projects, new park upgrades, playground upgrades, our green space, purchasing bushland, fencing for koalas. Whether that’s safe paths to schools and whether that’s crossing upgrades, new zebra crossings, intersection upgrades. All that sort of stuff.

There has been a massive reduction, just across those two program areas. Which in those two alone far outstrip, far outstrip the reduction in revenue that the LORD MAYOR has outlined before us today. So something’s going wrong in this LNP budget. When the LORD MAYOR can’t even find a reduction in income to match the reduction in expenditure that he is inflicting on the people of the Brisbane, across just two of the eight program areas that Brisbane City Council’s budget has.

He then went on to complain that somebody made him do the Metro. He went on to bemoan—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —that Council is being forced to do these upgrades through the Metro project on somebody else’s asset. I wonder who that was that made the LORD MAYOR do the Metro project. Oh, that’s right, him.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Him. He was the Chair of the Transport Committee when he and Graham Quirk, the former Lord Mayor, announced that they were going to do the Metro. Without, at the time, Chair, any agreement from the State Government. They just announced that they were going to upgrade this State Government asset, with no agreement from the State Government and no inclination that there would be any funding at the time.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: But the LORD MAYOR went headlong into it and said he didn’t care. He was just going to pay for it anyway himself. He said the ratepayers of Brisbane will pay for all of that project themselves if they had to. Just like they said they would on the five green bridges.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: That one got pared back but on the Metro it both got pared back. But the expenditure on it ballooned beyond all comprehension. Hence the LORD MAYOR has the temerity to get up today and say that Council is somehow hard done by, in an agreement that they eventually entered into with the State Government to fund these upgrades and to cover the operational costs of the Metro.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: This LORD MAYOR agreed to that, Chair. No one forced his hand, no one forced that signature. He sought that agreement with the State Government, which has now forced the renters and ratepayers Brisbane to fork out that expenditure on the Metro. Yet he has the temerity to come in here today and say that Brisbane City Council’s budget position is so dire because unfortunately, Council has to do the Metro project. He chose to do that project.

Then he went on to say that this Administration over this last year—this is the hilarious one—over the last year has had the biggest expenditure when it comes to Program 2 to infrastructure this city’s ever seen. But he forgot the next sentence, Chair. He forgot to say that’s because we are seeing this financial year, the biggest depreciation on existing assets in Program 2, that we have ever seen in this city’s history.

So what that means in layman terms is that Council’s assets are getting so old and so long in the tooth and it has been so long since upgrades have happened under this 20-year-old LNP Administration. That the budget of expenditure on depreciating and writing off old assets is reaching hundreds and hundreds and hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: The vast majority of that budget in Program 2 is on write-downs, on depreciation and writing off assets altogether. Then we see hundreds of millions of dollars of reductions in new infrastructure spending in Program 2.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So the LORD MAYOR’s speech then was a triumph of spin over substance, fundamentally. He is trying to, trying to desperately create some scenario which is somebody else’s problem. These deteriorating figures in the Council budget are all somebody else’s problem. But he sort of let the cat out of the bag a little bit when he said that reductions had to be made as well into the future as well.

We know that, we just thought we would have to just accept it because it’s in black and white. The LORD MAYOR has admitted that there will be further cuts to things that the renters and ratepayers of Brisbane would expect Council to do. Like upgrade intersections and safe paths to schools and public transport—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —infrastructure and parks and playgrounds and things like that. The basic functions of Council. In black and white it says there’s decreases in 2024, there’ll be decreases in 2025 and there’ll be decreases in 2026 as well. Due to adjustments across the Capital program. The LORD MAYOR admitted what those adjustments are. That’s LNP speak for sensible savings. Which is LNP speak for cutting projects, cuts, cuts and more cuts.

Not just cuts to projects, cuts to expenditure on services and cuts to Council’s workforce. Putting more pressure on the Council workers that are left, to pick up the pieces of this LNP Administration’s financial chaos that they are leaving in here.

I’m pretty sure it won’t be long, I’m sure by the time we get round to the fourth quarter and the budget next year, the LORD MAYOR will be begging Councillors to go out and run chook raffles at local pubs to meet the shortfall in revenue that we’re now facing as a Council. Because he’s not going to have anything left to cut. There isn’t going to be any more infrastructure, or park upgrades, or services, or partnerships that Council has and grant programs left to cut by the time we see those cuts come to fruition in ‘24, ‘25 and ‘26 and I’m sure beyond as well.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: What’s also really concerning is that what the LORD MAYOR has talked about and Councillor CUNNINGHAM does in their, quote, “sensible savings”, also doesn’t take into account Council’s cash position now. So what we now see is that in this quarter alone, Council’s cash position has deteriorated by more than $100 million. Plus an extra $100 million has been put on the credit card, on the credit facility that this Administration set up three or four—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —yes, maybe five years ago. But it hadn’t been touched, it was the rainy day one. Things had to get extremely dire for Council to have to tap into that credit facility. Well $100 million has just been tapped into that with this third quarter.

So that now leaves Council’s cash position at just $50 million. I think two years ago it was $500 million. Now, as a result of these changes that this LNP LORD MAYOR is bringing, that leaves our cash position, our liquidity as a Council to be able to make quick decisions if a natural disaster might come along this summer, maybe perhaps. Or something drastic happens, of just $50 million in the bank to be able to respond to that.

So what we are seeing here is ratepayers being slugged more. Obviously, there’s less developer money coming in but there’s a lot more ratepayer money coming in to Council. Council’s tapping into cash reserves, tapping the credit card. But the people, the renters and the ratepayers of Brisbane, are seeing less and less. They will see less and less delivered over the next three years at least.

But it’s completely irresponsible, Chair. If we have, as I said, a natural emergency a natural disaster, an emergency this summer season. Or we need to be able to scale up the workforce for a particular reason to help people in need, if we see a cost-of-living crisis get worse. Council’s ability to respond to any of those things now is not just hollowing out, is totally hollowed out under this LNP Administration now.

As I said, $330 million, well that’s a conservative figure, the $330 million reduction. Because that’s just over Programs 2 and 3. Whether that’s you know safe school travel, congestion busting projects, footpath repairs, park upgrades, playgrounds. The LNP think they can all wait. Not just for one year, not just for two years, but for three years.

This LNP LORD MAYOR is quick to point the finger of blame, as we’ve heard. Blame the State Government.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

**583/2023-24**

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

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you, thanks, Chair, thanks to the Chamber. So the LORD MAYOR is quickly to point blame at other people, other levels of government, to the ratepayers of Brisbane, to anyone, for any number of Council’s issues. But here it is, this, ding, ding, ding, right here, this is the answer. This is the answer to everybody’s problems at the moment, the LNP.

When we look at—when we reflect and look at—and it’s important to look at those future cuts as well—we also know from experience and I know from experience as a Local Councillor, I know my colleagues here do too. I know LNP Councillors know this from experience because we have seen projects in their wards delayed and cut.

But when we see these readjustments, particularly to the tune of, over two program areas, $330 million. They talk about rephasing and delaying certain projects but we then know that figure just gets included next year in the expenditure and the LORD MAYOR will stand up on budget day and say he is investing $1 billion—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —in infrastructure. Just so happens that $500 million of that is in depreciation and $200 million of that is in last year’s projects that were carried forward. So there’s actually only about $100 million or $200 million in new projects. Of which those ones will then be delayed in 2025 and then 2026 and then disappear altogether. This is the house of cards budget that this LORD MAYOR is overseeing now.

I understand how precarious it must be for them, particularly when they’re coming after staff as well. When they’re coming after staff—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —and cutting positions, starting with contractors and labour hire. The coming after casuals and then pretending that never happened. Pretending that never happened then admitting that it did happen but saying it was okay because they were just casual staff. Now we know there are hundreds fewer full time, permanent staff in Council.

When they come after those things and say they’re sensible savings we know it must be pretty dire. But it’s pretty galling then in the context of all that, those so called sensible savings, to then see—and this is also after they delay hundreds of millions of dollars of projects—then see 120 grand spent in Paris travel. To then see 100 grand spent on a bridge opening at Breakfast Creek.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: To then see—yes, I did write this one down in the—I think it was $3.5 million to date on advertising, $3.5 million to date on Council advertising. Isn’t that incredible? When they’re sacking all these staff—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —cutting all these projects. But they still manage to spend $3.5 million to date on Council advertising. According to Councillor MURPHY the other week, they’re planning to spend a couple of hundred thousand dollars on opening—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —the Kangaroo Point Bridge, another party there. No reductions to the major—so no reduction to travel, no reductions to parties, no reduction to the big inner city projects and no reductions to the marketing budget. But reductions in our staff levels, reductions in services and reductions in suburban projects.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So that really does tell you everything you need to know about the priorities of this LNP Administration. We should have a conversation about what savings really are sensible. Because we could find millions and millions and millions of dollars’ worth of savings if we were able to have that conversation. Rather than just have 18 LNP Councillors walk in here and rubber stamp this LNP Mayor’s financial mismanagement. That is deeply disappointing for the people of Brisbane.

So instead of reducing Council’s staff, workforce by hundreds of positions, how about we cut that advertising budget and opening parties and international travel? But I guess we won’t get that. We’ll get Councillor CUNNINGHAM lecturing us about the fact that the LNP believe temporary staff, contract staff, casual staff, are of a different class of employee and worker to others. It says a lot about why this LNP Administration has spent so long and have been so methodical and clinical about hollowing out Council’s workforce.

We’ve seen that in their approach around replacing full time employees, particularly in library services, with part time employees and casual employees. So they can divide up these workforces and make their so-called sensible savings along the way.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: But those lectures won’t do anything to allay the fears of the people of Brisbane who rely on Council services, of which they pay an awful lot of money through their rates, to be delivered. But that’s all we’ve come to expect from this LNP Administration, unfortunately.

On the Newstead Park Conservation Management Plan. Sorry, just to wrap up, that’s why we won’t be supporting this, of course.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I’m not sure if you figured out by now. But we are more than once bitten, twice shy when it comes to this LNP Administration and taking the LORD MAYOR at his word when it comes to fulfilling promises and fulfilling projects that they say just needs to be delayed for a little while. We’ve all had the experience of them being cut continually while new, lavish things are added to the Council budget along the way. So we certainly won’t be supporting this LORD MAYOR’s budget review today.

On the Newstead Park Conservation Management Plan. It’s an important site for our city and does hold a significant amount of history and we are pleased to see the Conservation Management Plan has not been disrupted in the delivery of the Breakfast Creek / Yowoggera Bridge. The Management Plan is a useful document and will be useful to refer to, to ensure that the cultural heritage significance of this park is maintained and protected for residents, and importantly visitors to Brisbane as well, to enjoy for years to come.

There is an extensive list of restoration items that need to be carried out and we certainly hope this list is attended to by the Administration. Things like a tidal gauge, draughts board, seat slab, they’re all high priority to be addressed. Newstead Avenue bank erosion, stone edges, saw tooth, a flag pole near Newstead House, a high priority. Eroded lawn edges throughout the park, maintaining views, relocating bins to appropriate locations. That one seems—should be pretty easy and pretty straightforward, you’d think.

Trees that are no longer president—president, I should say present—channelling LBJ there. Reinstate trees as per the Moore and Oakman plans which were on the original plans. So I think that is important to carry out, it’s a low priority but it’s important to do.

Shrubberies, shrubberies there, that’s a Monty Python one. Garden beds and more shrubberies, a playground, park edge and footpath along Newstead Avenue. The southern Ficus tree, which is diseased, I think a lot of Councillors have seen the results of those diseases that get into Ficus trees and—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —can have terrible consequences for heritage trees and significant trees. That is a high priority in the Conservation Management Plan. The temporary BCC depot should be removed as soon as feasible and restore the park in that location. A restoration item, parks, depot, intrusive trees and the east hillside path.

So this Conservation Management Plans says those things that are high priority need to be done in year one to two and the low priority from two to five. So there is a significant amount of work to go into that. Which we support, as I said. But also have great concerns. Because we’re seeing in the Council budget papers and the review that comes today, hundreds of millions of dollars is being cut from projects left, right and centre.

We have before us today a Conservation Management Plan that’s being endorsed and submitted. Which outlines—we don’t know, how much expenditure is going to be required on these. Some of it will be significant in removing a depot and restoring parks and doing heritage work on critical items in there. So given the extreme cuts in the budget review, we are pretty concerned that those things won’t be met in years one and two, that are of critical important. Even in years two to five, given the severe cuts that this LNP LORD MAYOR is bringing in over the next three years of the Council budget.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor DIXON.

Councillor DIXON: Chair, I wish to rise to speak on item C, Newstead Park Conservation Management Plan. Newstead Park is a much loved open space in the Hamilton Ward. It’s iconic with the historic Newstead House situated on its expansive grounds. It is now certainly more accessible than ever with the recent construction of the Breakfast Creek / Yowoggera Bridge that opened in February, linking Hamilton to Newstead.

But today I don’t want to spend too much time talking about the bridge, despite knowing how well loved it is and how it greatly enhances the amenity of the park. Today I want to talk about the Newstead Park Conservation Management Plan and the rich history of the park.

It was officially opened to the public in 1921 and has since become a site of not only historical significance but also a place for residents to use and make their own memories over the years. In World War I it was used as a location to host fundraisers to aid the wartime effort. In particular, a dolls’ carnival that raised funds to support the 25th Battalion.

During World War II both the park and Newstead House were occupied by the US forces for two years, between 1943 and 1945. It also acted as a landmark for soldiers who arrived or departed Brisbane. Hence why it’s become a place of focus for memorials related to the various wars over the years.

This park has a dedicated memorial to mark our ties with America in the Second World War, through the dedicated Australian American memorial that was constructed in 1951. Acknowledging contributions of Americans who helped defended Australia during World War II. It was unveiled by Governor Sir John Lavarack in 1952 to mark 10 years since the American Australian victory in the Battle of Coral Sea.

Just a few weeks ago I had the privilege of attending the 82nd anniversary of the Battle of Coral Sea commemoration service that is held yearly at Newstead Park. Beautifully organised by the Australian American Association at the Australian American War Memorial, based within the grounds of the park.

However, there are other memorials situation within the park which include the Royal Australian Navy Corvette Association memorial, that was complete in 1988 in time for the Bicentennial and Expo ‘88. There is also a Vietnam War Veterans’ memorial that acknowledges the Australians who left through the Port of Brisbane and Brisbane Airport for service in the Vietnam War, from 1962 to 1975 and honours the memory of those who sadly did not return home to their loved ones. As well as the Allied submarines memorial plinth that commemorates submarines and their crews that operated in Brisbane from 1942 to 1945.

In addition to these memorials, Newstead Park is also home to Lyndon B. Johnson Place, a commemorative wall and plaque to mark the US President’s visit to Brisbane on 25 November 1966.

Newstead Park is also home to Brisbane’s oldest surviving residence, Newstead House. Which, over the years, has been occupied by many significant Brisbane residents, including the first Brisbane City Council Superintendent of Parks from 1917 to 1939. The Queensland Women’s Historical Association, which is based in the Hamilton Ward, as also had its inaugural meeting at Newstead House in 1950.

More recently Council has done an upgrade on the toilets at Newstead Park to ensure amenities for residents who visit the park continue to be available and in line with accessibility standards. As you can see, Chair, Newstead Park has an incredible historical significance to not only the Hamilton Ward but also the City of Brisbane. With the implementation of the Newstead Park Conservation Plan, it will continue to be a much popular open space. I will end my remarks here, thank you.

Chair: Thank you Councillor.

Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair. Listen, I rise to speak on item B. But I think I’ll make a couple of comments on item A, the budget review in regards to the cash position that so eloquently was outlined by Leader of the Opposition.

You know before I was on the—I’ve been part of the Finance Committee for many, many years and it was always interesting when the papers came through in regards to the cash position of this Council over the years. It was—you know when the presentation was made it was always a bit of pride that this Council was in a really good cash position, fluctuating anywhere between about $200 million and $400 million.

That was really required, of course, because at certain times of the year the cash was called up on to pay those outstanding accounts and it usually goes through a cycle. Towards the end of my time with the Committee, before the election came about in 2024, I started to see a deterioration in that cash amount that was in the accounts to cover those outstanding bills and commitments that we had made on behalf of the people of Brisbane.

But it was explained away to me that we’re starting to use our own cash because the cost of borrowing and what we could—what it was actually going to cost us. It was going to be cheaper to actually use our own cash rather than to borrow. At that stage they hadn’t touched that $500 million.

But when that all came about in the last—well since the election, I suppose, or since that problematic issue with our budget last November and that deterioration occurred. Then we went into—we didn’t actually have enough of our own reserves to cover those accounts and then we had to use our bank card, that arrangement with Queensland Treasury of half a billion dollars. Which, by the way, did not cost us one cent to have that in place, until we use it.

Now we’ve used $100 million of that, where is it going to end? It’s now costing us money to use that facility. Thank goodness that facility isn’t with one of the four big banks. Because we would be paying a lot more than what Queensland Treasury is paying us. So I just wanted to make those comments. It’s just sad to sort of see over the last five or six years for that deterioration to happen and where is it going to end? Where is it going to end?

I’ll move on to Clause B, which is the quarterly report, or review, I should say. The third quarter review. I wanted to speak on Program 2 – Infrastructure for Brisbane. The revenue currently of $120 million, right, which is 53% of the total budget for the year, right. Now, remember, 53%, it should be about 75%, we’re three quarters of the way through. So that’s a shortfall of $56.75 million down, where the budget should be, compared to that projected yearly budget of $227 million.

That was a slight improvement over the half year result. Just a few percentage slight improvement. But, of course, we’re running out of time and I think it’s been stated here that by the end of this financial year, revenue will be well down. I think the LORD MAYOR has told us that here this afternoon, right. So that’s really sad.

The report states that the drop in revenue is from lower than anticipated developer contributions, we heard that earlier, and on infrastructure charges and we heard that as well and then road asset depreciation. Now that’s one item that I hadn’t seen before and it was probably in a budget, previous budget, but it didn’t jump out at me until I read it here in the report.

So I just assume that depreciation is right across the road network, it’s not on individual roads. But maybe the Chair can sort of answer that. Because I just don’t know what context that is stated in. Whether it’s on individual roads or just across the whole network. Probably makes sense it would be across the whole network.

Anyways, parking revenue, right, is down as well. Which is quite interesting when you consider there was an article in the paper this morning I read, I don’t know if it was BT (*Brisbane Times)* or *Courier-Mail*, that we have the most expensive short-term parking of any capital city in Australia. That’s a great achievement. We have the most expensive but we—our revenue is down. So maybe the Chair can sort of make sense of that.

We have also now seen the results of another quarter of underachievement by the Schrinner Administration. I think that’s obvious, especially in Program 2. This report advises that the revenue will be adjusted to be recovered by the end of the review, or by the next review, I should say. Although I don’t think that’s—but they don’t really tell you how they’re going to achieve that. I don’t know if that’s going to be with a little bit of creative accounting or what actually is going to—what are they putting in place to actually overcome this shortfall in revenue, if anything?

Operating expenses is the next item, which is down $181 million, which means that we have spent even less, if that makes any sense. I wrote this down and I’m thinking, yes, we’ve actually spent even less than in the last review, right, in percentages, right.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: So this is an issue—yes, I know. This quarter is clearly part of the $400 million cut that the LORD MAYOR delivered as a Christmas present for the workers last year, and of course ratepayers as well with cuts in services as well. The report goes on to state that operating expenses will be naturally aligned—oh, sorry, will be materially aligned—and I had to look up that word in this context, materially aligned—with the end of the budget. I’d say also that this is a little bit of creative accounting as well. Although that term is used in accounting. But I just don’t think it’s an appropriate word to use, quite frankly.

Anyways what should I—okay, in regards to capital expenditure, the third year quarter result shows that expenditure is trending higher than what was expected in the budget. This is in part due to the increase of the cost of materials and yes, we do know that there has been an increase in cost of materials. But also poor—I suspect it’s also because of poor management of projects by this Administration, right.

Again, no action, all they say they were going to do was to monitor this issue, this problem, right. Which, again, I said actually at the mid-year review as well, that they keep saying they’re going to monitor it. But it doesn’t seem to get any better, right.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: They’re just monitoring, they’re just looking at it go down the hill, right. Might go up, might go down. Anyways, in regards to highlights and updates, right. There was only two that sort of jumped out at me. It was in regards to the completed CCTV construction of 22 projects locations as part of the Administration’s transport system.

Under the current budget there is no itemised list of locations. So we don’t know if 22 is a good result or not. So we don’t know how many you were actually—were going to or should be doing in this financial year. All we have is how many have been done. So again, maybe the Chair can deal with that.

Finally, maintaining and improving the network. There were 18 locations within the budget—Councillor JOHNSTON will appreciate this one—for bridges and culverts. Reconstruction and rehabilitations, current budget says that they have completed seven. Again, at the last mid-year budget there was three to four out of 18, so what a great result.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: What a great result. Anyways, I’ll end my comments there, Madam Chair. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I rise to speak on item C, the Conservation Management Plan for Newstead Park. As we heard, earlier from the LORD MAYOR, Newstead Park is a place of exceptional heritage significance and that’s why we’re here today, bringing this conservation management through the Chamber for approval, so that we can submit that to the Department of Environment and Science (DES).

As is noted in the submission, the CMP was completed in in 2021 and is now ready to be lodged, given that the construction of the new Breakfast Creek Bridge has been completed. I’m very pleased that we’ve been able to deliver this fantastic new connection to Newstead Park without any impacts to its heritage fabric, which is a terrific outcome.

But we have actually been working in accordance with the guidance within the CMP since the plan was completed in 2021. What we are doing today is simply formalising the process by approving its lodgement with DES.

Madam Chair, preparing the CMP for a heritage place is considered best practice but it’s by no means mandatory. The policies and the actions will guide Council’s planning, it’s operational project delivery areas in what works need to be undertaken to support the heritage values of Newstead Park, including ongoing tree maintenance, which has been happening, but also the removal of the temporary maintenance depot, which was raised earlier. That was done some time ago.

The CMP also provides guidance in identifying works that can be carried out without approval by the State under a general exemption and also works that will require approval under a Heritage Exemption Certificate. Which essentially means that we can continue to undertake maintenance, park maintenance work and improve embellishments without going through a separate heritage exemption process, like the new toilet block and pathway upgrades that has been mentioned, that was recently delivered.

As well as management and maintenance strategies, the CMP also provides a fascinating account of history and you’ve heard some of those accounts already. I’ve actually had the opportunity to learn a little bit more about the park and its heritage significance first hand, through my time on the Newstead House board.

As many Councillors know, Newstead House is Brisbane’s oldest surviving residential building and its surrounding grounds, which is Newstead Park, has become one of Brisbane’s iconic riverside parklands. In fact there are probably Councillors here who, back in the day, took a school tour of the house and the parklands as part of their primary school education.

The house was built in 1846 and has been renovated and extended multiple times. It was a privilege to be part of the Newstead House board during the current restoration project, which will come to a conclusion mid-year and opening a little later in the third quarter of the year.

The entire house and grounds were acquired by the City of Brisbane Council for parkland purposes back in 1916 and in 1917 it was decided, by the Parks Committee, that just £100 be allocated for a number of embellishments like new paths and seating. But the part that I found particularly interesting, Madam Chair, was, as Councillor DIXON mentioned, that it continued to be used as a residence after the park had been opened to the public. It was renovated for use as the official residence of Henry Moore who was Council Superintendent of Parks from 1917 to 1939.

Henry Moore was a very influential figure on Brisbane’s parkland design and it was well known—and he was well known for his distinctive use of circular garden beds and organic walkway design. This can be seen throughout Newstead Park. But it can also be found in Bowen Park and especially New Farm Park, through you, to Councillor HOWARD, with its iconic rose gardens.

As Councillor DIXON also alluded two, during the Second World War, the house was vacated and turned over to the US Army and the surrounding parkland was, in fact, fortified. The long and storied use of Newstead Park during World War II is commemorated in a number of memorials that the LORD MAYOR alluded to in his contribution.

So, once again, Madam Chair, this is a very thorough and comprehensive document. I recommend that all Councillors who are interested have a good read of it. So that they can learn a bit more about the colourful history of Newstead Park, the house and its inhabitants and I commend this item to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

Further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on items A and B. You know maybe I’ll further with something that, through you, Chair, Councillor CASSIDY said. If the LORD MAYOR is the comic of this performance, well the LORD MAYOR is performing in a tragedy.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: Because what we actually see here is a budget in dire straits. Last year when we debated the initial 10% budget, you knows cuts—the $400 million—I spoke about how the full extent of the cuts wouldn’t be seen until well into the future. Not only in the budget cuts that happened then and, in that year, in this year’s budget, but the rephasing of projects that would happen well into the future, the cancellations of projects on the future.

Councillor MASSEY: Here we are, two weeks, three weeks out from the next budget? We are still amending the 2023-24 budget. I suspect that the Council’s $400 million black—red hole is much, much bigger than this.

Look, there’s a couple of things that have been touched on earlier, but again, we see Transport for Brisbane another $14.4 million for capital. That totals now, from the initial budget, of over about $78 million extra for Council expenses for Transport for Brisbane. This is, of course, in addition to the blowouts that happened in the 2022-23 budget.

We’ve touched on Program 2 and the cuts there, Program 3 and the cuts, $123 million across capital expenses and capital expenses and revenue. In Program 5, Lifestyle and Community Services, another $18 million in cuts in capital projects. Totalling about $20 million in total for Lifestyle and Community Services, within the budget that we passed in June and then was amended approximately 12 weeks later.

City Standards, another $8 million cut in capital, more cuts forecast in the future coming years. These budget cuts have real world consequences. Projects being cancelled, the scope of some projects being drastically reduced. As we can see, this is not going to be just a one-time issue. The effects will continue to ripple through the years.

The intersection upgrades, community facility upgrades, drainage, kerb and channel, bike lanes, footpaths, pedestrian safety. Crossing and probably even events, because I just realised, we’re in May. What happened to Botanica? You know that feature event, a highlight event of Brisbane.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: That was delivered by the Museum of Brisbane, that hundreds of residents would flock to.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: Thousands, right. I just realised we are at the end of May and there has not been a peep about Botanica, not a single word. So I guess it’s not happening anymore. Obviously, those kind of projects are being cut on top of delayed projects that were listed. We won’t stop talking about them because they’re still relevant and important. The shade sails on Victoria Bridge. The West End Toowong Green Bridge, the West End to St Lucia Green Bridge. You know, the five green bridges, now two to be achieved, the rest completely delayed.

We see, again in document A, a document showing very few details. Again, a lack of transparency. But what we do know and what we can see is that projects are continuing to be cut, money is continually being moved. We know already where overworked staff have to deliver more with fewer resources. We know budget decreases across future budgets are going to come.

That doesn’t just affect the residents of The Gabba Ward, that doesn’t just affect the residents of Morningside or us sitting here on the Opposition. That affects every single Councillor’s ward in here. To me that, in itself, is reason why we need to have transparent discussions about this, because it’s the residents of Brisbane across all of us who are Councillors what represent Brisbane, that will slowly but surely recognise how their amenity, how their areas, are suffering from continual cuts and delays to projects.

What, to me, is really evident, is that the LNP is attempting a patch job really, to maintain a façade of a functioning Council. However, with the budget blowouts, the subsequent cuts, they’re eroding the foundations of this Council’s operations. A situation that underscores the critical need for transparency and accountability in our budget management and decision making processes. An accountability that isn’t present because we’re debating something that has already been passed.

The LORD MAYOR has to set up and be more transparent to the residents of Brisbane and talk about the reality of—the harsh reality of these budget changes—because we’re moving to a budget period which will, undeniably, deliver us a new budget that I expect to be full of austerity measures. But the real thing about that next budget is how do we trust it?

How can we possibly trust a budget that, now we know, within one year will receive multiple reviews, as we actually move to the end of the budget? I’ll speak briefly for the rest of my time about item B. Just to talk about some things that I saw in it that were quite interesting. Program 3, we saw that there would be cuts, capital moved from grow, improve, maintain Brisbane Conservation Reserve, capital expenditure where clean and green Brisbane is. That’s where Clean, Green, Sustainable Brisbane take a hit, residents lose again.

This is where, in layman’s terms, we see expenditure being cut for growing, improving and maintaining Brisbane urban parks, upgrading facilities and park and the playground replacement project. Again, this means that playgrounds aren’t being updated across Brisbane, it means facilities and parks aren’t being upgraded and it means work to deliver and maintain and support parks have been cut.

I also see a reallocation of capital and operating expenses in delivering iconic parks for Brisbane. This is really interesting to me, because recently I received information that all work on Barrambin has stopped. You know that $141 million rewilding in massive amounts—announcements previously. Is that another broken promise? Will we ever know if work is continuing?

It seems to me if work has stopped, because there’s a lack of capital, it’s no wonder then that the LORD MAYOR is so open to commercialising, potentially, an important greenspace, to generate revenue.

Capital expenditure is also reduced for restoration of recreation projects in Program 5, Lifestyle and Community Service, reallocation of capital expenditure to operation expenses in community facilities. Decrease expenditure in Brisbane libraries, meaning libraries receive less maintenance and activities. Which, to me is really interesting. I also receive information that any sort of work in the West End Library upgrade and revamp—and it really does need it—wholly stopped.

Making sure that I put on the public record, again, that the West End Library does not have accessible toilets. Any work or upgrades or any plans, I think completely gone.

What else? Oh, running out of time. But lots to say. The third annual report paints a grim picture, a budget in shambles, a disturbing lack of transparency. It’s clear the LNP Administration’s incompetence and disregard for our community needs continues.

Chair: Councillor MASSEY your time has expired.

Councillor DIXON: Point of order, Chair.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **584/2023-24**  At that time, 3.03pm, 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 3.07pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

*At that time, 3.28pm, the Deputy Chair, Councillor Steven HUANG, assumed the Chair.*

Deputy Chair: E&C report, further debate?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes.

Deputy Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Thank you, Mr Chairman, and nice to have you in the seat. I’m here to talk about program 2 and program 3 from E&C and for me it’s basics are cut, cut, cut. Unfortunately, I keep coming across examples of these cuts everywhere. What I have to do is remind myself that people did vote in a conservative government, they voted in a conservative government to Brisbane and we know conservatives like small government, they like cutting services. We just have to think back to Campbell Newman and the way he got into government and just cut, cut, cut.

Well that’s coming, that’s coming very soon if there’s a change at the State Government level. It’s already happening here in Council and it’s been happening for years. This is just another example of that. I’m going to give five examples here in my ward where these cuts are happening and what it means for residents. Because it’s not about—for me, it’s not about big glamourous bridges in the inner city, it’s not about big metros, it’s actually about services for working people in working areas who deserve services and values for their rates.

The first one is Stable Swamp Creek, this is a huge part of my area, it’s a part of the area that floods annually several times a year. We had, after several—after a number of public meetings and one of which the LORD MAYOR’s representative was there and I appreciate that, we got an agreement that $700,000 would be allocated. It was allocated in this budget. That meant for a lot of residents, hundreds of residents, a lot of businesses, that we could do some work on that creek that needed to be done and hadn’t been done for years and years and years. The creek is silted, the banks aren’t stable, it’s overgrown with weed trees, it is blocked. It floods regularly and it has been ignored by Council, despite numerous requests, for years and years and years.

Upstream, upstream from the point I’m talking about, Council has done work, they did work about six years ago. That’s the work residents see and they go this is great, look at what Council has done, look at what Council can do. Isn’t this what we pay rates for? Downstream, what’s going on here, Council? Well, it turns out, it turns out that Council owns half and the State own the other half and never the twain shall meet, never the two shall talk to each other, or talk effectively or get an outcome. So, I was pleased, I was actually pleased and I congratulated the LORD MAYOR on finding that $700,000 to do that project. What I know from PPI (Program Planning and Integration) officers is the flood modelling was completed, the project work and the project planning was done.

They found out that the cost wasn’t going to be $700,000; it was going to be $100,000 to do this work, $100,000 to undertake this vital piece of work, which represents value for money. What they told me was that Council had decided to do the whole project itself for that $100,000, both sides of the creek under an MoU (memorandum of understanding). Then disappointingly, two meetings ago, two meetings ago, bang, in my in-tray I receive a little memo from Councillor DAVIS and the LORD MAYOR saying no, sorry, gone, can’t do it. We’ve got the money there, we’ve got the money there, but the State haven’t contributed half. It’s like what? The State haven’t contributed half this money for this significant project. Gone, bang.

