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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4747 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 10 September 2024**

**at 1.27pm**

**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 (Chair), Councillor Sandy LANDERS (Bracken Ridge) – LNP

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| **LNP Councillors (and Wards)** | **ALP Councillors (and Wards)** |
| Krista ADAMS (Holland Park) (Deputy Mayor)  Greg ADERMANN (Pullenvale)  Adam ALLAN (Northgate)  Lisa ATWOOD (Doboy)  Fiona CUNNINGHAM (Coorparoo)  Tracy DAVIS (McDowall)  Julia DIXON (Hamilton)  Alex GIVNEY (Wynnum Manly)  Vicki HOWARD (Central)  Steven HUANG (MacGregor) (Deputy Chair  of Council)  Sarah HUTTON (Jamboree)  Kim MARX (Runcorn)  Ryan MURPHY (Chandler)  Danita PARRY (Marchant)  Steven TOOMEY (The Gap)  Andrew WINES (Enoggera)  Penny WOLFF (Walter Taylor) | Jared CASSIDY (Deagon) (The Leader of the Opposition)  Lucy COLLIER (Morningside) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)  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 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.

## APOLOGIES:

Chair: Are there any apologies?

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair: I would now like to call on Mrs Wendy Collins, who will address the Chamber on the Ladybird Care Foundation.

Welcome, Mrs Collins. You can either sit or stand, and your five minutes will begin once you start speaking.

Thank you. When you’re ready.

**Mrs Wendy Collins – The Ladybird Care Foundation**

Mrs Wendy Collins: Thank you, Madam Chair. LORD MAYOR, Councillors, thank you for the opportunity to speak with you about Ladybird Care Foundation, a charity founded right here in Brisbane which has now expanded nationally. Some of you, I know, are aware of the work that we do and we’re very grateful for your support. Thank you to Councillor Steven HUANG for providing the invitation to speak today.

Ladybird Care Foundation seeks to fill the gap in essential bereavement care services, providing a peer mentor program to support and care for and empower grieving parents to find hope and purpose after the death of their child, and that child might be any age from infancy right through to any age as an adult. Parent mentors with lived experience—at least two years bereaved, usually—are trained and supervised by a social worker and provide free of charge vital support, empathy and human connection to recently bereaved parents in their grief. That provides a hope for the future and healing for them to explore a pathway towards healing.

You know, whenever I meet someone for the first time and they ask about Ladybird Care Foundation, the next three words that I usually hear them say are almost always the same. It’s usually, I can’t imagine. I can’t imagine what it must be like to lose a child, or I can’t imagine how I would cope, or I can’t imagine wondering what they would have grown up to become, but our trained peer mentors can imagine. One of our mentors said to me, imagine setting the table for three instead of four, or imagine the unbearable quiet of a once noisy, busy, happy house. Imagine never hearing your child’s name again, or your child’s voice again, sorry. Unless we’ve lost a child, we simply can’t imagine.

That’s where the power of a peer mentor program comes in. Our mentors have experienced the loss of a child, enabling them to empathise and be present with and alongside grieving parents at a time of severe emotional turmoil. Now, our Ladybird Care’s philosophy is that grief is a natural, necessary response to loss. Grief is an emotion. It’s not a mental illness. So, we align to a preventative approach to healthcare which is firmly backed by robust research that shows that the negative effects of grief, such as loneliness and isolation, are reduced when supportive peer relationships are provided through empathy, support and compassion from peer mentors with that lived experience.

However, as you may have heard in the newspaper, without appropriate support, bereaved families often feel isolated from wider communities and families due to the social stigma that still exists and the lack of understanding around grief surrounding a child death. Our National Institute of Health cites some research there about insufficient social support and grief leads to complicated grief outcomes and health outcomes during bereavement, such as poor mental health, reduced physical wellbeing and the like. The ramifications for Australia’s mental health support systems are immense. You probably know that waiting times for grief counselling are long and can be financially restrictive for many families.

So, the good news. We’ve now trained multiple cohorts of peer mentors who are matched with newly bereaved parents right here in South East Queensland and extending across the nation. We commenced our program in 2020 where we funded a pilot peer mentor program in the Children’s Hospital here in Queensland, and I’m happy to report that is still running and they won a national CHQ (Children’s Health Queensland) Excellence Award. However, we then expanded the program beyond just one hospital to take it on a community-wide basis open to all referrals right throughout Queensland and Australia. Our evaluation and feedback from our program participants is showing that peer mentoring for bereaved parents increases mental stability, decreases those feelings of isolation and, more importantly, hopelessness, and enhances coping mechanisms. You know, I get to read the feedback from these beautiful parents and it’s so amazing.

So, we’re thrilled that we’re being able to make a difference and offering hope. If you know families in your Council wards who might be interested in becoming a peer mentor or if you think they might benefit from the support of walking alongside a trained peer mentor, please reach out to us. There will be some little brochures there for you to take away, just to give you some more information. Thanks again for your time.

Chair: Thank you so much, Mrs Collins.

I’ll now call upon Councillor HOWARD who is the Chair of Community and the Arts Committee to respond.

Councillor HOWARD.

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

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Madam Chair, and Wendy, thank you so, so much. It was delightful to chat with you in the corridor as we waited to come in. I very vividly remember meeting with Wayne and Maree Pascoe, I think probably in 2020, and yes, they were the first words, I can’t imagine. We truly can’t imagine the pain that some people have to endure with those circumstances, but I really want to say a huge thank you for all of the work that your board and that you have been doing, and delighted to hear that you are now spreading nationally. It’s fantastic that you’re here today to speak to all of us Councillors because each and every one of us in the Chamber can do something to assist you, and that is to get the message out there that Ladybird Care is there for everyone.

There are no words that can capture the pain and tragedy of losing a child and we all understand and know that, but to know that there is an organisation such as yours—and I’ve been delighted to attend a couple of your events right here in City Hall. We’ve been delighted to be able to support you in running those events. It’s very important to get the messages out, lighting up some of our wonderful structures across the city, and just generally letting people know that you exist because it is such a fantastic thing that you do. The work that you do is so important, and I think the fact that it is people who perhaps experienced the pain and the tragedy and are then able to support others that are going through that.

So, on behalf of all of my colleagues here in the Council Chamber, I want to say a huge thank you for all of the work that you do. Please take back our thanks to your board and to your volunteers and know that each and every one of us are very happy to support you and to promote what you do, and I know that we will all be looking for that piece of paper so that we can support you. Again, if there’s anything else that we can do, please don’t hesitate to contact us. I know that the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Trust has supported over the time. I know that Nina, particularly, cries every time she talks about things such as this, and so we know how important it is to the people of Brisbane that your organisation exists and that the work that you do is helping others.

Once again, Wendy, thank you for coming in and thank you for sharing your story, and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD, and thank you, Mrs Collins, very much.

As Mrs Collins said, there is a brochure. When Councillors sign on today, there’s a brochure there for you to access, so please do. Thank you very much.

## QUESTION TIME:

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

Councillor WOLFF.

LORD MAYOR: Just a point of order, sorry. Did we do the apologies and the minutes? We did?

Chair: Yes, we can’t do the minutes at this stage, but we’ve done the apologies.

LORD MAYOR: Okay, right. Cool.

Chair: That’s okay. Thank you. Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor WOLFF.

**Question 1**

Councillor WOLFF: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to the Chair of City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN, residents of Brisbane know that the Schrinner Council is committed to taking pressure off household rates and rents. One of the ways in which this can be done is through the construction of new housing. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest plans for our suburban renewal precincts, including any alternative policies you may be aware of?

Chair: Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Madam Chair, and through you, I’d like to thank Councillor WOLFF for the question. Madam Chair, it is no secret to the Chamber that one of our key priorities is to facilitate more housing, lifestyle, service and employment opportunities through our suburban renewal precincts program. Our suburban renewal precincts program will be undertaken in consultation with communities and industry to deliver better localised outcomes, maximise existing public transport, and create opportunities to refresh and revitalise our suburbs.

Madam Chair, later today, we will be considering the Stones Corner suburban renewal precinct, specifically the proposed zones, overlays and assessment benchmarks, and progressing the amendment package to community consultation and State interest review. We have progressed this latest stage of this suburban renewal precinct in just two months, after commencing the formal amendment process with the state which highlights our commitment to delivering more on‑the‑ground outcomes sooner.

Meanwhile, the Opposition, particularly the Greens, jump at any opportunity to block development and instead of offering real solutions, make fanciful, inflammatory statements. Madam Chair, you only have to look at the recent flyer from the Greens, a copy I have here, that highlights their priorities on housing. But before I get to the content of the flyer, I just want to highlight some important information that is missing. In this flyer you’ll see, Madam Chair, the flyer outlines a number of politicians who apparently have investment properties, but surprise, surprise, the Federal Member for Ryan isn’t included in this list.

We know the Federal Member for Ryan owns a number of investment properties, so I do find it highly hypocritical that the Greens seek to demonise property investors and lecture landlords on rental rights when many of their own are landlords and investors, not that there is anything wrong with that. We know that homeowners who choose to rent out their property play a critical role in the provision of housing stock. Madam Chair, I have not even mentioned the Greens’ Lord Mayoral candidate who lives on a boat, who doesn’t pay rent, and he certainly doesn’t pay rates.

Back to the content of the flyer, the Greens’ plan is to, and I quote, “get the government back in the business of building homes directly”, and they propose to build 100,000 homes in six years, approximately 17,000 homes per year. How does that target compare? Well, we know the State have thrown money after the problem, but have they built anything? By their own account, the Labor State Government has only 1,000 social and affordable homes under construction. Only 99,000 more to go and even had the failed attempt of purchasing Griffith University’s Mount Gravatt campus paid off, but of course that didn’t.

So, Madam Chair, last week, Councillor CHONG WAH blamed the lack of development on what she says is greedy developers land banking. It is clear that Councillor CHONG WAH does not understand the sector and that 96% of all new homes in Brisbane are delivered by the private sector. What is stifling construction is prohibitive tax settings, supply chain constraints, exorbitant construction costs, and the lack of productivity. Instead of looking for meaningful ways to help support more built form, they sent the Federal Member for Griffith down to speak at the recent CFMEU (Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union) protest.

Madam Chair, these actions were clearly political and clearly about trying to win some wayward Labor votes. If Councillor CHONG WAH or the Greens want to support additional housing in our city, they can begin by discouraging NIMBYism (Not In My Backyard). They should reflect upon the community benefits that private residential developments can deliver, not only additional housing but choice of housing. Through private developments, we see upgrades to the streetscape and pedestrian infrastructure, as well as improvements to the public realm, including public art and more open space.

Madam Chair, this side of the Chamber will continue to support the delivery of housing for all residents, whether this be through providing more latent supply through development approval processes or through City Plan amendments such as the Stones Corner renewal precinct, but ultimately, our focus is ensuring that housing in all its forms and in many locations close to public transport is provided in this city, and this Greens document that was published recently has so many shortcomings in it, it’s quite inconceivable. I really don’t know how the Greens can put this stuff out. It is absolutely a joke. Thank you.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN, your time has expired.

Further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

**Question 2**

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to Councillor Vicki HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD, you recently spent more than $26,000 of ratepayers’ money on your trip to Paris for the Paralympics. Meanwhile, the LORD MAYOR’s recent budget had no money, no new money allocated for much-needed accessibility upgrades at the 600 Council community facilities that are across Brisbane. Councillor HOWARD, why do you think overseas travel to the Paralympics is more important than those struggling with accessibility issues and trying to use Council’s own community facilities?

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Well, thank you, Madam Chair. It is correct that I was in Paris recently, representing Brisbane City Council at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. We on this side of the Chamber are proud that Brisbane is a future Olympic city, and we are committed to ensuring that we prepare ourselves as best we can. So, whilst I was away, of course, I did keep up-to-date with some of the ongoings of my portfolio and of course, I didn’t need to worry too much because Councillor ATWOOD did the most incredible job, particularly in answering Councillor GRIFFITHS and some of his, let’s say, less-than-desirable questions to Councillor ATWOOD.

Can I say to you—through you, Madam Chair—that Councillor GRIFFITHS is asking questions about accessibility and this side of the Chamber, this Schrinner Council, has spent more money on accessibility in this city than any other previous Administration. We are so proud of what we have achieved in this city and—

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, I’d just bring the Councillor back to the question. It was no money in this budget this year.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, if you can continue to answer your question.

Councillor HOWARD: Certainly. Certainly, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, accessibility issues are built into each and every one of our projects, each and every project that we do. Councillor DAVIS and yourself, Madam Chair, were at the most amazing event just on Sunday at Victoria Park, where we had the Spring Hill Common. If that area was inaccessible to all—and it has been put—the most amazing accessibility is in place for all abilities to be able to attend events at this area. So can I say—

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Councillor HOWARD: Well, I’m trying to answer.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —certainly didn’t include any accessibility in the Tarragindi Scout demolition of the hall.

Chair: I’m sorry, Councillor GRIFFITHS, it’s not your place to get up and debate.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Just saying, no accessibility.

Chair: If you can—no, thank you.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: In fact, that’s why they’re demolishing it.

Chair: Please resume your seat. You can’t debate. If you don’t like the answer, it doesn’t give you the right to get up and debate. You can talk in General Business (GB)—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: No, you can wait until General Business. Thank you.

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, accessibility is part of our business as usual. It happens everywhere. The Councillor didn’t ask me about Tarragindi, but I’d very much like to talk to him about that later. But can I tell you that the very first event that I went to, the very first event was about accessibility, and the Host City experience program had done an amazing job of a city that’s 1,000 years old, that has cobblestones, that doesn’t allow for a lot of accessibility across the city. Some of its public transport is incapable of taking wheelchairs. Now, while I was in Paris, I also met with the Paralympic family and they are doing the most amazing job of ensuring—

Chair: One moment, please, Councillor HOWARD. Sorry.

Councillors, your conversation is very loud, so if you need to speak, please take it—thank you, Councillor CASSIDY and, yes, Councillor COLLIER. Please can you keep it down? Thank you.