Can I just tell you how disappointed I was, because I have worked behind the scenes to get this project over the line. I have worked with the Lord Mayor’s Office to get this project over the line and then for it to be cut like that was really just galling, galling and it was disappointing for residents. The strange thing about that cut was I had always expected the State to contribute half. I would expect the State—as a Councillor, I would expect the State to contribute half. So, behind the scenes I was working with the State to get them to contribute a half, until I was told no, we’re going it our own way, we’re going to do it. We’re going to pay the full cost of this, we’ll fix this.

Fine, but then last week, or two weeks ago, to receive that memo going no, you’ve got to get the State on board, the State should pay for this, well fine, I agree. I’m back on the phone to the State, asking them to contribute. You know what I’m hearing from the State? We were happy to contribute, in fact we had correspondence with NEWS (Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability), but we weren’t getting responses back.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: What? What is going on here? What bizarre world am I in? What bizarre world am I in that we’re not getting the two bureaucracies to talk? I’m looking forward to reviewing the files and see who’s telling truths and who isn’t telling truths.

But what is the most disappointing thing is this work needs to be done, it’s basic work, it’s costing $100,000. It will benefit multiple businesses, it will benefit multiple people who flood, it’s a no-brainer. To actually—it will be, it will be a precedent, it will be a precedent to have the State and Council co-fund something together which will benefit waterways right across Brisbane. This was a home goal for the LNP and for Labor and for the residents of Brisbane and then bang, gone. This no-brainer stuff does not make sense to me, it does not make sense to me. It’s not good for residents, it’s not good for government, it’s not good for what we should be—it’s not good for our staff, it’s not good for what we should be doing.

That was the first project I wanted to talk about. The second project was in this week, this week accidentally, guess what arrived in my in-tray, bang—that officer’s obviously being disciplined—bang, all this work happening in Councillor MARX’s ward, on the same waterway that I’m struggling to get $50,000 spent on. There’s grand designs, there’s grand plans, we’re going to do the environmental, we’re going to do the flooding, we’re starting work right now. Oh Councillor, you shouldn’t have received that. But I did receive that, I did receive it and it just shows the sheer hypocrisy of PPI and NEWS in what they’re doing, the sheer hypocrisy.

It’s pathetic, LNP ward, you get everything. ALP ward, why would we waste money on you? It just goes on and on and on. To our executives, to our executives who are up there, you’re meant to be providing—you’re meant to be doing work for the whole city. You’re not working for the LNP, they don’t pay your wages. You’re meant to be working for the whole city and I can’t repeat that enough, because the politics over this 20 years has come so far down this rotten organisation. So, the Stable Swamp Creek, that was a little—that was a little surprise to see all the work there, that project evidently wasn’t cut.

Then there’s Rocky Waterholes Creek, this is near the deathtrap and it’s called the deathtrap because people die there in flooding. It’s overgrown, it’s silted, it’s neglected, the drains are blocked. What I’ve heard from PPI constantly is it’s not our responsibility, Councillor, it’s their responsibility. Until I learn that it is our responsibility. It actually is Council’s responsibility. So, what we’re trying to do is get some work there to get that de-silted, get that drain fixed up and you know what, for the three months now, three months, I’ve been waiting for them just to mow it.

We can’t even get it mown so the officers can get in there to do the work that they need to do. Every time I say where’s it up to, it’s oh, well the contractors haven’t done their job. Well, who looks after the contractors? Well, us, but someone else looks after them, I look after this. I just—it’s just appalling what’s going on at the moment and that is such, such a clear example of where we can’t even get an outcome from the contractors.

But it gets even better, it gets—and you couldn’t think it could get better for the LNP to score a home goal. Today I had some Council staff walking past the front of my office, went out and saw them, how are you? Look, I know they’re allowed to talk to me now, because it has been stated that they’re allowed to talk to us. I won’t name those staff because I know the repercussions they go through when they do talk to us. But what I found out today was my parks team has gone, cut. I also found out your parks team has been cut and Councillor JOHNSTON, I found out that your parks team has been cut too.

Parks team on this side of the Chamber, that explains why we can’t get things done. It makes a lot of sense. Did anyone tell us that? Is that in these documents? No, it just happened, it just happened quietly and those executives quietly ticked off on it. I just don’t understand why we are cutting basic staff. Our grounds staff have been cut in half. We need to be doing more work, we need to be returning to being on the ground, we need to be returning to actually delivering basic services. I can’t support this item before Council. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Further debate?

As there is no further—sorry, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise to speak on items A, B, and C. Firstly, I would like to thank all the Councillors who’ve spoken on item C. I certainly understand and appreciate why the LNP Councillors want to talk about that item and not items A and B. Particularly when they give a history lesson about a park, that sort of hides the lead, which is items A and B today, which essentially lays bare the LNP Administration’s financial mismanagement of this city’s finances. Now I note that the LORD MAYOR could not be bothered to be with us for this debate. He introduced the item and then he left straightaway. It is the LORD MAYOR’s budget, he is responsible for the delivery of the budget and the implementation of the budget and in June each year stands up with great fanfare and announces what the budget will be spent on.

The rest of the year—it’s that one day, I think one day of the year, where the budget is actually what they say the budget will be. By the next day they’re already looking at how to make cuts and what changes need to be made. Now we know that in November the LORD MAYOR painted a bleak picture about how bad the Council budget was. He said, well we need to make some responsible changes to sort the budget out. He then cut a whopping $400 million out of the Council budget, including for essential services such as mowing and then the LNP have gone round saying to the media multiple times now they never made such cuts. So, I just send the journalists now the actual budget papers that were debated that show that the mowing was cut.

But the problem with what happened in November is just a few months later we’re here with the March report, the third quarter report, and the same thing is happening. But it’s worse this time because the level of cuts are not matching up with the changes to revenue. Now I think we all understand if we don’t have any money there’s two ways you can go about managing your own budget. You borrow on credit, well tick, the LNP’s definitely doing that, or (2) you can reduce your expenditure. But it doesn’t make sense to do both. If you’re going to reduce your expenditure and then still borrow on the credit card, you’ve got a really serious problem. That’s where the LNP have found themselves.

They’ve spent all the money they had in the bank, there’s less than $50 million left, which is hundreds of millions of dollars less than what is normally in the bank. Thank you, Councillor STRUNK, for outlining that problem. We know that they’re spending up on the credit card and we know that they have cut expenses and they don’t align with the cuts to revenue. In the black hole of how the Administration now hides the financial figures under these accounting standards, we now know that there are more projects that this Council is cutting. There’s some really odd discrepancies here, but I just want to talk about a few things first up.

We know, again through this report, that there have been more blowouts with the cost of the Metro. Presumably some of the revenue from the cuts to everyday projects in suburban areas, or important projects in my ward which have been cut, they’re going towards the very expensive and financially mismanaged Metro project. That’s one example. We find again in here that there’s more costs and blowout with Moggill Road project. What a gem that one’s turning out to be as well. Not only are there cost blowouts with two of the LNP’s signature projects, we then get to the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge and there are massive cost blowouts on that one. That’s also very interesting, I think, because of the way in which the LNP chose to up-scope the design to make it more expensive than it needed to be, by including multiple restaurants and cafés.

Of course we see badly scoped, badly costed, badly delivered and financially mismanaged projects that are the signature projects of this LNP Administration. Who is paying for this mismanagement? That would be the ordinary people in Brisbane out in the suburbs, who are seeing less for their money. I know, for example, that two years ago the LNP announced a major remediation project of a sports field that’s been closed for eight years in Chelmer. It didn’t get delivered two years ago, it got re-announced in this year’s budget and it’s been cut from $3 million back to $1 million. They’re going to do some top dressing on the oval and fix the cricket wicket up. I mean I don’t think they’ve actually understood the extent of the problem. It looks like this, but apparently, it’s all fine, it just needs a little bit of top dressing, so I look forward to that, I’ve got the letter about that one.

But then we get to the really weird things, the really weird things that are in this budget. For example, the financial reports and annual report before us, operational report before us today, says that Council has actually received more income for the Voluntary Home Buy-Back scheme, but Council’s spending less money on the Voluntary Home Buy-Back scheme. Now I know that there’s a significant problem with the Voluntary Home Buy-Back scheme and I’ve been telling Council this since the end of last year. We know as these properties are being purchased, they weren’t being maintained. Council put a fence up and then just left them, so a Council‑owned asset was just left to deteriorate. Pool fences broken, water in pools, no mowing done, just really, really poorly managed.

What we then know is these buyback homes continue—are continuing to be bought back, because I get notified when they happen. Now the latest notification I had about half a dozen houses in various suburbs, which came through in April, said that Council would be completing the demolition towards the end of 2024. The poor people who remain in these flooded communities, who live next to a derelict or flood-affect home that now has a temporary fence up around it, that Council won’t maintain, will have to put up with Council’s inaction in properly managing, demolishing, and restoring the park—restoring land as parkland for seven, possibly eight months. But as we know in the report before us here today, Council’s got the money in the bank. It’s come through, they’ve got more money than expected from the Voluntary Home Buy-Back scheme, yet they’re not doing the work, they’re not doing the work.

This is the perfect example of where this Administration are letting our community down. They are unable to manage a critically important flood recovery project. Now this is a project that will have long-term benefits for the city, by reducing the amount of expenditure needed at times of natural disaster, by increasing parkland in our area and certainly making sure that Brisbane residents are not put in harm’s way because of the bad planning decisions of current and past Councils. You would think that this might be a priority, given it’s being funded by another level of government. We’ve heard today the LORD MAYOR try and criticise this and I’m sure this will be the Finance Chair’s excuse later as well, it’s all the State Government’s fault. But it’s not, because we know the funds are coming in to Council, it’s Council’s not spending them.

We also know that this Council has received—and I’m just looking for the language, here it is. What do we call it? I think we call it higher—I just want to find the exact language so I can quote it. Where are we? I just haven’t marked it, but they have received higher than anticipated revenue from the State Government for flood recovery. They expect it to be lower next quarter, but in terms of flood recovery they’ve actually—here we go. Earlier and higher than anticipated grants and subsidies relating to the February 2022 flood damage, so they’re getting more money than they expected but they’re not doing the work.

I’ll just finish with one small item, which is the bemoaning of the fact that the developers are not contributing as much in the way of infrastructure charges. Here’s my advice to Brisbane City Council. To Councillor ALLAN, to Councillor ADAMS and the LORD MAYOR and the Finance Chair, Councillor CUNNINGHAM, stop giving developers corporate welfare, stop giving developers subsidies, stop giving developers discounts on their fees and charges.

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Then maybe you’ll get a bit more money from them.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on items A and B. Mr Chair, we on this side of the Chamber have been re-elected on a platform of keeping Council’s budget balanced, to keep the pressure off household rates and rents. This means keeping a check on expenses and taking action to keep costs down so that we ultimately don’t pass the cost on to ratepayers. That’s why we announced we we’re making sensible savings last year, in fact we were upfront with residents before an election. We took early action because we were forecast a deteriorating environment in terms of increased costs and decreasing revenue.

The key figure, Mr Chair, in this third budget review is the $127 million reduction in revenue. There is a $40 million net reduction in developer contributions, as has been highlighted by Councillors in this place, but it’s as a result of lower development and construction activities happening in the free market. We are making QRA revenue adjustments based on our latest forecast of flood claims, which is $41.9 million. We’re also accounting for $9.6 million in lower than anticipated Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant revenue. This has been an issue for local government which we have raised continually through various channels, including the LGAQ (Local Government Association of Queensland).

Over recent years there has been significant variation in the timing of payments of Annual Financial Assistance Grants. For the 2021-22 allocation, approximately 49% of that amount was paid in the prior financial year. In 2022-23, about 79% of the annual payment was paid in June 2022, the prior financial year. In May 2023, the governments announced a change in the proposed timing of these grant payments to Council for the 2023-24 year. Proposed changes suggested 100% of funding would be paid in 2023-24. But just a few weeks later they changed their position, with advice to Council that 100% of the funding would be paid in the current year—sorry, would be paid by 30 June 2023.

So, what this paints is a picture of a guessing game, Mr Chair, as to what advance payments we might receive in any given year. Accounting standards require that this general purpose funding be recognised by councils as a revenue at the time that it is actually received. Changes to the timing of payments can significantly impact councils’ financial statements, causing significant variations from year to year. In addition to unpredictable impacts of operating capability, these changes obviously impact our cash flow and our borrowings. With some appropriate notice, councils can plan to mitigate these impacts and budget appropriately. Finally, in terms of revenue, we’re adopting $7.2 million in lower than anticipated on-street parking revenue to align with the latest trend in revenue.

In terms of operating expense, there is a $229.6 million decrease in operating expense in this review, but $222 million of this is related to Brisbane Metro returned works to the State. This amount is transferred to future years and it’s clearly set out in the papers. It highlights, as the LORD MAYOR has said, the huge investment that ratepayers of Brisbane are making in terms of much needed improvements to State’s transport infrastructure. It got me wondering though, Mr Chair, if we’ll get appreciation, a motion of appreciation rather, in State Parliament, but I don’t think so. You see it’s an accounting treatment and it doesn’t represent change in actual expenditure.

Further savings have been identified in the current year and future years, in line with what was announced last year. Costs are continuing to rise and we need to protect, always protect Council’s budget. While Councillor CASSIDY, through you, Mr Chair, claims I am lecturing, he continually comes into this place and mansplains his interpretation of the reports, without reference to the need for this Council to actually live within our means. Further, if the Opposition care to listen, they might learn something. We have had a working capital facility for many years. We’ve never used it previously, as it had a condition on it which meant it was not actually able to be used effectively.

So, what we did was we applied to QTC (Queensland Treasury Corporation) and the Department to remove the repayment conditions, so we can use our working capital rather than borrowing early and manage cash well in a time when the interest rates are increasing. Like other local governments, in March 2023 Council commenced using its working capital facility in lieu of drawdown of its approved annual borrowings, to more effectively manage cash in what was a high inflationary environment. In 2022-23, it meant that we were able to reduce our annual borrowings by $176 million.

The use of the working capital facility has continued in 2023-24 to again reduce our interest costs and by doing so we’ve been able to defer drawdown of our annual borrowing approval to the middle of June, at which time the working capital facility will be repaid. Importantly, a working capital facility is not a credit card. It’s a credit facility to deal with short-term borrowings, but it has also got me wondering whether or not the Opposition still pay for everything with cash. You see because by following the financial advice that we receive from the experts in Council, this team will save over $12 million in interest costs and that is responsible management of finances.

On item B, the Annual Operational Plan progress and quarterly financial report provides a written assessment of Council’s progress towards implementing our annual operational plan and includes obviously, as we all know, some key financial reports. In addition, the report gives an overview of the commercial operations and financial wellbeing of Council’s business activities. It highlights in detail many of the achievements and the progress that we’ve made this year. But the Opposition come in here and they continue to claim otherwise. The Leader of the Opposition has been at pains to tell residents that everything in Council is bad, but the experience in the community simply doesn’t match up to his gloomy, over‑the‑top rhetoric.

The real problem he has is that he and his team haven’t been able to convince residents that making sensible savings in a cost-of-living environment is a bad idea. Of course, the mistruth at the heart of all of this is that the promises they made at the election would have required massive spending cuts or massive rate rises. When they talked about a $744 million increase in road capital spending in the next year alone, which they did, where was that money going to come from? Where did they think it was coming from? It would come ultimately from the rates and rents of Brisbane residents, which is why voters resoundingly rejected Brisbane Labor in March and I commend this report to the Chamber.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

There is no further debate, I will put items A and B of the E&C report to the vote.

**Clauses A and B put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 16 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

NOES: 8 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK, Seal CHONG WAH, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

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

**Clause C put**

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

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 2023-24 BUDGET – THIRD REVIEW

**134/135/1164/940**

**585/2023-24**

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

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

3. In preparing the 2023-24 Budget – Third Review (refer Attachment B, submitted on file), consideration is made to external factors which have arisen since the adoption of the 2023-24 Budget. These factors reflect upward pressures to the budget and changes to income and expenditure for 2023-24 through to 2026-27 and include:

- emerging issues requiring changes to timing of expenditure for key projects to allow for maximum efficiency and effectiveness in delivery

- lower than anticipated Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) funding to restore assets following the 2022 severe rain and flood event

- adverse revenue impacts and associated project delays due to delayed outcomes from the Australian Government Infrastructure Investment Program Strategic Review

- adverse revenue impacts from unsuccessful Queensland Government grant applications

- continued supply chain disruptions associated with world events, economic conditions and market volatility, which have had sustained impacts on Council’s cost of operations and capital delivery program

- reduced infrastructure charges revenue

- continuing pressure on labour costs

- rising cost of core inputs and raw materials and increasing cost of inventory items

- rising utility and services costs and impacts on contractual cost escalations and general price increases such as fuel and electricity

- longer than anticipated sustained general economic pressure regarding interest and inflation

- continued focus on minimising impacts on ratepayers and residents and providing continued cost-of-living relief.

4. Council’s financial commitments are focussed on:

- maintaining a balanced budget

- easing cost-of-living pressures to ratepayers and residents

- delivering core, frontline services across the suburbs and city in the most efficient and cost‑effective manner.

5. To mitigate cost increase pressures, Council is focussed on identifying cost reduction and efficiency measures and has actively sought to reduce 10% overall in budgeted costs through various mechanisms.

6. These mechanisms include:

- reprioritisation and return to scheduled works for flood related projects which have not received QRA funding

- removal or deferral of other projects with ineligible or delayed funding outcomes

- reduction in scope or deferral of projects which have minimal impact on key services or infrastructure maintenance and upgrades delivered by Council

- specific targeted reduction in non-essential services including consultants, contractors, advertising and publications, travel and conferences, catering, office expenditure and supplies

- review of contingent labour, including temporary positions, labour hire and contractors

- implementation of ongoing simplification and efficiency measures for back-of-house and support functions to ensure that resources are directed to frontline services

- optimisation of grant revenue to fund existing budgeted expenditure.

7. Cost mitigation strategies will be achieved through the reduction in budget expense for projects and core services in the third budget review such as those outlined in the Summary of Changes by Program (refer Attachment C, submitted on file). Cost increases are offset by identified savings to minimise overall impact on the overall budget.

Financial impact

8. The anticipated accumulated surplus at 30 June 2024 for the budget approved by Council was $14,351 million.

9. The sum of the proposed adjustments to the budget for 2023-24 will increase the anticipated accumulated surplus at 30 June 2024 to $14,453 million.

10. Changes to 2023-24 Budget:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total change $ million** | **Revised budget $ million** |
| **Income and expenditure** |  |  |
| Income | (127.6) | 3,070.1 |
| Expenses | (229.6) | 2,618.2 |
| Operating capability | 102.1 | 451.9 |
| Capital | 13.7 | 1,486.7 |
|  |  |  |
| **Financial position** |  |  |
| Assets | 677.8 | 38,199.1 |
| Liabilities | 40.1 | 6,169.8 |
| Community equity | 637.6 | 32,029.3 |

11. The net impact of this review on 2024-25 through to 2026-27 is listed in Attachment B (submitted on file), and is summarised below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Forward year budget commitments change $ million** |
| 2024-25 | (197.5) |
| 2025-26 | 154.4 |
| 2026-27 | (113.5) |

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

13. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**Draft resolution To approve tHE 2023-24 Budget** – **THIRD Review**

As:

1. Council proposes to amend the budget to address emerging issues and changes to income and expenditure for 2023-24 through to 2026-27
2. section 162(2) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* provides that Council may, by resolution, amend the budget for a financial year at any time before the end of the financial year,

then Council:

1. resolves to amend the *Annual Plan and Budget 2023-24* by adopting the amended budget allocations for Programs 1 to 8, and Businesses and Council Providers in accordance with Attachment B (submitted on file).

**ADOPTED**

#### B ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 2024

**134/695/317/1412**

**586/2023-24**

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

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

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

17. The Annual Operational Plan Progress and Quarterly Financial Report March 2024 (refer Attachment B, submitted on file) includes:

- Section 1 – Quarterly Financial Report

- Section 2 – Annual Operational Plan Progress Report

- Section 3 – Commercialised Businesses.

18. The previous financial report for the period ended 29 December 2023 was presented to Council on 23 April 2024. The current report relates to the period ended 29 March 2024.

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

20. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 2024**

As:

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

then:

1. Council directs that the Annual Operational Plan Progress and Quarterly Financial Report for the period ended March 2024, as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file), be noted.

**ADOPTED**

#### C NEWSTEAD PARK CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

**161/590/785/63**

**587/2023-24**

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

22. Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability is responsible for managing Council’s 34 heritage listed parks or heritage listed assets within parks under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* and the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

23. A Conservation Management Plan (CMP) investigates and establishes the cultural heritage significance of a heritage asset. It provides an understanding of the place, sets out conservation policies to protect the elements (natural and built) of heritage significance, considers the potential for appropriate changes, and provides a strategy for putting the conservation management policies into action.

24. CMPs are drafted in accordance with the Queensland Government’s *Guideline: Conservation Management Plans* and must be submitted to the Queensland Government’s Department of Environment, Science and Innovation (the Department). CMPs are lodged for heritage parks to support projects, master planning and other projects and meet the department’s legislative guidelines.

25. Council has prepared the Newstead Park CMP (refer Attachment A, submitted on file) to support the management of Newstead Park. The CMP was prepared cognisant of the new Breakfast Creek / Yowoggera Bridge, with the recent completion of the bridge works not revealing any further CMP considerations. It is best practice that a CMP be submitted to the Department for each State heritage listed asset to support its decision making regarding proposed developments.

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

27. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL:**

**A) ENDORSE THE NEWSTEAD PARK CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, submitted on file

**B) APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF THE NEWSTEAD PARK CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN TO THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT’S DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION.**

**ADOPTED**

Deputy Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, 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

The DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), Civic Cabinet Chair of the Economic Development, Nighttime Economy and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Greg ADERMANN, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Deputy Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair, and before coming to last week’s Committee report, just a reminder of what is on this week at the Business Hub. We have got a very important workshop on this week and hopefully most of you are aware that the Lord Mayor’s Business Awards are open now for nomination. The workshop this week is Lord Mayor’s Business Awards, how to write a great award submission.

*At that time, 4.02pm, the Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, assumed the Chair.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: It’s going to be held by a few people that have been judges or have been past winners. They’re going to help those who attend to gain insights about tips on crafting that submission, expert guidance on how to set your submission apart from the others and highlight your business’ strengths. Also, this workshop is specifically tailored for the business awards, but I think it would be great for anybody looking for the knowledge and skills to put a nomination forward for the raft of awards there are for small to medium businesses across the city as well.

We’re also getting some great feedback, we just recently had a Creating Mentally Healthy Workplaces, mental health at work, which was run by Maxicrowd and MX. MX is a new technology start-up and they said it was just absolutely fantastic for them. Out of that they got a mentor and the feedback was, Bob has been a great fit and has been absolutely fantastic, many thanks. This is the type of opportunity your businesses have, not only to get along to the workshop but then step into that finding a mentor space to really tailor what support they need from those with more experience in the business industry in Brisbane.

Last week’s Committee presentation was on a tourism update and we’ve spoken a lot about the May mayhem over the last couple of weeks. But it’s not just the May mayhem, it has been the 2023-24 mayhem, as we see tourists flocking back to the river city. Our national visitor survey and our international visitor survey have shown us very, very positive results. Within our national visitor surveys, we’ve seen a 14.1% increase year-on-year, with a $7.2 billion overnight spend from our national visitors. That’s 1.8 million business visitors in that as well, which is a 14.4% increase, so people doing conventions and events here in the city are also realising why it’s great to incentive your workers by having that convention here in Brisbane.

Our international visitor survey has also shown that we’ve got 1.2 million international visitors over the last financial year, which is a $9 billion spend on overnight experiences. It’s great to see as those flights come back online, particularly the direct ones, that we’re seeing record numbers of people from India, Canada and Thailand coming to visit in Brisbane and see what all the fuss is about. There is a lot of fuss and we need to make sure that our tourism industry is ready to actually greet those tourists. There’s a lot of programs that BEDA (Brisbane Economic Development Agency) has been running now for a couple of years, that are being worked on each year with greater success. They include the Best of Brisbane Region Experiences for those that are really up there and making their mark in the tourism experience, the Brisbane Welcomes You program, which is for businesses and volunteers who want to just upskill themselves in how they can present the city to their visitors and their guests that are coming to their businesses or that they’re volunteering for. Then there’s the Brisbane Concierge Program, which equips concierges with info about local experience as well. That was over 400 concierges from across Brisbane that came together for a program to learn about what there is in Brisbane and how you can share that with your guests to your hotels as well. Of course, we talked about some of the campaigns that we’ve been rolling out. Brisbane Favours the Bold is a campaign that we ran over Christmas that really is showing regional Queensland and our other southern states that we are a leisure destination that they need to think of into the future.

Of course some of the statistics on MoreTix, the fantastic ticketing platform that was a result of the Better Brisbane Alliance, that encourages ticket buyers when they’re on their ticket platform, whether it’s Ticketek, or Ticketmaster or Humanitix or any of those, they get a ‘do you want fries with that’ question and they have the opportunity to look at what other tickets may be out there for the time that they’re spending in Brisbane. So, before they book their flights to come to Brisbane, they can see what’s on the week before or during the week and hopefully encourage them not only to buy more tickets, but to stay just that little bit longer to play and spend in Brisbane. I’ll leave the rest to the Chamber, thank you.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

No further speakers, 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 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, Jared Cassidy and Julia Dixon.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Steve Griffiths.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – TOURISM UPDATE

**588/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, Tourism, Business and Major Events, Brisbane Economic Development Agency (BEDA) attended the meeting to provide an update on tourism in Brisbane. She provided the information below.

2. Tourism Research Australia conducts the National Visitation Survey (NVS), gathering data on domestic travel habits and trends. This is achieved through the quarterly completion of 100,000 surveys, funded by the Australian Government. International tourism is assessed through the International Visitation Survey (IVS), with data collected via the completion of surveys at international airports within Australia.

3. NVS results for 2023 indicate that Brisbane experienced:

- a total overnight expenditure of $7.2 billion (a 14.1% year-over-year increase)

- 7.3 million visitors (2.2% increase)

- an average spend of $331 per night (18.8% increase)

- an average total spend per visitor of $992 (11.6% increase)

- 2.3 million holiday visitors (3.4% increase)

- 1.8 million business visitors (14.4% increase).

4. IVS results for 2023 indicate that Brisbane experienced:

- 1.2 million international visitors

- 24.9 million total nights spent in Brisbane

- $2.9 billion spent in overnight visitation

- an average of 21.6 nights per visitor

- an average spend of $118 per night

- an average $2,536 spent per visitor

- a record number of visitors from India, Canada and Thailand.

These results, when compared with data from 2019, suggest that Brisbane’s tourism sector is showing strong recovery since the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. BEDA supports tourism in Brisbane through various programs. The Best of Brisbane Region Experiences Support Program (the BoBRE program) supports businesses aspiring to achieve a place in Tourism and Events Queensland’s Best of Queensland Experiences Program (BOQE). Over the past three years, 97 businesses have completed the BoBRE program, including 24 in the 2023-24 financial year. Brisbane has the highest number of BOQE in Queensland, representing 42% of tourism businesses.

6. Similarly, the Brisbane Welcomes You program (the BWY program) was developed to build Brisbane’s reputation as a world leading tourism destination by upskilling local businesses and volunteers. The pilot phase of the BWY program involved 300 attendees participating in face‑to-face workshops, with an additional 700 participants completing online learning modules. In June 2024, the BWY program will be expanded to host 10 workshops with an anticipated 1,000 participants.

7. The Brisbane Concierge Program (the concierge program) is an educational program designed to equip hotel concierges with information about local tourism operators, businesses and experiences.

- In the previous financial year, the concierge program delivered two events to more than 40 hotel concierges and 32 tourism operators.

- In the current financial year, the concierge program has delivered two events to more than 80 hotel concierges and 20 tourism operators.

8. Along with these programs, BEDA supports tourism in Brisbane through its’ marketing campaigns. BEDA’s latest domestic campaign, ‘Brisbane Favours the Bold’ promotes Brisbane as a leisure destination. BEDA has also launched MoreTix, an initiative that invites ticket purchasers to explore what Brisbane has to offer, including additional events, accommodation, dining and unique experiences around the time of their visit.

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

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor PARRY, Transport Committee.

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Danita PARRY, Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Julia DIXON, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor PARRY.

Councillor PARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Last week the Transport Committee received an update on our Brisbane Metro infrastructure progress. With services due to commence in December, we’re starting to complete works at our construction sites across the city. We’ve finished works at UQ Lakes and two of three platforms at the Cultural Centre station have been upgraded and reopened. Major construction on the project only began in 2021, Madam Chair, so it will be a great achievement to see major works wrap up at the end of the year.

Of course that is the true benefit of Brisbane Metro, it is a project that can be delivered in a much shorter timeframe than light rail or heavy rail and it can be done at a fraction of the cost. That also makes it easier for us to roll out new extensions of Brisbane Metro in the future too, I know you and I are both looking forward to that, Madam Chair. Councillor MURPHY was lucky enough to show off Brisbane Metro to the South East Queensland Council of Mayors last week and they loved it. Many of those mayors are already thinking about how they might be able to adopt the Brisbane Metro model for their own residents. That’s because with Brisbane Metro we can provide tangible improvements to the bus network to cater for future growth, while also providing the extra capacity we need right now.

Now, Chair, earlier during Question Time, Councillor COLLIER raised the topic of the number of Metro vehicles that have been ordered by this Council. As I recall, she asked if I was aware that Council had offered 24 additional vehicles—sorry, 24 more vehicles than would actually be required to operate the service. As I said at the time, I wasn’t aware. It would be remiss of me as Acting Chair if I didn’t look into this further. This is an opportunity for me to learn and to get better in this role and I certainly thank Councillor COLLIER for that opportunity. I have done some research across the afternoon and this is what I found, it was quite interesting.

Our initial order with HESS was for 60 Metro vehicles and it is true that not all 60 Metro vehicles will be on the road at the same time. Indeed, our bus fleet has almost 1,300 buses but they’re not all on the road at the same time. We do have to allow for contingencies for spares, for maintenance and as I’m sure Councillor COLLIER understands, so it would be a little bit concerning to think we only ordered just enough vehicles to operate the service. Imagine the strife we would be in if say we only ordered just enough, it wouldn’t be a very bright move. More importantly, we’ve ordered the right number of vehicles to run Brisbane Metro at three-minute frequencies. That is a true turn-up-and-go service, Madam Chair.

These vehicles aren’t extra, to be clear they are actually necessary for us to be able to increase the frequency from five minutes to three minutes. That’s a true turn‑up‑and‑go service. Now we saw during the election campaign that Labor wanted to cut any proposed extensions to the Brisbane Metro. This includes progressing the expansion to the northside of Brisbane, which would be a huge disappointment to myself, I’m assuming you, through you, Madam Chair, and others in this place. Now they’re claiming we have too many vehicles, so I do wonder if that means that also that they don’t support cutting the frequency of the Brisbane Metro. Is three minutes too short, through you, Madam Chair? I do have to wonder why Labor hates the Brisbane Metro.

But you know it’s interesting, Chair, because the other thing I learned this afternoon is that this isn’t the first time that we’ve heard this claim about the extra vehicles. In fact, this exact claim was made—about the extra 24 vehicles—was made before and it was made last week by the Transport Minister Mellish in a letter to Councillor MURPHY. It is really good to know that Councillor COLLIER is in touch with Minister Mellish. I just wish that instead of the gotchas that maybe she would back Brisbane buses instead. I’m new to this, I hadn’t seen this letter before, but I have now and it’s good reading. Minister Mellish makes a number of very interesting claims, but I do wonder, Chair, if she’s read Councillor MURPHY’s reply. It would be a little bit embarrassing to think Minister Mellish’s office had provided those opposite with the letter without providing Councillor MURPHY’s reply.

I also note that Minister Mellish’s letter did say commercial-in-confidence. That’s why I didn’t know about it, so I’m sure the Minister’s office wouldn’t breach confidentiality by providing that letter to Councillor COLLIER. I’m sure Councillor COLLIER wouldn’t want to breach the Minister’s confidence by raising it here in this Chamber, but I have been proven wrong before and I’m sure I will be again. So regardless, now it’s on the public record let’s talk about it, hey and I’m more than happy to fill in the Chamber on a few things that I learned across this afternoon. Because I think it’s important that as members of this place, who I’m sure we all back public transport in this city, we are provided with the facts.

In addition to the inaccurate claims about the number of Metro vehicles in the fleet, there were other, bizarre, allegations that the air conditioning is faulty on the vehicles. No, that’s wrong. I’m pleased to report that the air conditioning system is working really well, Chair. In fact, our Metro vehicles have enough air conditioning power to cool several residential homes. I’m told that Minister Mellish still hasn’t been on board a Brisbane Metro vehicle yet, despite numerous invitations, so perhaps it’s time he got on board, he could wear a scarf and he could test out the air conditioning for himself.

There was also a suggestion that Council doesn’t consult the State when introducing new services. Again, this is wrong. We operate the bus network under a contract with the State Government. It’s impossible for us to introduce services without their approval. For the last few years, during the bus network review process, we have gone as far as paying for a Translink network planner to be embedded in Transport for Brisbane. That means we have a State Government employee and expert in Brisbane Square, working with Brisbane City Council staff. I’m not sure what else we could do to demonstrate our commitment to collaborating with the State on delivering better bus services for Brisbane, Madam Chair.

This Schrinner Council has a plan for public transport across the city. We have a plan that would see Brisbane Metro services introduced from December, along with a whole range of new bus services. But I want to reiterate that unless the State Government comes to the table and we can agree on a new bus contract, Brisbane Metro services can’t commence. This is not Council’s requirement; this is a requirement placed on us by the State Government. I’d hate to think, Chair, that Council would work hard to deliver a new depot, upgrade the stations, flash chargers, a tunnel and a whole new fleet of the right number of vehicles and for the Miles State Labor Government to block us at the last hurdle.

We all know the State election’s fast approaching in October and that means from August the State Government will be in caretaker period. So, if Brisbane Metro services are to begin in December as planned, we urgently need a new agreement. We want nothing more than to work with the State Government to jointly deliver what would be the biggest boost in Brisbane bus services in more than a decade. It’s time for the State Government to come on board, genuinely partner with us to deliver for the residents of Brisbane. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I may just speak briefly on item A. Just look, I think there’s a few things that the Acting Chair left out and I think they should be on the record about the Metro. Now I have been in this Chamber for quite a few years and I was here when the Metro was first presented to us and I did not vote for it. I’m actually quite pleased that I didn’t vote for it, because it’s been an absolute debacle from day one. Do I support better bus services in Brisbane? Completely I do, without question. Before someone tries to paint me as I don’t support bus services in Brisbane, I do, and I want more bus services in Brisbane.

But the problem with the Brisbane Metro and the infrastructure update presented before us today is that all of this is behind schedule to start with. This project is probably, I’d say, two years behind schedule. Let’s remember how it started, of course, it started as being a Paris-style light rail project, that’s how it started. Then when that couldn’t be delivered it moved to—well it even started before that, because I think the first iteration of it before that was the bus and train tunnel. Originally this LNP Administration under Councillor SCHRINNER’s leadership as—I don’t know if he was Active Transport or Transport Chair at the time, but he was involved, or Finance Chair.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Can I ask your ruling on the relevance? I understand this is an infrastructure update, not a history update.

Chair: Thank you.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Just the relevance to the Committee before us.

Chair: Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, can you please stay to what the report was specifically about? There’s a lot on Metro, I know, but let’s just focus on the report please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Sure, sure and you know, I’d just point out that this project, the Metro, started as a bus and train tunnel, that this is what this project—Council wanted. Then it turned into a light rail project, that didn’t work either. Then Council settled on this—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I’ve just made—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Metro, yes.

Chair: I’ve asked you to come back to relevance, that’s the second time please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes.

Chair: We don’t need you to go on about the vehicles, just please stick to the report and the update that was provided in the Committee please. Thank you.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: I guess buses aren’t infrastructure, so that’s good to know. I’m very happy about that and reference to all these Metro depots that house the buses, it’s not relevant to that of course either. But the point I’m trying to make here is the good Councillor who stood up and read out the information she was given has managed to forget that this project is massively over budget. This project is massively behind time. This project has had multiple scope changes, many—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, many of which have been because of the mismanagement of the LNP Administration. For example, the tunnel that was to fix one of the biggest problems, which was from the busway underneath Melbourne Street, to avoid the terrible corner, the lights and the pedestrians, that got canned as part of this project because the LNP Administration went ahead and let contracts to builders for work that cost this city millions of dollars—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —that it had no approval to do.

Chair: This is the third time that I’m asking you to come back to the report please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, and I’m speaking—

Chair: I have cautioned you that I may have to warn you. That’s the third time I’ve asked you to come back to relevance please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, and I’m speaking to, in case it’s unclear, platforms 1 and 2 of the Cultural Centre and also completion of the cultural centre precinct, which is expected in late June 2024. So, I know you’re a northside Councillor, Madam Chairman, but I’m a southside Councillor and I understand that that’s what that means. When you’re talking about the Cultural Centre precinct being completed, that’s where the problems have happened. That is where the infrastructure does not meet the needs of the city and that’s where the problem has not actually been fixed. We also know that as part of the design for this project, Council put the termination for the UQ link over the Goodwill Bridge—Goodwill? No, Eleanor Schonell Bridge, I’m sorry—on the university side of the bridge. But then the university refused to have the servicing infrastructure and the electrical infrastructure to charge the buses.

So of course those have been put in parkland, requiring a house-sized block of trees to be knocked down, to build a giant battery which now has cables strung across the Eleanor Schonell Bridge, which extend the extreme end of the efficiency of the transmission of the electricity that is going to be stored. These are the types of stuff-ups that have happened in the Metro project. We hear from the Deputy Chair that there’s going to be more buses. That’s great, that’s wonderful, I guess that’s why they want an extension of this to other parts of Brisbane.

But I don’t think she’s seen the financial state of this city and I’m really interested in where the Council might find another $2 billion to build a busway there. But what I will say, just to wrap up here, the reason the Metro project has gone so badly is because it was not properly scoped by the LNP. It was not properly designed by the LNP. The LNP went ahead without the approvals of the landowners, in this case the State Government. Now I don’t know anybody who goes and builds on someone else’s land and then goes oh, you’re terrible for not letting me build on your land. I mean generally you’ve got to seek permission before doing that, that’s just—you know, I mean that’s a common sense type thing, I would have thought, but no.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, come back to the relevance of the report please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, I’m talking about the infrastructure—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —at the Cultural Centre.

Chair: Thank you. Let’s just stick to the report please.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I definitely am talking about the Metro.

Chair: I’ve asked you three times.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I think it’s four now, but you know. I don’t know, I don’t think anybody would think I’m not talking about the Metro here.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: No.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I consider that you are displaying unsuitable meeting conduct—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Of course I am, of course I am.

Chair: —and I will—

Councillor MASSEY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: —formally warn you if you continue not to stick to the relevance.

Councillor MASSEY: Point of order, Chair. Just I’d love a clarification—

Chair: Point of order, Councillor MASSEY. Councillor MASSEY, what’s your point of order?

Councillor MASSEY: My point of order, I’d just like a clarification. If I was to be talking about—because now I do plan on standing up to speak about it—if I was to talk about the land in South Brisbane that was—

Chair: Councillor, what is your point of order?

Councillor MASSEY: —owned by State Government, would that be not speaking to the infrastructure, because South Brisbane and the delivery of infrastructure is there?

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, if you’ve read the report or been in the Committee, it is to talk about that. We’re not taking a whole broad talk about Metro, so no, I do not uphold your point of order.

Councillor MASSEY: But it’s talking about South Brisbane and infrastructure.

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, twice, I do not uphold your point of order.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you’re finished?

Councillor JOHNSTON: No, I’ve definitely not finished.

Chair: Continue.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s just very helpful when there’s a report about the Brisbane Metro and I’m not allowed to speak about the Brisbane Metro. I just—yes, I’ll keep going because—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —you know, just adds to my case, I guess. So, I think that the problems of course that have arisen are ones of the making of the LNP here. The LNP of course want to blame everybody else for the problems with the delivery of the infrastructure associated with the Metro, but the people who have managed to stuff this project up, to wreck the budget, to not deliver it, are the LNP Administration. I think that when you look at things that they are proud of, for example, the UQ Lakes station, it is astonishing to me that as part of this project the charging infrastructure required to support it are not co-located with the bus station.

Instead, a valuable greenspace on the southside of Brisbane, which is on the border of The Gabba Ward and Tennyson Ward, has been reduced and that is a bad outcome, which Council describes here as an important outcome, or an important component of Council’s infrastructure strategy. What would have been, in my view, an important component of Council’s infrastructure strategy would be to co‑locate the power source with the end of the station use.

Now the other thing that I do want to talk about just very briefly is the fact that this world-class busway that Councillor PARRY is referring to fails to provide a direct southside connection from the outer southern suburbs to the University of Queensland. You actually have to go in and then come back out to get to the UQ Lakes station, because there is no connection between the busway and the Eleanor Schonell Bridge, so that’s a major design flaw in this.

We also know that the vast majority of the infrastructure for the Metro is not new. Council is retrofitting a couple of stations by extending the length of the platforms. They’re building a tunnel under City Hall as we speak, which was never included in the scope of the plans. That’s actually one of those scoped up things that’s cost Council and the ratepayers of Brisbane millions if not hundreds—it was hundreds of millions of dollars more and it was never part of the original scope of this project. Council has completely stuffed up the Brisbane Metro and every single resident—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —should be scared that they want more.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I’ll rise to speak briefly because I do want to put some things on the public record. Again, I’ll reiterate by beginning that I love public transport. Before anyone says that we don’t want improvements to the public transport network, we know Brisbane has one of the lowest uptakes of public transport and we know that we have to increase frequency, routes, et cetera. The Metro occurred before I was a Councillor, but I do have some hot takes. The first thing that I’d like to talk about is the infrastructure.

When we talk about the infrastructure review, the inner-city north, South Brisbane, suburban station upgrades, Metro depot, one thing that is definitely missing from South Brisbane on State land is The Gabba station, which was actually supposed to be a part of the Metro works. That has been a reduction of scope. I think right now there is a conversation about the delivery of The Gabba station to happen in the Local government infrastructure plan (LGIP), maybe from memory I want to say delivery before 2031 and that’s coming from memory. That was a part of the scope but obviously that’s been moved for later, you know, somewhere. What’s the term? Sensible savings.

The other thing that I’ll also add here is that while the works have been happening in South Brisbane, it has been a dog’s breakfast for pedestrians. Many of my residents have spoken to me about how challenging navigating that space has been and so the delays have actually really affected a lot of those residents. But as an important transport hub it’s affected a lot of people. With that being said, that’s why I kind of welcome that we might be getting there and we should hopefully get there with the Metro, because it was a dog’s breakfast and it was very challenging for a lot of residents that use that place for commuting.

Some other things that I’ll talk about is while infrastructure upgrades were being made there were also challenges for me as the local Councillor in relation to a series of leopard trees and the protection of leopard trees in that area that might have been getting—for the placing of temporary infrastructure while the station itself wasn’t finished. I’ll go to also the importance of infrastructure—well parks really, Dutton Park. Dutton Park on the borders, through you, Chair, as Councillor JOHNSTON was talking about, is hosting the chargers for the Metro charging station, the rapid-charging station, which is I want to say over a kilometre away.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: About a kilometre away. This of course isn’t a great result for the residents of Dutton Park or the people around it that use it as an important green space. That greenspace has now been reduced. The offset unclear when delivery will be made to ensure that Dutton Park has embellishments that are—increases the amenity for that park. So, while we all—I think everyone kind of wants to see the Metro finally arrive, it hasn’t been a perfect—it hasn’t been a perfect journey or timeline. So, while it is appreciated that there is an update, let us not forget that there have been challenges along the way with the Metro.

You know, where the budget is we will see, to be foreseen in the future, but I know for residents in The Gabba it has been challenging, because it has affected them majorly. With that being said, I am looking forward to the delivery of new bikeways that should go down Melbourne Street and off to Grey. That’s the infrastructure that we’re also delivering. When we’re creating these projects, we should be delivering active transport projects also. I think I’ll just stop there, I just thought it was needed to talk about a couple of things, because it hasn’t been perfect, even in my short time here in Chambers and I want to get that on the record. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor PARRY?

We’ll now put the motion 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 and Julia Dixon.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillors Ryan Murphy (Civic Cabinet Chair) and Emily Kim.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BRISBANE METRO INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

**589/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, Major Projects, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on Brisbane Metro infrastructure. He provided the information below.

2. The Committee was provided with an overview of the following key Brisbane Metro infrastructure updates.

- Ongoing excavation of the binocular section of Adelaide Street tunnel has reached 90% completion.

- Adelaide Street surface works (Stage 2 between George and Albert Streets) has commenced with completion anticipated in late 2024. Works include footpath and bus stop upgrades, and new landscaping, street furniture and lighting.

- Completion of works at King George Square station is expected in mid-2024.

- Platforms 1 and 2 of the Cultural Centre station reopened on 22 April 2024 and are now operational, with works on Platform 3 expected to be completed by September 2024.

- Completion of the Cultural Centre precinct is expected in late 2024.

- New platforms at UQ Lakes station opened on 15 April 2024.

- Completion of the Buranda busway station is anticipated in late 2024.

- Expected practical completion of the Metro depot in mid-2024.

3. An important component of Council’s infrastructure strategy is the utilisation of Brisbane’s world-class busway, which is key to delivering more reliable, frequent and high-capacity services from the suburbs to the city. As part of Brisbane Metro, works to upgrade key stations along the busway include:

- increasing capacity at the Cultural Centre station

- upgrading UQ Lakes station to both increase station capacity and provide end of route charging infrastructure for the electric metro fleet

- extending inbound and outbound platforms at Buranda busway station, widening the busway tunnel under O’Keefe Street, hard landscaping works in the plaza and service utility relocation.

The Committee was shown an artistic video of the Cultural Centre station.

4. Finishing works for the Metro depot are also underway, with the commission of slow and fast charging areas completed and the following works continuing:

- testing and commissioning for the Metro depot administration building is underway, including the installation of external screens and soft landscaping

- bus wash plant room fit-out, testing and commissioning occurring in April 2024

- School Road footpath and road furniture install

- landscaping along the School Road verge and within the depot site.

5. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Deputy Chair thanked the General Manager for his informative presentation.

6. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor WINES, 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 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Thanks, Madam Chair. Just on a couple of notes, it’s interesting Councillor PARRY made some—made mention of some correspondence from Minister Mellish that was in the receipt of this organisation that appeared to be in receipt of the Labor Party Councillors before it was in our hands, which is a fascinating revelation. Something I’ve also learned is that Minister Mellish appears to have provided the Labor Councillors with a lot of information around his department’s work on the Banyo open level crossing, on the Banyo level crossing, weeks if not months before it was provided to us.

In fact, there is a suggestion that that information from Minister Mellish was provided to Labor Councillors in advance of the election to allow them to shape and form commitments against Councillor ALLAN. I received a letter from Mr Mellish that we’ll be responding to very soon dated 22 March, that spoke to a $30 million commitment—excuse me, a $40 million project requiring $30 million from Council, which is a remarkably similar figure to the $30 million the Labor Party committed to that crossing. Almost as if they knew that letter was coming, almost as if they knew that letter existed before we did.

What the really striking thing is—and I suppose the part that we have to reflect on is that Mr Mellish is giving Councillor CASSIDY and Councillor COLLIER a lead, a heads-up and they are just butchering it at every turn. Why would—the Minister’s going to stop providing them these opportunities if they can’t actually keep them properly. I really strongly advise them that they take that Minister’s lead and just try a bit harder to try and make the point they’re trying to make. Because their proposal for Northgate is less than what we had originally offered, as we know we have a standing offer of $40 million. Theirs was again much smaller than that.

They seem to have a limited, yet precise understanding of criticisms made potentially of the Metro system, ones that are not accurate but would be accurate if you were trying to be hypercritical of that particular project. Ignoring the fact that the wish is for these things to be properly maintained, as you would, and for the Metro vehicle to be able to be serviced or—excuse me, able to provide a service through particularly the outer southern suburbs into the city at three to five‑minute intervals. It’s an interesting reflection, I trust though that Minister Mellish is of a higher integrity than to provide Labor Councillors information in advance that he provides us those things. I mean that would of course be a breach of his oaths and I’m sure that he wouldn’t, I’m sure he wouldn’t and it is a shame on me for even considering it.

In response to some earlier questions and some earlier comments from the LORD MAYOR that I would respond to the Kadumba Street, Yeronga matter discussed earlier. In August 2023, the Kadumba Street, Kingsley Street project was discussed and agreed upon in detail and consultation planning phases outlined, including with Councillor JOHNSTON. On 16 January 2024, we finalised the engagement pack and by early March 2024 it was distributed to the community, including to the office of Councillor JOHNSTON. In April 2024, Councillor JOHNSTON was emailed the final project plans, which include the relocation of a light pole and installation of a new footpath. I’ll just say that again, just in case people missed it. Relocation of the light pole and installation of a new footpath.

At last week’s Committee I confirmed that we would be completing this project this financial year. Councillor JOHNSTON raised the matter of the project in the Infrastructure Committee last week and in particular—and again this morning on the installation of a streetlight in the Committee. A temporary path has been installed to assist people walking to navigate around the works, that can be seen in the images that Councillor JOHNSTON has provided to the—somehow Councillor JOHNSTON’s image has arrived in the hands of the media, we can see that grey stone and a range of other matters—a range of other materials have been used to form a disabled path around the light.

You can also see in that image that there is no concrete around the base of the light, clearly indicating that the footpath and the light are separate and that the footpath will go around the light, as indicated in the April 2024 plan. The light must go in that location to meet safety standards for the safe pedestrian crossing points at this location. A permanent footpath adjacent to the new light pole will be constructed as part of this project.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Councillor WINES: That footpath—

Chair: One moment, Councillor WINES.

What’s your point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: I note your claim of misrepresentation.

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: That footpath will be 1.2 metres wide and will tie into the existing footpaths on Kadumba. The new footpath will be considered for accessibility for all users and will maintain a gentle deviation around the light pole for people to navigate. Also, in response to enquiries made by email yesterday, we’ve had officers onsite to ensure that proper DDA access around the works is available. That occurred today, there’ll be, I understand, more works tomorrow. It’s all part of our—and I think the important thing to reflect on this is that we provide all Councillors a great deal of material when we go—when we build minor projects like that. So local area network improvement, which this project is, is minor works that we do sort of six, eight, 10, sometimes 12 a year.

They are—they will often encounter electrical—subservice electrical issues, or line of sight issues or the need to light the pedestrian crossing for improved, increased safety. That is a normal and natural thing. So, I just will take a moment just to reflect on this. This is a very normal project. When we require superior lighting for pedestrian crossings, which we do, or should I say pedestrian refuges across significant roads, which Kadumba is, a significant feeder road for that Yeronga West community, it—to provide that proper lighting we have to tap the light into the appropriate power source. Sometimes as a result of that we have to build a footpath around the light. While we’re in construction, sometimes there are teething issues that occur with a construction site. That is again a normal part of upgrading and improving facilities. So, I trust that that answer will be to the satisfaction of that particular Councillor.

All right, with the presentation last week, we had a presentation on SAMs for schools and in the interests of time I provided much of the information in the question without notice that was provided in the earlier parts of this meeting. But I thought I might take a moment just to reflect. As we said, we change up the signs seasonally to maintain interest. Here’s SAM with a Santa hat, bunny SAM, Christmas tree SAM, and his good friend pumpkin SAM. All key SAMs in the SAMs for schools SAMs system.

There was an interesting question in the Committee about whether we have changed the signs and now as hopefully Councillors would know, that over many years we have been buying SAM signs and we buy them in sort of tranches. We try that each one is better than the one before, so the LED signs for the tree uses this sort of portrait style, which allows for sharper and better images. That’s actually a superior one there, it looks like Hawthorne Garage there with Councillor COLLIER. I will table those for—even though I’m sure everyone’s seen them. I look forward to contributions on the matter of the SAMs and I recommend the report to Council.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, misrepresentation.

Chair: Your point of misrepresentation.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. Councillor WINES has misrepresented my earlier speech. I tabled the map showing that the proposed light was adjacent to the kerb, not in the middle of the footpath. His claims that I was advised about this are untrue and I tabled the plan that was provided to me in the construction plans, not in the consultation plans.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you, Chair. I briefly wanted just to rise and speak in regard to the SAM signs. I think most of all my schools actually—I have 13 schools and I think all of them actually have SAM signs now. It’s an important part of trying to make that area around schools as safe as possible. As we all know, there is—at peak times, whether it’s drop-off or pick-up, schools are really heavily impacted on parents coming to drop-off or pick-up their kids, so it’s important that we do everything we can to try to maximise safety around our schools. I was coming in down Clipper Street this morning on the way to this illustrious gathering here.

I noticed that one of those LED warning signs, which was installed by Council some years ago in Clipper Street, had been—had had a tree grow over the whole sign itself down about a metre. We have put a job in for that to be rectified but that was weeks and weeks and weeks ago. So yes, we do great work with SAMs, we do great work with those LED warning signs, but we also have to follow up on maintenance to make sure that they actually are working properly and visible to the driver. Because not having that, especially along Clipper Street at the moment, not having that visible is a terrible waste of resources that this Council spent some years ago in installing those warning signs. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: Can I thank the Councillors who contributed to the debate today. In particular, can I just respond to Councillor STRUNK. I will—I appreciate his contribution and his support for the SAMs program. One of the reasons that we often are forced to locate SAMs in particular locations is to actually get them away from trees, because for a number of reasons they do block the visibility of the device. But also, many of them, if not all of them, are solar powered and would require clear line of sight for the solar panel to the sun to maintain their ongoing power. I will seek further assurances that the matter that Councillor STRUNK raised in relation to that particular one, I believe on Clipper Street, we’ll see what we can do to sort that one out for him. Thanks to all Councillors.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

We’ll now put the Committee report to the vote.

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 – SAMS FOR SCHOOLS

**590/2023-24**

1. The Program Director, Program Management, Transport Planning and Operations, attended the meeting to provide an update on the SAMs (Speed Awareness Monitors) for Schools program. She provided the information below.

2. Council’s SAMs for Schools program (the program) supports the commitment to making Brisbane’s suburban streets safer by permanently installing SAMs near schools. It aims to promote safety through increased driver awareness of speed limits in school zones and provides a visual reminder to slow down when driving over the speed limit. The program has achieved 100 permanent SAMs installed in the vicinity of a school since the program’s launch in 2020. The 100th SAM was installed at Centenary State High School, Jindalee, in March 2024.

3. The SAMs contain LEDs with a doppler radar which detects vehicle speeds on approach. The SAM displays a smiley face when the approaching vehicle is travelling at or below the speed limit. If the vehicle is up to 9 km/h above the speed limit, the posted speed limit is displayed with a ‘slow down’ message. If the vehicle is 10 km/h or more above the speed limit, a static ‘slow down’ message is displayed.

4. Since the implementation of SAMs across Brisbane, there has been an average speed reduction of 8km/h for vehicles that were initially exceeding the speed limit on the approach to the monitors, and a 30% reduction of vehicles traveling over the speed limit during school zone times.

5. The SAMs have a small, concrete foundation which is built below ground on Council land and allows the footing lid to sit flush with ground level. Once Council removes a monitor, the lid remains which enables the site to be reused. The SAMs feature a colour-LED display panel with a solar panel and battery pack, speed detection radar and mobile network connectivity.

6. SAMs are able to display themed graphics for occasions including:

- Ekka

- Christmas

- Easter

- Valentines Day

- Halloween

- State of Origin.

7. With SAMs installed across all 26 Council wards, the program facilitates ongoing monitoring of sign effectiveness and data capture for use in the consideration of future Council initiatives.

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

9. **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 Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. I wanted to touch upon a couple of items before moving to the report. Just last week the Planning Institute of Australia’s National Awards for Planning Excellence 2024 were held in Melbourne. Brisbane City Council had a win in that particular awards and we were successful in the Improving Planning Processes category for the Brisbane Green Factor. This award recognises the significant improvement in planning process or major planning reform which leads to good planning outcomes undertaken by a planner, planning authority, so a local government and development entities.

The Brisbane Green Factor tool has been developed by Council to improve green urban outcomes and help Brisbane achieve its goal of being a well-designed subtropical city. Brisbane Green Factor is an innovative web-based green rating tool, helping lead and guide urban development to look through lush green and subtropical outcomes. So well done to the Design Brisbane team in City Planning and Economic Development for this recognition.

In the E&C debate earlier, Councillor JOHNSTON questioned the merits of Council offering incentives to the building and development industry to get more housing on the ground. Clearly, it’s a challenge in this city and it’s worth bearing in mind that the private sector contributes 96% of housing in this city. So obviously to incentivise them and support them in providing housing is important. Interesting, last Friday, the State Government announced a $350 million fund to provide incentives to this particular industry, so it’s not just Council who sees the merits in this, it’s also the State Government.

Now returning to the Committee report, last week the presentation was on the community consultation element of the draft Nathan, Salisbury, Moorooka Neighbourhood Plan. The process for this neighbourhood plan commenced in 2019. Since that time, Council has undertaken a range of activities, including preparing a draft strategy to support the preparation of the draft plan. The next step in the statutory process is undertaking formal community consultation and this was the focus of the presentation, specifically on the consultation activities. Council has sent direct mail, including letters and emails, to all owners, including those who may be owners but not occupiers.

A range of promotional materials has been prepared, including signage, posters, and flyers. These have been circulated across the plan area as well as on social media. Council officers will engage with the community through Talk to a Planner sessions and two dedicated information sessions. A range of web materials have been prepared, including fact sheets, maps, artist impressions of potential outcomes, and our StoryMap tool. The StoryMap tool is an interactive map that Council uses to help residents and others search and understand the proposed changes. Although this tool was used during the Bridgeman Downs Neighbourhood Plan consultation, it has been refined and expanded for the Nathan, Salisbury, Moorooka Neighbourhood Plan.

There are separate maps for the precincts, zones, building heights, and character streets, whereby residents can slide the tool across and show the proposed changes under the draft plan. Residents and the community can also type in an individual address or street name and view the changes from that perspective. We have received some early feedback from residents and they have advised that the tool makes it easier for them to understand what is changing when discussing their concerns with an officer. Finally, consultation is open until 16 June 2024. Residents and the community are encouraged to submit on proposals they do support, as well as those proposals they don’t support and submissions can be made via email, letter or City Plan online. Madam Chair, I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, thanks, Madam Chair. This plan has taken a lot of work and certainly a lot of my time over the last five years and a lot of the community’s time too. I really appreciate the contribution that the community has made in terms of this plan. The community has actually for any city plan or any neighbourhood plan that’s gone out—this plan has had the most community involvement of any plan across our city, I understand. There are a number of points I want to speak to about this plan. The first one is I was briefed on this—I received a briefing on this the Friday before it went out to the community, which was one day before, one business day before it went out to the community. I was also not given material about this plan until day three that it had been online, which I was disappointed about.

Further, I wasn’t given any material at that briefing, so I had to have the officers sit on the other side of me and say no, we can’t leave you with any of this material, Councillor. Which would indicate that there’s not a lot of transparency about what’s going on here, to me anyway. Now there are a lot of—there’s a lot of details online that Councillor ADAMS did say—Councillor ALLAN did say, but—did I get that right? Adam ALLAN, yes—that Councillor did say. My concern is that a lot of people can’t access that material. They do want to have a public meeting, so they do want to have an opportunity to speak to Council as a group, so that they can share their thoughts as a group. We know that the Administration doesn’t like public meetings, in fact they call them—what do they call them? Lynch mobs, that’s the term for a public meeting in this place.

My concern is there are 39 character homes gone, originally it was going to be 200 character homes. We can certainly see that 39 are going, some of those should go when the officers went through and explained those to me. Some of them, I believe, should be retained and the ones that should be retained are the ones that we have a definition now that if it doesn’t meet streetscape, so if you’ve got two new dwellings either side of a building, then it’s not worth saving.

I would question that and say yes, a character home is worth saving, particularly if it has been well looked after, if there are other alternatives then yes, I do think it should be saved under our planning laws. We talk about it in the abstract, like we talk about well that’s the law, but we’re responsible for that law. You’re responsible for that law, the majority of Councillors in this Chamber are responsible for that law. So, it’s not abstract, it’s something we control and something I believe we should be providing more scrutiny to and we should be protecting those homes.

I suppose there are two issues in particular I want to speak to in relation to the neighbourhood plan. I have been working with Save Our Suburbs, there are five groups there that came together. Fantastic little group, had a meeting with them—have been meeting with them for the last few weeks. They’re doing a really good job, they’re putting out information about this plan. There’s also the War Workers Home Group and I’ve also been working with them and in particular Brian from that group, about taking heritage protection off their properties and returning it to character protection.

Let me just go through the main points for this plan and the main points I think residents need to know. The big point here is that there’s going to be 17,500 additional people using Moorooka, Salisbury, and Nathan into the future, 17,500 people. Five thousand of those are expected to be residents and 12,500 are expected to be employees. That’s going to mean more traffic, more people around the area, more demand for services, more demand for infrastructure. What this plan doesn’t deliver on is infrastructure. There are no new parks in high density areas. There’s no dog park, there’s no playgrounds, there’s no walkways, there’s no library. There’s no new social spaces, there’s no new green spaces along Moolabin Creek.

There is no overpass from one side of high density on the Magic Mile to the railway station, there’s Moorooka railway station. There is no overpass across the six or eight lanes of traffic that we’re building there. There are no sport and recreation facilities. There is no fix for the flooded roads in Nathan or in Lucy Street, where the area often floods because of Moolabin Creek. There are no extra parks or facilities in Salisbury and there are no extra parks in Nathan, in an area that we’re up-zoning as well. That is vital, so to put the extra people in, to put that extra 17,500 people in, we need infrastructure. We need, like other parts of the city, for developers to pay for infrastructure to be delivered.

It is no good putting all these people in and saying oh, sorry, we just didn’t plan for a park, we didn’t plan for a playground for your kids who are stuck in a unit. That is absurd, that is absurd and that’s what the Administration now needs to answer. because yes, the density’s there, yes, we’ve got the people coming to live there and it’s going to be—let’s be truthful about it—it’s going to be affordable accommodation coming there. It is wedged along a major road, which is quite an ugly road. On the other side are railway yards hosting the new Cross River Rail railway yards. On the other side of that is industrial land. You’re not going to be seeing $1 million units in this part of the city. You’re going to be seeing affordable entry units in this part of the city.

That’s why I’m saying and that’s why I’m saying to residents we need to tell Council we need infrastructure. We need infrastructure to go for—go with all these new workers and to go with all these new people coming to live in our community. I don’t think that’s too much to ask, I don’t think that’s too much to ask of developers who are going to make money out of this. Yes, we need more density in terms of housing, I’m supportive of that. Yes, we need more jobs. Moorooka is a great—Salisbury—Moorooka, Salisbury and Nathan are great places to create employment, we need that, but we need the infrastructure to match it.

In relation to the War Workers homes, we had the issue where there are I think approximately 160 War Workers homes, where they went from character protection to heritage protection. Heritage protection then took away not just the outside of the building, but actually encompassed the inside of the buildings. These buildings are little fibro shacks built after World War II, where the war workers lived. People are happy with them being protected as character but not as heritage. I support that, the Chamber supports that. To get this off, residents know that they need to get 51% support of the owners affected. There was one vote per property. The difficulty, or the concern with this that residents are having is that they don’t just get a vote yes or no, they actually have to put a reason in.