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: So, Madam Chair, some of the first people that I met when I was in Paris were of course from Paralympic Australia, and Robyn Smith, who is the CEO, introduced me to John Petersson from Denmark and Duane Kale. Now, Duane is the Vice President and is in a wheelchair. Can I just say, even in the hotel where we were staying, there were issues about accessibility. Here is a city, Paris has spent thousands and thousands of dollars on trying to get it right. Everybody is working towards the best possible way that we can do these things, but can I say, Brisbane already—our accessibility on our public transport, our accessibility as we go around the city is second to none, and we are very proud of the work that our officers do. Business as usual, day after day, every day of the week, they are out there making sure this city is inclusive and accessible.

Chair: Further questions? Before we go any further, I want to remind Councillors to remain quiet while Councillors are on their feet, speaking.

Councillor ADERMANN.

**Question 3**

Councillor ADERMANN: Yes, thank you, Chair. My question is to the Chair of City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, Councillor ALLAN.

Thank you for shining a light on the populist policies of the radical and destructive Greens. Recently, they have proposed the creation of a State bank to solve the housing supply shortage. Are you aware of any success stories of State banks in solving housing supply issues—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor ADERMANN: —or is this just another example of the Greens saying anything to justify their lack of support for housing being built in Brisbane?

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, please don’t call out across the Chamber when other people are speaking.

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Madam Chair, and through you, thank you to Councillor ADERMANN for the question. Well, a State bank. This is definitely another Greens thought bubble, to establish a State bank being their latest instalment in a long list of ill-conceived plans. For those who may not be aware, State banks have previously featured in the Australian banking landscape, but the history has not been a good one. They have disappeared because they were complete failures or woefully uncompetitive. The State Bank of Victoria collapsed in 1990 and nearly took down the Victorian State Government and was perhaps the most spectacular failure of a State bank. However, there are more.

The State Bank of South Australia also collapsed a year later in 1991, causing significant financial pain to that State and the taxpayers. State banks have traditionally been government guaranteed and put governments under significant pressure when they fail, with taxpayers having to bail them out. Not surprisingly, both the South Australian and Victorian Governments lost at the next election after these failures. There are other examples of failure or lack of competitiveness, but the evidence is strong. State Governments should not run banks and that is why they don’t exist today.

The Greens perversely pointed out in this document, cheaper mortgages will create a Queensland State Bank. They pointed out as an example of a government-owned bank being Kiwibank in New Zealand, but guess what? Two years ago, the bank was subject to a $2.1 billion government bailout. The New Zealand Government is currently re-examining their ownership of the bank. So, there is absolutely no need for government-run banks in Australia. In Australia, we have four to five major banks, we have approximately eight to 10 second tier banks, and we have dozens of credit unions. All of them can provide home loans in a competitive market. So, you don’t have to deal with a big bank if you don’t want to. There are plenty of other providers. Now, the important thing is a lot of people do choose the big banks because they provide a wide range of products and services, and investors and depositors feel comfortable that their money is going to be safe.

So, just quickly, a quick education for the Greens on how to look at their State bank manifesto. In simplest form, banking is about taking deposits from one group of people, lending it out to another group of people at a margin to cover your operating costs, capital requirements and your risks. The net interest margin on home loans in Australia is currently about 1.7%. The Greens are proposing to give up 1.5% of that margin, leaving 0.2% to cover all these other costs. It is an absolute recipe for disaster. It’s totally unsustainable and it’s just another failure waiting to happen.

On top of the operating model that they are proposing, the raw costs for a State Government to establish a State bank would be north of $100 million. You can’t establish a bank in Australia with capital of less than $50 million, so check one. To establish the bank and put in place an operating platform will be north of $50 million. So, that’s $100 million funded by the taxpayer. A Greens State bank would be losing money from day one. It would be unsustainable.

There is, however, Madam Chair, a bit of a silver lining to all of this. Realistically, only the most ill-informed depositor would trust their money to a Greens State bank. So, correspondingly, they would not have much money to lend to home loan borrowers, so fortunately, the whole experiment would fail quickly, limiting the impact on their depositors and the taxpayers of the State.

Madam Chair, it’s hard to believe that the Greens see this as a workable solution to the housing crisis. It is fanciful and does not bear scrutiny and is just another misleading Greens thought bubble.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CHONG WAH.

**Question 4**

Councillor CHONG WAH: Thank you, Chair. My question is to the LORD MAYOR. Suzanne Hall, on behalf of the Milton Community Group, who is here now in the gallery with other members of the Milton Community Group, has requested that I ask this question to the MAYOR. So, my question is to the LORD MAYOR, through the Chair.

Council has recently approved developments in Milton, including a 25-storey office tower and a 26-storey luxury residential apartment tower on a flood-prone site. These developments do not meet all the requirement performance outcomes that are prescribed in the Brisbane City Plan. LORD MAYOR, you personally state in *Brisbane’s Inner City Strategy* that your Council is committed to working with residents to deliver the best outcomes to create a truly green, connected, inclusive and thriving inner city.

LORD MAYOR, do you consider it fair and reasonable to continue to approve highly contentious developments that dismiss committee input, that ignore the lack of existing infrastructure provided by the Council in the Milton high-density area, and which clearly do not align with the performance outcomes that are a mandatory requirement in the Brisbane City Plan?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: I think the premise of the question is fundamentally wrong, because there’s a claim that somehow, approved developments aren’t consistent with the City Plan or the performance requirements for the City Plan. The developments would not get approved if they were not consistent with the requirements of the City Plan, and that is ultimately, if people have a concern with that, put to the test through an appeals process. So, any submitter on a particular DA (Development Application), if they don’t believe and they think there’s legal grounds that it doesn’t comply with the City Plan, they have the right to appeal. We don’t approve things, or Council officers don’t approve things that they don’t believe complies with the City Plan.

I wonder if Councillor Seal CHONG WAH did any submissions on these or encouraged people to do submissions, but certainly, the reality is we do not approve developments that are not consistent with the City Plan. It’s as simple as that. Now, people may have views on developments, as they always do. These things always generate interest and they generate debate, but the claim that it’s somehow not consistent with the City Plan is simply false. This is the kind of claim that’s not helpful for a Councillor to repeat.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor HUANG.

**Question 5**

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, the Schrinner Council is investing in keeping our suburbs safer through community crime prevention. Can you please update the Chamber on how the Schrinner Council is standing up for Brisbane on crime, including any alternative policies you may be aware of?

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Madam Chair, and I thank Councillor HUANG for the question. Well, we know that Brisbane has the best lifestyle in Australia, and we on this side of the Chamber are determined to keep it that way. Unfortunately, rising crime is putting the wellbeing and lifestyle of our community under threat though. You only have to follow the news or talk to your neighbours to see the devastating impact of increasing crime throughout Brisbane, but if that isn’t enough, statistics confirm that crime rates are increasing across Brisbane suburbs, with escalating concerns about youth offenders.

We will always stand up for Brisbane when it comes to crime, which is why the Schrinner Council has long supported a number of initiatives to keep our community safe and why we announced new initiatives as part of our election platform. We’re investing in new and improved lighting in public spaces through our Safer Suburbs Lighting program, with over $2 million worth of projects to be delivered this term. We’ve also opened up applications for the first round of the Lord Mayor’s Safer Suburbs Grants, with $500,000 in grants for sporting and community clubs to deliver projects which strengthen security at our leased facilities. Applications close next Monday, but we’re committed to delivering a second round of this grant program and will continue to support community crime prevention initiatives.

In addition to these two initiatives, we’re also increasing safety and deterring crime and antisocial behaviour through continued investment in our Suburban Safety Camera network. In July this year, we rolled out cameras at Mount Coot‑tha following a rise in concerning incidents along popular walking trails, with women in particular feeling unsafe and at risk. Council actively continues to respond to community safety concerns, with 154 new cameras coming online last month. Last financial year, $1.5 million was invested into the safety camera network, with 240 new cameras being rolled out across Brisbane.

This financial year, we’ll continue to grow our investment in community safety with $1.85 million to enhance the CCTV network across Brisbane which currently has over 3,750 cameras. These cameras are monitored 24-hours a day, seven days a week by a dedicated team who are also assisted by advanced AI (Artificial Intelligence) technology. Over the last 12 months, these cameras have played a vital role in capturing and prosecuting more than 1,500 offences, including vandalism, theft and assault. Nearly 2,000 messages were also broadcast using the cameras’ speaker technology, allowing officers to intervene in real time to deter criminal or antisocial behaviour. This resulted in close to half of the offenders being stopped in their tracks. They have also prevented an untold number of crimes by sending a message to would-be criminals that we are watching.

Council also received and processed 851 footage requests, primarily for law enforcement purposes. Madam Chair, I’m very pleased to report that last week, new CCTV cameras were installed near a busy bus stop outside Forest Lake village, the first of 10 sites specifically identified as part of our Suburban Safety Cameras election commitment. The installation follows a history of concerning behaviour being reported on the 100 bus route which services the stop in question. It also follows somewhat of a crime spree that hit 10 local businesses in a single night a couple of weeks ago in the Forest Lake Ward. The cameras were installed in consultation with QPS (Queensland Police Service) and directly feed into Council’s 24/7 security room. We know that CCTV cameras won’t prevent every crime but they are a powerful deterrent and they help residents feel safer as they go about their daily lives. This is all about protecting Brisbane’s lifestyle.

In addition to new fixed cameras, our Suburban Safety Cameras commitment will see a further 26 mobile cameras rolled out across Brisbane this term, one in each ward. Madam Chair, while the State is primarily responsible for responding to crime, our Suburban Safety Camera program is just another way we will stand up for residents when it comes to crime. We are proud to do this on this side of the Chamber, but we know that not all parties agree with this position because the Greens—

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, your time has expired.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

**Question 6**

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, for the third year in a row, Council has allocated funding to fix the dangerous Venner Road in Annerley, a road where you know Dr Geoff Copland died just a few years ago. It’s now September and no work has started. Will you ensure the project is actually delivered this year, rather than being delayed and rolled over yet again?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: I think it’s very clear that we have a commitment to investing in Venner Road, but what’s also clear is that there have been complexities and delays associated with the project that have caused some longer than anticipated timeframes, but once again, I would point out that it is really, really disappointing that Councillor JOHNSTON continues to try and make a link between the tragic fatality that happened on this road and the project that we are doing, because there is no link. The tragic fatality that occurred happened because a driver was under substance abuse and killed Dr Copland. It was not because of a road condition. It was not because of a road safety problem with the design of the road. It was because a driver was under the influence of substances which they should not have had in their body.

So, that was a tragedy, absolutely, but Councillor JOHNSTON has continued to try and link that tragedy with the project that we are undertaking, and that is absolutely really disappointing that she would take that approach. The reality is, we have committed to delivering this project. We will deliver this project. As I said, we’ve had some delays. I’ve mentioned the reasons for that in this Chamber in the past, and Councillor WINES can provide some more context, as well, and the latest on that. This is a project we are absolutely committed to delivering.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor PARRY.

**Question 7**

Councillor PARRY: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, last week, the shocking truth was revealed about what Councillor MASSEY thought was an acceptable use of ratepayers’ funds, which resulted in this Chamber calling on Councillor MASSEY to refund ratepayers for her extreme and divisive newsletter. Can you please update the Chamber on your enquiries into this matter?

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Madam Chair, and thanks to Councillor PARRY for the question. Well, last week it all came home to roost for Councillor MASSEY because, perhaps for the first time ever, Councillor MASSEY was asked to be accountable for her own decisions and for her own actions. Councillor MASSEY chose to spend nearly $20,000 of ratepayer funds to unleash a wave of hurt and upset amongst Brisbane’s Jewish community. If Councillor MASSEY thinks her views and the views of a selected group of ideologically aligned peers on foreign affairs are so important, then I suggest maybe she start a podcast or perhaps an op-ed for *Green Left Weekly*, but no, that wasn’t enough for Councillor MASSEY.

When my office was informed that this newsletter had been sent to Councillor Support, I was shocked, truly shocked that a Councillor would seek to use their ward budget in this way. The whole saga made Councillor Support staff, who do their best to support us every day, highly uncomfortable. The advice was shared with Councillor MASSEY that she needed to satisfy herself that she understood the relevant guideline, and that it was appropriate and publicly defendable. Madam Chair, it has been confirmed with me by Council officers that, in fact, no approval or endorsement of the newsletter content was ever provided, and importantly, nor was there any action to censor Councillor MASSEY.

Last week, you might recall Councillor MASSEY was desperate to find a scapegoat. It was as if she wanted my office to personally intervene, then she could have been the victim and I would have been the big, bad censor of Council. It was up to Councillor MASSEY to use her own judgement, as it always is, and to ask herself, should the entirety of my community be subjected to a campaign of vitriol and division? In future, I make this offer. Councillor MASSEY is welcome to personally email me and I’ll be only too happy to let her know exactly what I think of future newsletter content. If she is so intent on myself and Council officers being a decision maker and a censor in chief—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: —and an editor, I’ll certainly let her know. If she can’t determine, Madam Chair, what’s racist, if she can’t determine what’s antisemitic and not in the interests of ratepayers, I’m more than happy to help her. Did Council officers press the print button, Madam Chair? No, that was Councillor MASSEY who pressed the print button.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: The ratepayer paid for it.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, Councillors. Thank you.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: This whole—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: All Councillors. Councillor JOHNSTON and Councillor MASSEY, I am cautioning you. I have just warned you all to be quiet.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, please continue.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: This whole deflection campaign from Councillor MASSEY was designed to distract from the central issue, which is that her office planned and orchestrated the mass dissemination of a newsletter which was greatly hurtful and offensive to our Brisbane Jewish community. Brisbane residents are appalled at the priorities of Councillor MASSEY. I also know that many in the Labor Party are deeply concerned that a Greens Councillor would use ratepayer funds to spread inflammatory material like this. The newsletter even included a QR code linking through to a social media page that’s promoted the Greens candidate for Moreton up to 11 times in a single day. That is when they aren’t posting about a protest at the DEPUTY MAYOR’s office or a protest outside a dinner at the Greek Club with the Premier and the Prime Minister.