Of course I’m working with this group, we’re trying to find out the right reason you need to put in. We don’t want to put crazy reasons in, although you might feel like writing it. You want to actually know what will get that tick over the line. When I’ve rung Council officers and asked for advice on that I’m told oh, Councillor, we can’t tell you that. Mystery, a great mystery, we’re setting residents up for this great mystery, which I think is absurd. So, we need some advice about what is the right reason residents need to put there, because at the moment residents sort of feel like it’s a bit tricky, a bit sneaky, Council trying to trick them again. What I would say to the Administration is please give us some indication of what you need in the reason for this to work. We need infrastructure and we need a logical reason for us to know so that residents can get past the 51% mark. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. I rise to speak briefly on the draft Nathan, Salisbury, Moorooka Neighbourhood Plan. I know this is an issue Councillor GRIFFITHS has been working for on many years, and I know this is an issue that’s been brought to this Chamber on many occasions because the LNP have attempted to dictate planning outcomes without listening to the community, and I think that’s been very disappointing. I have discussed this plan with Councillor GRIFFITHS, because the plan itself goes right up to touch on the southern part of Tennyson Ward. But more importantly, the purpose of the plan, as the LNP have outlined—and these are the themes, I guess, that they’re trying to deliver, and there are four of them, and there are two that I particularly want to raise. One is, quote, local industries and employment, and another is connecting places and spaces. Now, the plan is expected to see an additional 17,500 people either living or working in Moorooka Ward. Now, the number of people who’ll be needed to service that increase in both employment and density is going to be even higher than that again.

The big issue with this is the purpose of the plan itself, as it outlines on page two for the Chairperson, in case she’s thinking I’m going off-piste, is that there is support for industrial and commercial renewal, particularly along Ipswich Road. Now, Ipswich Road is consistently one of the most dangerous in Brisbane, behind Gympie Road, usually Mains Road, but then Ipswich Road is right up there in the RACQ’s top five pretty much every year. Council had to be dragged kicking and screaming to a minor speed reduction, but what they have not done is to improve the infrastructure needed to support additional traffic volumes along Ipswich Road. So, we already know that Ipswich Road is increasing exponentially because of the outer suburbs development, and Ipswich Road—the State is investing in the motorway parts of Ipswich Road, but the minute you get to Moorooka off the motorway, it all comes to a grinding halt on Ipswich Road.

Yes, because that’s the Council part of the road. What we know—yes, through the Magic Mile and then into Tennyson Ward. What we know is, this Administration is not investing one single cent into improving infrastructure along Ipswich Road to support the clearly well-known increase in both the residential and employment people that are going to be using this particular precinct. We know that this Administration wants to cut buses through Annerley. They did that in their bus network review. So, they’re going to make it harder in some cases for buses for some people in Annerley. We know that they have cut funding for infrastructure programs along Ipswich Road, including at Villa Street. That was a few years ago, when I raised pedestrian concerns about the design.

This LNP Administration just cut the project. Just a few weeks ago, when I raised the concern with the dangerous slip road along Ipswich Road, they sent poor Councillor GIVNEY out to block that, and to not allow that. But this Council is perfectly happy to jam another 17,500 people into a corridor where the arterial road is unsafe and does not have the infrastructure needed to support an increase in people, employment, which means trucks in this area, and bicycle and pedestrian safety. There’s not even a bikeway down there. This Council has done nothing to deal with the dangerous intersection at School Road at Yeerongpilly, nor has it done anything about—I’ve mentioned Ekibin Road. So, I fully support Councillor GRIFFITHS’ call for more infrastructure in this part of Brisbane. The lack of safe, efficient, and fit for purpose road, bike, and pedestrian infrastructure along Ipswich Road is a fundamental failure of this LNP Administration over the past 16 years that I’ve been here.

The need for this is now apparent—these infrastructure improvements, because the LNP’s intention is to jam 17,500 more people, plus all the support services that they need, into this area of Moorooka, which is colloquially known, and around that area—colloquially known as the Magic Mile. But there’s no road improvements coming to support it, and we’ve heard Councillor GRIFFITHS talk about the other infrastructure needed around community, environment, and so on. However, I cannot support a plan that fails to deliver infrastructure when this Council is fully intending to significantly increase the number of people living and working in a particular area. There will be adverse impacts on an already over-capacity road, a road that last year—Councillor GIVNEY probably didn’t know this, but last year, Brisbane City Council voted against putting in a green walk signal at Ekibin Road.

I’m presuming they’ll vote against it again when I move amendments in the budget this year. But whether the LNP want to jam more people in and then block any discussion of providing additional infrastructure into this road corridor, there’s a really big problem with that. That’s not good planning. A lot of residents say to me—and this is the biggest issue that they raise—some may be willing to accept a bit more density, but if it does not come with the upgrades to the infrastructure to support it, they can’t, because it doesn’t make sense. They get more people, less park, worse roads, no bikeways. So, we just don’t see the uptick in infrastructure. So, these neighbourhood plans, or precinct plans, or whatever the heck the LNP are calling them these days, they need to connect the infrastructure to support these communities with the planning. So, I certainly commend Councillor GRIFFITHS for his hard work over the last few years. I support his call for better infrastructure in this area, and I urge this Council to ensure that projects that have been cut by the LNP in a peak of—I don’t know—anger by Councillor McLachlan get on the agenda, so that we can get better pedestrian services, cycling services, and safer intersections along Ipswich Road to support local traffic movements.

We also should be seeing projects like the feasibility study for the tunnel that Council engineers recommended being considered. That’s not on the agenda. So, we really need to do more in the space of infrastructure, and I thank Councillor GRIFFITHS for raising it, and I urge the Council to do better.

Chair: Further speakers?

No further speakers.

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I thank everybody who contributed to the debate, and certainly, the debate did expand outside the subject of the report. But nonetheless, a good debate. Look, one thing I would say, this particular draft plan has been down to the State for State interest review. They’ve come back and given us the nod to go to consultation. They didn’t have any major issues with the plan as it stood. It’s worth bearing in mind that the plan needs to be read in a complementary way with LGIP 1B. So, I think you need to look at both of those documents. The reality is that the State is supportive of density in this location. There are two cross-river stations in this study area. I suspect that if the State was running the planning in this particular instance, we would be getting a lot more density than what we’re proposing. Now, certainly, if you look at their form in other locations, they’re looking to put a lot more density in. So, this particular location is extremely well serviced by public transport, particularly rail, and I think that’s a key consideration.

As I mentioned, this needs to be read in conjunction with LGIP 1B in terms of the War Workers issue. We’re aware that this is a sensitive issue. Council officers have been in contact with their representative. So, we’ll continue to work with them on their particular concerns. We’ve passed a motion in this Chamber, so we have a pathway for these people to get an outcome, that as a majority, 51% I think is the number, you know? 51% of them want to go down a certain path, then that’s fine. We will retain the character listing, rather than the heritage overlay. So, the key point I would make for Councillor GRIFFITHS is, make a submission. He’s raised a number of points that he wants addressed, and the opportunity is for him now to make a submission, and through that process—and obviously, we’re encouraging through the consultation process for residents to make submissions. But conversely, I’d like to see Councillor GRIFFITHS make one too. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Chair.

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 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 – DRAFT NATHAN, SALISBURY, MOOROOKA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

**591/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, City Planning and Economic Development, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on the draft Nathan, Salisbury, Moorooka Neighbourhood Plan (the draft plan) community consultation. He provided the information below.

2. The draft plan commenced in 2019 with community consultation for a draft strategy. The consultation sought feedback on what the community valued and would like to see maintained as part of planning for the future as well as improvements which could be considered. Council summarised these ideas into a draft strategy and the community provided feedback on the draft strategy in June and July 2021. The formal statutory process commenced and the draft plan was submitted to the Queensland Government for consideration of State interest in December 2022. In November 2023, the Queensland Government approved the commencement of public notification.

3. The draft strategy was an important step in developing the draft plan with the community. A draft strategy is not required as part of the statutory process however, Council invests time and resources to this period as it is important for the community to be involved in their future planning requirements. The draft strategy for the draft plan area was released in mid-2022 and proposed ideas along each of these themes:

- places for everyone

- local industries and employment

- a grid of blue and green

- connecting places and spaces.

4. All comments received during the consultation period on the draft strategy were analysed and where necessary, Council undertook further technical investigations to inform responses. A report providing a summary of the feedback received and how it has been addressed in the draft plan, is available on Council’s website.

5. The next step in the process is to draft the statutory neighbourhood plan, which will form part of *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan) once adopted. Neighbourhood plans identify the exceptions to the general planning requirements for an area. As such, a neighbourhood plan package may include a code, especially for that area and also change other parts of City Plan to achieve the objectives of the project.

6. Building on the area’s unique locational characteristics, the draft plan seeks to:

- increase mix and density of housing near shops, services and public transport including increased densities around Moorooka railway station and Moorooka shopping centre

- support industrial and commercial renewal, particularly along Ipswich Road

- protect character residential areas in key locations

- protect heritage places including Moorooka War Workers’ Housing Estate

- protect biodiversity values including Toohey Forest and creeks

- enhance streetscapes and walkability between major employment areas, residential areas and public transport infrastructure

- provide an opportunity for the local community to guide the future of the neighbourhood plan area.

7. The Committee was shown a map outlining the proposed precincts including:

- Clifton Hill war service homes estate

- Moorvale shopping centre

- Heritage renewal

- Residential renewal

- Magic Mile.

The Committee was also provided with an artist’s impression of a potential outcome of the draft plan at Ipswich Road, Moorooka.

8. The consultation and promotional activities for the draft plan include:

- a project page on Council’s webpage with interactive maps

- direct mail

- information sessions

- signage and flyers.

9. The community can have their say on the draft plan until 16 June 2024. People are encouraged to submit on proposals they do support as well as those proposals they don’t support. Submissions can be by made via email, letter or City Plan online.

10. StoryMap is an online tool that Council uses to help residents and others search and understand proposed changes. The Committee was provided an overview of the StoryMap for the draft plan.

11. The next steps to finalise the draft plan include:

- public consultation

- amend the draft plan in response to public submissions

- submit neighbourhood plan to Council for endorsement

- Minister’s consideration due to be completed in mid-to-late 2024

- adoption of the final neighbourhood plan as part of City Plan is expected in late 2024.

12. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the General 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 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Before I go to the Committee report, I’d like to address some really concerning inaccuracies that were raised by Councillor GRIFFITHS earlier during the meeting regarding the Stable Swamp Creek project. Madam Chair, I’ve spoken with Councillor GRIFFITHS. I’ve sent him correspondence, and I understand officers from both NEWS and PPI have been in contact with him on numerous occasions regarding this particular project. I’d like to read, for the record, exactly what I sent to Councillor GRIFFITHS earlier this month.

“Dear Councillor GRIFFITHS, I’m writing to you regarding the planned natural waterway rehabilitation works to Stable Swamp Creek through Fauna Parade Park, Rocklea. As you may be aware, Council’s annual budget had allocated $1 million over the 2023-24 and 2024-25 budgets to support this project, including vegetation management, de-silting and widening of the channel to assist with flood mitigation.

As the northern bank of the creek in this section is largely in Council’s ownership, and the southern bank of the creek in the western section is entirely owned by the State Government, it was agreed that the project be 50% co-funded by the State Government. Unfortunately, Council has been unable to secure this funding from the State Government. In a meeting between Council and State officers in October 2023, it was advised that funding support for this project has been cut from the State budget. I’m writing to you to seek your assistance in advocating to the State Government, including the local State member, to reinstate the State funding for this project, so that these works can be delivered for the Rocklea community.”

Madam Chair, that letter is dated 14 May 2024, which is two weeks ago. I was unable to raise this issue directly with Councillor GRIFFITHS earlier that day at Committee because unfortunately, he both arrived late and then left early from the EPS (Environment, Parks and Sustainability) Committee meeting. So, the following week, I sat down with Councillor GRIFFITHS and the officers, and we discussed the issue. I was left with the impression that it was a collegiate discussion and that we were all on the same page. Councillor GRIFFITHS agreed to raise this with his contacts in the State Government, and our officers agreed to assist him. I would expect that he did so, because last Monday, I understand that the General Manager of the NEWS branch wrote directly to Councillor GRIFFITHS with all of the information he requested to progress his conversations with the State, but I haven’t heard an update from Councillor GRIFFITHS on this. All that we asked him to do was raise this with his State colleagues to help get the three different State departments on board before we started doing work on their land.

What I’ve heard is that just today, Education Queensland has reached out to continue discussions on this, but we’re still waiting on the other two departments. I must also advise the Chamber that I have no idea where Councillor GRIFFITHS is getting his alternative costings from. It seems that he’s big on alternative costings, and in this case, some alternative facts. I believe the figure Councillor GRIFFITHS is referring to is actually the $100,000 we have spent so far on the design. So, we haven’t been sitting on our hands, Madam Chair, waiting for the State. We have fully funded the design directly of our own initiative. I can confirm that now the design and scoping has been completed, the total project cost remains closer to the $1 million mark that was originally anticipated, and that brings me to my next point. The project that Councillor GRIFFITHS referred to in the Runcorn Ward, that is a $250,000 project and is achieving vastly different outcomes.

Further, it is largely on Council, not State land. So, yes, we are delivering it. So, instead of coming into this Chamber and having a jumping up and down session, because we’re doing a completely different project in a ward that is not his own, I would once again ask Councillor GRIFFITHS, through you, Madam Chair, to work with us and bring the State Government to the table. Madam Chair, last week’s Committee presentation was on the Cowan Cowan Beach Nourishment Pilot, which we undertook in 2023 at one of Brisbane’s most sensitive and scenic beachfront locations. Cowan Cowan is a small beachside town on Moreton Island, which many forget is actually in Brisbane City. It’s actually in the Deagon Ward. The beach at Cowan Cowan has experienced coastal erosion of about 25 metres over the last 60 years.

This is a natural process that ordinarily we don’t like to interfere with. Sand is washed away by the surf and washed back to the shore with the tides. But recent weather events have caused severe erosion on the beach, which threatened its long-term integrity. So, in response, we undertook sand scraping along the beach in 2021, but it became clear that this kind of solution was not to be effective long term. So, we undertook nourishment works as part of a pilot. In fact, that was the first project of its kind ever undertaken in Brisbane, and it appears that that’s been quite successful.

As part of the Moreton Bay Marine Park, we were very careful to ensure that this project had the support of the State Government, of the local community, and of course the Traditional Owners. We engaged extensively with these stakeholders to secure a great outcome, and we’ll continue to monitor the condition of the beach, but it is expected that this solution will mitigate the impacts of erosion for around seven years. There was great enthusiasm from the Committee to hear about something that was a little different to what we normally do, and it was an important learning experience, and I want to thank the officers for a very informative presentation. Madam Chair, we also had one petition—

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Councillor DAVIS: —that was supported by the local Councillor—

Chair: One moment, Councillor DAVIS, please.

Councillor DAVIS: —and I’ll leave debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS, yes, go on, point of order.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Just I want to—the Councillor’s still speaking. I want to just claim a point of misrepresentation.

Chair: You haven’t spoken yet during this. Just one moment.

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: So, it’s okay to speak to that misrepresentation? Thank you. There are two things, actually. One, the information I’ve been given has come from Council officers, and two, the State have told me they have tried consistently to speak to Council, and Council are not replying.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair. Yes, so I will just speak in regards to the petition that was lodged by some residents in the Jamboree Ward, and they’ve asked for an upgrade to the Newcomb Street Park, and it’s quite an interesting park area, actually, because it’s got a—it does have a small—not too resourced skate park, but it actually also has a BMX track or a BMX park as well, a dog park right next door, and some really great exercise equipment too, that looks like it was recently installed. No shade over it, by the way. There’s no shade over virtually any of these parks or parks within parks.

They said that the skate park was manufactured or installed in 2008, and then upgraded with some elements in 2016-17, but if you have a look—anyone that wants to just have a look at that park, that Newcomb Park at 529 Sumners Road, just from Google Maps, aerial view, they can see that the actual skate park itself has very little in it, right? There’s a lot of concrete, a heck of a lot of concrete, but there’s only a few elements that are really visible from either a street view and/or an aerial view. I can see why the residents decided to ask for an upgrade—another upgrade, because the last one didn’t really include much.

So, it’s probably—and then of course, in the response they said that it’s going to be listed—it would be listed, potentially, in a capital works program in the future. We all know what that means. You’ve got to be lucky. But also, they sent them off to the local Councillor, of course, because of her SEF (Suburban Enhancement Fund) funding, which is available to her. But if anyone knows what some of these elements cost to reconstruct or to construct into an existing skate park, they know that that can be quite a lot of money, right? So, that SEF funding would certainly be impacted quite a lot in the upcoming budget. So, we agree with the residents that have asked for the upgrades. So, we won’t be supporting the recommendation.

**Seriatim - Clause B**

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| Councillor Charles STRUNK requested that Clause B, PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL UPGRADE THE SKATE PARK AT NEWCOMB PARK, 529 SUMNERS ROAD, RIVERHILLS, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor STRUNK: I’ll end my remarks there, thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor STRUNK.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you, Madam Chair. I speak on item B. I’ll just speak briefly on this matter and point out the hypocrisy of Council in dealing with upgrades in local residents’ parks and I thank Councillor STRUNK for reminding me. I note with great interest that the petitioners here are requesting an upgrade to the skate park and that paragraph 13 indicates that the skate park will be listed for consideration as part of Council’s future capital works program. I think paragraph 14 or paragraph 13.5 or whatever you might call it’s missing something. There is zero mention—zero mention—no, paragraph 14, it does mention it’s been referred to Councillor HUTTON for her consideration through the suburban enhancement funding, but do you know what it doesn’t include? Her phone number, and then when you—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, you might want to turn the page over and see what the actual—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh, it does.

Chair: —response is, where it does—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh, very interesting. I am now looking at it. It does include Councillor HUTTON’s phone number. So, that’s very good. Yes, it doesn’t in the actual report, but it does in the letter. So, I’m very interested to see that this is the way that the LNP are doing things going forward, and I note that Councillor HUTTON’s phone number is listed in here. So, that’s very good, and I look forward to seeing this in all the LNP’s correspondence, or responses to petitions going forward. Sorry, just to clear, I appreciate that a precedent was set with me a few weeks ago and instead of thinking, oh, gee, that might not have been the right thing to do, now it’s going to happen to everybody. So, I’m sure all the Councillors out here are thrilled that that’s the way the LNP decided to go ahead.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak briefly on item B, which I also noted when we were in the Committee last week, and I rise to speak on it, because working with skateboarders within my own community, they have told me of the incredible benefits that skateboarding has been able to give to younger, older communities. The community awareness that brings people together and even in The Gabba Ward, which has very limited space. We do have a couple of skate parks, one at Raymond Park—well, skate bowl, it’s a bowl and of course a small little skate park in Davies Park. These are regularly full and even with the little space that we have, I ask every Councillor to please, please have an overhead look of this skate park that these residents have asked for an upgrade for, because it is in desperate need of something.

I’m not sure when the last upgrade was, but it certainly seems that there was no correspondence with the skating community about it or any of that, because the elements—and I will confess, I used to skate once. But the elements of it, of the skate park—and there is an opportunity here to deliver to young people in that area. So, that skate park seems to me—and it did seem to me at the Committee last week—that it was a really important thing in the response to see it’s listed in capital projects. It doesn’t give enough significance to the fact that there is an opportunity here to not only help the health of young people and older people in that community, because anyone can skate at any age. But also, to deliver some activities and engagement with the youth for a skate park that is very sorely missing any sort of activity.

So, I will just put those points down. I think the response and the fact that it will be listed as a part of the recommendation—we all know what happens with this listing, it’ll be there for years. Of course, the reference to the Suburban Enhancement Fund too continues to worry. We talk about—and I’ll go off track very quickly, we talk about the budget changes that happened. Will we, as Council, be using more and more of our Suburban Enhancement Fund to try to deliver upgrades for our community? And it’s—you know, how? So, I’ll finish on those comments there, but we won’t be supporting item B.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS?

We’ll now put the report to the vote.

**Clause A put**

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

Chair: We’ll now put item B to the vote.

**Clause B put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 16 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK, Seal CHONG WAH and Trina MASSEY.

ABSTENTIONS: 1 - Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON.

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 – COWAN COWAN BEACH NOURISHMENT

**592/2023-24**

1. The Manager, Water, Energy and Environmental Systems, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an overview of beach nourishment works undertaken at Cowan Cowan beach. She provided the information below.

2. Situated on the west coast of Moreton Island / Mulgumpin, Cowan Cowan is a town which has been experiencing coastal erosion of 0.5 to 0.8 metres per year for more than 60 years. The Committee was shown an aerial map of Cowan Cowan in relation to mainland Brisbane.

3. The need for beach nourishment at Cowan Cowan was expedited by severe erosion following a significant storm event in June 2016. In 2021, residents constructed an unauthorised sandbag wall which was halted by the Queensland Government’s Department of Environment and Science (DES). This prompted DES to approach Council to take the lead in monitoring and undertaking erosion management at Cowan Cowan.

4. Council opted for a beach nourishment pilot program as the best fit practice to mitigate the effects of erosion at Cowan Cowan. The pilot program categorised the beach into five zones, each with threshold trigger points which identified where and when beach nourishment is needed. Two zones were then selected as the focus area to undergo works. The Committee was shown aerial maps of the zones across the beachfront and their proximity to residential properties.

5. Comprehensive stakeholder engagement was undertaken with local residents, environmental groups and the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation, to ensure outcomes were sensitive not only to local residents but also to cultural heritage requirements.

6. Works commenced on 19 February 2024 and the pilot program was completed on 23 February 2024, resulting in a more stable beachfront. Council collaborated with the Port of Brisbane to source sand already being dredged for shipping routes, to save costs on purchasing sand for the project. The final works created a subtle gradient which lowers the intensity of waves scouring the beach. The focus area will continue to be monitored over the coming years to ensure the coastline is suitably and sustainably managed. The Committee was shown drone footage of the pilot program works and final results at Cowan Cowan beach.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL UPGRADE THE SKATE PARK AT NEWCOMB PARK, 529 SUMNERS ROAD, RIVERHILLS

**137/220/594/264**

**593/2023-24**

9. A petition requesting Council upgrade the skate park at Newcomb Park, 529 Sumners Road, Riverhills, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 7 November 2023, by Councillor Sarah Hutton, and received.

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

11. The petition contains three signatures. Of the petitioners, two live within Jamboree Ward and one lives within the City of Brisbane.

12. The skate park at Newcomb Park was constructed around 2008 and received an upgrade in the 2016-17 financial year with additional elements added. The skate park has been assessed by a qualified Council officer and found to be in a safe and serviceable condition, with the present skate park adequately meeting the current needs of the community. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows images of the skate park.

13. The upgrade of the skate park will be listed for consideration as part of Council’s Future Capital Works Program. Each year in June, all listed projects are prioritised and assessed against the overall needs of the city. Approved works have the highest priority in terms of public safety, convenience and the number of people directly benefited in relation to the cost.

14. In the 2023/24 financial year, $15.1 million has been distributed evenly between each Ward through the Suburban Enhancement Fund to deliver local priority projects, including the provision of new footpaths and local park improvement works. The local Councillor plays a role in determining which new projects are funded from their Suburban Enhancement Fund. As a result, this request has also been forwarded to Councillor Hutton, Councillor for Jamboree Ward, for her consideration of funding through the Suburban Enhancement Fund.

Consultation

15. Councillor Sarah Hutton, Councillor for Jamboree Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

17. The Executive General Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed, with Councillor Steve Griffiths dissenting and Councillor Trina Massey abstaining.

18. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/264

Thank you for your petition requesting Council upgrade the skate park at Newcomb Park, 529 Sumners Road, Riverhills.

Council has completed an onsite investigation and considered your request.

The skate park was assessed by Council officers and found to be in a safe and serviceable condition. Although the skate park does not warrant upgrading at this time, Council officers will continue to monitor the condition of the facility to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

The upgrade of the skate park will be listed for consideration as part of Council’s Future Capital Works Program. Each year in June, all listed projects are prioritised and assessed against the overall needs of the city. Approved works have the highest priority in terms of public safety, convenience and the number of people directly benefited in relation to the cost.

In the 2023/24 financial year, $15.1 million has been distributed evenly between each Ward through the Suburban Enhancement Fund to deliver local priority projects, including the provision of new footpaths and local park improvement works. You may be interested to know the local Councillor plays a role in determining which new projects are funded from their Suburban Enhancement Fund. As a result, this request has also been forwarded to Councillor Hutton, Councillor for Jamboree Ward, for her consideration of funding through the Suburban Enhancement Fund.

If you would like to discuss your request directly with Councillor Hutton, please contact the Jamboree Ward Office on (07) 3407 7000.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Ted Krosman, Parks Planning Coordinator, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3407 0841.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor ADERMANN, City Standards Committee.

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Greg ADERMANN, A/Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Standards Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Julia DIXON, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, thank you, Chair. Before I go to the Committee report, I’d like to provide an answer to a question I took on notice from Councillor KIM in Question Time today. Through you, Chair, Councillor KIM, what you are referring to is part of the budget process and due to that, you’ll know the answer to that question when the budget is handed down. Last week’s Committee presentation was on Council’s Legal Street Art program. Chair, Brisbane’s outdoor lifestyle offers the opportunity to enhance our city further and the Legal Street Art program is a fantastic initiative to elevate our outdoor spaces. Street art walls serve as safe havens for both emerging and established street artists to unleash their creativity. Today, there are three established sites across the city, including the recently launched site in Paddington. We are certainly investigating future locations.

Our presenter, Sam Dureau, provided an in depth overview of the program’s progression since the LORD MAYOR announced the initiative in the 2022-23 Budget. On a personal note, I’d like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Matt Tervo on the arrival of his twin daughters, Maeve and Mila, born on Wednesday after the Paddington street art wall launch. Tervo has been an integral part of this program and we look forward to continue to work with him. Chair, we also had one petition requesting Council investigate and address the noise nuisance caused by amplified music from the Soko Rooftop bar and restaurant, located at 7 Symes Street, Fortitude Valley. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Is there any further speakers?

Councillor CHONG WAH.

Councillor CHONG WAH: Thank you, Chair. I want to speak to item A, the presentation on the legal street art. This is a great initiative to legalise street art as it supports a thriving art subculture that usually has a negative perception or stigma. Legalised street art locations provide the opportunity to empower our youth, reduce illegal graffiti, and enhance our public spaces. One of the three trial locations is well known—the Paddington skate park on the corner of Hale and Caxton Street in my ward. This was one of the first street style parks built in Brisbane. This skate park is extremely popular, especially for seasoned skaters and it is a place where urban street culture thrives.

The media have played a negative role in our perception of graffiti and street art due to the artists often challenging social norms. Local governments like Brisbane City Council have also been active in stigmatising this urban street art culture. The Council has been preferring to clean empty walls rather than allowing these assets to be utilised as public space canvasses for creative expression. Street art allows people to express themselves and their identity in a peaceful and non-violent way, as well as building connection between other artists and our community. I know in The Gabba Ward, both for my Councillor, Jonathan Sriranganathan and Councillor Trina MASSEY, have been actively supporting urban art on public spaces that would normally attract graffiti that the Council would remove, creating an endless cycle of energy and resources.

The Gabba Ward has been focused on supporting street art murals, especially from youth and First Nations, with beautiful work that the community love. This initiative should be expanded to provide us with more opportunities and locations around the city. However, it’s very important that we engage with our community at the same time in genuine grassroots community consultation that will help ensure our residents have the opportunity to have a say in how we shape our neighbourhoods. While I do support this Council initiative, it also possesses a form of oppression, as no political art is allowed. If someone does create something that is deemed to be political art, the artist can take a photo and then it must be covered over, so someone in Brisbane City Council is deciding on what is political or not.

For many in this urban street art culture, they recognise that all of life is political. The origins of urban street art is, in fact, found in expression of identity and branding of a space. Identity and branding of a space is, in itself, a political expression. Despite these restrictions, I do hope that the trial is rolled out wildly—widely—sorry—throughout Brisbane as a rare and positive initiative for our youngest residents that supports an important youth-based urban culture. Thanks, Chair.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor ATWOOD.

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I, too, rise to speak about item A. I am very excited to talk about Council’s legal street art walls. I’ve been on the journey from the very beginning, and it’s been an incredible journey. I was very lucky to open the Tingalpa spillway in January this year with our LORD MAYOR and to see the benefits in my community and they are huge. Let’s start at the beginning. At Botanica a few years ago, when the LORD MAYOR bumped into two very talented mural artists, Tervo and Smalls. They highlighted the greatest challenge in their field of work was a lack of space to practice their art, share their skills and teach young emerging artists. From the 30-minute chat with the LORD MAYOR, we, as a city, are a great benefactor and we’ve seen extreme changes in this sector.

The first legal street art wall was Ekibin in Councillor CUNNINGHAM’s ward and continues to be such a hive of activity and has held multiple free events. Recently, Brisbane artist, TZ, organised Piece for Peace Day and Drapl ran a free—sorry—free spray painting workshop event with roughly 200 people. Residents painted 30 new murals and one artist donated t-shirts, canvas boards and stencils so participants could leave with their own custom t-shirt or canvas.

These types of street art events are becoming more popular in our city because of the LORD MAYOR’s initiative and his support for this sector. Madam Chair, we’ve also heard some pretty incredible stories, such as a retired soldier in his 40s started spray painting when Ekibin became legal. He walked his dog through there and over the years, became inspired by the art. One day, he randomly bumped into an old high school friend who was painting there, so he decided to join him. It’s now a very therapeutic, fulfilling hobby he has taken up and he is so grateful for the community he has found, but it’s not only the sense of pride and community that is being fostered in our street art community but we’re seeing a huge decrease in illegal graffiti around these areas.

Since opening a legal street art wall in Tingalpa, we saw a decrease of 300 tags in a month. The Tingalpa spillway was always graffitied and a place artists had been gathering for decades to express their art. Council was coming out there weekly to repaint the wall, so it was an absolute no brainer. Now that we are encouraging artists to this space, we have seen a huge shift in the quality of art. It’s also stopped inappropriate artwork and messages and residents have loved the ever changing murals. It’s awesome to see the multi-generations come down there, mingle with the artists and join in. Street artists also now have a space to express their creativity and connect with their peers.

Down at Paddington, whilst I haven’t been there, I know the former Councillor for Paddington Ward was a huge driver to get one down there. As you may know, her nephew is Drapl and is one of Brisbane’s most incredible street artists. Drapl’s been a huge supporter of that space as well and seeing it thrive as it is today. My understanding is that it’s now a bustling art scene and it’s attracting more locals back into that space. I asked Tervo what this program means to him and the street art community.

He said, there is a wave of positivity that is currently sweeping across our artist community as a result from the support from the LORD MAYOR and Brisbane City Council. It is a big step away from the common perception of destruction and antisocial behaviour that street artists once felt but no longer do in our city. The community feels like these legal art spaces are a safe space to create and connect with our peers. Madam Chair, I just wanted to finish off by thanking Tervo and Smalls for their incredible contribution to our city. Most weekends, you would have seen Tervo popping out to one of these areas to check out the progress and join in, but as of last week, Tervo is now spending a few weeks at home with his beautiful wife and their baby twin girls as he settles into his new family routine. Enjoy these special moments, Tervo and thank you for helping transform Brisbane’s art scene.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Further speakers?

Councillor ADERMANN?

Councillor ADERMANN: Nothing further, Chair.

Chair: 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 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 and Steven Toomey.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Sarah Hutton (Civic Cabinet Chair) and Councillor Emily Kim.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – LEGAL STREET ART

**594/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, Program Planning and Integration, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on legal street art. She provided the information below.

2. The Lord Mayor established the Council Street Art Wall program (the program) in Council’s *Annual Plan and Budget 2022‑23*. Street art can be defined as artwork agreed or commissioned by the property owner or freestyle art in legal, public spaces.

3. Brisbane’s first legal street art wall, located in Ekibin Park, Greenslopes, was launched in January 2023. The site was identified through the *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design* *Guidelines for Queensland* and an analysis was undertaken with elder states-people of the street art community attending the first painting to provide inspiration. The tunnels adjacent to the park have also been utilised as a practice space for emerging artists.

4. Stanton Road, West Tingalpa was launched by the Lord Mayor in January 2024 as the second Legal Street Art site. The site is owned by the Queensland Government’s Department of Transport and Main Roads and leased by Transurban, with Council regularly attending the site to remove graffiti in the local industrial area. As the area is non-public facing, it provides the opportunity for emerging artists to practice and refine their skills.

5. The third street art wall site in the Paddington Skate Park, Paddington was launched in April 2024.

6. Guidelines have been provided on Council’s website for artists wanting to use the street art walls. Signage is located at the sites providing information about where painting can be conducted.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL ADDRESS THE NOISE NUISANCE CAUSED BY THE SOKO ROOFTOP BAR AND RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 7 SYMES STREET, FORTITUDE VALLEY

**137/220/594/275**

**595/2023-24**

9. A petition requesting Council investigate and address the noise nuisance caused by amplified music from the SOKO Rooftop bar and restaurant (SOKO), located at 7 Symes Street, Fortitude Valley, was received during the Summer Recess 2023-24.

10. The Divisional Manager, Lifestyle and Community Services, provided the following information.

11. The petition contains 31 signatures.

12. SOKO is a rooftop bar and restaurant, with open-air space for patrons. It holds an Amplified Music Venue Permit (venue permit) with Council under the *Amplified Music Venues Local Law 2006* (the Local Law). The venue is identified through the *Brisbane City Plan 2014* as being located within Core Area B of the Fortitude Valley special entertainment area (SEA) and is part of the Bowen Hills Priority Development Area. Refer to Attachment B (submitted on file) for plan code map. The precinct was created to ensure the long-term future of the music-based entertainment industry in Fortitude Valley without exposing residents or businesses to unreasonable levels of amplified music noise.

13. The Local Law prescribes specific noise levels in decibels that must be complied with. These levels are stated on the venue permit. Prior to receiving this petition, Council had received complaints from local residents regarding excessive noise from SOKO. The matter was referred to Council’s Compliance and Regulatory Services (CARS) for investigation.

14. On 28 October 2023, at 11.10pm, CARS Environmental Health Officers (EHO) conducted an unannounced compliance check of noise levels at the venue. This was part of routine compliance checks undertaken in the SEA. Decibel measurements at SOKO indicated the venue was compliant at the time.

15. On 9 November 2023, EHOs conducted a pre-booked audit of the venue against the full suite of permit conditions, with the cooperation of the venue manager. SOKO was found to be compliant in this instance, and education was provided on the Local Law and any relevant permit conditions, as part of Council’s standard practice when undertaking compliance checks.

16. Furthermore, Council undertakes regular proactive unscheduled compliance checks of amplified music venues in the SEA. EHOs will continue to conduct unannounced inspections of SOKO as part of this standard practice. It is noted that since November 2023, there have been no complaints received about amplified noise from the venue.

Consultation

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

Customer impact

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

19. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed.

20. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/275

Thank you for your petition requesting Council address the amplified music noise nuisance caused by the SOKO Rooftop bar and restaurant, located at 7 Symes Street, Fortitude Valley.

SOKO is a rooftop bar and restaurant, with open-air space for patrons. It holds an Amplified Music Venue Permit with Council under the *Amplified Music Venues Local Law 2006* (the Local Law). The venue is identified through the *Brisbane City Plan 2014* as being located within Core Area B of the Fortitude Valley special entertainment area (SEA) and is part of the Bowen Hills Priority Development Area. The precinct was created to ensure the long-term future of the music-based entertainment industry in Fortitude Valley without exposing residents or businesses to unreasonable levels of amplified music noise.

The Local Law prescribes specific noise levels in decibels that must be complied with. These levels are stated on the venue permit. Prior to receiving this petition, Council had received complaints from local residents regarding excessive noise from SOKO. The matter was referred to Council’s Compliance and Regulatory Services (CARS) for investigation.

On 28 October 2023, at 11.10pm, CARS Environmental Health Officers (EHO) conducted an unannounced compliance check of noise levels at the venue. This was part of routine compliance checks undertaken in the SEA. Decibel measurements at SOKO indicated the venue was compliant at the time.

On 9 November 2023, EHOs conducted a pre-booked audit of the venue against the full suite of permit conditions, with the cooperation of the venue manager. SOKO was found to be compliant in this instance, and education was provided on the Local Law and any relevant permit conditions, as part of Council’s standard practice when undertaking compliance checks.

Furthermore, Council undertakes regular proactive unscheduled compliance checks of amplified music venues in the SEA. EHOs will continue to conduct unannounced inspections of SOKO as part of this standard practice. It is noted that since November 2023, there have been no complaints received about amplified noise from the venue.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Chris Vojtisek, Senior Environmental Health Officer, Compliance and Regulatory Services, Lifestyle and Community Services on 3178 1458.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**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 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, our Committee presentation was on the Brisbane Powerhouse. Everybody in this Chamber knows how fantastic the Brisbane Powerhouse is. I would really encourage everyone to read the report so that you can see the fantastic statistics that were shared with us at the Committee. As we know, the Powerhouse has a constant program of ideas, comedy, theatre, and music. I just would like to recommend it to the Chamber and leave further debate.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair. Listen, I hadn’t been through the Powerhouse for some years and so I was quite interested in the presentation, which was quite well done. But so much has happened in that space in that Powerhouse over the years, I suppose, that it was just quite spectacular to hear all of what they do. I mean, 16,000 events a year—that’s just phenomenal, when you think about it, for one building. So, it’s a tribute to the organisers of the officers who operate that building on behalf of Brisbane City Council. Probably the outstanding thing which was a bit of a shock—especially if you’ve got vertigo—is the vertical restaurant. Then they said, oh, well when you’re done eating, then you abseil down 17 metres. I’m thinking, yes, right, okay. Maybe that’s for a different generation, but—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Yes. Exactly, but the thing that—but we started asking some questions in regards to the maintenance of the building, of course. When I saw the picture when it was first put up on the screen—and I know it’s in your reports—it looked—I said, it looks like it needed a bit of lick of paint, right, to dress it up a bit—but then I found out, of course, abseiling is probably going to scuff it up a bit, right, so probably don’t do that—but the only real concern maintenance-wise for me during the presentation was the leaking roof. The presenter said that the roof had been leaking—I don’t know if it’s constantly or periodically but for 20 years.

So, I just really call upon the Council to sort of address the leaking roof. I know it’s a very old building and it’s really hard to seal off an old building roof for an old roof’s building but I think we owe it to the building and to what happens in the building and the people that operate that space within the building to at least give them a sound, secure, non-leaking roof. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I thank Councillor STRUNK for his comments, and particularly the fact that I really do think, Councillor STRUNK, that you should give it a go and go down there to Vertigo. I’m fairly sure the DEPUTY MAYOR’s already been there and—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Not yet?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Goodness me. All right. I’m going to have to be checking up on all of you about this. I have to say, I’ve been on top of the roof but I’m not as brave as many people who’ve—but people who’ve done it have really enjoyed the experience. In terms of the maintenance of the building, I just want to assure the Chamber that there is a comprehensive maintenance program. Of course it’s a very, very, very old building and so there are always little things that are happening. We are in the process of doing a structural look at the roof, through you, Madam Chair, to Councillor STRUNK, so he can be assured that we work very closely with the Powerhouse and the maintenance issues are always things that we address as promptly as we possibly can. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

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 Community and 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 – BRISBANE POWERHOUSE

**596/2023-24**

1. The Chief Executive Officer/Artistic Director, Brisbane Powerhouse (the Powerhouse), attended the meeting to provide an overview of the Powerhouse. She provided the information below.

2. Over the last two years, the Powerhouse has welcomed more than one million visitors each year, which is an increase of 45% compared to pre-COVID-19 visitor numbers. In those two years, the Powerhouse has held 1,660 events and performances and sold 152,000 tickets, including 80,000 tickets to the Brisbane Comedy Festival. The Committee was shown graphs depicting visitation and sales compared to prior years.

3. The Powerhouse is both a domestic destination and an international drawcard. The *New York Times* shortlisted Brisbane as one of the top places to visit in 2024, identifying the Powerhouse projects, Melt Open and Vertigo, as must-see attractions.

4. The Powerhouse has a constant program of ideas, comedy, theatre and music. Highlights include the Brisbane Comedy Festival, Australia’s fastest growing comedy festival, in April and May, the *World Press Photo Exhibition* in July, and the farmers market year round.

5. Some new initiatives of the Powerhouse include:

- Night Feast, a month-long food and public art event held in March and October 2023, attracting 230,000 patrons and injecting $13 million into the local economy.

- Vertigo, Australia’s first vertical restaurant, held 17 metres above the ground. This dining and outdoor adventure experience opened in October 2023 and is fully accessible.

- Pleasuredome, a new outdoor community and performance space with a maximum capacity of 350 patrons, which opened in November 2022.

- The new annual music festival, ΩHM Festival of Other Music.

- The Powerhouse Store, featuring a collection of artisan accessories, which opened September 2022.

- Fairfax Studio, which was a rehearsal room under the Powerhouse Theatre, refurbished into an exhibition and performance space.

- A partnership with Dendy Cinemas, offering a deluxe outdoor cinema experience since November 2023.

- Melt Open, a new annual international festival of queer arts premiering in October/November 2024, set to be staged across the city.

6. Other recent achievements include:

- implementing the First Nations Advisory Committee and the Melt Open Reference Group, whose respective Chairs are also directors of the Powerhouse board

- supporting Council’s *A City for Everyone: Inclusive Brisbane Plan 2019-2029* through:

- delivering accessible access to the *Vertigo* experience

- providing 30 Auslan-interpreted performances to 400 Auslan ticket holders

- developing an Access Key to the Powerhouse, to increase accessibility to the venue and across all Powerhouse events.

7. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Chief Executive Officer/Artistic Director for her informative presentation.

8. **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 21 May 2024, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Chair. Our Committee received a presentation from our financial accounting manager to provide an overview of the requirements of the sustainability framework for Queensland local governments. The Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works has recently made changes to how financial sustainability is measured and reported across the local government sector. Previously, there was a one size fits all approach, which meant that there were a number of measures which didn’t really apply to Brisbane City Council. The framework aims to recognise the influence of non-financial factors on Council’s success as well. The new framework aims to be holistic, tailored, and relevant. As part of this, Councils are grouped into different brackets in recognition Brisbane is different to Banana Shire and Moreton Bay is different to Mackay.

Brisbane will stand alone in its own tier going forward and will be measured across nine categories. The types of measures include financial capacity, operating performance, liquidity, asset management, and debt servicing capacity. As part of the updated framework, the net financial liabilities ratio has also been removed. This ratio has long been considered an inappropriate measure of the financial stability of a Council the size of Brisbane and the QAO (Queensland Audit Office) and the State Government now have agreed with this, and hence why it has been removed. The new ratios and measures will be reflected in our annual financial statements and the Annual Report for 2023-24 and in the 2024-25 budget book, which I’m looking forward to getting. I’ll leave the debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Any further speakers?

No further speakers. We’ll now put the report to 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 – *SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR QUEENSLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS*

**597/2023-24**

1. The Manager, Financial Accounting, Corporate Finance, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the *Sustainability Framework for Queensland Local Governments* (the Framework). She provided the information below.

2. The Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works’ (DHLGPPW) considers a local government to be financially sustainable if the local government is able to maintain its financial capital and infrastructure capital over the long-term. Under section 170 of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation), Council is required to prepare two financial sustainability statements for each year and a long-term forecast in the Annual Financial Statements. These measures are also required to be reported in Council’s Budget under section 160(6) of the Regulation.

3. The Committee was provided with an overview of measures that were required up until 30 June 2023 including the Operating Surplus, Asset Sustainability and Net Financial Liabilities ratios. These measures were simple but impractical, providing limited insight and created issues with usefulness. The respective ratio targets were consistent across all 77 local governments in Queensland.

4. Based on input and limitations of the measures, DHLGPPW undertook consultation and research to develop the *Risk Framework Financial Sustainability* (the risk framework) and the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024*. The risk framework aims to recognise the influence of non-financial factors on council success, provide greater insight into sector challenges and support the development of more tailored solutions. The risk framework incorporates the following key elements:

- operating environment

- finances

- assets

- governance

- compliance.

5. To acknowledge the diversity and individual challenges across the 77 local governments in Queensland, grouping has been implemented to allow fit-for-purpose measures and benchmarks for each council group, which aims to increase relevance. Factors considered to have the greatest influence on council sustainability were population and remoteness and a review and update of the tiers will occur every three years. The grouping method is also considered the most stable and reliable method of all those considered.

6. Within the risk framework, there are nine financial measures including the below types:

- financial capacity

- operating performance

- liquidity

- asset management

- debt servicing capacity.

The Committee was provided with an overview of the audited and conceptual financial measures and the risk framework assessment table.

7. These measures will be included in Council’s Annual Financial Statements and the Annual Report for 2023-24, with some featured in the June 2024 quarterly report. DHLGPPW will use information gathered from all of the elements of the sustainability framework to inform policy, funding, capability and other responses and support to individual or groups of councils, or the sector at large.

8. Following a question 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**

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Councillors, are there any petitions?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. I have petitions requesting traffic calming in a precinct in Tarragindi.

Chair: No further petitions?

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

**598/2023-24**

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 petitions were summarised as follows:

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| **File No.** | **Councillor** | **Topic** |
| 137/220/594/316 | Krista Adams | Requesting Council implement traffic calming measures to address rat running via Willis Street, Rochdale Avenue and Barr Street, Tarragindi. |
| 137/220/594/317 | Krista Adams | Requesting Council implement traffic calming measures to address rat running between Marshall Road and Toohey Forrest, Tarragindi. |

## 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 (GB)?

Councillor ADERMANN.

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes. Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak briefly about a local traffic issue in my ward, which can, in part, be attributed to a Google Maps error. Local residents know that if you were to travel from the suburb of Kenmore to Bellbowrie or vice versa, normally just under a 10-minute trip. You simply stay on Moggill Road, which is the main arterial route in the western suburbs. However, if you are not familiar with local traffic routes and enter either Kenmore as your location and Bellbowrie as your destination into Google Maps, for some unknown reason, the app directs motorists off Moggill Road onto Pinjarra Road at Pinjarra Hills and then back onto Moggill Road closer to Bellbowrie.

Pinjarra Road is clearly signed, local traffic only, so Google is effectively encouraging motorists to break a Queensland traffic rule, while at the same time, is contributing unnecessarily to increased traffic on a single lane rural road which impacts residents who live there. Chair, last week, I tested both routes again and can confirm it is still quicker to get from point A to point B by staying on Moggill Road so why Google thinks using Pinjarra Road gives motorists a quicker option is anyone’s guess.

As a result of this, we have noticed an increased number of motorists using Pinjarra Road with Queensland Police regularly monitoring this road and regularly issuing speeding infringement notices. I have written to Google requesting they realign their map app to enable motorists to take the most direct route between both suburbs and avoid Pinjarra Road altogether. I have yet to receive a response, but in the meantime, I have commenced a public campaign on my social media platforms and website inviting local residents to provide me with their feedback. In just one week, I’ve received almost 60 responses, which I intend passing on to Google. Chair, I will keep the Chamber updated on my progress, or alternatively, if Google ignores this simple common sense request. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Madam Chair. Listen, I rise to speak on a couple of events and also a problem with Google Maps. Who figures? Who figures? The St John’s Carnival happened on Saturday. It took place on Saturday just passed. Of course, there was a bit of precipitation in the air and consequently—but luckily enough the carnival didn’t start till about 12pm and then finished off at eight o’clock at—sorry—seven o’clock at night with fireworks. Thankfully—some of these fetes and festivals sometime start in the morning, but this one, as I just said, started at 12pm and the rain finished at 11am, which was very fortuitous because they haven’t been able to—they haven’t actually held a carnival since 2019, mostly because of the disruption of COVID and they do alternate between a musical and a carnival every other year.

So, this was the first time since 2019. They did a terrific job. There was heaps of stalls, heaps of food, heaps of entertainment that were all pretty much done by the students of both the primary and the secondary schools as well. The program really went for the whole day. There was some really good talent on that stage, I’ll tell you. Brisbane City Council—we supported the event with the stage, itself. I’m glad that it was actually able to go ahead because it’s a number of thousands of dollars that was contributed to this event.

The naming sponsor was Bank of Queensland at Forest Lake. They’ve been a proud contributor to almost any of the community events over the last 20—25 years, actually. David Armstrong, who’s the principal owner of the bank, has really, really gone that extra mile when it comes to supporting community groups and organisations. As I said, sadly, I wasn’t able to see the fireworks at 7pm. My team was down there adding up on the toll—on the tolling or the toll of hours—now that we’ve got to keep track of so that was ticking over—but it was a really good event to support and it got a lot of good interaction from the community into the stall and there were some really great market stalls there as well, too.

We bought up a bit of stuff for some hampers as well for future requests, but as I say, I wasn’t able to make the fireworks because I went off to another celebration, the birthday of Lord Buddha—or Vesak, as it’s called—at the Sri Lankan Monastery in Considine Street at Ellen Grove. Honestly, the amount of work and preparation they put into this one for a short event, really—it kicked off about six o’clock and went through till around about 10 o’clock. I would say there was a few thousand people, at least, in this precinct where the temple is. It’s a temple as well as a school as well. It’s been going for 33 years, well patronised.

They’re even developing a facility next door to this block as well which is a healing centre as well—a meditation type healing centre as well. I mean, they have 4,000 worshippers that actually—probably, they’ll come each week—but over the period of a month or so, they would have probably over 4,000 worshippers that come along to support and to take the religious instruction from the monks, but they’re really a terrific group of people that I’ve known since 2001 when I first ventured out to the temple and the school with Henry Palaszczuk, who was the member at the time.

Lastly, I want to speak about that Google issue—a Google Maps issue. Like Councillor ADERMANN, I’ve had some queries or requests from residents who live in Government Road, Richlands. Now, Government Road runs from Archerfield Road through to the train line that goes out to Springfield. Now, Government Road sort of ends but then it sort of is like a one and a half lane. They call it a service road that actually services at least two houses but on Google Maps, it stops short at the last of the—well, it’s pretty hard to explain this but before it becomes Government Road Service Road, that’s where Google Maps stopped. It doesn’t show the service road yet there’s people that live in the service road.

We’ve written to Google asking them just to extend that road down to the house—down to the couple of houses. We haven’t had a reply back yet but I thought I’d just—because Councillor ADERMANN raised that issue in his GB, I thought I’d raise it because it’s just happened over the last few weeks. I’ve had the same issue with Google Maps. Google Maps probably has a little thing down the bottom of it saying that there are occasions where they’ll make errors, but we’ll just find out if they will be able to correct those so errors that the emergency services are not confused as to when they come out to those couple of properties, but also there is dumping that’s been happening down that service road as well.

The residents up on the main section of Government Road—when they ring through to Council, they have a problem describing where the dumping is. Now, on Council maps, it does exist. That service road does exist, but for whatever reason, that hasn’t been communicated to the emergency services and I suppose the call centre. For whatever reason, I don’t know. I don’t know what the call centre looks at, all right—what sort of mapping they look at, but certainly on the plans for the area, it definitely exists. I’ll finish off my remarks there. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor WOLFF.

Councillor WOLFF: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise to speak on some of the upgrades that are rolling out in the Walter Taylor Ward. The Moggill Road upgrade last week rolled out some significant traffic switches. Travelling inbound on Coonan Street, traffic changes with other vehicles travelling towards the city using the new overpass to enter Moggill Road. Some of the current traffic changes also include if you’re heading towards Brisbane City inbound, you can now travel on the overpass to the new traffic signals at Moggill Road and all vehicles can now turn right at the traffic signals and merge—that merges onto Moggill Road.

For all vehicles travelling outbound, they remain in the current lane configurations until further notice. We will be continuing to reduce the speed limits with ongoing works around the new overpass, but it’s a very exciting milestone. I also want to command all of the small businesses along the Moggill Road corridor who continue to work hard, trade and demonstrate their resilience during this major infrastructure upgrade that continues to roll out. Secondly, as part of the Brisbane City Council’s maintenance program, Council has also begun the uptake of essential repairs on the Walter Taylor Bridge to maintain the structure and for safe access for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. These works were rolled out at night when traffic volumes were at their lowest. The Walter Taylor Bridge closure began last Monday 20 May and continued through to the evening of Friday 24 May.

I’m also super excited with school holidays fast approaching. Monday Funday is back in my ward and this year, being held on Monday 24 June, the first Monday obviously, of the school holidays. It will be held this year at the St Lucia Golf Links at Carawa Street, St Lucia from 9am till 12pm. There’ll be free putt-putt, golf simulators for the teens, teens reptile experience, facepainting, glitter, tutu artists, balloon twisters, Queensland Police and the Rotary Club of Toowong will be also there helping out with activities. There’ll be snow cones and popcorn for the first 400 for free and coffee for those that are there, the first 300 for free. I hope to see many of my constituents there enjoying the day and spending time with their families for school holidays. Thank you.

Councillor DIXON: Point of order, Chair.

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| **599/2023-24**  At that point, it was moved by Councillor Julia DIXON, seconded by Councillor Greg ADERMANN, that the meeting adjourn for a period of one hour, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors had been locked. |

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: It has—one moment, Councillor.

Councillor JOHNSTON?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. It’s not six o’clock yet, Madam Chairman. I’m just wondering why we’re going to the dinner break early.

Chair: It’s been moved and seconded, Councillor JOHNSTON. It doesn’t have to be right on six o’clock. Right, yes.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

NOES: 22 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, Penny WOLFF and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK, Seal CHONG WAH, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Further speakers for GB, please?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you, Madam Chairperson. Well, that was intriguing. I’ll just say, I’ll speak on three issues very briefly: (1) river and creek projects, (2) the Kadumba Street light and (3) the Deputy Mayoralty. I’ll just start with that one, which is I just remind all the LNP Councillors, including poor Councillor DIXON, that they had the choice to vote for another DEPUTY MAYOR and this was their decision. On the other two issues—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Okay. Sure. Sure. All right.

Chair: I think that everybody would gladly give you 10 minutes, so I think that maybe that was a bit of a consideration. Sorry.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Oh. I believe you. I don’t want to hold the Clerks up at all so I’m happy to come back.

Chair: We want you to have your full 10 minutes.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, yes. Well, that’s great. Right.

Chair: Go ahead.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you so much. I just wanted to go till 6pm and I probably would have been happy to stop at 6pm. The two issues that I also mentioned that I’d like to speak on—firstly, river and creek projects. The LORD MAYOR, who changed General Business to bring it on earlier today, has made it very clear that he feels General Business is more important than the motion debate that’s on us, but I note that he’s not with us in the Chamber. I say this because he has raised this issue when I talked about needing funding to repair Cactoblastis Park in Sherwood a few weeks ago. Now, the LORD MAYOR stood up and said, it’s a State Government issue. The State Government haven’t given us funding. It’s a river issue. It’s not our problem, basically. That’s what the LORD MAYOR has said about Cactoblastis Corner, a riverside Council park in Sherwood.

Now, I note that, of course, the QRA did agree to fund the restoration of the park, but Council has not yet undertaken any repairs more than two years and three months after the incident occurred. There is further erosion and damage happening, and now it’s happening to people’s adjoining private property because Council has failed to do any maintenance on the site for the past two years and three months. So, it was with some great interest today that I heard from the Councillor from Moorooka Ward, Councillor GRIFFITHS, that Council is funding a project—a smaller project, to be fair—of around $0.25 million in Councillor MARX’s area at Stable Swamp Creek at Dyson Avenue, Sunnybank.

Now, I note with interest—the advice from Councillor GRIFFITHS and he showed me the plans that have been done up—that this is a waterway corridor. Where the LORD MAYOR says, in Tennyson Ward that Council’s not responsible for doing any works within the waterway corridor, apparently that’s a rule that only applies to Tennyson Ward and that Council is responsible for doing the works within the waterway corridor in Stable Swamp Creek in Sunnybank in Councillor MARX’s ward.

It’s very interesting to me that there is one course of action in an LNP ward and one explanation about why work can’t happen in a Council park in an Independent ward but then in an LNP ward in a creek, where there is—it doesn’t even look like it’s that bad. I mean, when you look at what’s happened over at Sherwood, it’s pretty bad so when you look here at what’s happened at Sunnybank, there seems to be a different way of doing things in the LNP areas. Perhaps Councillor DAVIS is going to hop up and tell me why I’m wrong, here—why a Council park in Sherwood on the river isn’t being funded but a Council park in an LNP ward in Sunnybank is being funded.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. Well, it’s the river over there, but—yes, Stable Swamp Creek does run into Oxley Creek. That does cause flooding in my area. So, I note with some interest that there appears to be a pretty good double-standard happening with respect to river and creek projects in Brisbane City Council. I note that—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Those NEWS people. Yes. Perhaps they were busy off jet setting around somewhere, Councillor GRIFFITHS—to take your interjection, but I do note with some interest that there does appear to be a pretty clear double-standard, here. I also note that’s made even worse by the LORD MAYOR’s own actions with respect to the Kedron Brook area on the northside. This Council invested $220 million of its own funding directly after the floods to fix—you guessed it—a waterway corridor in several marginal LNP wards. So, there’s not just one example of LNP wards being given preferential treatment—Stable Swap Creek at Dyson Avenue, Sunnybank—there’s two, which is Kedron Brook on the northside.

I mean, it’s of great interest to me that a small but important piece of riverside parkland that our community fought so hard for is being neglected by the LNP. Their actions show very clearly that they are prepared to fund projects in their own wards that are 1: creeks, 2: in Council parks, and 3: within the waterway corridor.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, and as it turns out, Council officers are doing the projects and supporting the funding and bringing this all forward. I note that Councillor GRIFFITHS was told he was going to get a project and then the funding’s been pulled. So, Councillor GRIFFITHS, you were almost there—almost there—almost. I note that Councillor DAVIS has made a fairly substantive explanation about why you haven’t got that funding and she’s blamed somebody else for that.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. It’s you or the State Government’s fault. I got that message. It’s never Council’s fault. Because the choices the LNP Councillors are making and the Council officers who support them are very clearly to prioritise LNP projects in LNP wards when they specifically say to me or Councillor GRIFFITHS that creek and river projects can’t be funded in our wards. Now, I know there’s a word that we’re not allowed to use, but in my view, when there is one standard being applied to one ward in Brisbane and a completely different and lesser standard being applied consistently to another ward in Brisbane, then there is a serious integrity and governance issue with respect to the management of Council and the Council officers’ behaviour.

So, I do find it quite interesting and I look forward to Councillor DAVIS’ explanation about why Kedron Brook waterway corridor got $220 million for flood repairs done super quick, why Councillor MARX is getting—I think $250,000 for Stable Swamp Creek in Sunnybank, but why Cactoblastis Corner Park in Sherwood, despite being, in principle, funded by the State Government, gets zero and Councillor GRIFFITHS, despite having a serious issue about flooding in his area, he gets zero, too. So, there’s a real, as I said, governance and integrity problem going on, here. The hypocrisy of the decisions of this LNP Administration—and this is under NEWS—under NEWS, under Councillor DAVIS—these are the decisions that she and her Council officers are making that clearly highlight the differing treatment and standards of funding being provided in LNP wards versus other wards.

Finally, just to speak on the Kadumba Street light, Councillor WINES was most entertaining earlier when he gave his explanation. There’s just a couple of things I’d like to put on the record. When Council did its consultation, the light was not included in the consultation plans so there was no indication to me or the community that a streetlight was proposed as part of this project. Let me state that very clearly. The consultation plan provided to me and to the community, as Councillor WINES outlined in January, did not include a streetlight. Then a few weeks ago, I get an outcome saying, here is construction and it’s going ahead. I got no report on the outcome of the consultation, as is normally the case. I had no input in any issues that had risen. I was not notified about the scope of any changes with respect to this project. I was told at that point that this was the construction plan, and it was going ahead.

I immediately questioned it with the Executive General Manager, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure. The Executive General Manager responded to me saying, the project might be funded in a future year. Meanwhile, what I will say is that the project that’s been delivered has not been fixed by what Councillor WINES has indicated. This has let our community down and the impact of this light in the middle of a footpath, not in accordance with the construction plan, is a poor reflection upon Councillor WINES and the officers involved.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor DIXON: Point of order, Chair.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **600/2023-24**  At that time, 6.09pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Julia DIXON, seconded by Councillor Greg ADERMANN, that the meeting adjourn for a period of one hour, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors had been locked.  Council stood adjourned at 6.12pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Further speakers for General Business? No further speakers for General Business?

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTIONS:

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

### GREEN HEART FAIR

**601/2023-24**

The Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed as item 5A on the agenda and called on Councillor Charles STRUNK to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Charles STRUNK moved, seconded by Councillor Emily KIM, that—

*This Council schedule future Green Heart Fair’s across Brisbane’s suburbs on a rotation, rather than holding the event at one inner-city park.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair. Now, who doesn’t like a Green Heart Fair? All those that don’t like one, put your hands up. That’s what I thought. We all like Green Heart Fairs, and so the reason I move this motion is because I feel that the Brisbane ratepayers should have the opportunity to attend a Green Fair not too far from where they live.

Now, some few years ago when I was sitting down with Council officers on a pop-up that was being held in my ward, in Bluebird Street, they were telling me about the pop-ups and we got to speaking about the Green Heart Fairs and I said I think we should possibly look at, if you haven’t already done so, look at maybe holding the Green Heart Fair on a rotation basis right around Brisbane. To that they said yes, that’s—we’ve been thinking of that and we would like to do that but we’re not allowed to do that.

So, I said well, I’ll bring it up in a presentation that was due to come up in one of the Committees I was in, and I raised that, that very issue, to which there was a number of reasons why they wouldn’t do it, and which to me really—because they have—if you go back—I mean these have been being held for 16 years now.

If you go back a little ways to say 2014-15, they used to hold Green Heart Fairs, certainly mostly on the north side, but Carindale did receive one in the Carindale recreational reserve, and they did hold one there as well. So, it has—it’s been something that has happened in the past and I think we should revisit that and look at a rotation from north, south, east and west.

Now, the issue that was raised when I raised this issue with Council officers some time ago now is that you obviously have to have a fairly good size park or an area that actually has a reasonable amount of parking, because they are very—they do attract a lot of patronage. But I think—and one that popped into mind recently when we held a multicultural festival at Durack was in Dogs Queensland, because they’ve got a 300-car car park within the precincts of Dogs Queensland. I think that probably is probably a little bit more than actually even Victoria Park has anywhere near where this is being held.

It also has I think a better public transport node as well going through it. If you look at Herston Station it’s a pretty fair walk from Herston station to Victoria Park; it’s about half a kilometre and pushing a pram or maybe carrying a child, it’s a fairly good distance to walk on your way to a Green Heart Fair. So, I think that—and we’re not the only ones of course that do hold these types of events. Of course, Logan actually holds one each year and they attract, from what I gather, about the same amount of patronage as we do with ours, and they’re a much smaller city.

So, because I was going to raise this motion, I decided to have a look at some of the YouTube stuff that Green Heart Fair posted over the years, and it was quite interesting to actually look at the ones that were being held back in 2015—2014‑15 as opposed the ones we’re holding 10 years later. The program changed a bit over the years. There’s a bit more entertainment factor now than there was in the past. I suppose you’ve got to increase the entertainment component to attract people to come to it so that they can be informed about those eco-sustainable programs that Council puts on and other organisations as well that actually come along and take up a stall.

So I think it’s just really important that we be fair about this, that we rotate it around Brisbane, that we have plenty of—I think we have plenty of venue if we really look hard that are on probably even better public nodes and also that have maybe a bit more parking as well. Victoria Park, yes, it’s a great park but I just wonder if—well, a lot of people that I know, when I say what we’re doing at Victoria Park, not necessarily the Green Heart Fair but other things as well, a lot of them don’t know even how to get to it.

There’s Google Maps and all the rest of it but they don’t really know. They’ve never, ever been there and they don’t really know how to get there. But that’s the people that I talk to of course in the western suburbs. So, I just think it’s important that—it’s a great program, we should continue to do it, and I just think it’s a program that needs to be made available to people right across Brisbane and not just people necessarily in and around the CBD area and on the northside of Brisbane. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I rise to speak on this motion which we won’t be supporting tonight, because our fantastic Green Heart Fair events program has become bigger and better than ever since moving from the suburbs to a single central event. As you would know, Madam Chair, Victoria Park is increasingly becoming one of Brisbane’s favourite venues.

We’ve had more than 200,000 people attending events in the park since it reopened to the public in 2021, including around 60,000 people attending what is Brisbane’s premier sustainability event since it moved to this central location. This is in no small part thanks to the very things that those opposite criticise about the Victoria Park location.

Because Victoria Park is in a more central location with great access to public and active transport, and for the benefit of the Councillor STRUNK, the Herston Station is actually at Victoria Park, so it’s right next door, you can get to the events very, very easily from there. There’s also plenty of parking there and he also alluded to the fact that these larger events require that and that’s absolutely available at the Victoria Park site. So, it’s easy to get there, no matter where in Brisbane you live.