Commenting on and fuelling racist misinformation about a conflict abroad is not what residents expect or want from a Brisbane City Councillor. We know that’s what many residents said in comments on the Councillor’s Facebook page last week, and eventually even Councillor MASSEY agreed because her office had to shut down the comments because quote they had to “prioritise their usual work supporting residents”. If only they had thought about that, Madam Chair, before spending $20,000 of ratepayers’ money on this newsletter.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, your time has expired.

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 8**

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. My question is to the DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor ADAMS.

Councillor ADAMS, you spent more than $16,000 of ratepayer money on a Eurostar ticket and accommodation during the work leg of your overseas holiday. Given you couldn’t or wouldn’t tell us last week who exactly you met with, what events you attended and precisely what you spent that ratepayers’ money on, apart from a train ticket and accommodation. Can you at least tell us today which hotel the ratepayers of Brisbane paid for in Paris?

Chair: Councillor ADAMS.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I know that Councillor CASSIDY wishes he was a travel blogger. We know that’s the job that he wants, if he wasn’t a Councillor, and I think it’s starting to sound a little bit petty, these questions that are coming back here. Can I make it very clear that the hotel accommodation was booked by OCOG (Organising Committee for the Olympic Games). I was a guest of OCOG, representing the LORD MAYOR who did not attend. The hotel was booked under security.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: One moment, please, DEPUTY MAYOR.

I caution you again, Councillor JOHNSTON, for calling out across the Chamber. You know that is not suitable meeting conduct.

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: It was under the strictest of confidence for that hotel. I hear the scoffs from over there, but I’m not quite sure if they’ve listened to the three reports that I’ve already given in this place, but the security was at an absolute premium. There were very, very important people in that hotel. That hotel was not allowed to be named. The Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games are now over and I’m happy to name that hotel, but the petty machinations of an Opposition who don’t support the Olympics in this city is a disgrace. Councillor HOWARD has stood today and said exactly as I said. We proudly were there. With Minister Wells, both of us went over, came back, went over again, with Tom Tate, with the Mayor of the Sunshine Coast, with Council of Mayors’ representatives, with State Government representatives, with Federal Government representatives, as a Host City in eight years’ time.

So, continuing the pettiness of the work that I did, to think now there’s going to be some gotcha moment on the hotel, which was not released for security reasons, is absolutely pathetic behaviour.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Excuse me, Councillors.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’ve just been interrupted. I’m just not quite sure.

Chair: Yes, thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Stop calling out across the Chamber. You’ve got—

DEPUTY MAYOR: I have at no time refused to give a list of who I met with, what meetings I went to and what I’m doing. I said that will be comprehensively covered in Committee presentations next session, now that everyone is back from the Paralympics and the Olympics and we put all of our findings together. But the petty gotcha moments are just embarrassing. We’ll remind everybody, in three years’ time and in seven years’ time, there’s only seven people sitting here saying they hate the Olympics and it’s not on this side of the Chambers. They wouldn’t know what’s good for Brisbane if it hit them in the back of the head, Madam Chair.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY do not call out across the Chamber.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Protests a bit much, was the interruption I just heard, from the juvenile behaviour of running into the Chamber and out again last week. So, if the travel blogger would like to get on the bandwagon and realise that the Olympics are a fantastic outcome for not only the sporting and the active and healthy options of our city, but its economic growth and its place in this world as a place that people want to visit and see and come and spend money, he is more than welcome. The hotel I stayed at was at the rue du Collectionneur, as did all of the Olympic family. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor ATWOOD.

**Question 9**

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is to the Civic Chair of the Community and the Arts Committee, Councillor HOWARD.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: One moment, please, Councillor ATWOOD.

We can’t hear the question, unfortunately, as Councillor CASSIDY is speaking very loudly.

Councillor ATWOOD.

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you. Councillor HOWARD, Brisbane Festival has officially commenced and will be running until late September. Can you enlighten the Chamber on what this year’s program involves and the impact this growing festival has on our local cultural and arts industry?

Chair: Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Well, thank you very much, Madam Chair. I don’t think I’ve reset—oh yes, there we go. Thank you, Madam Chair, and thanks to Councillor ATWOOD for the question. The Brisbane Festival kicked off with a bang on the evening of 30 August with the sensational premier performance of Jean Paul Gaultier’s Fashion Freak Show. I’ve heard from quite a number of people how exciting that particular show was. I’m yet to experience it myself, but I’ve been told that it’s a must see. Prior to the show, guests were treated to an incredible welcome to country and a smoking ceremony from the team at Tribal Experiences, led of course by the phenomenal Shannon Ruska. Shannon’s adorable little granddaughter joined them also and she did a fantastic job.

The event was incredibly well attended with guests hearing from Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Janette Young, the Brisbane Festival Chair Anna Reynolds, the Queensland Minister for the Arts, Leeanne Enoch, and of course, our very own DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS. However, Jean Paul Gaultier was certainly the star of the show, with guests treated to a night of scandal, style and sexual exploration. There was a lot of tulle, denim, tartan and leather on the runway, and guests were welcomed into a Jean Paul Gaultier’s imaginative world of excess, poetry and magic.

In a very exciting collaboration, Australian Indigenous artist and fashion designer Grace Lillian Lee unveiled a specially designed sculptural couture costume for the Fashion Freak Show catwalk. Earlier this year, Grace was invited to collaborate with Jean Paul Gaultier in Paris to exchange knowledge, designs and inspirations. This incredible opportunity also showcased the knowledge and beauty of Australia’s First Nations peoples to an international audience, and for those eager to experience Grace’s work, she is exhibiting *The Dream Weaver: Guardians of Grace* at the Brisbane Powerhouse as part of the festival.

The Brisbane Festival is Brisbane’s signature arts and cultural festival and, Madam Chair, I’d also like just to put on record that, while I was in Paris, I actually got to meet some Australian artists who are taking the opportunity with what is happening in Paris to explore their art. It’s a great collaboration and I know that the collaboration that Grace had with Jean Paul Gaultier was certainly something that has really enhanced this festival. There is no arts festival like it and that’s because there is no city quite like Brisbane, Madam Chair. Brisbane Festival has been purposely designed to reflect the personality of the city and to celebrate all that makes this city so wonderful.

So, on the evening of 31 August, thousands of Brisbane residents gathered at South Bank and at viewpoints across the city to experience Riverfire. Taking place on the opening weekend of the Brisbane Festival, this spectacular night is a major celebration of our city and it’s fantastic to see it grow in popularity each year. If this past fortnight has been anything to go by, Madam Chair, we’re in for the best Brisbane Festival we’ve seen so far. With over 1,000 performances available, a third of which are free to attend, there’s sure to be an event for everyone. In addition to Jean Paul Gaultier’s Fashion Freak Show and Riverfire, some of the most anticipated events include Lightscape, the Art Boat, Brisbane Serenades, and of course Trent Dalton’s *Love Stories*.

Brisbane Festival is the youngest major annual Australian arts festival by at least a decade, but it has a historic past. Brisbane’s Festival emerged from the Warana Festival, which originated in 1961. Warana’s theme was entertainment for the people, by the people. It was a much-loved festival. However, come the mid‑1990s, it became clear that the city needed a new approach. In 1996, the Queensland Government and the Brisbane City Council created Brisbane Festival as a biennial arts festival with the aim to foster the arts.

At around the same time, in 1998, River Festival was created by Brisbane City Council as an annual 10-day event held each September. Designed as a river-based celebration combined with community engagement, River Festival had a broad cultural focus, incorporating art, environmental science and sport, underpinned by a strong sustainability message. In 2009, Brisbane Festival and River Festival were combined through a Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council initiative into one large annual international arts festival, creating Brisbane Festival as we know it today. Brisbane Festival has since established itself as a world-class festival and our city’s biggest cultural event. The Schrinner Council is proud to support the Brisbane Festival and we are committed to making Brisbane the lifestyle capital of Australia.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, your time has expired and that now ends Question Time.

We now move to the Establishment and Coordination Committee (E&C). LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee report of 2 September 2024, please.

## CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Chair of the Establishment and Coordination Committee, moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 2 September 2024, be adopted.

**Seriatim for debate and voting - Clauses A, B, C, D and E**

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| At that time Councillor Lucy COLLIER rose and requested that Clause A, AMENDMENTS TO *BRISBANE CITY PLAN 2014* – STONES CORNER SUBURBAN RENEWAL PRECINCT; Clause B, PRESENTATION AND TABLING OF THE AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDITOR-GENERAL’S AUDIT REPORTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024; Clause C, CONTRACTS AND TENDERING – REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR AUGUST 2024; Clause D, STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – SIGNIFICANT CONTRACTING PLAN FOR ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND AQUATIC WEED MANAGEMENT SERVICES; and Clause E, BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24; be taken seriatim for debating and voting purposes. |

Chair: LORD MAYOR, item A. LORD MAYOR, can you put your microphone on, too? Thank you.

LORD MAYOR: Okay, thank you. Just before we move to the reports, last night, City Hall and the Story Bridge were lit up in red in support of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day. Tomorrow and tonight, our assets will be lit up in pink to celebrate the Brisbane Festival which Councillor HOWARD just spoke about. On Thursday night, City Hall and the Story Bridge will be lit up in red and white to support Fly the Flag Day, which is organised by Mates in Construction. On Friday, City Hall and the Story Bridge will be lit up in magenta to recognise World Sepsis Day. On Sunday, City Hall will be lit up in blue and white to celebrate El Salvador’s Independence Day on 15 September 1921. Story Bridge will be lit up in green to support World Lymphoedema Awareness Day.

Just last week, we shared some exciting news with our first captured vision of koalas and other wildlife using Australia’s first purpose-built koala bridge at Whites Hill. It is the greenest of the green bridges and the koalas are using it. We made sure we had cameras installed, and previously position of cameras wasn’t so good, so they’ve been relocated and reinstalled to make sure that we get the best possible angles, and results starting to show straight away. This is also showing that it ties in with the work that we’ve done through Councillor ADAMS and Councillor CUNNINGHAM to improve the fencing, as well, along Boundary Road.

We’ve had expert advice on where the fencing should be located. We’ve installed that fencing and the fencing is helping in a number of ways, including directing koalas to use the koala bridge as well. So, the fencing on either side of that koala bridge obviously makes it clear that that’s the safe way across the road. They don’t read signage, but the fencing does help direct them towards the koala crossing, but that’s not the only wildlife that’s using that, as well. Possums absolutely love it and they certainly don’t need any signage to get anywhere. They can always find the cheekiest way to get across.

So, look, it’s a good outcome, something that we should celebrate. It is the first of its kind in Australia and, obviously, the first of its kind in the world. There are no other koala bridges in the world. This is a world first. I also want to thank the Federal Government for supporting this project because it was done with some Federal funding, as well.

The school holidays are coming up and I wanted to let the people of Brisbane know that there are 450 free and low-cost events for Brisbane families to take advantage of over this coming holiday period. Nearly 80% of the activities held over the two-week break will be completely free, catering for all interests and all budgets. Victoria Park events include activities guided by the characters of Dirtgirl to teach kids about the wonders of nature, rock climbing walls, yoga for teens in the new Spring Hill Common.

Playtopia will return to Roma Street Parklands in offering free workshops for kids aged between five and 12. Kids can learn more about Brisbane’s own backyard with our environment centres and activities at those environment centres, including Bug Detectives, featuring the newest showstopper, the Giant burrowing cockroach that gives me the creeps just thinking about it, nature journalling, wild edible walks, among other things. So, there’s plenty to do and see, but also we’re also seeing the switch over starting for our pools to summer opening hours, as well. That’s a process that’s starting with the warmer weather coming, so we will see the use of our pools gear up and, obviously, that’s all leading up to the start of $2 dips in December, which is back again this year.

Item A on the agenda is the amendment to Brisbane City Plan, the Stones Corner suburban renewal precinct. This is coming back through to the Chamber again now. We’ve been through to the State Government for their feedback and their interest check. They did thankfully give us quite a quick turnaround on that feedback, which is different to what normally occurs. Suburban renewal precincts are part of our plan to make sure we create more opportunities for housing and also mixed-use precincts to thrive in our suburbs in areas that are well located with infrastructure.

Stones Corner represents one of those opportunities and we’ve invested heavily in Hanlon Park and the surrounding public infrastructure and parkland and greenspace network. It’s also got great access to public transport, with a train station and a busway station just nearby, and with walking distance to future Brisbane Metro services that’ll start very soon. So, well located for many reasons, both with public transport and also with parkland and greenspace. Next stage now will be the public consultation process which will commence shortly, and then hopefully we can get this process moving quite quickly because the need for housing has never been greater, and this helps facilitate new homes in an area that can accommodate new homes and is well located with the infrastructure.

So, if we’re doing all items separately, do you just want me to talk on that and then sit down? Yes, okay.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on Clause A, the amendments to *Brisbane City Plan 2014*, Stones Corner suburban renewal precinct. This is something that we supported originally when it came to Council earlier this year—I’m losing track of time—last session or the session before, to go for that initial—to be sent to the State Government for that initial State interest check and for the request for the expedited process. We continue to support this suburban renewal precinct and the updated amendments to Brisbane City Plan that are before us today. It’s no secret that greater housing supply is required across Brisbane, and the Stones Corner precinct is a good option for increased density.

I’ve just recently been reading through *Brisbane’s Housing Supply Action Plan* again. We spoke about that in the City Planning Committee last week. It’s not a very big plan, comprehensive plan. It’s four pages. This is not included. Stones Corner is not included in this. Obviously, precincts are separate to this. There are areas that are identified for increased density and development around Brisbane, but we did hear from—so, Council’s position to me is a little bit confused and confusing under the LNP, because we have a discussion around increasing the supply of housing to address at a private developer level, as we’ve heard today from Councillor ALLAN, supply issues, and also with increased supply driving down the prices of rents and making housing more affordable and available to people.