In fact, if all of the Opposition Councillors bothered to attend the Green Heart event, they would see residents from all over Brisbane pouring into Victoria Park and having a fantastic day out.

Every time I attend the Green Heart Fair, I meet people from my ward. In fact, I had the pleasure of chatting to some of my residents on Sunday when I was handing out some free native plants at the Brisbane City Council zone. I know that Councillors on this side of the Chamber can say the same thing about their residents in their wards attending an event no matter what part of the city that they represent.

But Councillors need not take my word for it, Madam Chair. We actually have real, empirical data that we gather through the event survey that the BSA team undertake every year, and we know from this survey that attendees are coming from across the suburbs of Brisbane because this is actually a destination event, and they absolutely love it, Madam Chair. Even *Bluey* comes along.

And it’s because of the size and the centrality of Victoria Park that we can provide even more to see and do in what has really become a bit of an action-packed family day out. There’s room for multiple stages to host a variety of events and activities. There’s more stalls, there’s more spaces for food trucks and vendors, and plenty of room to enjoy everything that the Green Heart Fair has to offer, and importantly, it allows us to put on an event that is twice, nearly three times as big for the same cost as the previous suburban events which were nowhere near as well attended.

So, we think that Victoria Park is a fantastic location for the Green Heart Fair, and we know that residents of Brisbane are voting with their feet and continuing to attend the annual Green Heart Fair in record numbers.

But Madam Chair, we are continuing to deliver Green Heart events in the suburbs at the same time through our pop-up events. The team at BSA work very hard to make sure those pop-ups are evenly spread across the city. The pop-ups are held in shopping centres and these locations are identified for their geographic region, the foot traffic that comes through the shopping centre, and their ability to book an appropriate space, and of course the cost effectiveness of that booking.

Whenever we hold a pop-up event—and I know you’ve been to a number of them, Madam Chair—it’s our practice to invite Councillors from the surrounding wards regardless of their political flavour and I was a bit disappointed to learn that no Labor Councillor has ever attended a Green Heart pop-up event. So, it’s a little bit disappointing that they’ve come tonight with a motion about Green Heart events in the suburbs despite never having made the effort to actually attend one. But I will say that Councillor MASSEY and Councillor JOHNSTON did attend the pop-up that was held in Greenslopes earlier this year so good on them.

Madam Chair, Councillor STRUNK might actually try to attend and support and promote the event that we have now, listen to the people of Brisbane, including those in the suburbs who make their annual pilgrimage to attend the Green Heart Fair at Victoria Park, as I said, and we will not be supporting this motion tonight.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Thanks very much, Chair. Just to be clear, I think on this side of the Chamber we are absolutely supportive of all of the objectives of the Green Heart Fair, and certainly having attended on Sunday and taking time to attend the event and certainly speaking with people, local residents who did attend as well, the feedback was of course very positive. It’s a wonderful event, it’s really engaging.

What this motion truly does seek to do is to make it more accessible. I note that Councillor DAVIS in her remarks mentioned that there was some feedback or research done and I bet that if there was a question, would you like to see one more locally to your area, the feedback would be a resounding yes. Of course it would be because it’s a fabulous event, there’s no doubting that. What we would love to see on this side of the Chamber is to see that influence and that positivity spread out throughout the suburbs of Brisbane.

On pop-up events, often they are a bit inaccessible. I do recall that the Coorparoo one was held on a weekday. I would have loved to attend but I wasn’t able to unfortunately because I had another commitment. It was a Saturday, okay. Well, I don’t know about you but I certainly have a whole bunch of other things to do so I’m very sorry that I couldn’t make it but please let me know when the next one is on. Loved attending the one in Victoria Park. Would love to have one in Morningside Ward. Can think of at least two amazing venues that you could have it at: Perth Street Park would be a great option, of course Bulimba Memorial Park. I think Councillor CUNNINGHAM would love to see it in Perth Street Park; I know that’s quite close to the boundary of her ward as well.

Certainly, this isn’t about taking away from the fact that the Victoria Park event is a destination event and it is positive. We would like to see more of that. All of the outcomes that were achieved, lots of activities, lots of education for young children, that is a great thing.

We think it’s a fantastic initiative and would love to see more of that out in the suburbs of Brisbane, so certainly isn’t being critical of the event itself in any way. It’s just that we would like to see that influence amplified across the suburbs. So, disappointed to hear that the Administration are unwilling to support that out in the suburbs of Brisbane tonight.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. I rise briefly to speak on the motion to expand the Green Heart CitySmart program to other areas around Brisbane, and I thank Councillor STRUNK for putting the motion on the agenda today. I’m just trying to think about the last time maybe that Council actually did a Green Heart event in my ward.

I think I’ve had one in 16 years, and that was—I wouldn’t even call that a Green Heart event, but I remember in my very first year when I was Deputy Chair of the Parks Committee, that Councillor MATIC came out when we were doing a tree‑planting in Graceful Memorial Park and we had a pop-up where we gave away some trees. So, that was really good but that’s 15 years ago.

Occasionally Council does turn up to hold stalls in my area where we ask for the pop-up library, although I don’t know if that’s still going, or the waste team and so forth, but I’m not certain when the last time is Council might have given away the odd tree out in my ward. As I said, I think it’s 15 years ago but if anybody’s got any other advice, I’m happy to hear it.

I find it quite interesting that in saying that Councillor DAVIS says she won’t support the motion put forward today, that she says that it’s a good thing that services for our city to help improve sustainability have been moved out of the suburbs into the inner city area. I don’t think that’s a good thing and I think most residents in Brisbane probably don’t think that’s a good thing either. Yes, okay, there’s no problem in having one every now and then at Victoria Park because you know, it is a park, but the idea that they will be held there indefinitely does not seem right.

For the longest time they were held only in two places, Chermside and Carindale, and I reckon for the best part of the decade that’s where they were held, and also, those locations are certainly suitable for some people but not for others. People on the southside in my ward or Councillor STRUNK’s ward, it would be a rare person that would want to go over to Chermside, and maybe they might go to Carindale if they really had to but from Councillor STRUNK’s area or my area, I mean that’s at least a 30-minute drive from my ward, at least 30 minutes.

So, I think it would be a much better exercise for these big events, the big events, which *Bluey* comes to apparently, you give trees away, I imagine there’s barbecues and stalls and all these wonderful things that Council does, it probably cost a fortune, I imagine that they are—they could be quite useful in other parts of Brisbane.

Now, I don’t want to be greedy, I haven’t had one of these big ones so that’s fine, so then I listened to Councillor DAVIS and I’m like oh, pop-up ones, you’re right, she’s right. I did go to the pop-up event over at Greenslopes. I was thinking as she speaking it was Coorparoo but it was Greenslopes. That’s not even the ward adjoining my ward; the ward adjoining that ward which I think was actually Councillor ADAMS’s area, because she had a stall adjoining the Council stall in the shopping centre, I think giving away lots of Council merchandise—in the lead‑up to the election campaign, but we’ll let that go.

I just thought about it. I thought it was very weird that I got invited, number one, because my ward doesn’t adjoin that ward. It’s quite a distance away from the residents in my area, and the ward of Moorooka is in between my ward and Holland Park Ward, but I went along because one, I was invited and I thought oh, I would like to have a look what happens at these things. So, I accidentally went to the wrong shopping centre so I did get there and the event was underway.

We had people lined up to collect one tree, or there was a native ground cover, a native violet, just a couple of different types. Not big trees or anything, they were lovely little natives, they looked beautiful in a bag, but you had to give—and this is the worst bit—you had to give your email to Brisbane City Council to get one free tree. So, Brisbane City Council was data-harvesting at this event to give people a tree.

Now, most people had turned up just wanting something to plant in their garden, then they had to wait in a queue. I mean there was a good system to get it working and all the Councillors all chipped in to help, but it was quite shocking to me that Council, you couldn’t get the free tree unless you gave Council your email. I’m just wondering what happens to that now, whether it goes to the Lord Mayor’s office, Councillor DAVIS’s office, whether it’s into Council. I don’t know where that data actually goes, did it go to Councillor ADAMS? I have no idea.

But I don’t think that forcing people to give Council their email to get a free tree is a good trade. I really feel like if we want residents in Brisbane to contribute to our city’s biodiversity and sustainability, the best course of action here would be to give them one or even two, or even some more if they had the capacity to plant them, native trees.

So, it was quite an illuminating event to attend, this Green Heart pop-up, and I’d like to say I’d like one in my ward, because you know, we’re pretty significant with our greenspace in my area and I have some of the hardest-working Bushcare groups in Brisbane and people do like planting trees, but I find that forcing people to hand over their email to get one free tree may not necessarily be as good as say Councillors being able to give residents two free street trees.

If we can give residents two street trees with their rates notice, I guess I’m wondering why we’re not giving them two, say, at the pop-up. We don’t require residents’ emails when we give them the two free trees out of our ward offices, so my question then becomes why do require their emails when they attend a pop‑up for their free tree?

So, you know, I just have a few questions around how Council is running the program. It doesn’t seem as though the email is essential for the purpose of planting the tree. I appreciate that Council says they’re going to send them newsletters so I’m sure that residents are thrilled to get more spam from Brisbane City Council, but I’m not sure that that necessarily helps us with the purpose of the pop-up, which is to get residents some free trees, or plants, or a free tree, and ensure that it’s planted.

So, Councillor STRUNK, I commend you for bringing this motion forward. I absolutely found it illuminating what Council does. I think that we should not be forcing residents to hand over their emails. It’s kind of extortionate, isn’t it, when you say you can have a free tree but only if you give me your email. I mean there are some other people in the world that do that, we often see that, and those kind of people generally are running some sort of marketing kind of exercise, and I presume that’s what Council was up to here as well.

So, do I support the motion? Yes. I do think there should be more of these held out in Brisbane around the suburbs. I don’t think Victoria Park is the only location. For example, Graceland Memorial Park has a major train station near it, Yeronga Memorial Park has a major train station on one side, it has Ipswich Road on the other side, so accessible by train and bus.

There are no real buses on Oxley Road or Honour Avenue on the weekend. I think the 598/599 might run but there’s really not much else other than the train. Or Sherwood, the train is great there and you can get down to the arboretum. So, I mean there are some other good spots around Brisbane where you really could have one of these, yes.

So, I just say thanks, Councillor STRUNK, good motion, and I support it. I’d just say to Councillor DAVIS through you, Madam Chair, I don’t really think we should be forcing people to hand over their emails. Let’s just give them some trees and encourage them to plant it and contribute positively to Brisbane’s biodiversity and sustainability.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I too want to say thank you to Councillor STRUNK for bringing this motion. I listened intently to his speech, didn’t know what he was going to say before he got up and spoke, and it was very well researched, I have to say, and wasn’t very political. He didn’t mention the LNP once.

I listened very intently, it was well thought out, was said generously, I think, and I have to say I was pretty disappointed in Councillor DAVIS in getting up and being quite rude and personally attacking Councillor STRUNK for bringing this motion to Council today. It’s a genuine approach, and I support what my colleagues on this side and Councillor JOHNSTON have said during this debate.

There is no reason other than the fact that a decision has been made by the Administration clearly to continue to hold this at Victoria Park, as Councillor STRUNK said, organisers and people working within the Sustainability Agency in the past have made it very clear that they have attempted to have the Green Heart Fair moved into other parts of Brisbane but unfortunately a political decision, or a decision at a political level I should say, has been taken to ensure that it is now centralised in one inner city location.

I’ve been to lots of events that have been run at the Boondall Wetlands, which are of a similar flavour to pop-ups I guess, and I could be wrong and I’m happy to be corrected, but I believe I received an invitation to a pop-up event at the Boondall Wetlands which was occurring on a Council day, on a Council Tuesday, which precluded me from being able to attend that, but I’ve certainly been to Bush Kindy events and other Sustainability Agency events over the years.

They’re very well attended locally and engaged at a different level with much more local organisations that have much more interest, I guess, within that local community around the Boondall Wetlands and the Brighton and Deagon Wetlands, which is an extremely unique, and as we all know on the northside, and probably all Councillors, unique part of Brisbane.

I’m not suggesting that would be the location for a full-blown Green Heart Fair but certainly there’s options there on the table to expand this kind of service that Council offers and partners with other stakeholders, businesses, community groups, schools, kindies that want to engage not necessarily at a centralised location on a major scale at Victoria Park, but there’s certainly options out there to engage more deeply.

I think that’s the kind of thing that people are really craving. They love those unique events more and more. We held a sustainability event with Jerry Coleby‑Williams in Sandgate a few years ago and the cost of that I think was probably a couple of thousand dollars, maybe, maybe $2,000 in total, and we had about 600 or 700 people attend that.

So, in terms of bang for buck there’s a lot you can do with a small budget. You don’t need $100,000 to $200,000 to host these events, you can certainly spread that out. So, look, I just wanted to say thank you to Councillor STRUNK for continuing to bring good ideas like this to the Council Chamber. I’m disappointed at the way in which the LNP have engaged with this tonight.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: I thank those people that contributed to the debate and I would have thought that we would hear a little bit more from the other side and their experiences. I would suggest that a number of the Councillors on the other side would probably like to have one of their Green Heart Fairs in their wards as well. But as Councillor CASSIDY said, a decision was made at the executive level and that doesn’t seem to want to move past that decision to hold it at Victoria Park.

You know, accessibility, some of us did speak about the accessibility, and you really—people that live say at Parkinson or people who live at Sunnybank or in Forest Lake, it is a bit of a hike to Victoria Park, right, from where we are. Even when it’s not peak hour it’s still probably—if I hopped in my car at Forest Lake and then ended up at Victoria Park, it would probably take me around about 40 minutes, about 40 minutes under normal circumstances. Peak hour of course it takes a lot longer than that.   I just think it’s—we’re creating a barrier. By not moving it around we’re creating barriers for people to actually have that experience. We talk about the sustainable city, right, in all the documents that I’ve seen for the last eight years plus, but we talk the talk but we don’t really walk the walk because we’re needing to educate our residents in regards to sustainability projects and programs so that we have less of an impact on the environment, and that’s what it’s all about.

It’s not about going out to see *Bluey*. It’s about that education, starting the kids from a very young age to have an understanding about what a sustainable environment that we need to create into the future, their futures.

So, I’ll just finish off there but it’s a bit disappointing if—something that will benefit all of Brisbane, right, isn’t able to be supported here tonight in the vote, and I’m really disappointed that the other side are not seeing it that way, but I won’t give up. I’ll keep advocating for this in the future at every opportunity and maybe probably at the budget time, budget as well, we’ll have a look at what it actually costs to hold that Green Heart Fair. It will be in the budget papers, and I’ll continue to advocate. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

I will now put the motion.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

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

NOES: 16 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

### 50 CENT PUBLIC TRANSPORT FARES

**602/2023-24**

The Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed as item 5B on the agenda and called on Councillor Jared CASSIDY to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Jared CASSIDY moved, seconded by Councillor Lucy COLLIER, that—

*This Council congratulate the Miles Government on the announcement of 50 cent public transport fares, and further, calls on the Schrinner Administration to do everything in its power to ensure increased patronage on the Brisbane fleet of buses, City Cats and ferries, thereby ensuring Brisbane residents can maximise this cost of living measure into the future.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. A reduction in public transport fares is a great thing, and I know the LNP will support this because they’ve been saying that for years. And we heard earlier today from the LORD MAYOR as well how much this LNP Administration supports this recently announced policy for 50 cent fares. Quite an amazing thing that you can get for a little 50 cent piece these days.

When I—I didn’t—I obviously hadn’t started yet but I thought to myself I didn’t—I wouldn’t even have a 50 cent piece catching the train when I tapped on with my card this morning at Deagon train station. We have certainly on this side of the Chamber been strong advocates for cheaper fares. We took of course a policy to the last election to help achieve this on our bus network, but it could never go as far as we have seen now that the State Government go with this policy. The reduction in this magnitude is unprecedented.

Just to think that from close to $5 travelling in zone two to someone’s place of work to now be just 50 cents is quite incredible. But what we do need to see of course, and is what the Premier has said, we need to see this policy working for it to stick around. We need to see people taking up public transport, at all times of the day, in peak hour and throughout the day as well, and to see people make that shift from private vehicle transport to public transport to help break the back of congestion here in Brisbane. We know that today Brisbane is on many measures the most congested city in Australia.

We’ve seen not only a low uptake of public transport here in Brisbane after COVID, or too low an update in public transport in Brisbane post COVID given the net migration we have seen in Brisbane as well, but even taking that aside, we know that there are far fewer people taking trips on our buses and our ferries and on our CityCats than there were 10 years ago. It’s close to 20 million fewer trips across our Council-controlled public transport network today than we had 11 years ago and that’s in a city that has grown by 450,000 people. So not only do we have a significantly smaller proportion of our population than we did 10 years ago catching public transport, our overall population has significantly increased as well, so it’s a no brainer as to why Brisbane has become the most congested city in Australia.

So what we want to do and why we brought this motion today was to not just congratulate the Government on a well thought out and very good policy, but also to ensure that it is a success by working together in the future and I was encouraged by what LORD MAYOR said earlier today in that the LNP will support this motion now because what I am saying is exactly what the LORD MAYOR said earlier today when he was with us.

Some simple ways that Council could join this initiative, in promoting this initiative and ensuring that it is a success are very simple, very simple in fact. We know Council has a power and a far-reaching platform of communicating with people. We’ve seen to date, since 1 July to date, Council has spent $3.5 million on advertising across all mediums. So maybe if this policy and encouraging people to catch a 50 cent bus or a 50 cent ferry or a 50 cent CityCat is included in a *Living in Brisbane* newsletter that goes out every month on Council’s website, in Council’s scripting, of course, in the call centre and Council social media channels which have hundreds and hundreds of thousands of followers and a lot of people that engage in that content.

I note that this is an approach that Council did take during the COVID pandemic. I reached to the CEO through that process and encouraged Council to spread the word of vaccinations and we saw Council take that up on its social media channels as well because that was a good policy to get people vaccinated during COVID. I think this is a good policy to get people to catch public transport at this amazing rate of just 50 cents per trip to make sure it is a success. As I said, ensuring this is a success is critical for our city’s future as the most congested capital city in Australia.

We could also send a really strong message to people through those same mediums and as Local Councillors as well, by being able to tell them that the LORD MAYOR has funded better access to public transport in the suburbs of Brisbane as well, whether that’s footpaths and bikeways to train stations and to bus stops and to ferry terminals, whether that’s increased funding for more footpath repairs, things like that, getting people out and active in their suburbs. We call on the State Government, we join those calls as well, to fund more services. We add our voices to that and I certainly will, I know my colleagues will to the State Government as well, to fund more services because if this trial is a success, providing more peak‑hour capacity in our bus network and our ferry network and of course on the train network, is critical and that should be in addition to retaining the 50 cent fares in our view.

We also think that tin this context as well, Council should admit that they got it terribly wrong in overordering those Metro buses as well. Imagine if you’d seek a refund on some of those and get $100 million back into the kitty to be able to provide what we’re talking about as well, better access to public transport, whether it’s through active transport connections for the last mile, as we talk about. So we do join calls on the State Government, do join calls to the State Government to provide more growth funding for public transport. We certainly would draw a line in joining this LNP Administration in simply seeking more funding from the State Government to cover the operational costs that the Administration agreed to cover for the Metro services. So what we want to see absolutely is more funding for growth, for growth services in the suburbs of Brisbane to ensure that as a result of a successful trial of 50 cent bus fares and train fares out in the suburbs of Brisbane, that we see more funding going into those services.

Cheaper fares is a great policy, as the Premier said and I listen to what he said, he’s slightly older than me, I didn’t go to uni with him, but he said while he was at uni being committed to cheaper fares to ensure that those who aren’t as privileged enough, like us, every one of us sitting in this room, extremely privileged to have a car and the ability to drive anywhere in this city, that people who don’t have that privilege and less and less so at the moment in this cost-of-living crisis, have fair and equitable access to public transport is critical. So this isn’t just a great way of addressing the congesting crisis that our city faces, but it will be a genuine help to people who not only currently take public transport as their main means of getting around, but also those that are priced out of being able to drive around our city. We have a congestion crisis but we of course also have a cost-of-living crisis facing Brisbane as well.

So what we want to see and I think every Councillor in here wants to see this be a success because we want to be put on par with the least congested cities in the world, not on par with the most congested cities in the world, particularly as we are heading towards an Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2032, we want to be a city of public transport that is supported by great investments in active transport as well. What we want to see and what part of this motion is calling on as well is for Council to step out of the political blame game and start playing in the solution game. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor PARRY.

Councillor PARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I rise to speak on this motion as well. So, Madam Chair, another week in this place, the fourth week, a whole month of Councillor CASSIDY thanking other politicians. Anthony Albanese, Mayor Flannery, Premier Miles, David Crisafulli and now the entire Miles Government, Madam Chair. Even worse, this week, not content with just a standard level of appreciation, he requested a special level of appreciation. He wanted to supercharge his banks. To put it into perspective, last week we moved a special appreciation motion to thank the hardworking volunteers in our city to acknowledge our Volunteer Week and that’s what Councillor CASSIDY wants to do with the Miles Government. Now not just one Member of the Miles Government, but every single one of them.

So it does make you wonder, has he run out of politicians to thank? Who’s next? What can we expect next week? Shall we start maybe a market on who will be next for Councillor CASSIDY? Last week Councillor MURPHY described politicians patting other politicians on the back as lame. I won’t say that. What I will say is that it’s pretty feeble to get up in here and congratulate another government, another politician. So we won’t be supporting this motion, Madam Chair, but I will use this opportunity to instead acknowledge Councillor CASSIDY because I have thought about this and I think that when he made his announcement during the Council election campaign for 50% bus fares, someone actually did listen and I think it was the State Government that listened. They listened, Madam Chair, but I do fear that they misheard.

You see, Councillor CASSIDY produced a policy that was 50% cheaper public transport fares, but they must have heard 50 cent fares. Either that or the State Government didn’t think Councillor CASSIDY’s policy was very good and perhaps that level of discernment does deserve a special appreciation motion. But when Labor announced 50% fares during the election campaign, the Schrinner Council pointed out, as the LORD MAYOR said earlier, that this policy would effectively see Brisbane ratepayers’ money going directly to the State Government’s purse. So it would be ratepayers paying the State Government for cheaper public transport fares. Hundreds of millions of dollars going into the State Government coffers and that would be a shame, Chair. It would be more than a shame, it would be a disaster and an irresponsible use of ratepayers’ money. So it is heartening to see that the State Government has now come to the party to prevent that from happening.

It seems that the State Government has finally woken up and realised that congestion across Brisbane is a problem and even better, they recognise that public transport is a key to avoiding traffic congestion. But as the LORD MAYOR said earlier, cost is just one element. There are three main factors that can help get passengers on board public transport. One is cost of course but there are two others, frequency and reliability. There’s no point in getting on a bus for 50 cent if it isn’t going anywhere. There’s no point waiting at a bus station with 50 cent in your pocket if your bus can’t pick you up because it’s full. So we welcomed the announced from the State Government at the weekend, 50 cent fares will undoubtedly encourage more people to catch public transport. Indeed they will encourage passengers from Moreton Bay, Logan, Ipswich, the Gold Coast, the Sunshine Coast, to board Brisbane buses, which is fantastic, it’s great. But remember these are all Councils that don’t fund public transport services like we do and rely on 100% State Government funding.

Brisbane buses will become even more congested for Brisbane residents. The State Government can’t do this half-baked., Madam Chair. What our network really needs, what this Schrinner Council is fighting for, is better buses for Brisbane, more frequent services. more reliable services. And to Councillor CASSIDY’s credit, he’s right, we need to see this policy work. Success by working together is absolutely on the money. So congratulating the State Government today is frankly letting them off the hook. It would tell them that everything’s fine. It’s not fine. Brisbane residents deserve more than what’s on the table here. Sure it’s a whole lot better than what was offered in March by those opposite, but if the State Government is really serious about improving traffic congestion in our city, then they need to do more.

Brisbane residents need more services more often. The State needs to improve the frequency of public transport services and they need to help make the services more reliable and I’ll tell them how they can do that and I won’t charge them even 50 cents. Madam Chair, I’ll tell them for free. All they need to do is give Brisbane City Council its fair share of public transport funding so we can continue to deliver the services that Brisbane deserves. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I rise to speak on this motion and I’ll start by saying this is a nice little bit of political theatre by the ALP. Often there aren’t things to commend George Street on when you’re in Opposition as the ALP are here in Council. They’re not necessarily I think as responsive and helpful to their colleagues here as they could be. So I see a nice election stunt and I thank the Leader of the Opposition for putting the motion on the agenda. Because very importantly, not only does it recognise that 50 cent public transport fees for residents is a good thing, that’s been widely recognised by all the vox pop done around Brisbane with people using public transport, so we know that it will be a good cost-of-living savings for residents. I mean it cost me nearly $10 to come into Council when I catch the train, as I’ve done today, that’s return and it’s going to be $1. So certainly that is a huge saving for me and it will be a massive saving for people who live in my ward, many of whom catch the bus and the train. They can’t catch the ferry because the LNP oppose all measures to extend CityCat up the river, but you know, that’s a different issue for today.

But it did sound suspiciously like Councillor PARRY had a foot in both camps there, didn’t it? On the one hand she was very effusive in, oh they’re welcoming the announcement, you know, that’s a positive thing, but then very, very critical of the ALP State Government. I think the word of the day on the ALP side of the Chamber is feeble. I wonder if that’s what they do in their party room meetings, yes, because Councillor WINES has used it and Councillor PARRY has used it. The only thing feeble about Councillor PARRY’s response to the motion before us today is her failure to recognise the second part of the motion, which in my view is the important part of the motion and that’s the part that reads “calls on the Schrinner Administration to do everything in its power to ensure increased patronage on the Brisbane fleet of buses, CityCats and ferries, thereby ensuring Brisbane residents can maximise their cost-of-living measures into the future”.

So the LNP are going vote against a motion that calls on Brisbane City Council to deliver better public transport services to the people of Brisbane. Now I know this is their position. They don’t want to deliver better public transport services, certainly in Tennyson Ward. In the bus review of 2011, they massively cut services in my ward. In the bus review of 2023, 2024 and who knows how much longer, they want to cut bus services again and I raised a question in the Chamber today about whether or not Council would restore the 105 bus loop through Yeronga West. So this is an essential service that connects Fairfield and Tennyson with its closest principal activity centre, which happens to be Indooroopilly. So this service was cut by the LNP in their submission to the State Government. Residents in my area spoke up in their hundreds calling for this service to be restored. They also have petitioned in previous years to have the 105 increased in frequency and reliability and we’ve also petitioned for the 196 to be extended into Yeronga West.

It is two kilometres from the closest rail station and there is a bus service now that is an hourly service until six o’clock and when the LNP has its way, Yeronga West is not going to have any reliable bus services west of Cansdale Street at all. So when Councillor PARRY says there are three reasons, not just cost, she talks about frequency and reliability, the biggest impediment to frequency and reliability in relation to Brisbane’s bus network, is this LNP Council. The only people who have cut bus services in Brisbane City Council are the LNP. In that submission that Council put to the State Government back in 2011-2012, Brisbane City Council said, yep, cut these services. They cut the 104, they cut the 101, they cut the 102, they reduced the frequency of the 198, they reduced the frequency of buses in Annerley, there’s a whole raft of things they did that directly reduced services in my area.

Now it is, I think, quite appalling that the LNP refused to support better public transport services in this city. You heard the LORD MAYOR earlier today, he refused to say whether or not the 105 bus loop would be restored and again, I think my next letter to the residents of Yeronga is going to be full of useful information about what the LNP won’t do. But the big issue here is of course Councillor PARRY’s justification of not supporting this is because the Schrinner Government is delivering better bus services for Brisbane. Well certainly not in Tennyson Ward, they want to cut the services out there and I’m sure that’s the case in many other areas. We’re not getting any improved bus services in the western part of my ward, there’s not a single change down the Oxley Road corridor to any bus service proposed under the bus network review, not one.

So not only is what Councillor PARRY said here today not true, Council is not interested in improving bus services around Brisbane, they’re also not interested in improving CityCat services outside of their own areas. Now we know that there is a focus on the northside when it comes to CityCats. There are more stops on the northside of the river than the southside. We know out Councillor COLLIER’s way they cut stations or terminals and out my way, they just won’t even consider expanding the services at all. I think we should be investing more in public transport services. Do I think the State Government can do better? Yes, I do. Do I think this Brisbane City Council can do better? Absolutely they can.

The dishonest part of what the LNP do is when they stand up and say it’s all the State Government’s fault, they’re the ones that fund these services, well for the new Councillors in the room, Brisbane City Council directly funds numerous bus services, which they established for their own political reasons over the years and I think a couple of examples of those are, I think the blue CityGlider might be directly funded and the maroon CityGlider might be directly funded, there’s certainly—I think out Pullenvale way there’s a bus service that was directly funded by Council and that’s just three and I know there are more than that. Perhaps someone will stand up and correct me and give me the full list of all the bus services directly funded by Council because it is completely untrue when the LORD MAYOR earlier today stands up and says, no, no, it’s all the State Government’s fault, or Councillor PARRY stands up and says, oh the State Government’s got to fund these bus services, yet oh the LNP will fund them where it politically suits them directly from the Council budget. What a surprise that the LNP is not being honest in how it invests in bus services in Brisbane.

So here we have a number of issues with what the LNP have said in response to this motion today. Yes, it’s political, without question, but is it a good thing that the people of Brisbane are going to get cheaper public transport? Yes. Is it going to increase the usage? Yes. Is it going to reduce congestion? Yes, I hope so. Is it going to ease cost-of-living pressures for Brisbane residents and families? Absolutely. Should Brisbane City Council do more to encourage public transport in Brisbane? Yes, they should. If they think that the very expensive, overbudget, over costed and massively delayed Brisbane Metro is going to do that, I think there’s a very serious problem because the bus services out in the suburbs are being neglected by this LNP Administration. There is absolutely no investment into increasing the frequency and reliability of those services and in my ward, all the Schrinner Administration is doing is implementing more bus cuts against the wishes of local residents.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. Just in summing up, I appreciate Councillor JOHNSTON’s contribution. I talked about it and so did she, the impact this would have on battlers here in Brisbane, people who are going to benefit financially quite massively, even over the first six months of this trial and hopefully if this policy is extended. I was pretty disappointed to not hear Councillor PARRY talk about that. I note, I’m pretty sure I saw most of the State LNP politicians back this in, I saw Federal LNP politicians back this in, saw what’s his name, Luke Howarth post about it on the day, say what a fantastic policy this was. I think, I don’t know if it was Luke Howarth that Councillor PARRY worked for, maybe Peter Dutton, I think previously, certainly had a starring role in *Nemesis*, the TV show, I believe. But so all of those people of which LNP politicians here have deep conditions to, the Shadow Transport Minister at the State level, Steve Minnikin, I know close personal friend of the LORD MAYOR, they all back it and I presume they’re going to continue it as well, I think. Certainly it would be interesting to see it if they were to win the next State election.

The LNP seem increasingly confident here that David Crisafulli will become the next premier as well, so I was interested to have not heard from Councillor PARRY what assurances that the LNP had sought from the State LNP around increased funding. I was very, very clear and open and forthright in what I said and I joined the LNP in calling on the State Labor Government to increase funding for growth, increased growth funding for services to increase reliability and frequency in the suburbs of Brisbane. We’re on a unity ticket there, I think. We seem to be throughout this meeting at different points on a unity ticket about the 50 cent fare, not 100% sure anymore tonight, well obviously not because the LNP are going to vote against the motion.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes. Yes, so I think they do support it, they just don’t want to support this motion. I understand that, why they don’t want to as well. But it is critical, it is critical that Council do everything in its power as well. I talked about the policy of which Labor took to the last election and the LNP obviously really struggle with how funding works, obviously because they agreed to the Metro deal with the State Government which put all of the operational costs on Council. They agreed, they sought that agreement and now they are seeking to undo it. I understand why because under the LNP Administration Brisbane is broke, so I understand why they’re doing that and I understand why the LORD MAYOR’s sort of doing his letter-writing campaign to State MPs, I understand the tough political position that this LNP Council is in, that they put themselves into.

But Labor’s policy at the last election certainly wouldn’t have seen any increased revenue to the State Government. It would have seen cheaper fares to the people of Brisbane and Council would have picked up that tab for a period of time. Now I understand this is a better option, this is a much better policy than the one we took, but I’m glad we started that conversation and we were able to do that and we wouldn’t have had to subsidise that because we have a State Government announcement that has come in now for just 50 cent for a bus fare for a ferry fare, for a CityCat fare and for a train fare as well. So disappointed that the LNP are still stuck in the political blame game, here in Council anyway, they don’t seem to be as much at a State and Federal level.

We want to see this Council dragged into the solution game. I put some solutions on the table tonight, certainly around Council’s ability to promote this policy, to communicate this policy with the people of Brisbane to ensure this period of the policy is a success and then the second stage of this policy is a success as well in getting people to make the permanent transition to public transport around Brisbane through more frequent, more reliable buses hopefully in the future with increased State funding and with more accessible paths to Council bus stops and to Council ferry terminals, whether that be people choosing to ride to them or whether people choosing to walk to them or scoot to them or get to them in any way of which they would like to.

I just think about a bus stop that’s a major route from, as Council PARRY bemoaned people from Moreton Bay Council, coming over Redcliffe, coming down Beaconsfield Terrace and then picking up a whole lot of people in Brisbane and then heading further south, the 310 route and the 690 route, stops at a stop on the corner of Beaconsfield Terrace and Wakefield Street. The stop was made DDA compliant itself. There is no footpath to and from that bus stop. In fact if someone was to walk to it, they’ve either just got to get across an extremely busy road which used to be Highway 1 that connected Redcliffe to Brisbane, or walk over a heap of fig tree roots. It’s very difficult for someone pushing a pram, very difficult for someone in a wheelchair, very difficult someone with mobility issues or just generally walking across. It’s very unattractive to catch a bus, catch public transport there on a regular basis.

It’ll be much more attractive at 50 cents a fare, but in the long term would be much more attractive if we saw an investment from this Council Administration into improving accessibility to our public transport nodes, whether they are big ones like the Chermside interchange, or whether they are small suburban routes that are every 400 metres along major and busy roads, encouraging more and more people to leave the car at home or to ditch the car all together and to be able to use public transport. So we are disappointed in the LNP response, but we are thrilled about the new cheaper fare policy and we’ll continue to push for better access to public transport anywhere in Brisbane.

Chair: I will now put the motion.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

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

NOES: 16 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

### LGBTQ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS FOUNDATION

**603/2023-24**

The Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed as item 5C on the agenda and called on Councillor Lucy COLLIER to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Lucy COLLIER moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY, that—

*This Council works with the LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Foundation to develop a customised, free workplace training program designed specifically for our Council workforce to support LGBTQ+ people experiencing domestic and family violence.*

Chair: Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Thank you, Chair. Although limited research has indicated that over 60% of LGBTQ+ people have experienced domestic, family and intimate partner violence and the important work of the LGBTQ DV (domestic violence) Foundation seeks to shine a light on an epidemic that’s been plaguing these communities for far too long and to create meaningful change. Today of course is the fifth annual LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Day and it’s a day that is aimed to help end violence and abuse within these communities by increasing visibility and understanding and giving hope and courage to victims and survivors.

Earlier tonight I attended a candlelight vigil organised by my local State Member Di Farmer and it was amazing to have representatives from organisations like 4 Voices, Open Haven, Red Rose Foundation and of course the LGBTQ DV Awareness Foundation present alongside members of the community to acknowledge the women and people who have lost their lives to domestic and family violence this year and to come together as a community because there is something that we can all do to stop this violence.

Of course the right to live a life free from violence and abuse is a person’s most basic right, but for many LGBTQ+ people, this is not a reality. Based on the statistics, it would mean that out of the population of Australia, the entire city of Adelaide would represent these victims. We commend the important work of the LGBTQ DV Awareness Foundation and we know that it’s the only one in the world to focus on this issue specifically for this community. We also know that society has more work to do when it comes to recognising and addressing the pandemic of domestic and intimate partner violence that is specifically facing this community in disproportionately high numbers. So that’s why we would like to see this Council take action and work with the Foundation to roll out their free training program for employees, especially for those Council workers who are working on the frontline in the community.

I know speaking to the Foundation myself, I know the Foundation would be very willing to work alongside Council to tailor it specifically for our workforce. They’re rolling it out elsewhere, the training generally covers things like how to be an effective bystander, what to look for, where to go for support if you’re a victim and of course linking in with resources. So this would be a really great opportunity for our workforce to engage on this important issue and I know it would make a difference for so many members of the community, it would save lives. We can ensure that there are no invisible victims in the future and that everyone, no matter what their sexuality or gender identity is, can feel seen and believed and gain hope and courage.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise to speak on the motion before us this evening. At the outset, can I join with others in especially acknowledging that today is LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Day. I wore my purple heart for special reasons. As a city, we’re proud to recognise this important cause through lighting up the Story Bridge and also providing significant community support funding for the Light Up the Night Gala held at City Hall each year. Unfortunately. I was unable to attend this year.

Brisbane City Council has a proud track record in being a leading workplace for the LGBTIQ+ community, and also in providing support, resources and leave entitlements for employees affected by domestic and family violence. We know that a significant number of LGBTQ+ people experience abuse. But sadly, they are far less likely to reach out for support or to report it. The LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Foundation worked incredibly hard to shed a light on this, and to make change within our community. Council was proud to invite the Foundation to speak to Council staff recently as part of our events for domestic and family violence awareness month. In fact, the recording of the webinar remains on Council’s intranet for anyone who might be interested in viewing it.

As part of the resources on this topic, Council has a specific section on DFV in LGBTIQ+ relationships as we recognise there shouldn’t be a one size fits all response, and that those in this situation do, sadly, face unique challenges. We also provide a dedicated directory of contacts for LGBTIQ+ staff including a dedicated LGBTIQA+ Connect Line which Council has funded through our employee assistance program.

Council is proud to be an early partner of the organisation WorkHaven and provide the Fresh Start For Me program, free of charge, to any employee who needs it to help them rebuild their lives after leaving a DFV situation. Employees can use their DFV leave for when they need to complete this program.

The number of resources to support people at risk of, currently facing, or rebuilding from DFV situations continue to emerge and grow, and there are many, many different organisations doing this important work and providing services and businesses to their employees. We recognise there’s also different challenges for LGBTIQ+ people experiencing DFV and that more needs to be done.

Council’s LGBTIQ+ employee network, River City Pride, works to increase visibility and advocacy for people in Brisbane City Council, and foster workplaces that are aware, respectful and inclusive for all people. Our communities of inclusion in Council are a way for employees with relevant lived experience to raise and progress important matters and initiatives in a safe way. It’s a bottom up approach, which sees these communities drive change within their workplace and within our community. So, Madam Chair, with all that in mind, I will move the following amendment.

**MOTION FOR AMENDMENT TO MOTION:**

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| **604/2023-24**  It was moved by Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM, seconded by Councillor Julia DIXON, that the motion be **amended** by the removal and insertion of such words so that the motion would read as follows:  *This Council continues to work with various domestic violence agencies, in consultation with River City Pride, to ensure free work place training programs continue to be made available for our Council workforce to support LGBTQ+ people experiencing domestic and family violence.* |

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Madam Chair. I’ve covered much of the rationale for the amendment in my earlier remarks. But, in summary, we recognise the important work of the LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Foundation and note that there are a range of agencies who Council partners with from that foundation to WorkHaven, Challenge DV, among many others. Ultimately, though, the Administration feels it’s important to reference River City Pride in this motion, as it really is important for them to feel empowered to drive and lead new initiatives in this space. As the Chair responsible for people and culture in Council, including our communities of inclusion, I will certainly raise this within the organisation to ensure that they know they have our support to ensure we can continue to provide every possible support to LGBTIQ+ employees dealing with the blight of domestic and family violence in our community.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Thanks very much, Chair, and, of course, the Administration, you’ve got the numbers you’ll do what you want to do. My respectful request is that someone picks up the phone to the foundation and engages with them on this specifically. Because, as I outlined earlier, this foundation is the only one doing this work of this specific kind. We all agree the work is too important not to do. I am aware that there is a relatively large State Government body that is engaging with the foundation to roll this out and that will save lives. Rolling this program out to Council employees will save lives. So however which way we go about it, that’s fine. But I really do implore you, please pick up the phone and engage with the foundation. They are doing life-changing and life-saving work. It doesn’t cost Council a cent to do it. It really is a no-brainer.

So you know, happy for you to amend the motion if you think that makes you win, but the actual win out of tonight will be rolling this program out for our workforce.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

I will now put the amendment.

**Amendment put:**

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

Chair: Okay. So I’ll move to the substantive motion.

Further speakers?

As there is no further speakers, I’ll now put the substantive motion.

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

### KING GEORGE SQUARE TRADITIONAL NAMING

**605/2023-24**

The Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed as item 5D on the agenda and called on Councillor Jared CASSIDY to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Jared CASSIDY moved, seconded by Councillor Lucy COLLIER, that—

*As Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan concludes in July and will require revision and renewal, Council engage with Traditional Owner Groups to consult with them on the dual naming of King George Square as part of the development of a new RAP.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you, Chair. In July this year, Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) will expire, giving us the chance to review and update the plan moving forward. We have come a long way in the development of a RAP and having a RAP. It took a very long time for Council to have one of those. But there’s still a long way to go when it comes to celebrating and empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

The Reconciliation Action Plan aims to confirm our respect for traditional custodians’ connection to the land and water as well as understand the diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, whilst accepting the shared and often difficult truths of our past. As you know, I heard yesterday, and so did you, just having a Reconciliation Action Plan is not enough.

It needs to be updated, revisited, strengthened, boldened, as time goes on, to deepen those connections, to further those actions in achieving genuine reconciliation. I think one way we can go a step further on this process and this walk together is through providing an indigenous name to King George Square, our city’s prominent meeting place. To me, it feels a little bit ignorant to honour King George the 5th through the name of Brisbane’s premier square without acknowledging the traditional owners on the land on which it sits today.

Brisbane Labor are calling on Council to consult with traditional owner groups and offer an indigenous name to this place as part of the next steps of reconciliation in Brisbane. Just last week, when we were discussing Sorry Day in Reconciliation Week, I talked about how King George Square was the endpoint for the People’s Walk for Reconciliation back in 2000 and where then Lord Mayor Jim Soorley welcomed—used National Sorry Day and welcomed those 70,000 people and Brisbane Elder Uncle Herb Bligh to symbolise that Indigenous people are welcome and have symbolic—a symbolic right of access in Brisbane with the handing over of the keys.

Council has a history of using King George Square to reflect the love, acceptance and understanding of Indigenous people in our city, and we think it’s time that the name did too as well. What struck me in the aftermath of the recent referendum defeat, we talked about this a bit, was the need for an enhanced process of truth‑telling. We often hide from our history, and while it’s convenient and easy at times to do that, the truth of our history needs to inform the actions to address—inform future actions to address the hurt and suffering people still experience. Yesterday, we were at Kurbingui, in Zillmere, together Chair. Following that Sorry Day morning tea, I know I spoke to quite a few Elders, and you did too, and I spoke to Aunty Selina, who said to me that the past experiences of her, her mother, and grandmother still sit so strongly with her, and that so much of that still remains unsaid.

We spoke quite a bit about it, actually, and she appreciated—said she appreciated the opportunity for someone like me to have sat there and listened to her personal story. But sometimes I think on—beyond days like that, where we do have the opportunity to sit down and listen in that environment, that’s where the conversation often ends, unfortunately, in the community.

Similarly, I’ve known Uncle Alex Davidson for many years now. But it was only last year that I learned about his experiences growing up on Cherbourg with a great level of detail, in fact. The level of control that he faced, the disconnection, not only from his culture, but also the ultimate disconnection from Cherbourg as well itself in his teen years, where he was banned even from Cherbourg and ended up in Townsville and Palm Island and other places as well, these painful experiences are so often personally held, sometimes because people want to keep them personal, of course, but sometimes too because there is a tendency to not talk about the past and not tell the truth, because there is no forum in which to do that.

We can’t solve all problems. We can do some things, though. We know that the tympanum above City Hall depicts what was at the time, a racist view of Brisbane’s first people. How do we know that? Because the artist herself said so. In 1953, Daphne Mayo said, and I quote, of course the figures show the retreat of the Aborigine. Isn’t it true? As a civilisation, they simply couldn’t stand up to ours, she said.

But how does anyone standing there, whether it’s right now, looking at the City Hall lit up, or whether it’s a visitor passing through, a school group coming to City Hall, somebody spending some time in King George Square throughout the day, how does anyone looking up at that tympanum know that we are not proud of that sentiment anymore, and that it doesn’t reflect modern Brisbane and how we think and feel about our relationship with First Nations people and the hurt that was done to them through colonisation?

Telling the truth about our past is important. The land on which this hall was built, and King George Square, of course, was taken, not given, not bought. We then named the square after a British monarch of German descent who didn’t have any ancient connection to the land on which that square is so named. In fact, I don’t think he had much of a connection to Brisbane at all.

We’re not saying tear the whole place up, but we are saying more steps need to be taken because the Reconciliation Action Plan is an evolving document that should continue to build on its work, gather a head of steam, and fundamentally change the way that we think and act, or certainly help to do so.

We saw that inclusive process recently in the recognising of traditional names of K’gari, Minjerribah, and Mulgumpin, closer to Brisbane here. We’ve seen Council act quite quickly in recent times as well and dual naming significant places in Brisbane, we now refer to Victoria Park as Victoria Park / Barrambin. That was a process that was undertaken quite rapidly.

So I think, as leaders, it’s incumbent on all of us to push for change, and I certainly hope that we see that support today as another step forward, as one small partner renewed Reconciliation Action Plan. I’m sure there’s lots of work that’s going on, both at a political level in the Administration, and at an officer level as well about reviewing and renewing the Reconciliation Action Plan. Councillor HOWARD said the other week, last week I think, that 90% of actions in the Reconciliation Action Plan were complete or underway, which I suppose gives the 10% balance of things still need to be started, possibly carried over to a new Reconciliation Action Plan.

But new things. As I said, bolder things, important things need to be included in a new Reconciliation Action Plan in consultation with Brisbane’s traditional owner groups and individuals to make sure that those steps that we take as a Council representing a city now—a large city, a modern city, a progressive city, here and in the context of Australia, are meaningful. We think in in the context of Sorry Day occurring over the weekend and commemorations happening around that in Reconciliation Week, now more than ever, the theme of that is an important time to have this debate tonight. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY.

Further speakers?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak to the motion before us. This Council is absolutely committed to Brisbane’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. For nearly 20 years now, it has been this side of the Chamber which has championed these communities, taken their advice, worked with them on introducing new and improved programs, and we stand by this record. We will continue with this approach because we know it works and continues to deliver results. Nowhere is this approach clearer than the adoption and release of our Reconciliation Action Plan with 90, that’s nine zero, key deliverables to help this Council on its journey to reconciliation. It’s a plan that Reconciliation Australia described as a great plan.

Work on the Reconciliation Action Plan is ongoing and we will not engage in the shameful politicisation of reconciliation.

Our journey towards reconciliation is guided and led by our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders and community, and this Schrinner Council will not allow it to be turned into a political plaything by those opposite, and it’s for that reason that we will not be supporting this motion.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you. Thanks, Chair. That experience just then, in listening to Councillor HOWARD, I didn’t think I was overly political in trying to politicise that issue. I was very careful in this approach. That experience is very different than the one we had yesterday at Kurbingui, Chair, I think, what I just heard from Councillor HOWARD there, the conversations that I had with Elders there. I think they would be mortified to have just listened to that.

Yes. As I said, there’s been respectful processes undertaken around dual naming, renaming in some instances. We’ve said dual naming here, because that’s a step forward, I think, just like Council did with Victoria Park / Barrambin. That was really quite rapid. I remember that debate when we were having that on Zoom—Zoom back then. I remember sitting in my ward office and where we moved an amendment to the Committee responsibilities in which Councillor HOWARD was specifically responsible for the development in that Committee of a Reconciliation Action Plan, and soon after that Victoria Park was dual-named and signs were updated and documents were updated.

That wasn’t met with the venom that we just heard from Councillor HOWARD then. As I said, the process—the consultative process, of which, Stradbroke Island and Morton Island are now known as Mulgumpin and Minjerribah and K’gari as well. Having a dual name for something that is as significant and symbolic in the heart of Brisbane would send a very strong message that Council cares about reconciliation, cares about those next steps, cares about those connections to our past, as well.

I simply read what Daphne Mayo said about her own work. It’s called The Advance of Civilisation, The March of Civilisation. I’m sure that can be corrected. The exact title of the tympanum slipped my mind. But it was of a time in Brisbane’s history, where, after hundreds and thousands of deaths of Aboriginal people here, the ongoing march of white civilisation was seen as a good thing in extinguishing what was here before. We don’t know—I’m not suggesting anyone in this room believes that anymore. That’s the point I’m trying to make. We need to be able to say what that represented above City Hall, and the history of which people experienced, for generations, Aboriginal people in Brisbane experienced for generations, is not something that we accept anymore. We recognise and accept that that is something that happened in the past, that is an important part of truth-telling, in about—in a way of understanding that generational trauma. We heard that yesterday at the Sorry Day event at Kurbingui in Zillmere, the kind of generational, intergenerational trauma that people carry that affects people for generations and generations and generations can’t simply just be forgotten about.

People can’t just move on, because the LNP in here say we shouldn’t talk about the past to help find new ways of blazing a future. So I’m quite taken aback actually. Yes, a bit lost for words as to how to respond to what we just heard there from Councillor HOWARD. It was deeply disappointing. I will certainly continue to engage with Elders in my community. We have a very strong Elders group based out of Kurbingui now who are also reaching out to the Inala Elders Group and building those cross city connections as well.

A lot of those people are engaged in Council’s official traditional owner consultation as well. So this is certainly something I will continue, continue to work with them on, and certainly hope with at that process we don’t get the political interference from Councillor HOWARD that we’ve just heard tonight, and that that process is actually done with Council’s arms outstretched to the community as well. We certainly live in hope anyway.

Chair: I’ll now put the motion.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 4 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Emily KIM and Charles STRUNK.

NOES: 16 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

Chair: Councillors, that now concludes today’s meeting.

## 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 Jared Cassidy (received on 23 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?

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

**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?

**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.

**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?

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

**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.

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

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

**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 |  |  |  |  |  |

**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 |  |  |  |  |  |

## 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 of 21 May 2024)**

**Q1.** Please provide more information on the Emotional Intelligence in Leadership program, due to begin in August 2024? What will this course deliver, and to whom?

***A1.*** *Emotional Intelligence in Leadership is one of the learning and development programs available to Council employees. Participants learn ways to develop their emotional intelligence, supporting a cohesive and productive work environment.*

**Q2.** What is the total cost budgeted to deliver the Emotional Intelligence in Leadership program, due to begin in August 2024, and what materials in addition to reading material already purchased will be provided?

***A2.*** *$346.32. There are no additional materials on top of the reading materials already purchased.*

**Q3.** Please advise the number of hours of labour hire (of any description) council has engaged in each financial year since 2020/21, until the current FYTD.

***A3.*** *This data is kept within individual files that would require multiple offers to be redirected from their day job for multiple days in order to provide a response. As such, Council officers have advised they are unable to answer this question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

**Q4.** Please advise all projects delivered under 2023-2024 Budget Service 5.3.2.1 Sport and Recreation Organisational Development in the 2023-2024 FYTD.

***A4.*** *As per the budget papers, there are no projects associated with this line item.*

**Q5.** Please advise by suburb how many rates accounts were established across Brisbane in 2023-2024 FYTD, broken down by each rating category (1 – 36).

***A5.***

| ***SUBURB*** | ***1*** | ***10*** | ***11A*** | ***12A*** | ***13*** | ***14*** | ***16*** | ***16B*** | ***17*** | ***21B*** | ***21C*** | ***21E*** | ***22G*** | ***24*** | ***2A*** | ***2B*** | ***2D*** | ***2L*** | ***4A*** | ***4B*** | ***5A*** | ***7*** | ***8H*** | ***Not yet categorised*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *ACACIA RIDGE* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *4* |  | *4* |  | *38* |
| *ALBION* | *1* | *3* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *2* |
| *ALDERLEY* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  | *8* |
| *ALGESTER* |  | *24* |  |  |  | *22* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *ANNERLEY* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |  | *8* |
| *ARCHERFIELD* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *2* |
| *ASCOT* | *1* | *2* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8* |
| *ASHGROVE* | *10* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *43* |
| *ASPLEY* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |  | *7* |
| *AUCHENFLOWER* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8* |
| *BALD HILLS* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *2* |  | *1* |
| *BALMORAL* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *2* |  | *6* |
| *BANYO* |  | *31* |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  | *4* |
| *BARDON* | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *7* |
| *BELMONT* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *11* |
| *BOONDALL* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  | *56* |
| *BOWEN HILLS* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *BRACKEN RIDGE* | *20* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *43* |
| *BRIDGEMAN DOWNS* | *17* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *18* |  | *50* |
| *BRIGHTON* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8* |  | *4* |
| *BRISBANE CITY* |  | *92* |  |  | *11* | *173* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  |  | *1* |  | *1* | *1* |  |  | *5* |
| *BROOKFIELD* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |
| *BULIMBA* | *1* | *7* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *27* |
| *CALAMVALE* | *50* | *10* |  |  |  | *17* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *80* |
| *CAMP HILL* | *7* | *7* |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *7* |  | *17* |
| *CANNON HILL* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *24* |
| *CARINA* | *2* | *8* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *79* |
| *CARINA HEIGHTS* | *1* | *19* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *5* |
| *CARSELDINE* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *28* |
| *CHANDLER* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |
| *CHAPEL HILL* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *14* |
| *CHELMER* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *4* |
| *CHERMSIDE* | *7* | *5* |  |  |  | *15* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *29* |
| *CHERMSIDE WEST* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *CLAYFIELD* | *3* | *3* |  |  |  | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *7* |  | *4* |
| *COOPERS PLAINS* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *6* |  | *12* |
| *COORPAROO* | *3* | *82* |  |  |  | *23* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  | *1* |  |  |  | *3* |  | *18* |
| *CORINDA* | *4* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |
| *DARRA* | *2* |  | *11* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *6* |  | *9* |
| *DEAGON* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8* |
| *DOOLANDELLA* | *18* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |
| *DREWVALE* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *DURACK* | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  | *2* |
| *DUTTON PARK* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *84* |
| *EAGLE FARM* |  | *1* | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |
| *EAST BRISBANE* | *3* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |
| *EIGHT MILE PLAINS* | *8* |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *57* |
| *ELLEN GROVE* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *ENOGGERA* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *1* |
| *EVERTON PARK* | *10* | *44* |  |  |  | *16* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |  | *33* |
| *FAIRFIELD* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *FERNY GROVE* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |
| *FIG TREE POCKET* | *5* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  | *2* |  | *13* |
| *FITZGIBBON* | *1* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *FOREST LAKE* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |
| *FORTITUDE VALLEY* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *7* |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *GAYTHORNE* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *6* |  | *5* |
| *GEEBUNG* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *9* |
| *GORDON PARK* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *2* |
| *GRACEVILLE* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |
| *GREENSLOPES* | *2* | *19* |  |  |  | *10* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *22* |
| *HAMILTON* | *9* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  | *2* |  |  |  | *5* |  | *30* |
| *HAWTHORNE* | *2* | *7* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *5* |
| *HEATHWOOD* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *152* |
| *HEMMANT* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *2* |  | *16* |
| *HENDRA* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *6* |
| *HERSTON* | *3* | *1* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *22* |
| *HIGHGATE HILL* |  | *18* |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |
| *HOLLAND PARK* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *2* |
| *HOLLAND PARK WEST* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |
| *INALA* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *7* |
| *INDOOROOPILLY* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8* |  | *16* |
| *JINDALEE* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |
| *KALINGA* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *KANGAROO POINT* |  | *1* |  | *14* |  | *1* | *3* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *22* |
| *KARANA DOWNS* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *KEDRON* | *2* | *8* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *7* |
| *KELVIN GROVE* |  |  | *2* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |
| *KENMORE* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *1* |  | *44* |
| *KENMORE HILLS* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *KEPERRA* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *36* |
| *KOORINGAL* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *KURABY* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *39* |
| *LARAPINTA* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *LOTA* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |
| *LUTWYCHE* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *70* |
| *LYTTON* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *MACGREGOR* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *MANLY* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *2* |  | *18* |
| *MANLY WEST* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *1* |  | *40* |
| *MANSFIELD* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *MCDOWALL* | *4* | *11* |  |  |  | *25* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  | *70* |
| *MILTON* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *6* |
| *MITCHELTON* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *2* |
| *MOGGILL* | *8* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |
| *MOOROOKA* | *4* |  |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  | *15* |
| *MORETON ISLAND* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *MORNINGSIDE* | *6* | *2* |  |  |  | *4* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *7* |
| *MOUNT GRAVATT* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *MOUNT GRAVATT EAST* | *6* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |  | *7* |
| *MURARRIE* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *2* |
| *NEW FARM* | *1* | *26* |  |  |  | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *9* |
| *NEWMARKET* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  | *5* |
| *NEWSTEAD* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *153* |
| *NORMAN PARK* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |
| *NORTHGATE* | *4* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *1* |  |  |  | *2* |
| *NUDGEE* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *NUNDAH* | *4* | *8* |  |  |  | *8* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *32* |
| *OXLEY* | *5* | *1* | *14* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *40* |
| *PADDINGTON* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *10* |
| *PALLARA* | *115* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *6* |  | *83* |
| *PARKINSON* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *76* |
| *PINKENBA* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |
| *PORT OF BRISBANE* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |
| *RED HILL* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  | *2* |  |  |
| *RICHLANDS* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *13* |
| *RIVERHILLS* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *ROBERTSON* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *ROCHEDALE* |  | *47* |  |  |  | *51* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *184* |
| *ROCKLEA* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *RUNCORN* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *76* |
| *SALISBURY* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *11* |
| *SANDGATE* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *2* |
| *SEVEN HILLS* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *71* |
| *SHERWOOD* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *31* |
| *SHORNCLIFFE* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *SOUTH BRISBANE* | *1* | *41* |  |  |  | *135* | *1* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *132* |
| *SPRING HILL* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *8* |
| *ST LUCIA* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *6* |
| *STAFFORD* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *9* |
| *STAFFORD HEIGHTS* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |
| *STONES CORNER* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  | *1* |
| *STRETTON* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  | *22* |
| *SUMNER* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *18* |
| *SUNNYBANK* | *4* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  | *11* |  | *4* |
| *SUNNYBANK HILLS* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *1* |  | *14* |
| *TAIGUM* | *27* | *1* |  |  |  | *11* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *TARINGA* |  | *21* |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *22* |
| *TARRAGINDI* | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *14* |
| *TENERIFFE* |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *THE GAP* | *5* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |
| *TINGALPA* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *TOOWONG* | *2* | *1* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *2* | *1* | *10* |
| *UPPER BROOKFIELD* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *UPPER MOUNT GRAVATT* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *26* |
| *VIRGINIA* |  |  | *14* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *WACOL* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *WAVELL HEIGHTS* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  | *2* |
| *WEST END* |  | *60* |  |  |  | *12* | *2* |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *202* |
| *WILLAWONG* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *WILSTON* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |
| *WINDSOR* | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  | *3* |
| *WISHART* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *2* |
| *WOOLLOONGABBA* |  | *4* |  |  |  | *58* |  |  | *8* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *6* |
| *WOOLOOWIN* | *1* | *2* |  |  |  | *1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  |  | *3* |  | *2* |
| *WYNNUM* | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  | *8* |  | *8* |  | *58* |
| *WYNNUM WEST* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *4* |  | *13* |
| *YEERONGPILLY* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *25* |
| *YERONGA* |  | *26* |  |  |  | *6* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *1* |  | *12* |
| *ZILLMERE* | *2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | *2* |  | *5* |  | *9* |
| *Grand Total* | *523* | *659* | *48* | *14* | *11* | *615* | *23* | *1* | *12* | *2* | *1* | *1* | *1* | *2* | *85* | *1* | *2* | *10* | *5* | *36* | *1* | *248* | *1* | *3038* |

**Q6.** How much money has been donated to the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Trust during the 2023-2024 financial year through the rates donation option?

***A6.*** *$181,950.*

**Q7.** How much money has been donated to the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Trust during the 2023-2024 financial year through tap and pay terminals in any location?

***A7.*** *Council does not own or operate the Trust’s pay devices. Details on income for the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Trust for the financial year 2023/24 will be contained within that year’s annual report which will be available online when finalised.*

**Q8.** To date, how many total properties have been identified as transitory short stay accommodation? Please provide a total, and a break down per suburb.

***A8.***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *ACACIA RIDGE* | *3* |  | *LUTWYCHE* | *3* |
| *ALBION* | *3* |  | *MACGREGOR* | *2* |
| *ALDERLEY* | *2* |  | *MACKENZIE* | *1* |
| *ALGESTER* | *3* |  | *MANLY* | *10* |
| *ANNERLEY* | *8* |  | *MANLY WEST* | *2* |
| *ASCOT* | *19* |  | *MANSFIELD* | *1* |
| *AUCHENFLOWER* | *12* |  | *MCDOWALL* | *2* |
| *BALD HILLS* | *1* |  | *MILTON* | *83* |
| *BALMORAL* | *2* |  | *MITCHELTON* | *1* |
| *BANYO* | *1* |  | *MOOROOKA* | *4* |
| *BARDON* | *6* |  | *MORNINGSIDE* | *9* |
| *BOONDALL* | *2* |  | *MOUNT GRAVATT* | *2* |
| *BOWEN HILLS* | *165* |  | *MOUNT GRAVATT EAST* | *2* |
| *BRACKEN RIDGE* | *3* |  | *MURARRIE* | *5* |
| *BRIDGEMAN DOWNS* | *1* |  | *NEW FARM* | *53* |
| *BRIGHTON* | *7* |  | *NEWMARKET* | *3* |
| *BRISBANE CITY* | *186* |  | *NEWSTEAD* | *20* |
| *BROOKFIELD* | *2* |  | *NORMAN PARK* | *3* |
| *BULIMBA* | *18* |  | *NORTHGATE* | *5* |
| *BULWER* | *6* |  | *NUDGEE* | *1* |
| *CALAMVALE* | *7* |  | *NUNDAH* | *5* |
| *CAMP HILL* | *4* |  | *OXLEY* | *2* |
| *CANNON HILL* | *2* |  | *PADDINGTON* | *16* |
| *CARINA* | *4* |  | *PALLARA* | *1* |
| *CARINDALE* | *7* |  | *PARKINSON* | *2* |
| *CARSELDINE* | *1* |  | *PETRIE TERRACE* | *2* |
| *CHANDLER* | *2* |  | *RED HILL* | *9* |
| *CHAPEL HILL* | *1* |  | *RIVERHILLS* | *1* |
| *CHELMER* | *1* |  | *ROBERTSON* | *5* |
| *CHERMSIDE* | *9* |  | *ROCHEDALE* | *9* |
| *CHERMSIDE WEST* | *1* |  | *ROCKLEA* | *3* |
| *CLAYFIELD* | *5* |  | *RUNCORN* | *1* |
| *COOPERS PLAINS* | *3* |  | *SALISBURY* | *1* |
| *COORPAROO* | *9* |  | *SANDGATE* | *2* |
| *COWAN COWAN* | *14* |  | *SEVEN HILLS* | *2* |
| *DOOLANDELLA* | *4* |  | *SHERWOOD* | *2* |
| *DURACK* | *1* |  | *SINNAMON PARK* | *1* |
| *EAST BRISBANE* | *11* |  | *SOUTH BRISBANE* | *187* |
| *EIGHT MILE PLAINS* | *5* |  | *SPRING HILL* | *52* |
| *ENOGGERA* | *3* |  | *ST LUCIA* | *6* |
| *EVERTON PARK* | *2* |  | *STAFFORD HEIGHTS* | *1* |
| *FAIRFIELD* | *2* |  | *STONES CORNER* | *1* |
| *FIG TREE POCKET* | *1* |  | *SUNNYBANK* | *9* |
| *FITZGIBBON* | *1* |  | *SUNNYBANK HILLS* | *2* |
| *FOREST LAKE* | *8* |  | *TAIGUM* | *1* |
| *FORTITUDE VALLEY* | *202* |  | *TARINGA* | *5* |
| *GAYTHORNE* | *1* |  | *TARRAGINDI* | *4* |
| *GEEBUNG* | *1* |  | *TENERIFFE* | *39* |
| *GRACEVILLE* | *2* |  | *TENNYSON* | *3* |
| *GRANGE* | *2* |  | *THE GAP* | *3* |
| *GREENSLOPES* | *2* |  | *TINGALPA* | *2* |
| *HAMILTON* | *102* |  | *TOOWONG* | *30* |
| *HAWTHORNE* | *4* |  | *UPPER BROOKFIELD* | *1* |
| *HEATHWOOD* | *3* |  | *UPPER KEDRON* | *1* |
| *HENDRA* | *2* |  | *UPPER MOUNT GRAVATT* | *3* |
| *HERSTON* | *22* |  | *VIRGINIA* | *1* |
| *HIGHGATE HILL* | *4* |  | *WAKERLEY* | *2* |
| *HOLLAND PARK WEST* | *1* |  | *WAVELL HEIGHTS* | *1* |
| *INALA* | *1* |  | *WEST END* | *28* |
| *INDOOROOPILLY* | *6* |  | *WINDSOR* | *4* |
| *JINDALEE* | *3* |  | *WISHART* | *2* |
| *KANGAROO POINT* | *50* |  | *WOOLLOONGABBA* | *20* |
| *KEDRON* | *4* |  | *WOOLOOWIN* | *4* |
| *KELVIN GROVE* | *9* |  | *WYNNUM* | *10* |
| *KENMORE* | *2* |  | *WYNNUM WEST* | *3* |
| *KEPERRA* | *2* |  | *YEERONGPILLY* | *2* |
| *KOORINGAL* | *8* |  | *YERONGA* | *2* |
| *LOTA* | *5* |  |  |  |

**Q9.** For each financial year and current FYTD, what is the total rates revenue collected in the Transitory Short Stay Accommodation category?