When we have a discussion around the Housing Supply Action Plan, Councillor ALLAN says everything is up and running and in place. No changes are required. We then see in isolation items like this Stones Corner suburban renewal precinct come through Council. Having a proper and comprehensive housing strategy that isn’t sometimes passed off as the City Plan or amendments to City Plan, sometimes passed off as the Brisbane Housing Supply Action Plan, and sometimes passed off as other documents, would be very helpful, very helpful for the people of Brisbane to know exactly what is happening when, when it comes to the levers Council can pull in amending City Plan and increasing supply and increasing affordability.

It would also be very helpful for Councillors in this place to not just play this week by week. Obviously, the LNP, you presume they know. I know Civic Cabinet and E&C certainly probably does. I’m not sure about the backbenchers in the LNP. It also just helps with all of us in advocating for things, and advocating for things that we certainly agree with in the Housing Supply Action Plan, like advocating for greater investment by the Queensland and Australian Governments and social and affordable housing, State-delivered infrastructure, State planning reform and aligning Council with that, and construction industry support and working with key industry groups, particularly Q Shelter, for one, as the peak body for housing advocacy in the community housing sector.

I had a great meeting with them yesterday to talk about some of the issues facing the sector and some of the things that Council are doing, and we had an opportunity to talk about this, the Stones Corner suburban renewal precinct, as well, and some more opportunities for Council to work with them, certainly. So, while we support this, we note that before us, the height restrictions will be eased, setback designs and there’ll be an ability to fit more tenancies in, so mixed use with newer shopfronts. The proposed area for the precinct is the right spot for density, particularly when you see it is well supported, that density is well supported by the kinds of services you need in a modern city.

The precinct core is well serviced by public transport. Buranda train station, Stones Corner busway station for the new Metro buses to be servicing it, linking the busway right into the city and further south, as well. Excellent access to a library, to pools, sporting fields, greenspace, Hanlon Park. So, I guess we support it, but certainly make the point that it’s a pity that the LNP are going so slow on realising development opportunities in places like this, and similarly failing to develop and deliver the services like this that are already there to enable greater density in other places without the pressures we see in other places that have been identified in the Housing Supply Action Plan, whether they be in Wynnum, in Lutwyche, in Chermside, in Carindale, up in Mount Gravatt or Indooroopilly, and certainly getting some of that housing delivered in those areas.

So, the amendments before us, we understand now will be set out for public consultation for people to look at all of the fine-grained details there. So, certainly will be up to the local community to show their support for this, but at this point, we certainly reiterate our support for this suburban renewal precinct.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor ALLAN.

Councillor ALLAN: I just need that clock reset, I think. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise to speak on item A, the Stones Corner Suburban Renewal Precinct plan. The Schrinner Council is committed to meeting the demand for new homes and providing for a strong economy and creating vibrant, mixed-use communities. As the LORD MAYOR has said, the Stones Corner suburban renewal precinct is a fantastic opportunity to deliver more homes in an area where more people want to live, work and relax. Madam Chair, we understand that the large-scale neighbourhood planning process can take many years. That is why we are turning our focus to suburban renewal precincts, whereby detailed planning can occur for smaller, underutilised or strategically located suburban areas, ensuring on‑the‑ground outcomes can be achieved more quickly.

The purpose of the proposed Stones Corner Suburban Renewal Precinct plan is to revitalise the precinct through the introduction of additional high-density housing, mixed-use outcomes and convenient access to key employment hubs while maximising connections to high-frequency public transport and quality open space. Not only has the precinct experienced rapid population growth, but it is also in close proximity to a range of destinations, including major health, employment, innovation, and sport and entertainment facilities. Some of these include Princess Alexandra and Greenslopes Hospitals, the Ecosciences Precinct, Woolloongabba, and South Bank.

On the edge of the precinct is the award-winning Hanlon Park, once an ugly, century-old concrete drain, it is now a flood-resilient natural waterway and a great destination for families, not to mention the precinct is well serviced by both active and public transport infrastructure. Through our precinct planning research, we understand that the precinct is especially popular with young people aged 20 to 34 with current residents twice as likely as people in the rest of Brisbane to rely on walking, cycling or public transport. That is why it is important that our suburban renewal precincts are co-located with our active and public transport infrastructure.

The Stones Corner, Buranda, and Langlands Park busway stations and the Buranda train station are all in easy walking distance of the centre. The main commuter cycle route to the city, the V1 Veloway, is also being upgraded at Buranda and is accessible to Stones Corner residents via Hanlon Park. It is also an excellent example of how housing can be integrated with existing and planned transport and infrastructure to maximise community access.

As the LORD MAYOR said, we have been working with the State since June to achieve a streamlined, accelerated planning scheme amendment process with the suburban renewal precinct at Stones Corner. In August, the State issued Council with a section 18 notice, setting out the process that Council must follow to make the amendment, as well as the communication strategy to be implemented. As such, this submission is now seeking to commence to community consultation on the proposed renewal precinct. As part of the streamlined process, we will also undertake the formal State interest review at the same time.

Madam Chair, I can confirm that we have already received preliminary feedback from key State departments. By undertaking steps in the planning process simultaneously and concurrently, it will enable us to progress this suburban renewal precinct plan much quicker than any other amendment package. The proposed amendment will include changes to the *Eastern Corridor neighbourhood plan*, changes to planning scheme policies, and supporting any consequential amendments as required, for example changes to zones, overlays and tables of assessment. It is these proposed amendments that will be consulted on.

This is a fantastic milestone, as the first of the Schrinner Council’s suburban renewal precincts to progress, and I look forward to bringing forward other precincts to the Chamber later this year. I’d also point out to Councillor CASSIDY that the Housing Supply Action Plan and *Brisbane’s Sustainable Growth Strategy* are two documents that work hand-in-hand. The Housing Supply Action Plan was a rapid response to some issues that the State had with respect to housing. We put that plan together and have certainly looked to a range of incentives, assessment pathways that will speed up housing. So, that piece of work is live. It’s ongoing. Much of it is being delivered.

In that Housing Supply Action Plan, we made mention of planning scheme amendments and working with the State to rapidly turn these around. That’s exactly what we’re doing. So, both the Stones Corner and precinct planning is mentioned in that Housing Supply Action Plan and, obviously, in *Brisbane’s Sustainable Growth Strategy*. I look forward to support for this amendment from the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on this clause and on the suburban renewal clause for Stones Corner. As my leader has said, we are supporting this clause in this urban renewal project. Could we improve on that? Possibly, yes. With that consultation that’s about to happen, maybe there will be some improvements on this important urban renewal project for our city. Obviously, Stones Corner is an old area of Brisbane which probably will embrace some of the new initiatives that will come out of this urban renewal project. Very close to the city, obviously, and of course, transport nodes and things like that will probably be upgraded, as well. This is not the only area of urban renewal that should be pursued here across Brisbane.

Councillor Adam ALLAN just talked about other areas that he will be bringing into the Council Chamber. I’d like to point out that one area that is really needing some urban renewal—because we’ve got an area called Ellen Grove, which is the acreage side of Ellen Grove that’s been really neglected by Council over the years—

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Councillor STRUNK: —and I’d just like to—

Chair: Point of order. One moment, Councillor STRUNK.

Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’m sure Councillor STRUNK would like to, but relevance to that Stones Corner renewal only for this Committee report.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Councillor STRUNK, if you can continue and please remain relevant to item A.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, and I am remaining relevant because the Chair raised the issue about other areas that he’s going to bring into the Chamber for this type of urban renewal development to happen. So, I thought I would just take the opportunity to point out one of those areas like Stones Corner that’s been—well, Stones Corner probably has been neglected, as well, over the years, and now they’ve brought this development to Stones Corner to do that upgrade that’s needed for probably one of the tireder areas of Brisbane. I used to work over in that area some years ago and it looked a little bit dilapidated then.

It has improved over the years. A lot of the commercial businesses have upgraded their shopfronts and things like that, so I much appreciate that, but again, we need to develop more and more of these areas across Brisbane to take advantage of the space that is available to us. I wanted to bring up that issue again with Ellen Grove, for the Chair to actually have a look at that as a potential site in Brisbane to do a little bit of urban renewal upgrade.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor STRUNK. Please stick to item A.

Councillor STRUNK: Again—

Chair: You can talk about that in General Business. Thank you.

Councillor STRUNK: Again, I’m just tying it in with what the Chair actually said here no more than three minutes ago. I don’t see why that’s irrelevant because he mentioned that he is the Chair of development.

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, the Chair—thank you.

Councillor STRUNK: Excuse me?

Chair: The Chair can go around the world, but if you can bring that up in General Business and stick to item A, we’ve got a lot of these clauses to get through yet.

Councillor STRUNK: I appreciate that, and that’s why I wanted to take that opportunity just to encourage the Chair to have a look at that space. Stones Corner obviously has been a site that this Council has been looking at for a number of years and has developed a plan, which is great. We encourage it. We support it. I just hope that other areas of Brisbane get equal treatment. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor STRUNK.

Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Madam Chair. I rise to speak on item A, the Stones Corner Suburban Renewal Precinct, as the local Councillor for this suburb. It is the first of our suburban renewal precincts, which have been identified and received support from the Queensland Government to progress. Ultimately, what we’re talking about is unlocking the potential of Stones Corner, creating more opportunities for homes in a well located, well serviced part of our city in the middle of a housing crisis. It will convert underutilised commercial and industrial areas into mixed-use precincts and provide a signal to the private market about our desire to create a vibrant community in the suburbs.

The area identified already has above average public transport use and data also shows it has a lower private vehicle ownership than the Brisbane average. With new Metro services coming online soon, a nearby train station and a veloway, it’s also right next door to our amazing Hanlon Park and has an existing high street. The focus for the precinct will span the core parts of Cleveland Street and Logan Road, and encompass part of Gladys Street, Hanlon Park, the Stones Corner Library, and the busway. From today, Council will work with residents, landowners, local businesses and community groups to create a vision. This will consider provision of additional housing options, adding into the mix additional room for cafés, restaurants, retail and services to make use of the existing, high‑frequency transport and the open space.

The vision will provide guidance to the local community and the building industry in a consistent and in a coherent way. It’s different to a large-scale neighbourhood planning process because the suburban renewal precinct program looks to unlock opportunities for new homes and jobs in smaller and better defined and well-located suburban areas. Something that always sticks with me, Madam Chair, is that 96% or thereabouts of all new homes are built by the private market and this precinct builds on our Housing Supply Action Plan, which is seeking to fast track that supply into the market.

I think it will be really interesting—through you, Madam Chair—to see how the Green Councillors will vote on this today. Will they continue to oppose more housing in the middle of a housing crisis? Will they try and whip up fear among residents and spread misinformation in the heat of a State election campaign? To his credit, the State Member, Joe Kelly, has been supportive of this process, and I know Andrew Newbold, our LNP candidate for Greenslopes, also supports more well-located homes like here at Stones Corner. The LNP supports providing more housing choice across the spectrum for people who are on different levels of incomes. The area is also very close to local hospitals, as well as QPS office accommodation, and will provide options for key workers.

We on this side of the Chamber, Madam Chair, believe in home ownership. The Greens envision a society where everyone lives in public housing. We support private home ownership, the rights and aspirations of people to own their own homes. This detailed proposal will have to undergo statutory community consultation and, finally, will need to get State Government approval. I commend this process and the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

We’ll now put item A 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 Establishment and Coordination Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, the DEPUTY MAYOR and Councillor Julia DIXON immediately rose and called for a division, which resulted in the motion being declared **carried**.

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 26 - 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, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, Penny WOLFF and 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.

Chair: We’ll now move to item B.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Item B is the presentation and tabling of the audited Consolidated Financial Statement, and the Auditor-General’s audit reports for the year ending 30 June 2024. I do take this opportunity to table those documents as required. Thank you, Billy. I table the Consolidated Financial Statements and the Auditor‑General’s audit report for the year ending 30 June, the current year financial sustainability statement for audited ratios, and the Auditor-General’s audit report for the year ending 30 June, the current year financial sustainability statement for unaudited contextual ratios, prepared as of 30 June, the long term financial sustainability statement as prepared at 30 June, and the Queensland Audit Office final management report, as well.

So, these documents, tabled as required every year. Once again, the Auditor‑General has issued an unmodified audit opinion for our financial statements, and for those who don’t know what that is, that’s a good thing. Unmodified is what you’re after when it comes to Auditor-General reports and opinions.

A couple of weeks ago, we heard Councillor CASSIDY make some fairly embarrassing remarks about the financial statements and depreciation. He said that the Finance Chair and I had engaged in voodoo accounting. Well, Councillor CASSIDY may have an opinion on this, but ultimately, the people whose opinion matters a lot more is the Queensland Audit Office. Did they say that Councillor CUNNINGHAM and I had engaged in voodoo accounting? No, they didn’t. They said nothing of the kind. They once again issued us with the unmodified audit opinion, which is a consistent record over many long years for this organisation, because we believe in and practice responsible financial management.

We have a great and very competent budget team and financial reporting team, and they have excelled themselves again this year under what have been challenging circumstances. I look forward to hearing Councillor CASSIDY’s apology for that claim of voodoo accounting. Now, the reports in front of us go into great detail about the process for valuing and depreciating assets and the rigorous process by which all of this is audited, and so I look forward to Councillor CASSIDY having a good read of those reports.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Well, I have. I have, and what we know from this regime is that they pay the people that audit Council’s books a lot of money and provide them a very specific set of information to audit. We know that’s the case, and that’s what’s in the report before us today. This regime sends over a set of books. They get audited, and then that audit report is tabled by the LORD MAYOR. So, they give them a certain amount of information, and then what is brought here to Council is not the full story. Councillors, whether it’s us on this side or all those LNP backbenchers, don’t get all of the information. It’s the Consolidated Financial Statements, it’s in the title, which don’t go into a great amount of detail about how those revaluations were done.