***A9.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *FY 2022-23* | *$788,897.82* |
| *FY 2023-24 YTD* | *$2,937,508.76* |

**Q10.** Following online survey submissions to the Short-Stay Accommodation Taskforce closing on 30 September 2023, when will the associated report be published?

***A10.*** *Before 30 June 2024.*

**Q11.** How many total subscribers are currently enrolled to Council’s Brisbane Severe Weather Alert Service?

***A11.*** *193,962. This is over 35% of Brisbane households. Subscription rates are higher in suburbs where the risk of flooding is greater.*

**Q12.** What was the final figure of reimbursement to pool operators for the $2 Summer Dips program from the projected $1.97m cost to Council?

***A12.*** *Due to the popularity of the $2 Summer Dips initiative, actual patronage exceeded predicated patronage which resulted in the total cost being $2,446,109.64 (GST exc).*

**Q13.** What was the final figure spent on advertising the $2 Summer Dips program? Please provide an itemised list.

***A13.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***Expenditure*** |
| *TV Advertising* | *$98,781.60* |
| *Online Advertising* | *$34,505* |
| *Social Media* | *$7,651.70* |
| *Print Advertising* | *$2,438* |
| *Radio* | *$26,775* |
| *Outdoor Advertising* | *$26,138.25* |
| *Broadcast Video on Demand (BVOD)* | *$21,032* |

**Q14.** How many rate payers have opted to receive their rates bill electronically since this was introduced? Please break down by month.

***A14.***

| ***YEAR/ MONTH*** | ***BPAY*** | ***EMAIL*** |  | ***YEAR/ MONTH*** | ***BPAY*** | ***EMAIL*** |  | ***YEAR/ MONTH*** | ***BPAY*** | ***EMAIL*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *2003/04* | *5* |  |  | *2010/05* | *27* |  |  | *2017/06* | *79* | *498* |
| *2003/05* | *17* |  |  | *2010/06* | *20* |  |  | *2017/07* | *504* | *2,604* |
| *2003/06* | *2* |  |  | *2010/07* | *46* |  |  | *2017/08* | *464* | *7,560* |
| *2003/07* | *7* |  |  | *2010/08* | *30* |  |  | *2017/09* | *91* | *1,302* |
| *2003/08* | *9* |  |  | *2010/09* | *13* |  |  | *2017/10* | *419* | *1,746* |
| *2003/09* | *3* |  |  | *2010/10* | *332* |  |  | *2017/11* | *390* | *2,803* |
| *2003/10* | *6* |  |  | *2010/11* | *104* |  |  | *2017/12* | *89* | *869* |
| *2003/11* | *10* |  |  | *2010/12* | *36* |  |  | *2018/01* | *476* | *1,787* |
| *2003/12* | *1* |  |  | *2011/01* | *66* |  |  | *2018/02* | *323* | *1,368* |
| *2004/01* | *1* |  |  | *2011/02* | *43* |  |  | *2018/03* | *92* | *871* |
| *2004/02* | *7* |  |  | *2011/03* | *29* |  |  | *2018/04* | *363* | *2,009* |
| *2004/03* | *2* |  |  | *2011/04* | *47* |  |  | *2018/05* | *422* | *2,014* |
| *2004/04* | *7* |  |  | *2011/05* | *27* |  |  | *2018/06* | *74* | *750* |
| *2004/05* | *9* |  |  | *2011/06* | *14* |  |  | *2018/07* | *421* | *2,130* |
| *2004/06* | *1* |  |  | *2011/07* | *35* |  |  | *2018/08* | *374* | *1,782* |
| *2004/07* | *7* |  |  | *2011/08* | *46* |  |  | *2018/09* | *90* | *875* |
| *2004/08* | *10* |  |  | *2011/09* | *29* |  |  | *2018/10* | *447* | *1,597* |
| *2004/09* | *5* |  |  | *2011/10* | *50* |  |  | *2018/11* | *336* | *1,290* |
| *2004/10* | *23* |  |  | *2011/11* | *35* |  |  | *2018/12* | *73* | *851* |
| *2004/11* | *9* |  |  | *2011/12* | *19* |  |  | *2019/01* | *455* | *2,079* |
| *2004/12* | *5* |  |  | *2012/01* | *121* |  |  | *2019/02* | *341* | *1,137* |
| *2005/01* | *11* |  |  | *2012/02* | *66* |  |  | *2019/03* | *89* | *1,144* |
| *2005/02* | *13* |  |  | *2012/03* | *31* |  |  | *2019/04* | *371* | *1,619* |
| *2005/03* | *1* |  |  | *2012/04* | *77* |  |  | *2019/05* | *315* | *1,163* |
| *2005/04* | *5* |  |  | *2012/05* | *69* |  |  | *2019/06* | *79* | *877* |
| *2005/05* | *19* |  |  | *2012/06* | *32* |  |  | *2019/07* | *377* | *1,921* |
| *2005/06* | *8* |  |  | *2012/07* | *76* |  |  | *2019/08* | *371* | *1,362* |
| *2005/07* | *17* |  |  | *2012/08* | *66* |  |  | *2019/09* | *90* | *966* |
| *2005/08* | *32* |  |  | *2012/09* | *24* |  |  | *2019/10* | *441* | *2,075* |
| *2005/09* | *7* |  |  | *2012/10* | *88* |  |  | *2019/11* | *343* | *1,210* |
| *2005/10* | *23* |  |  | *2012/11* | *56* |  |  | *2019/12* | *78* | *948* |
| *2005/11* | *34* |  |  | *2012/12* | *17* |  |  | *2020/01* | *424* | *2,002* |
| *2005/12* | *13* |  |  | *2013/01* | *84* |  |  | *2020/02* | *359* | *1,365* |
| *2006/01* | *29* |  |  | *2013/02* | *66* |  |  | *2020/03* | *63* | *1,147* |
| *2006/02* | *27* |  |  | *2013/03* | *42* |  |  | *2020/04* | *241* | *1,547* |
| *2006/03* | *14* |  |  | *2013/04* | *97* |  |  | *2020/05* | *206* | *1,416* |
| *2006/04* | *26* |  |  | *2013/05* | *59* |  |  | *2020/06* | *83* | *1,095* |
| *2006/05* | *28* |  |  | *2013/06* | *31* |  |  | *2020/07* | *267* | *1,677* |
| *2006/06* | *6* |  |  | *2013/07* | *85* |  |  | *2020/08* | *354* | *1,301* |
| *2006/07* | *13* |  |  | *2013/08* | *69* |  |  | *2020/09* | *114* | *1,385* |
| *2006/08* | *10* |  |  | *2013/09* | *52* |  |  | *2020/10* | *299* | *1,766* |
| *2006/09* | *6* |  |  | *2013/10* | *98* |  |  | *2020/11* | *236* | *1,347* |
| *2006/10* | *17* |  |  | *2013/11* | *105* |  |  | *2020/12* | *79* | *1,078* |
| *2006/11* | *11* |  |  | *2013/12* | *32* |  |  | *2021/01* | *367* | *1,671* |
| *2006/12* | *2* |  |  | *2014/01* | *127* |  |  | *2021/02* | *275* | *1,414* |
| *2007/01* | *20* |  |  | *2014/02* | *93* |  |  | *2021/03* | *98* | *1,384* |
| *2007/02* | *18* |  |  | *2014/03* | *58* |  |  | *2021/04* | *326* | *1,719* |
| *2007/03* | *3* |  |  | *2014/04* | *129* |  |  | *2021/05* | *300* | *1,350* |
| *2007/04* | *14* |  |  | *2014/05* | *76* |  |  | *2021/06* | *87* | *1,341* |
| *2007/05* | *16* |  |  | *2014/06* | *64* |  |  | *2021/07* | *343* | *2,028* |
| *2007/06* | *5* |  |  | *2014/07* | *186* |  |  | *2021/08* | *361* | *1,781* |
| *2007/07* | *15* |  |  | *2014/08* | *117* |  |  | *2021/09* | *91* | *1,472* |
| *2007/08* | *16* |  |  | *2014/09* | *50* |  |  | *2021/10* | *300* | *2,293* |
| *2007/09* | *8* |  |  | *2014/10* | *139* |  |  | *2021/11* | *326* | *2,379* |
| *2007/10* | *19* |  |  | *2014/11* | *99* |  |  | *2021/12* | *109* | *1,717* |
| *2007/11* | *14* |  |  | *2014/12* | *46* |  |  | *2022/01* | *386* | *2,468* |
| *2007/12* | *4* |  |  | *2015/01* | *136* |  |  | *2022/02* | *351* | *1,977* |
| *2008/01* | *24* |  |  | *2015/02* | *113* |  |  | *2022/03* | *120* | *1,666* |
| *2008/02* | *13* |  |  | *2015/03* | *94* |  |  | *2022/04* | *72* | *1,497* |
| *2008/03* | *10* |  |  | *2015/04* | *163* |  |  | *2022/05* | *293* | *2,942* |
| *2008/04* | *241* |  |  | *2015/05* | *118* |  |  | *2022/06* | *188* | *1,792* |
| *2008/05* | *72* |  |  | *2015/06* | *54* |  |  | *2022/07* | *280* | *2,643* |
| *2008/06* | *27* |  |  | *2015/07* | *183* |  |  | *2022/08* | *212* | *2,083* |
| *2008/07* | *55* |  |  | *2015/08* | *154* |  |  | *2022/09* | *91* | *1,692* |
| *2008/08* | *23* |  |  | *2015/09* | *53* |  |  | *2022/10* | *319* | *2,361* |
| *2008/09* | *15* |  |  | *2015/10* | *936* |  |  | *2022/11* | *284* | *1,993* |
| *2008/10* | *57* |  |  | *2015/11* | *277* |  |  | *2022/12* | *81* | *1,397* |
| *2008/11* | *29* |  |  | *2015/12* | *94* |  |  | *2023/01* | *380* | *2,318* |
| *2008/12* | *13* |  |  | *2016/01* | *261* |  |  | *2023/02* | *331* | *1,815* |
| *2009/01* | *54* |  |  | *2016/02* | *190* |  |  | *2023/03* | *95* | *2,085* |
| *2009/02* | *38* |  |  | *2016/03* | *77* |  |  | *2023/04* | *301* | *2,044* |
| *2009/03* | *18* |  |  | *2016/04* | *211* |  |  | *2023/05* | *379* | *2,425* |
| *2009/04* | *38* |  |  | *2016/05* | *179* |  |  | *2023/06* | *109* | *1,961* |
| *2009/05* | *32* |  |  | *2016/06* | *82* |  |  | *2023/07* | *359* | *2,862* |
| *2009/06* | *26* |  |  | *2016/07* | *413* |  |  | *2023/08* | *363* | *2,458* |
| *2009/07* | *44* |  |  | *2016/08* | *598* | *839* |  | *2023/09* | *111* | *1,958* |
| *2009/08* | *36* |  |  | *2016/09* | *113* | *2,967* |  | *2023/10* | *401* | *15,115* |
| *2009/09* | *11* |  |  | *2016/10* | *574* | *1,100* |  | *2023/11* | *351* | *4,623* |
| *2009/10* | *55* |  |  | *2016/11* | *546* | *1,289* |  | *2023/12* | *79* | *2,037* |
| *2009/11* | *37* |  |  | *2016/12* | *83* | *345* |  | *2024/01* | *471* | *9,584* |
| *2009/12* | *19* |  |  | *2017/01* | *536* | *800* |  | *2024/02* | *343* | *3,157* |
| *2010/01* | *34* |  |  | *2017/02* | *485* | *1,113* |  | *2024/03* | *109* | *2,242* |
| *2010/02* | *37* |  |  | *2017/03* | *106* | *434* |  | *2024/04* | *371* | *2,641* |
| *2010/03* | *19* |  |  | *2017/04* | *398* | *803* |  | *2024/05* | *279* | *1,543* |
| *2010/04* | *44* |  |  | *2017/05* | *453* | *811* |  |  |  |  |

**Q15.** Please provide a breakdown by Ward, of the sum of overdue rates bills and the number of properties.

***A15.***

| ***Ward*** | ***No. of Accounts*** | ***Total Overdue*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *BRACKEN RIDGE* | *1,622* | *$1,136,145.81* |
| *CALAMVALE* | *2,313* | *$1,835,072.02* |
| *CENTRAL* | *3,418* | *$6,111,607.24* |
| *CHANDLER* | *1,312* | *$1,408,597.82* |
| *COORPAROO* | *1,660* | *$1,875,222.37* |
| *DEAGON* | *1,807* | *$1,514,693.73* |
| *DOBOY* | *1,593* | *$1,415,533.09* |
| *ENOGGERA* | *1,464* | *$1,607,732.05* |
| *FOREST LAKE* | *2,160* | *$1,817,506.98* |
| *HAMILTON* | *2,304* | *$4,045,986.79* |
| *HOLLAND PARK* | *1,646* | *$1,973,434.79* |
| *JAMBOREE* | *1,525* | *$1,909,299.94* |
| *MACGREGOR* | *1,861* | *$2,158,600.73* |
| *MARCHANT* | *1,942* | *$1,583,818.70* |
| *MCDOWALL* | *1,557* | *$1,259,657.07* |
| *MOOROOKA* | *1,809* | *$2,233,106.66* |
| *MORNINGSIDE* | *1,699* | *$2,016,773.24* |
| *NORTHGATE* | *1,937* | *$2,352,545.57* |
| *PADDINGTON* | *1,712* | *$2,284,755.47* |
| *PULLENVALE* | *1,297* | *$1,202,477.43* |
| *RUNCORN* | *1,757* | *$1,726,571.51* |
| *TENNYSON* | *1,640* | *$1,506,756.61* |
| *THE GABBA* | *2,617* | *$4,167,810.19* |
| *THE GAP* | *1,241* | *$1,256,749.42* |
| *WALTER TAYLOR* | *1,920* | *$1,611,045.93* |
| *WYNNUM-MANLY* | *1,645* | *$1,392,840.45* |

**Q16.** How many ferries are in the Council fleet? List the year of service commencement for each?

***A16.*** *A response to this question has previously been provided. The only update to that response is below:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Year of service*** | ***Number of vessels*** |
| *2024* | *1* |

**Q17.** Please provide monthly patronage numbers to each Council Pool from April 2023 to current.

***A17.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Pool*** | *Apr-23* | *May-23* | *Jun-23* | *Jul-23* | *Aug-23* | *Sep-23* | *Oct-23* | *Nov-23* | *Dec-23* | *Jan-24* | *Feb-24* | *Mar-24* | *Apr-24* |
| *Acacia Ridge* | *4711* | *2431* | *3396* | *4056* | *3890* | *5019* | *8472* | *4801* | *12352* | *8519* | *11947* | *4595* | *3794* |
| *Bellbowrie* | *6109* | *4849* | *1121* | *1197* | *1160* | *3502* | *15422* | *18636* | *17537* | *12724* | *12287* | *7477* | *7187* |
| *Carole Park* | *2270* | *1901* | *1095* | *0\*\** | *0\*\** | *1469* | *7115* | *6721* | *8889* | *3828* | *4479* | *4427* | *2257* |
| *Spring Hill (Centenary Pool)* | *16299* | *18810* | *18067* | *19218* | *20432* | *21084* | *27459* | *25194* | *22571* | *29319* | *27098* | *21905* | *20280* |
| *Chermside* | *20605* | *13165* | *12008* | *10506* | *9212* | *16701* | *24005* | *24655* | *38955* | *56950* | *38899* | *19047* | *16472* |
| *Morningside (Colmslie Pool)* | *18601* | *16374* | *13082* | *17822* | *19590* | *19744* | *25910* | *25967* | *21749* | *26726* | *24628* | *20209* | *18095* |
| *Corinda (Dunlop Pool)* | *9686* | *9456* | *8791* | *11858* | *8394* | *16438* | *16835* | *15709* | *23180* | *20266* | *15649* | *10691* | *8184* |
| *Fitzgibbon (Emily Seebohm Pool)* | *5948* | *9160* | *11181* | *11890* | *12780* | *13125* | *14083* | *13342* | *13888* | *15536* | *16343* | *13053* | *8891* |
| *Upper Mt Gravatt (Hibiscus Pool)* | *9982* | *12354* | *14016* | *14111* | *14785* | *16232* | *18195* | *32675* | *22320* | *37092* | *22320* | *16763* | *17708* |
| *Paddington (Ithaca Pool)* | *2684* | *875* | *557* | *0\*\*\** | *414* | *2450* | *6926* | *6305* | *10155* | *9464* | *9655* | *6102* | *2430* |
| *Jindalee* | *7988* | *6772* | *5102* | *5791* | *6173* | *11069* | *9055* | *11616* | *12692* | *14180* | *12692* | *8761* | *7438* |
| *Stones Corner (Langlands Pool)* | *18191* | *21471* | *18831* | *16925* | *21659* | *19929* | *31222* | *30159* | *34105* | *33586* | *35428* | *27111* | *16902* |
| *Manly* | *12104* | *12104* | *8061* | *8783* | *9638* | *15050* | *18021* | *18552* | *25546* | *24169* | *21945* | *11280* | *12429* |
| *Mt Gravatt East* | *14704* | *14376* | *13415* | *14873* | *15258* | *15187* | *16969* | *14947* | *12387* | *16619* | *18494* | *10234* | *14125* |
| *Musgrave Park* | *11396* | *11457* | *11010* | *10415* | *12704* | *12585* | *24383* | *23005* | *18474* | *26719* | *28786* | *18929* | *9457* |
| *Newmarket* | *11042* | *11670* | *10342* | *0\*\*\*\** | *10910* | *13085* | *13238* | *23578* | *45285* | *40219* | *36618* | *24337* | *11743* |
| *Parkinson* | *20871* | *23186* | *23313* | *22108* | *23322* | *24627* | *28470* | *29406* | *28198* | *32206* | *28191* | *25139* | *22158* |
| *Runcorn* | *15672* | *15611* | *13060* | *13104* | *13271* | *16244* | *18964* | *16986* | *21951* | *22244* | *25499* | *12922* | *14889* |
| *Sandgate* | *26726* | *25002* | *23375* | *24865* | *25847* | *32029* | *43059* | *41997* | *56475* | *57504* | *45548* | *33130* | *30667* |
| *Spring Hill Baths* | *1535* | *1600* | *1538* | *1623* | *1778* | *1720* | *2087* | *3078* | *2767* | *3149* | *2767* | *2026* | *1557* |
| *Fortitude Valley* | *10417* | *7600* | *7331* | *7745* | *11341* | *9461* | *15541* | *14188* | *11627* | *18570* | *20164* | *15529* | *9723* |
| *Yeronga* | *23537* | *19371* | *18147* | *16035* | *19588* | *15574* | *40566* | *23806* | *30805* | *29054* | *28810* | *21730* | *16672* |

*\*Bellbowrie Pool - closed for winter - June, July and August 2023, gym is still on operation over the winter season.*

*\*\*Carole Park Pool - closed for winter season 2023*

*\*\*\*Ithaca Pool - closed for approximately 6-8 weeks over winter 2023*

*\*\*\*\*Newmarket Pool - closed for approximately 4 weeks in June/July 2023*

**Q18.** Please advise for each Council pool location how many pools are on each site, broken down into heated and non-heated.

***A18.*** *This information is publicly available on Council’s website.*

**Q19.** Please provide the cost of printing and distributing the Living in Brisbane flyers in the 2022-2023 financial year, as well as the 2023-2024 FYTD.

***A19.*** *The cost per newsletter in 2022-23 was 24c to print and distribute. The cost per newsletter in 2023-24 YTD was 25c to print and distribute.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***2022-23*** | *$1,424,476.92* |
| ***2023-24 YTD*** | *$974,719 invoiced to-date* |

**Q20.** Please provide the cost of printing and distribution per individual Living in Brisbane flyer for FY’s 2021-2022 through to 2023-2024 YTD.

***A20.*** *The costs for printing and distributing Living in Brisbane are variable. For printing, this depends on the number of pages per edition, and for distribution this varies based on the number of households at the time of each Australia Post booking.*

*The below is based on the average cost for printing and distribution across all editions each year:*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Financial Year*** | ***Printing (per newsletter)*** | ***Distribution (per newsletter)*** |
| *2021-22* | *11.42c* | *9.98c* |
| *2022-23* | *12.75c* | *11.82c* |
| *2023-24 YTD* | *13.49c* | *12.36c* |

**Q21.** Provide the total amount of revenue from e-scooter providers for the financial year 2023-2024 to date.

***A21.*** *The revenue figures are commercial-in-confidence and have been provided to Councillors separately.*

**Q22.** Please advise the total itemised cost to Council for the recent Eats, Beats and Treats promotional campaign in the MyValley Precinct, where Council provided a “sweet treat” to eligible $12 purchases in the Precinct. Please include costs of staff at the associated stand in Brunswick Mall, advertising, payments made to sweet treat providers, etc.

***A22.*** *Eats, Beats and Treats was delivered as part of a broader May activation campaign in the Valley Mall. The program was delivered through the Valley Mall Levy Fund developed in consultation with Valley traders.*

| ***SERVICE*** | ***TOTAL*** |
| --- | --- |
| *supply of treats* | *$1,860.00* |
| *supply of treats* | *$1,914.55* |
| *supply of treats* | *$1,440.00* |
| *supply of treats* | *$810.00* |
| *Event and sound management* | *$3,196.64* |
| *Styling and hire of alfresco dining* | *$10,906.67* |
| *MC and DJ* | *$5,400.00* |
| *Staff* | *$2,880.00* |
| *Marketing* | *$4,355.00* |

**Q23.** Please advise how many people participated, per day, in the Eats, Beats and Treats promotional campaign in the MyValley Precinct while it was active from 1 to 10 May 2024?

***A23.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***1/5/2024*** | ***2/5/2024*** | ***3/5/2024*** | ***8/5/2024*** | ***9/05/2024*** | ***10/5/2024*** |
| *124* | *136* | *140* | *148* | *160* | *160* |

**Q24.** What was the total amount budgeted for the Eats, Beats and Treats promotional campaign in the MyValley Precinct, prior to its commencement?

***A24.*** *See A22.*

**Q25.** Are there any plans to support suburban food and/or entertainment precincts or businesses in a similar way to the Eats, Beats and Treats promotional campaign in the MyValley Precinct?

***A25.*** *Support is ongoing. Council works with trader groups in the City and Valley Malls to deliver a year-round program of festivals, events, activations and marketing campaigns to support the day and nighttime economies.*

**Q26.** List the addresses of potholes or damaged roads awaiting repair, grouped by suburb:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Address | Suburb | Report Date | Expected Repair Date |
|  |  |  |  |

**Q27.** List the locations of any drainage infrastructure awaiting maintenance or repair, grouped by suburb:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Address | Suburb | Report Date | Expected Repair Date |
|  |  |  |  |

***A26 and A27.***

*This data in the format requested is not readily available and would require multiple officers to be redirected from their day job for multiple days to provide a response.*

**Q28.** What is the occupancy rate for each of the halls across Brisbane?

***A28.*** *This question is unable to be answered without a specific timeframe.*

**Q29.** Please provide a breakdown of hall users by single use or multi use for the past 12 months per hall?

**Q30.** Please provide a breakdown of hall users by single use or multi use for the past 24 months per hall?

***A29 and A30.***

*Council officers have advised this data is not readily available and is unable to be provided as it would require multiple officers to be redirected from their day job for multiple days to provide a response.*

**Q31.** How many of the halls are airconditioned and how many are not airconditioned?

***A31.*** *This information is publicly available on Council’s website.*

**Q32.** How many leased council facilities include a hall which can be hired out?

***A32.*** *Lessees are responsible for the management and use of their site. Council does not hold the information requested.*

**Q33.** How many council facilities available for lease have no tenant and what are the locations of these facilities?

***A33.*** *This information is publicly available on Council’s website.*

**Q34.** How many council facilities, which are two or more levels, have no lift? Please list.

***A34.*** *Council officers have advised they are unable to answer this question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

**Q35.** Please list all council facilities across Brisbane City Council and the location of the facilities.

***A35.*** *It’s assumed this question relates to community facilities. This information is publicly available on Council’s website.*

**Q36.** Please provide the total number of visitors to the Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre from November 2023 to date (broken down by month).

***A36.***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Period*** | ***Nov 2023*** | ***Dec 2023*** | ***Jan 2024*** | ***Feb 2024*** | ***Mar 2024*** | ***April 2024*** | ***To May 20th 2024*** |
| ***Visitors*** | *526* | *239* | *317* | *339* | *305* | *437* | *177* |

**Q37.** Please provide a total spent on catering for E&C meetings for the 2023/24 financial year to date.

***A37.*** *$4,287.23 exc GST.*

**Q38.** How many Qantas Club memberships has Council purchased in the 2023/24 financial year to date, and what was the total cost of these memberships, and for who were they purchased?

***A38.*** *One Qantas Club membership was purchased in the 2023/24 financial year for the Councillor for Runcorn Ward at a cost of $392.73.*

**Q39.** What is the total number of trips and total value spent on cab charges and ride share trips by Councillors and senior executives in the 2023/24 FYTD? Please provide an itemised list and provide a role description for non-Councillors.

***A39.*** *Owing to the way the data is recorded, Council officers have advised they are unable to report on executive cab charge use only as it would require multiple officers to be redirected form their day job for multiple days to provide a response. As such, Council officers have advised they are unable to answer that part of the question within the timeframe required by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Role*** | ***Number of trips*** | ***Cost*** |
| *Councillors* | *28* | *$1,212.84* |

**Q40.** Please provide an itemised list for the 2023/2024 FYTD of all Lord Mayor events held (events where the Lord Mayor title appears in the name of the event), including date, name of event, cost to hold, and cost to advertise.

***A40.*** *Lord Mayor’s City Hall Concerts*

* *Weekly between February and November*
* *This amount is commercial-in-confidence and has been provided to Councillors separately*
* *$6,959 advertising costs*

*Lord Mayor’s Childrens Program*

* *December, January, April, June and July*
* *This amount is commercial-in-confidence and has been provided to Councillors separately*
* *$10,000 advertising costs*

*Lord Mayor’s Seniors Cabaret*

* *July, August, September and October*
* *This amount is commercial-in-confidence and has been provided to Councillors separately*
* *$9,539 advertising costs*

*Lord Mayor’s Seniors Christmas Parties*

* *4 - 8 December 2023*
* *This amount is commercial-in-confidence and has been provided to Councillors separately*
* *$4,609 advertising costs*

*Lord Mayor’s Christmas Carols*

* *2 December 2023*
* *This amount is commercial-in-confidence and has been provided to Councillors separately*
* *$2,714.08*

*Lord Mayor’s Business Awards*

* *20 October 2023*
* *Nil cost – covered by event sponsorship*
* *Nil cost to advertise*

*Lord Mayor’s Business Awards Finalist Function – presented by ANZ*

* *4 October 2023*
* *$7,470*
* *Nil cost to advertise*

*Lord Mayor’s Business Awards 2024 Launch*

* *8 May 2024*
* *$2,663*
* *Nil cost to advertise*

*Lord Mayor’s Women in Business Celebration Evening*

* *$12,523*
* *Nil cost to advertise*

**Q41.** Please provide a breakdown of all advertising to promote BrisBetter as per the below table:

| **Channel** | **2023-2024 FYTD** |
| --- | --- |
| TV Advertising |  |
| Online Advertising |  |
| Social Media: |  |
| * Facebook |  |
| * Instagram etc. |  |
| Influencers |  |
| Performance Marketing |  |
| Print Advertising |  |
| Radio |  |
| Outdoor advertising |  |
| BVOD |  |
| Other |  |

***A41.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2023-2024 FYTD*** |
| *TV Advertising* | *$449,428* |
| *Online Advertising* | *$82,360.41* |
| *Social Media:* |  |
| * *Facebook* | *$34,515.65* |
| * *Instagram* | *$11,199.99* |
| * *TikTok* | *$4,692.63* |
| *Influencers* | *$0* |
| *Performance Marketing* | *$52,363.11* |
| *Print Advertising* | *$12,787.20* |
| *Radio* | *$226,245.53* |
| *Outdoor Advertising* | *$176,132.45* |
| *BVOD* | *$186,067.09* |

**Q42.** Please provide a breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising as per the below table:

| **Channel** | **2023-2024 FYTD** |
| --- | --- |
| TV Advertising |  |
| Online Advertising |  |
| Social Media: |  |
| * Facebook |  |
| * Instagram etc. |  |
| Influencers |  |
| Performance Marketing |  |
| Print Advertising |  |
| Radio |  |
| Outdoor advertising |  |
| BVOD |  |
| Other |  |

***A42.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2023-2024 FYTD*** |
| *TV Advertising* | *$449,428* |
| *Online Advertising* | *$360,787.46* |
| *Social Media:* |  |
| * *Facebook* | *$133,128.91* |
| * *Instagram* | *$55,039.37* |
| * *TikTok* | *$22,174.16* |
| * *LinkedIn* | *$11,228.15* |
| *Influencers* | *$3,300* |
| *Performance Marketing* | *$152,602.30* |
| *Print Advertising* | *$104,888.80* |
| *Radio* | *$322,700.09* |
| *Outdoor advertising* | *$244,276.28* |
| *BVOD* | *$186,067.09* |

**Q43.** Please provide a breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising the Brisbane App as per the below table:

| **Channel** | **2023-2024 FYTD** |
| --- | --- |
| TV Advertising |  |
| Online Advertising |  |
| Social Media: |  |
| * Facebook |  |
| * Instagram etc. |  |
| Influencers |  |
| Performance Marketing |  |
| Print Advertising |  |
| Radio |  |
| Outdoor advertising |  |
| BVOD |  |
| Other |  |

***A43.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2023-2024 FYTD*** |
| *TV Advertising* | *$0* |
| *Online Advertising* | *$0* |
| *Social Media:* |  |
| * *Facebook* | *$18,724.40* |
| * *Instagram* | *$4,202.44* |
| * *TikTok* | *$4,997.25* |
| *Influencers* | *$0* |
| *Performance Marketing* | *$37,084.01* |
| *Print Advertising* | *$0* |
| *Radio* | *$0* |
| *Outdoor advertising* | *$0* |

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 8.56pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Victor Tan (Council and Committee Coordinator)

Katie Edgley (Council and Committee Officer)

Dorian Maruda (Council and Committee Officer)

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