The LORD MAYOR just talked a bit about that extra $6 billion he managed to find in the last financial year to pad out Council’s accumulated surplus. He obviously didn’t like what I had to say a couple of weeks ago about it, so he’s very sensitive about that topic, but he’s still again today, despite having weeks and weeks and dozens of his own personal staff, and hundreds of staff in Council that can help him understand these things, weeks go by and he still can’t explain how he managed to find an extra $6 billion worth of value in our road assets, our road assets that are crumbling under cars as we speak.

So, the mammoth change that we have seen, the biggest single-year change in Council’s history in asset revaluation—sorry, I misspoke before. I said $6 billion. It’s actually $8 billion, Chair. My mistake. I missed that $2 billion in the detail there, $8 billion in revaluations. The $6 billion was for roads alone, so an extra $2 billion was found revaluing other assets that Council own. So, in a year, in a year we saw the biggest, deepest, most historic cuts to Council services and Council projects out in the suburbs of Brisbane. We see this regime revaluing Council assets to the tune of $8 billion. So, they’re cutting the budget, the real‑time, financial year budget on services and projects.

They’re saying to people who use Council libraries, sorry, you don’t get teabags and Arnott’s biscuits anymore for the afternoon teatime reading sessions because Council is too broke for that under the LNP, and yet lo and behold, this LORD MAYOR gets some financial statements together, sends them off to the auditors and said, we found an extra $8 billion to pad out that surplus, of which this regime can go about borrowing more money to splurge on these massive inner-city projects while community services, while grants, while funding for inclusive Brisbane programs get cut every single week. That is not a small difference. That is not just some normal, simple accounting term to find an extra $8 billion in assets. That is voodoo accounting. That is.

Now, if you went around and asked anyone, I reckon, that’s driving on Brisbane’s roads at the moment, I mean, they’re stuck in absolute and utter gridlock, but when they do get a bit of speed up on Brisbane’s roads at the moment, I wonder if you asked any of them if they felt like they were worth $6 billion more this week than they were a month ago. I don’t think so. I don’t think so. It is a very clever accounting trick that this LNP regime has used to pad out Council’s bottom line, in fact.

There’s also a really clear picture in these Consolidated Financial Statements we have before us today, that Council has obviously, under the LNP regime here, blown the budget one too many times. So, the Council credit card—sorry, the credit card for the ratepayers of Brisbane, it’s not their money they’re using. It’s the money that is paid each and every quarter from the ratepayers of Brisbane that’s been getting a massive workout, Chair, a massive workout. Council has racked up an extra $55 million on that credit card to deliver services to keep the lights on and to do the basics. This isn’t a credit facility, let’s remember, not a credit facility to build projects out in the suburbs of Brisbane or deliver services, that is to fund the normal operations of Council, the normal, ordinary, day-to-day operations of Council, to pay the bills so they don’t come knocking on the door in the middle of the night.

So, that debt now sits at $242 million on the Council credit card that this regime has now racked up. They’ve drained Brisbane’s cash reserves, as we’ve figured out over the last few months, reduced that by now more than $19 million again, halving Council’s cash at bank and cash on hand. That’s the cash, of course, we need to respond in times of crisis. We saw Council access that in the wake of the 2022 flood disaster. That is now not an option. That is not an option for the people of Brisbane now because of the actions of this regime over there. When communities are in need and need their Council to support them, they cannot count on Brisbane City Council anymore because of the political decisions of the LNP. That is completely irresponsible that this LNP regime has allowed those cash reserves to get so low in a city that regularly needs them.

So, what little information we have before us today paints a very, very clear picture. This Council has completely mismanaged finances and, although we have very little detailed report in the consolidated papers before us, what we can see is that things are very bleak for the people of Brisbane. Rates are going up, of course. We see that. Rates are going up, but ratepayers are getting less. The LNP operate their regime behind closed doors with very little accountability. We are, of course, on this side not privy to what goes on in a lot of those discussions between LNP Councillors. We see some high-level reports produced from that so-called work. We don’t know what was provided to the Auditor-General for approval, and it’s much more than this, but as the saying goes, once bitten twice shy.

When it comes to this LORD MAYOR, you could not trust a thing he says about the Council budget. You cannot trust a thing he says about these consolidated financial reports. You cannot trust a thing that this LORD MAYOR says, because every time he promises he’ll do something, he breaks that promise and then blames somebody else, of course. We would like to see greater transparency, but what we are learning here in this Council Chamber and the people of Brisbane are learning, transparency is not something you get from a regime.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Madam Chair. I rise to speak on item B, which is the Consolidated Financial Statements which have been audited by the Queensland Auditor-General. The statements have been reviewed and endorsed by the Audit Committee and subject to rigorous oversight from the Queensland Audit Office. They are prepared by the Financial Accounting and External Reporting team in Corporate Finance, all of whom are CPA (Certified Practising Accountant) or CA (Chartered Accountant) qualified. These statements show that, once again, the Schrinner Council has responsibly managed the Council’s finances in the face of considerable headwinds.

Despite record investment in infrastructure and rising costs, we’ve kept the budget in a strong and sustainable position, keeping costs down. The report shows contributions, donations, subsidies and grants have reduced by over $40 million since the previous year. Employee expenses increased by $51.9 million last year, largely due to the EBA (Enterprise Bargaining Agreement) pay rise and payments towards the mental health levy. These figures for materials and services show Council showed great discipline in managing expenses, keeping costs down at a time when the cost of nearly everything in the world was going up.

Regarding our cash position, Council has an active strategy to manage cash closely to minimise any additional interest payments. With the lack of transparency and ongoing changes in the timing and amount of State and Federal grant funding, particularly in the lead up to the end of financial year, it is difficult to accurately forecast cash balances for 30 June. We recently had a Finance Committee presentation on the financial assistance grants. Councillor HUANG and Councillor COLLIER, who are on the Finance Committee, have witnessed a lot of debate and discussion on this topic through their attendance at ALGA (Australasian Land and Groundwater Association) and LGAQ (Local Government Association of Queensland) events. Brisbane City Council’s funding and allocations from this grant are declining, and overall, the pot is getting smaller relative to the overall tax revenue that is collected by the Federal Government.

So, Madam Chair, I’m not seeking to make this a red versus blue debate. This should be about team Brisbane and team local government. We all need to push for the Federal and State Governments to provide greater funding for Brisbane, to get its fair share, regardless of what party is in power. At the very least, we need greater certainty and predictability when it comes to the timing of these payments from other levels of government.

Now, on the topic of depreciation and asset values, which I have spoken about twice in this place before—perhaps Councillor CASSIDY should go back and read the minutes—it feels like we’re witnessing some kind of post-truth era politics from those opposite. No claim is too outrageous or baseless for them. They just throw mud and see what sticks. The report of the Auditor-General before us today goes into great detail about what the process is for valuing and depreciating assets, and how the QAO (Queensland Audit Office) challenge and review each part of that process to ensure that everything is done correctly and that it is beyond reproach.

How could those opposite ever think that they could lead this organisation into the future with the carry-on and the nonsense that we hear from Councillor CASSIDY week in, week out? Our financial statements are actually prepared not by me personally, Madam Chair, but by qualified people. I’ll take their advice over the Labor Party any single day. We have people called accountants and we have people called independent auditors, and following work done by accountants and auditors, we present the financial statements on behalf of Council.

It’s one thing to criticise policy decisions taken by the Administration or perceived issues with executive management of Council or the budgeting process, even. That’s politics, but to say that anyone who is professional has engaged in, ‘voodoo accounting’ or creative accounting is absolutely appalling. How can they be taken seriously, Madam Chair? If those opposite don’t like what I’m saying, they can check the minutes from a couple of weeks ago. It’s what they said. They should be held accountable for their disgraceful comments, Madam Chair, and I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. I rise briefly to speak on item B. I think that every year this happens, that the LNP dress up their financial figures under the cloak of the Auditor-General’s report. Now, the Auditor-General’s report really looks at, is the accounting correct? It doesn’t look at the quality of the decisions, the choices of the LNP, how they’ve managed the budget. It looks at whether or not the financial figures that are created by Brisbane City Council are reliable. That’s essentially what it does. So, it does not in any way give any support or encouragement or congratulations to the LNP on the decisions it’s made in managing the city’s finances, far from it. It is a tepid statutory statement, and it simply says that the Auditor-General, based on his work, his objective is to attain reasonable assurance about whether the current financial year statement as a whole is free from material statement. That’s his job.

So, it is a good thing that the Council officers have prepared a report that is free from mistake. That is good. That is a tick. Yes, we’ll give that a tick, but what this does not do, what this does not do in any way, shape or form, is give any endorsement or credibility to the way in which the leadership of the LNP, including the Finance Chair and the LORD MAYOR, run the city’s budget and the decisions they make with the expenditure in this city. It doesn’t do that. To imply that it does, as the LORD MAYOR and the Finance Chair have done, is just wrong. It’s plainly wrong. In fact, Councillor CUNNINGHAM clearly isn’t aware of her own responsibilities, as well. She signs off on this document, so she is responsible for it, and every single Councillor sitting in this place is responsible for the preparation of the budget, as well.

So, when we stand up in here, or when I stand up in here and raise concerns about the budget, it is always ignored by the LNP. That’s the way it’s always been. When I raise concerns about funding in my ward that is not being fairly allocated while LNP wards are getting gold-plated standards, that is ignored, but the Finance Chair and the LORD MAYOR have driven this city’s budget into the ground with their bad decision making, and that bad decision making stems largely from the mismanagement of their major signature projects and the budget blowouts and the stuff-ups and the mistakes and the cost overruns, changing Council departments, losing staff, being unable to manage trimming trees, mowing grass. You name it, from one end of Council to the other end of Council, the decisions that the LNP is making are having an adverse effect on service delivery in the City of Brisbane.

Now, the Auditor-General doesn’t look at any of that. The Auditor-General doesn’t look at it and go, well, you’ve run your cash reserves down. He goes, oh well, there’s $19 million in the bank and you say you’ve got $19 million. Tick. That’s what the Auditor-General does. He doesn’t go, well, gee, LORD MAYOR, you used to have $100 million in the bank and now you’ve got $19 million. I’m not sure you’re going in the right direction there, LORD MAYOR. He doesn’t do anything, or they don’t do anything along those lines. So, to claim that there is some sort of endorsement from the Auditor-General about how this city is being run, its financial management or mismanagement, is completely untrue.

It is also, I think, concerning that the finances of the city are in such a perilous state because rates are going up. They go up and up and up. Another 7.5% for homeowners. They talk about an average, but the cap is way higher than that. Rates always go up. In my 16 years here, they have never gone down ever. In the time I’ve been here under the LNP, they have doubled. So, it is appalling that the mess this LNP have got themselves into by cosying up to developers who then can’t deliver their projects, so there is no revenue coming in, then they increase fines and you’ve got to pay more to get your library book or whatever it might be, these are not good decisions. It costs $6.70 or something to go to a pool for a visit. Yes, they’ve introduced $2 Summer Dips—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —but it’s not good enough.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on this particular clause, especially the Consolidated Financial Statement. Having looked through the papers, there were a few pages missing from the previous statement last year, about 30-odd pages, actually. So, less and less information is being given to this Chamber year after year, and you only have to look at the quarterlies, as well. It’s really—and the excuse is, well, that’s just the way the State Government does. Well, fine. Let’s try to do better, right? We used to do better. We used to be getting more information, but that doesn’t seem to be the case. They want to hide things because they’re embarrassed about their financial—well, this particular financial statement and, obviously, last year’s, as well, of course. With that $400 million cut, it certainly stands out in this statement and in last year’s statement, as well, of course.

Now, if we have a look at the revenue, over the last two years, the consolidated fees and charges have gone up seven per cent and that is projected to be 11% this year, which is well above inflation rate, if you think about it. I was shocked, actually, at the increase in fees and charges. They didn’t want to increase the rates too much, but I tell you what, those fees and charges are something that the ratepayers of Brisbane don’t actually see until they actually have to pay something. They see those rates come through every quarter, though, and they know when there is an increase. So, one way of deflecting that is to, of course, put up the fees and charges. So, we look at that and it’s a lot of money when you think about it. In 2023, it was $210 million. 2024, it was $224 million and projected, it will be $249 million, so it’s a quarter of a billion dollars next year. That’s just a phenomenal amount of money for fees and charges.

Now, in the 2023 financial report, of course, there was a—Council achieved $21.7 million in interest revenue, and interest is a good thing, income, interest revenue. In this particular financial year, 2024, it’s $14 million, so there’s been a big drop. Next year, it’s proposed to drop even further to $7.4 million. So, where has all of our interest gone from all that money we used to have in the bank? Well, we know where it’s gone. We spent the money. So, no interest.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: On green bridges, on all those gold-plated projects, Metro, green bridges, Victoria Park, just more and more, whatever they think of. They never spend—when it comes to a project, they never have small, little projects, really. They don’t seem to promote those. It’s always those big-ticket items. They’ve got to be bigger and bigger all the time. That’s really telling, actually, when you have a look at that interest revenue.

Now, in regards to expenses, there was a huge cut in expenses for material and services. It was anticipated in 2023-24 to be $2.4 billion. However, Council spent only $987 million. Good grief. Where did all those services go? Well, we know where they went. The ratepayers of Brisbane lost those services and we can see it just driving around Brisbane, just looking at the roads that are not resealed, just looking for those parks that are not being upgraded, just looking for footpaths that are still broken and not being fixed. Honestly, the ratepayers are really not benefitting from this Schrinner Council.

Over the last eight years, I’ve seen it just get worse and worse. I remember when Quirk introduced the road resurfacing program with something like $100 million a year that he would do, and it just keeps going backwards and backwards and backwards. Obviously, there was a priority for him and it wasn’t green bridges. Now, in regards to finance cost, we spent the—

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, your time has expired.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Are there any further speakers?

LORD MAYOR, right of reply.

LORD MAYOR: Well, thank you. With the exclusion of Councillor CUNNINGHAM, that was just embarrassing. The contributions we heard were just embarrassing. What we heard from three different Councillors was the same version of the sky is falling, everything’s terrible, and by the way, not only can you not trust the financial statements, you can’t trust the Auditor-General either and you can’t trust the Council officers.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: That’s basically the summary—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

LORD MAYOR: —of what was being implied there.

Chair: Point of order. One moment, LORD MAYOR.

Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Claim to be misrepresented.

Chair: I note your claim of misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: Because Madam Chair, I’ll give you a little tip. I don’t actually prepare these financial statements. I’m not the one that puts them together. Yes, I prepare the budget with the support of Council officers and Councillor CUNNINGHAM, but I certainly don’t prepare the financial statements. I’ll give you another tip. Asset revaluation, I didn’t ask for that to happen, did I, Councillor CUNNINGHAM? No. In fact, we were told, this has to happen. To meet current accounting standards, this has to happen.

So, here’s a great example of how the Labor Party and their limited understanding of how financial statements work, how accounting works, have tried to cook up some big conspiracy that I have somehow ordered for a revaluation to be done to artificially prop up the Council budget. It was interesting, Councillor CASSIDY seems to genuinely believe that the asset revaluation will allow us to borrow more money. He said that. He said it will add to our surplus, which will allow us to borrow even more money. Well, Madam Chair, we don’t actually borrow against our assets. We borrow against our income.

The only, or the most important measure that the Queensland Treasury Corporation looks at is our income. They don’t look at whether we own roads or parks because they’re not liquid assets. They’re not assets that we have any intention of selling. We can’t monetise those assets, so they don’t look at them when they assess our borrowings. They only look at our income. If Councillor CASSIDY can’t understand that simple accounting fact, he should be ashamed of himself. It’s a basic thing and it’s embarrassing that he comes in here with this rubbish.

Let me read from page 23 of the financial statements. Comprehensive revaluations are undertaken at intervals of not less than five years. It has to happen. These are performed by independent valuers or suitably qualified internal experts for infrastructure, land, building and other assets. In the intervening years, a suitable cost index is generally obtained from independent valuers or suitably qualified internal experts and applied to the assets in each class. So, what does that mean? A major revaluation happens every five years. In the meantime, a cost index increase is applied to those assets, but every five years, a major revaluation occurs. That’s exactly what’s occurred here. Not because I asked for it to occur, but that’s what we have always done. There’s been a revaluation every five years based on the accounting standards and the requirements to do that.

So, what’s happened in the last five years? Are things worth a lot more? I don’t know. Is land worth more? Is road building more costly? Like, pretty much everything we do costs more to do. So, it would follow that a road has more value now than it did a few years ago because it costs more to replace that road. It’s a simple principle. The land costs more underlying it, as well. It’s not rocket science here. It’s a basic thing. The fact that Labor and others are trying to question this simple thing which has been put forward by the Council officers and the budget team is actually genuinely embarrassing.

Then, they are also verballing the Auditor-General. Now, I heard Councillor JOHNSTON saying, he doesn’t make an assessment on the financial management here. Well, first of all, the Auditor-General is female. Rachel Vagg is the Auditor‑General, not a he. It’s Rachel. Now, the Audit Office does not just rely solely on the information that we give them once a year. They are in fact embedded into our internal independent Audit Committee which meets all the way throughout the year. So, they get a picture of everything that’s happening throughout the year through our independent Audit Committee. They have a great deal of information. They can ask for anything they want, which they do, but listen to what the Auditor‑General has said.

This is her letter to us. “I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Brisbane City Council and its controlled entities. In my opinion, the financial report: gives a true and fair view of Council and the Group’s financial position as of 30 June 2024 and of their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, (b) it complies with the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*, the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012*, and Australian Accounting Standards. I conducted my audit in accordance with the Auditor-General’s auditing standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. I am independent of the Council and the group in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professionals and Ethical Standards Board, APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide the basis of my opinion.”

We’ve had all kinds of aspersions being cast today against myself, that somehow, I’ve asked for a revaluation. I didn’t. I don’t prepare these reports. The officers do. I don’t audit these reports. The Queensland Audit Office does so independently. So, it’s just outrageous, the claims that have been made. Labor can criticise, others can criticise budget decisions I make. That’s okay. They did that. They spent a lot of money criticising those budget decisions in the recent election and, in fact, it backfired, but when it comes to the audited financial statements, to criticise them is actually really quite inappropriate because they’re criticising the officers and they’re criticising the Queensland Audit Office.

So, I guess today is a great example of how to undermine an Opposition’s credibility in one fell swoop. You make all these outrageous claims that can’t be substantiated. You cast aspersions on a whole range of people who are independent and who are just doing their job, and then you wonder why no one takes you seriously when you make claims in the future. It’s the boy who cried wolf again and again and again, and every year, they come in and say the same thing. Every year, they come in and make those aspersions on people who have been involved in this process.

So, I want to just thank our finance team and I want to thank the Queensland Audit Office. You do a fantastic job and you do not deserve the criticism that has been dished out today.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

We’ll now put that report to the vote. All—oh, sorry. One moment. Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, your point of misrepresentation. My apologises.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair. The LORD MAYOR stated that I said in my speech that you cannot trust the Auditor-General or Council officers. In fact, my speech indicated that they had done their jobs, but I was critical of the LORD MAYOR and the Financial Chair’s decision-making with respect to the City of Brisbane.

Chair: We’ll now put that report 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 Establishment and Coordination Committee was declared **carried** on the voices.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 18 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, 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, Sarah HUTTON, 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 Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

ABSTENTIONS: 2 - Councillors Seal CHONG WAH and Trina MASSEY.

Councillor DIXON: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor DIXON.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| **130/2024-25**  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 3.28pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: We’ll now move to item C.

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. Item C before us today is the contracts and tendering report of contracts accepted by delegates of Council for August 2024. It’s important to note in this report, there’s many things there that came through in August. Four out of four of these contracts were actually awarded to local suppliers, which is 100% for local suppliers in the month of August. Financial year to date, that is just adding to the now nearly 94% of contracts worth nearly $248 million to the local suppliers as well. Some of the contracts we see before us today are a new and expanded playground at Jamboree Park—including new swings, rockers, climbing elements, and a play fort—Package 1 of our Community Facilities Car Park Upgrades, including Acacia Ridge community support, Acacia Ridge Meals on Wheels, and the creche kindergarten, and the Stafford Scouts. We also have the rehabilitation of the Bowen Bridge Road bridge piers at Bowen Hills. I leave the rest to the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on this item today. Again, what we are seeing in contracts and tendering, I now have two criticisms: one is the increasing use of contractors, ordinarily, to do basic and ongoing Council work. Now what we’ve seen over the last few months—not just since the 2024-25 Council budget but also in the lead up to that as a result of the $400 million in cuts that we saw this LNP Mayor bring down last year—is fewer and fewer contracts overall as well. Interesting to note the DEPUTY MAYOR get up in introducing—well, not introducing this item, and talking on this item—in saying there were many, many things in here.

In fact, there’s just four—four—and was able to rapidly get through them in a minute or so. When we do see contracts coming through, of which these things have been funded by the LORD MAYOR and his budget, we’re seeing an increasing use of contracts to engage temporary workers, labour hire workers, and contract out basic work. Even that’s not happening as much now. Obviously, the last—this one has four in it. There was about half a dozen or eight for the previous month, and a similar number for the month before that. I recall going through contracts and tendering reports years ago, which used to go over about four or five pages, and major amounts of contracting out in those. We see very minor amounts of contracting out here.

The one that didn’t have a lot of detailed information, the DEPUTY MAYOR has outlined the car park work, I think, across three sites: two at Acacia Ridge, and one at Stafford. I suppose that answers that question. Given the part-time Mayor is not here after afternoon tea, the part-time Administration, maybe it’s generous in calling them a regime because they’re not even—they don’t seem be doing anything. Certainly, I don’t know if you can be a part-time regime, but certainly their hearts’ clearly not in it when it comes to the day-to-day business. No oomph, yes, no passion for the projects, unfortunately, with the LNP, so probably not much more to say on this one, Chair.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair. I wanted to speak a little bit about a couple of the contracts, of course. As the DEPUTY MAYOR pointed out, one of my questions, of course, was which car parks was the funding for this contract for upgrade going to benefit? She had asked that, but it wasn’t in the papers so, honestly, why wasn’t it in the papers? Well, I couldn’t see it in the papers. Maybe she can correct me. It’s really important that, especially in car park issues, I mean, I have a car park that’s been looking for an upgrade for some years now in McEwan Park. I won’t speak too much about that, obviously, but it was on my wish list for a number of years now, because it’s important that we look after and maintain these car parks for the groups that are actually using that space.

In regards to the one I was thinking or talking about in my ward, of course, it was like a rocky road, honestly. It’s really bad. It was really bad. I assume that some of these other car parks that are being upgraded as well are in the same bad situation. We tend to let them go too far. Then when we do upgrade them, it costs that much more money to do so. Now, I know—I think it was Logan City Council has come up with a new surfacing on four car parks with different materials that I’ve passed on to our Outcomes Manager to have a look at because it’s a lot less costly, and it does a terrific job.

I’m not a scientist, so I’m not going to stand here and tell you how it all works and what the materials are. They are looking into it because, as I say, car parks are one of those needed sites. I know in the Calamvale Ward, they’ve just established a new car park over there at the cricket grounds at a very large cost, so we’ve got to maintain it. If we don’t maintain them, we end up with rubble, basically, which is what the McEwan Park car park is. It’s an important initiative, and I’m glad to see this money come through for it. It’s important that we look after them as time goes on, and not just wait for them to deteriorate to the point where they’re absolutely a hazard, a health or a safety hazard.

Now, in regards to another item in there was an upgrade to the Jamboree Ward playground and, again, one of those upgrades that is probably very needed. I’m sure Councillor HUTTON’s really looking forward to it, and her residents. The amount of money we’re spending for the upgrade would cover the establishment of a park in my ward—which we are doing in Grove Street for this year—for a little bit less money, actually, than that upgrade. I think it’s important. I think it’s all about priorities here. Yes, we’ve got to maintain these things, and we’ve got to upgrade these things where we can, but we’ve really got to invest money in establishing new parks, especially in developed areas that have all these townhouses and houses as well; a new Woolworths going in as well.

So, it’s going to attract a lot more people to the area for development, and we have no park, you know, no park. So, it’s just, as you say, it’s just crazy. I don’t begrudge Councillor HUTTON getting her park upgraded. I think Councillor COLLIER is going to talk about an upgrade later in this meeting and talk about what it means to her and her residents. I can assure you, over the last eight years, that’s all I’ve been doing is really doing upgrades with my SEF (Suburban Enhancement Fund) funding, basically, for all those—the number of neighbourhood parks in my Forest Lake suburb, which the developers made sure that every village had a park—wanted two.

Anyway, the upgrades are important, and we keep doing that. Sunshades, of course, were the latest thing, a sun cover, which was a really good initiative, and that’s been rolled out as well. I just wanted to get up and speak a little bit about upgrades and new parks, even though I know new parks aren’t part of this part of the contracts here. They are two both important issues that we have to deal with in this Council, and I just don’t think we’re spending enough time and effort—

Chair: Your time has expired, Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just briefly on item C, I too, like Councillor CASSIDY, noted that there are just four items on this report in August. At the beginning of a new financial year, you would think it’s at a time with a new budget that Council will be full steam ahead on all the projects for our city. Instead, there are just four small—small—items coming forward, including a new playground in Jamboree; toilets for Princess Alexandra Hospital for bus drivers; community facilities, car park upgrades—which I’ll speak about in just a moment—and Bowen Bridge Road bridge rehabilitation, so all a few hundred thousand dollars.

Goodness me, if four projects for small things can’t be done locally, then there’s definitely a problem. I think the DEPUTY MAYOR got a bit lucky today with that. I do want to briefly mention the community facilities, car parks. I’m happy to hear, and I thought I heard four car parks getting an upgrade, but I’m not 100% certain. I thought there were two in Acacia Ridge, there was some sort of creche, and then there were the Stafford Scouts. Anyway, there are three or four car parks being upgraded with $470,000 in funding. I note that for the past 14 years, the Dunlop Park car park at Corinda has been neglected by the LNP.

Whilst the LORD MAYOR tells residents that they should ask me for the money, I note that this Council does capital fund car park upgrades, has done so every single year that I have been a Councillor, and here we are again today seeing money spent—hopefully where it’s needed—at these locations. I don’t know how good they are. I might go and check out the Stafford Scouts car park and see how bad it is compared to the horrific Corinda car park. I just note that this Council is funding car park upgrades using capital funding.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. I just rise to speak on item C very briefly. I’m very excited to be delivering the Jamboree Park upgrade. Now, I did want to put on record that is using our Suburban Enhancement Fund, and it is going to be a very exciting enhancement for that little community. They’ve had a lot to say about it and so, Councillor STRUNK, I look forward to inviting you to the opening.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thanks, Chair. Look, I’ll rise briefly to speak on this item because it’s also really important I put on the public record about a couple of—one particular Council car park that has been a real big challenge for a state school in our area, and that’s Dutton Park State School. This car park, which I’ve spoken to many Council officers about, is not DA-compliant. There is a person that has accessibility needs at Dutton Park State School. As we heard earlier, we are using capital expense to upgrade Brisbane City car parks, and yet I am consistently and constantly told that there is nothing that Brisbane City Council could potentially do with this car park that is not DA-compliant for school children to be dropped off in this area.

Chair: Councillor MASSEY—

Councillor MASSEY: Nonetheless, I will—

Chair: Council MASSEY, it should be something that is actually in the report, but if you wanted to speak on that—

Councillor MASSEY: The upgrade to the car parks within the contracts—

Chair: —I would, specifically, I would recommend though that you do this in GB. Thank you.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: It’s not too far, that car park, at all, no, and that’s a Brisbane City Council car park.

Chair: Not school.

Councillor MASSEY: That’s right, that car park, which is a Brisbane City car park, which is a facility that is a part of the contracts being upgraded. Nonetheless, I just wanted to speak briefly to put that on the agenda because it’s really important that we are seeing capital expense spent on car parks. That particular car park, which is a challenge, is not having any movement on it at the moment. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers? No further speakers.

We’ll put that 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.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 19 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, Penny WOLFF and Nicole JOHNSTON.

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

Chair: We will now move to item D.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Item D is the SCP (Significant Contracting Plan) for ecosystem restoration and weed management. This panel supports the conservation enhancement of Council’s owned or controlled parks, waterways, Habitat Brisbane sites, and conservation reserves. The item before us today seeks Council approval to move forward with a public tender, ensuring we continue to effectively manage and improve Brisbane’s natural environment when current arrangements expire. Ecosystem restoration involves everything from pre-emptive maintenance to returning degraded bushland to a healthy self-sustaining state. This includes vegetation audits, weed removal, site preparation for fire management, and maintenance of stormwater systems.

Additionally, our weed management strategy addresses both floating and submerged aquatic weeds, focusing on their removal and control. Currently, we have two separate panels for our ecosystem restoration, which expires in April next year, and another one for aquatic weed management, which expires in November this year. The SCP proposes to consolidate these services into a single panel with three categories: (1) ecosystem restoration services; (2) vegetation condition audits; and (3) aquatic weed harvesting. This streamlined approach will boost efficiency and enhance our efforts in managing and preserving Brisbane’s natural environment.

In terms of particularly the aquatic weed harvesting, the question that no doubt the Opposition will ask, and one that we asked as well, is, given that there’s an ongoing need to do this work, is there work that can be done in-house? We did in fact ask that question of the CEO. His advice was that the nature of the weed harvesting is that there can be periods of the year where things are very slow and it’s not very much required, and then suddenly it all grows at once, in multiple locations at once. That’s where you really do need contractors on board to be able to gear up and then wind down based on the need.

We’ve seen that happening in particular situations with the challenges, for example, in Forest Lake, which are cyclical. So, a lot of work might need to be done in a short period of time, and then there’s other times of year where not so much work is required. In that circumstance, it is our belief that the best option is to go through with a panel of providers. So, I just want to assure the Opposition—because I know that they will raise it—that we are always looking at opportunities to make sure we can deliver things efficiently and effectively. Sometimes that involves doing things in-house with internal resources and internal teams. Other times it involves doing it with external contractors.

We don’t have an ideological bias one way or the other, unlike some. We simply would say that whatever gives us the best outcome for the best efficiency and the best value for ratepayers’ money is the option that we should have a look at. Over time, that can change as well. There are times where doing things in-house is the most effective way of doing it, and then there are other times where doing it externally is the most effective way of doing it. I think it would be wrong to have a fixed view on which way is best, and that we should continue to look at both options as options, and choose what is best based on the current conditions and circumstances.

Chair: Further speakers.

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on Clause D, the Stores Board submission for aquatic weed management services. Obviously, the LORD MAYOR is becoming more attuned and more sensitive to the issue of casualising Council’s workforce through continued use of contract labour and contracting out basic and ongoing work. He’s tried to use a couple of limited examples in his speech just now to prove why more of this work can’t be done in-house. There’s a couple of great examples in my own ward—and in your ward as well, Chair—and places all around Brisbane. I’m sure lots of Councillors on that side will get up and make this argument too that there needs to be more ongoing work allocated to the management of aquatic weed to the management of Council’s owned and controlled waterways.

For the last nine years I’ve been a Councillor, I have seen the funding for weed management, particularly in Cabbage Tree Creek, in the Zillman Waterholes, at Dowse Lagoon, in other places around the northside be completely stagnant. We see the same paltry amount allocated each year for weed management in those places that I mentioned—it never goes up—each and every year. So it’s little wonder we get the feedback from people who see these waterways infested with weeds, and overgrown, reporting that more and more often, we hear from Council officers, who have to manage these contracts, telling us that there’s not enough money to do the kind of work that really needs to be done.

What we’re seeing from the LNP is just this business-as-usual approach, allocating the same amount of money that they did a decade ago, and expecting that that is enough for this external contract. We just heard a lecture from Councillor CUNNINGHAM and the LORD MAYOR about half an hour ago how the cost of everything is going up, the cost of all these contracts is going up, but the money that’s being allocated to do this work isn’t. Now LORD MAYOR used a couple of examples, as I said, to suggest that this work is entirely cyclical and, therefore, you would only engage a contractor for a short period of time.

Well, that is just not the case for those examples that I just gave in the Zillman Waterholes, for one, in the Cabbage Tree Creek catchment, which ends in my ward, goes through your ward, Chair, up through Councillor DAVIS’ ward, and beyond Brisbane as well. In Dowse Lagoon, we are seeing that Ramsar-listed site get smaller and smaller and smaller because the exotic grass species which are running rampant around there are closing in the banks of that lagoon more and more and more every year. The feedback we get from Council officers, who only can work with what they are allocated by the LORD MAYOR each and every year, is that there is never, never going to be enough money, when we look at the kind of funding allocations the LORD MAYOR has made in successive budgets to get on top of that.

They say they could do it once, clear out all of that grass, those African grasses that are there, but it’ll just come back next year, and there’ll be no money next year to keep maintaining it. That’s a yearly, ongoing job. Now, this isn’t just sort of aesthetically pleasing, I guess. A lot of people would like to see the lagoon look healthier, the Dowse Lagoon. It is a Ramsar-listed side of which Council has signed up to as a custodian of in maintaining that asset. What we see year after year is the approach that the LORD MAYOR has just outlined, that it’s not a priority; that it’s about contracting those services out for a couple of months of the year to do one-off jobs and to do basic ongoing maintenance by external contractors.

It’s leading our natural environment, our waterways, our lagoons to be degraded, to be entirely and totally degraded. We hear, week after week, the likes of Councillor DAVIS, the Chair of the Environment and Parks Committee, get up and say how wonderfully green and sustainable Brisbane is. It’s these little things that make a huge impact on not just the liveability of our communities but also the long-term health of our natural environment. What we’re seeing here with the approach that these contracting plans bring into Council is that they continue to see our waterways being degraded.

There is a place, definitely a place for cyclical work to supplement what Council’s capabilities are. I read the papers today, and it says that. It says, currently Council can provide some of these services but not all of them. There’s a reason for that. It’s because of the approach of the LNP over successive years in contracting more and more and more of that work out. So, yes, that is true that today we don’t have the workforce and the machinery and the funding to carry out this work on a daily basis to make sure we’re managing our waterways. There is a reason why. It’s because the LNP decide that’s not a priority.

That’s why then, by design—not by accident but by design—we have the LORD MAYOR bringing these contracts to Council to contract out more of that work. That’s the situation we are in today. We absolutely support the work of weed management in Brisbane, in improving the health of our waterways, but not the LNP’s approach to contracting that out, and hiding behind those contracts and saying, well, Council officers can’t manage this work. I mean, how insulting is that? Can you imagine those waterway officers? I talk to them all the time. There’s fewer and fewer of them. I’m sure you do too, Chair; probably the same one that I do.

When we talk about local waterways, how insulting would it be for those officers to find out that the LORD MAYOR of Brisbane doesn’t think they are capable and wouldn’t be capable of managing this work in-house if they had the resources allocated to it? Can you believe the disrespect that this LORD MAYOR brings upon this workforce within Council, saying they are not good enough? He would prefer contractors. Again, it is all by design. We want to see more investment. When we talk about services and projects in the suburbs, these are critical. When you look at how choked Cabbage Tree Creek has become, how choked the Zillman Waterholes are, just in my ward, and a Ramsar-listed lagoon, like the Dowse Lagoon—and I remember, it was about eight years ago, the LORD MAYOR at the time said he was going to spend $1 million putting a fountain in that lagoon.

We said at the time, instead of doing that, why don’t you spend some more money on maintenance of this lagoon? It is a historic Ramsar-listed site that needs a lot of weed maintenance. The LNP at the time went, well, if you don’t want the fountain, you get nothing. You get absolutely nothing. We’ll just put $10,000 or $20,000 for a contractor to come and do a little bit of maintenance here and there. That’s deeply disappointing. Again, when you look in the context of this contract, in the broader context of today’s meeting, you do understand why. We see through the papers that are before us today, a massive—not just massive increases in rates people are paying but massive cuts to materials and services and projects out in the suburbs of Brisbane.

This is another example of that, a business-as-usual approach of starving vital services like weed management and waterway health of funds over successive years and successive decades now. It saves a bit of money for the bottom line for Council’s budget but ultimately leaves our city in a much worse-off place. As we welcome international visitors in eight years’ time to the Brisbane 2032 Games, what kind of place will they see as they drive around the suburbs of Brisbane, seeing the parlous state of our natural environment? Deeply disappointing.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Obviously there’s no one on the other side other than the LORD MAYOR that’s got any interest in this particular Stores Board submission, which is sad. Anyway, I was interested to read through what the Stores Board submission was supposed to cover. Just reading right through the quite large, well, quite reasonable large list of whoever the successful tenderer is for the next eight years, I’m thinking this amount of money that’s stated is not going to be anywhere near what’s going to be needed. I take the Leader of the Opposition’s comments on that, that it hasn’t really gone up in any substantive way. Everything else has gone up, so why hasn’t it gone up? A little bit of a question there.

Anyway, to have a look, it was—what I was really interested in, of course, is what the money that’s going to be spent on weed infestation or getting rid of the toxic weed in the case of the Forest Lake, lake itself, which Council has done a good job with the current maintenance plan that was put into place by Councillor Quirk some years ago, and that investment to bring back that lake to what people now are happy to walk around, and not smell noxious weed and the algae, the blue‑green algae buildup that just smelt like dead animals or something. I don’t know, it’s really hard to describe. Anyway, it was really, really bad. We’re not there yet, unfortunately.

At the last Dragon Boat regatta, we couldn’t use any boats in the lake because of the blue-green algae, even though you couldn’t really see it very well, like previous years, but it was still there. It was there in a way that was going to be unhealthy for the occupants of the boats paddling around in the lake. Also, weed infestation is also a big issue around the lake as well, and to try to keep on top of that and the waterways leading into the lake and those other creeks and stormwater culvert. There’s one through the Durack Common, which is undergoing some restoration at the moment, has had—out on Blunder Road, and the crews have been there for like four months. I don’t know what happened, I didn’t ask, but I know they’re doing their best to try to rectify the problem there on Blunder Road from the commons, because that’s where all the water that flows from Archerfield Road right through to Blunder Road.

It comes down that culvert, that open culvert area, and it’s a big issue. A lot of it gets built—a lot of weeds actually build up in these creeks and waterways, but we don’t do a lot of work in regards to trying to keep that weed under control. The inflows into the lake—which, again, I’m sure some of this money is going to go for, one of the Council officers who’s been in that area, working in that area for a number of years now, he cleared all that out a few years ago, and it’s really working well now. The traps and everything are working, but we’ve got to keep on top of it. Investing the same amount of money every year—or there it seems, if you can believe what’s written in the papers here—isn’t really addressing the issue in the long term.

It’s just patching up what we’ve got today, and hopefully there won’t be a huge outbreak in the near future, depending on the climate. I’m always telling my residents—as much and as often as I can—to clean out your gutters. Keep the leaves out of your gutters so it doesn’t go down the stormwater, which half the stormwater system in Forest Lake ends up in the lake, with those villages that have the elevation to flow into the lake. I know I fill up half a wheelie bin just on my block in my little corner block every couple of weeks. Half of it’s from the leaves that are actually in the gutter that I retract and sweep up. You can imagine what actually ends up in the lake if we don’t do the right thing as residents, because we do have some control over what happens at the front of our properties. I think it needs to be a lot larger investment, probably double, if I take Councillor CASSIDY’s—

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, your time has expired.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Further speakers?

Council HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on item D. The Ecosystem Restoration and Aquatic Weed Management Services significant contracting plan supports the ongoing maintenance of Council-owned and controlled parks, waterways, Habitat Brisbane sites, and conservation reserves. We value our natural environment, and this contracting plan will assist us in managing these areas that make our city so special. The item before us helps complement Council’s workforce when required, and can be used for a broad range of services. First, the Ecosystem Restoration panel arrangement provides a wide range of services, including weed mapping, both pre- and post-works, and may include the development of restoration plans, ecosystem restoration, weed control, natural or assisted regeneration works, waterway restoration, including bank stabilisation and restoration, burn preparation works, and vegetation condition assessments and vegetation classifications.

One of the recent projects that this panel has undertaken was actually at Belmont Hills Bushland. The project included a flora survey in the 100-hectare reserve, to better understand the extent of weed infestation, facilitate on-ground weed control projects, accurately map regional ecosystems to support future control projects, accurately map regional ecosystems to support future restoration, and, importantly, capture accurate mapping of a population of critically endangered plants, which include the Belmont stink bush. It’s important to note that this panel is made up of a number of different groups, the community conservation groups, including Oxley Creek association and Bulimba Creek catchment association, as well as some other commercial providers.

The second panel, aquatic weed management services, specifically targets both floating and submerged aquatic weeds. This panel is to acquire skills of qualified, experienced operators to remove, control, and dispose of floating and submerged aquatic weeds. This work will use harvesting equipment, hand removal, herbicide, and biological control, using whatever method is best suited to minimise the impact of the surrounding ecosystem. As the LM (LORD MAYOR) shared, this contract before us today is amalgamating two existing panels, streamlining the SCP with three distinctive categories: Category 1, the Ecosystem Restoration Services; Category 2, Vegetation Condition Audits; and Category 3, aquatic weed harvesting.

This will enable us to aggregate, package, and bundle jobs where appropriate, to increase efficiencies, save overhead costs, and attract competitive quotes. As the LORD MAYOR mentioned, today’s approval is sought to initiate the public tender process, which will close in October. I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you.

Further speakers?

Council JOHNSTON.

Council JOHNSTON: Yes, just briefly on this item, I agree with several of the previous speakers that this is not enough money to do the necessary work to maintain our lakes, creeks, and other waterway corridors. The amount listed in here, 40 million over eight years, that figure is not a real amount of money. We know that the LORD MAYOR will cut the budget without any due consideration. It’d be interesting to know how much is budgeted this year for this item in the Council budget. I doubt it’s $5 million, I’d be very surprised.

I just wanted to say briefly that the lakes at the Sherwood Arboretum are always in desperate need of maintenance. I know there is some funding to do work there this year. In my view, if there was ongoing funding for these corridors that could be done in a routine way by Council and/or contract staff, we wouldn’t have the problem we’ve got, where we have massively overgrown creek banks, massively overgrown lakes, massively overgrown wetlands areas—because this Council is just not investing enough into the basic maintenance of our city. There are areas all over my ward that are in a horrific state, and this Council is doing nothing about them.

So, yes, we need to have some contractors, but the big problem here is Councillor HUTTON and her team are not investing this money into the areas where it is needed. Jobs are not getting done. We need more ongoing, recurrent funding to manage these areas in a more sustainable way rather than, ‘oh my God, this is terrible, we’ve got to go and get a special contractor on to fix the problem’ and then, in a year’s time, come back, and have to do the same thing. This is what should be happening. This is what sustainable environmental management is all about, not crisis reaction to a huge problem. This is where the LNP leadership has let down our community because this everyday work is what is being cut, defunded, and ignored by this LNP LORD MAYOR.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on this item, which is a significant contracting plan for Ecosystem Restoration and Aquatic Weed Management Services. It’s really important to note that these services are really critical for our city. Whether it’s creek-ways, lakes and other waterways, we have as a city found ourselves in a situation as—through you, Chair—Councillor JOHNSTON has said that is more reactive than actually is forward-thinking, proactive and delivering not only a future plan to ensure that our creek-ways, our lakes, our waterways are not only free of weeds as often as possible, and that we’re achieving restoration, which in itself will deliver resilience to the communities that surround these areas.

I think it’s really interesting to see that here it says very clearly, Council has a responsibility to preserve flora and fauna in the natural environment for Council‑owned or Council-controlled water bodies—over eight years, as previously mentioned, $40 million, and that is what’s currently in there—again, we will reiterate, we have very little trust—I have very little trust—in what is actually in the budget.

That 40 million is not enough to get the work done for restoration and also for aquatic weed management, which, in itself, when we’re talking about aquatic weed management, will be unpredictable, yes, but undeniably unpredictable due to climate change and the varying temperatures that we’ll experience in the city. We’ve already seen that this year with an extraordinary warm end of winter. We know that for some of these spaces that warmth will increase the bloom of the weeds.

It’s also really interesting to note in this paper, as previously stated, that Council does have some of the capacity to do this work. In papers like this previously, I’ve stated we have in the past, as a Brisbane City Council, had the workers, have had the experience, have had the knowledge to be able to deliver this kind of work without contracting. Now we very clearly don’t.

We always come to a point where we have an option. Do we choose to continue to expand the skillset, the internal skillsets—noting that some things will have to be contracted—of Brisbane City Council workers, or do we continue to increase contracting in this space, making it a situation as I think everyone in this Chamber finds where we are reporting critical issues rather than being at all, in any sense, in any way preventative? From that point of view, this is why there’s challenges here to these contracts. We’ve seen a couple of these—not a lot; two in this sitting; I believe the other one was waste management—where it’s the same similar challenge.

We see a Council that is reducing its diversification and specialisation to be able to achieve certain things. For this particularly, we see that, I believe, there is an underinvestment because of such a—the importance of creek-ways, waterways and lakes in our city, 40 million across eight years is not a lot of money. It’s just hard to imagine it will be sufficient to actually deliver future restoration and future work that will be able to deliver management of not only the weeds, not only the restoration work that needs to be done, that will mean that we’ll actually be ahead of the curve, especially across the next eight years as our weather becomes more volatile.

I think I’ll leave it there. I think it is a shame, again, that we are constantly looking at casualisation, well, contract—my apologies—contracts, increasing contracts. I do understand that some will have to be in contracts. What we want, undeniably, is a beautiful Brisbane City. Our creek-ways, our waterways, our lakes play a role in that, and they play a role in increasing resilience for our residents and our community across the city.

Chair: Further speakers?

No further speakers.

LORD MAYOR, right of reply.

We’ll now put that to the vote.

**Clause D put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 20 - 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, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, Penny WOLFF and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 5 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM and Charles STRUNK.

ABSTENTIONS: 2 - Councillors Seal CHONG WAH and Trina MASSEY.

Chair: We’ll now move to item E.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. E is the Council annual report for the 2023-24 financial year. Obviously, the annual report fulfills our legislative requirements but also provides an important opportunity to provide a progress report to the people of Brisbane on the fantastic things that have happened over the past 12 months, and the stewardship that their Council has delivered to make sure that Brisbane keeps getting better every year. The report goes into great detail, as it always does, on a number of issues, provides a great snapshot of what’s been achieved over the past 12 months, and obviously talks about things like the progress that’s been made on Brisbane Metro and public transport, the upgraded platforms that are now open at the Cultural Centre and the UQ Lakes station, which people are using right now.

The new Metro Depot at Rochedale, which is now complete, we recently officially opened, and it will soon be open to the public in an open day. We’ve delivered new CityCats, and upgraded CityCat terminals and ferry terminals, including at Dockside. We have also opened in the past 12 months the new Breakfast Creek / Yowoggera Bridge in February, and it’s exceeded all of our expectations with the use, with people walking, cycling, scooting, and taking advantage of that wonderful new connection that helps people get around without the need to get in their car. We’ve made great progress with the Kangaroo Point Bridge, which will be opening very soon.

Road users have seen major projects continuing to gear up, including the Moggill Road upgrade and the Beams Road upgrade, as well, two critical upgrades that we’ve been working on. We’re also continuing to make our investment in parks, playgrounds, pools, and libraries. In particular, we saw the opening of the fantastic Everton Park Library, which I know is very much appreciated by local residents and also the residents of Moreton Bay City, who come past and use it as well. We’re continuing to gear up our waste and recycling efforts in our efforts to get towards zero waste.

We’re doing that through initiatives such as the cut-price green bins, less than $1 a week, which have helped us really gear up the green waste recycling that’s come in, but also other enhanced recycling services that will continue to gear up over the coming years. We’ve been deploying CCTV (closed circuit television) cameras in response to community concerns about safety, and we now have a new grants program as well, it’s been just released. We have been adding to our network of cameras consistently over the past 12 months, we’ve done that. We now have more than 3,000 cameras across Brisbane that we have installed over time.

We’re continuing to provide progress when it comes to housing supply. While we don’t control all of the levers, the levers that we do control we’ve been pulling very hard on to make sure that we can open up as much supply as possible. Whether that’s reducing infrastructure charges to help bring down the cost of building new homes, waiving them entirely for social and community housing, or opening up new development opportunities in areas like Stones Corner, which came through today, there’s been a lot of work that has gone into making sure we can do our part in improving housing supply as well, and helping to respond to homelessness. That continues through our pathways out of homelessness program, through Homeless Connect, and a whole range of other initiatives that we implement to support our community.

Obviously, we’re conscious of the cost-of-living challenges that people are going through, which is why we offer seniors free travel, we offer cut-price green bins, we offer $2 Summer Dips, and we offer a whole range of rebates each budget year for pensioners and for a range of different organisations and charities, to help bring their costs down as well. All of this has been achieved under what have been incredible inflationary pressures and challenges. Challenges which every Council has faced, challenges which every level of government has faced, but challenges in which we haven’t kicked the can down the road to future generations on, challenges that we tackled by grabbing the bull by the horns, knowing that we needed to make reductions in our spending to keep the pressure off rates and rents.

I think the proof was in the pudding when the budget came out in June. Then we saw all of the other Councils release their budgets, and all of them had higher rates and higher rate increases than Brisbane, all of the councils in South East Queensland. We should all be proud collectively of the fact that we’ve done the work necessary to keep rates down. We already had the lowest residential rates in South East Queensland, and all the other councils increased their rates more than us. So, the gap between us and them, with us being at the low end and them being higher, gets higher and bigger each year, and that’s because we’ve done the work to make sure that we rein in the costs because that is what is important to the people of Brisbane, particularly at this time.

There’s also been some great other achievements. Each year, Council as an organisation, and various projects, win multiple awards, whether it’s the call centre or the Brisbane Metro winning multiple awards. We also were acknowledged by the UN (United Nations) with UN-Habitat Sustainable Development Goals Cities program, the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Cities, giving us a Gold Level certification, the second city in the world to receive that. We also had that followed up with the Global Award for Sustainable Development in Cities, which was jointly sponsored by UN-Habitat and the Shanghai Municipality. That was an award that only went to five cities around the world, and Brisbane was one of those cities.

Obviously, there’s a whole range of information in here and, in the time I’ve got, I can’t touch on every single thing. I did though want to point to page 24, which talks about the increase in our community equity. It highlights the point that I made earlier, which is every five years we do an asset revaluation. You can see on the chart at the bottom, when I became LORD MAYOR five years ago, there was an asset revaluation, and you can see the jump up that happened at that time. There’s another jump up that’s just happened recently as well. This is what our policy requires. This is done independently. It happened five years ago. It’s happened again now, in accordance with our policy and accounting standards.

What it does show is it also shows that we’re continuing to invest in infrastructure and building assets as well. Whether it’s maintaining assets or building assets, that investment continues. So our community equity, which is what Council owns less what it owes has continued to grow, and that’s been independently audited and verified by the Queensland Audit Office as well. I did also want to point out some figures when it comes to Council’s workforce as well, because there’s all kinds of claims made, where the Opposition will talk about what they call the casualisation of the workforce.

Let’s compare last year to this year. Last year, 80% of our workforce was full‑time. This year it’s changed dramatically, by one per cent; 79% full-time. On top of that, 8% last year was part-time; 8% this year is part-time. Casual; last year, 10%, this year, 10%. In fact, the only change, that one per cent that went from full-time went to flexible part-time. What that is, is the increase in bus drivers that we have employed. Over the past 12 months, we have continued to grow our number of bus drivers. Guess what? They appreciate the opportunity to work in a flexible, casual environment—that’s what they choose—because we know that people are wanting to do that job because it fits in with the lifestyle that they want. We’ve had all types of people wanting to drive our buses, including retired airline pilots, including people who may well be Uber drivers at other times. They appreciate the opportunity.

Any suggestion that there’s been this massive shift to casualisation, I call it out, it’s not true. The figures show there’s been the minorest of minor changes, and that change is driven by the increase in bus drivers that we have, and the fact that those bus drivers are opting to go with a flexible work arrangement. So that’s interesting.

I also did want to point out—and it’s something that we should all be proud of collectively—63% of Brisbane City Councillors are women. Certainly, our side of the Chamber does a good job in making sure that number is a possibility. Fifty‑six per cent of Civic Cabinet Chairs are women. In a little while’s time, we’re just about to—with your support—appoint a female CEO, which I think will be a wonderful thing, and well-deserved as well. There’s so much more I could talk about—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

LORD MAYOR: —but my time is out.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on Clause E, Brisbane City Council’s Annual Report. I’m sure the LORD MAYOR was just about to get to the point of there being 40% women in senior positions within the organisation, after he went through those figures, but he ran out of time. He could have had an extension, I think, but he chose not to there. What we have before us today, of course, is—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —giggling away over there—another glossy document. This LNP regime is good at producing glossy documents that they bring to the Council Chamber. This one I do find better and more informative than a lot of the others because, unlike other documents that the LORD MAYOR and his regime create to outline their so-called vision, this one is directly from Council. It reports on what Council was able to achieve with the resources and the leadership that the LORD MAYOR provided to them as an organisation, warts and all. It is an interesting read, and I’ll go through some of the things there.

It certainly is refreshing to see some real reporting on the shortcomings of the LNP, rather than a fabrication, as we often see. The first look, of course, are those audited financial statements, of which we debated separately earlier but are included in this document as well, is an important point to make, I think. The LORD MAYOR tried to claim that the Queensland Audit Office is embedded through the monthly Audit Committee meetings and, therefore, they endorse and sign off on all of the political decisions that this LNP regime make, and that is not true. That’s not true. When the Queensland Audit Office look at Council’s books, and raise concerns about Council’s financial position in those Audit Committee meetings, they are probably fairly reassured by the LNP when they say, ‘don’t worry’, they will cut $400 million from the budget, and increase rates, and increase fees and charges to make the books balance.

They’re decisions that, at a political level, this LORD MAYOR is doing to say that, of course, the LNP can fund the increase in debt that they’re inflicting on the people of Brisbane. Of course, the LNP can meet all of their financial requirements because they have a propensity to increase rates, to increase fees and charges by 10% this year across the board, and to cut $400 million from Council’s wage budget, from Council’s, projects, from Council’s services as well. Of course, the Queensland Audit Office was happy with this LNP regime’s propensity to cut expenditure and increase rates.

Of course they would be, because the books then balance, of course, don’t they? After looking at them, of course, I rush to section four to look at the progress and performance reports. Of course, unfortunately, the LORD MAYOR didn’t get to this one as well. I was looking forward to that, the LORD MAYOR’s report card, basically, for those following along, how the LORD MAYOR and his political regime here in Council perform throughout the year. This is where we see what they’re called in the Annual Report, business units, how they’re tracking, how they’re ranked by status to inform us of their performance, whether they’re on track or whether they need to be monitored closely, which is an interesting term.

Someone needs to monitor them closely, definitely, because, Chair, four out of the five areas are now dangerously off track, dangerously off track. According to this document here, the report card on this LORD MAYOR, four out of five areas within Council are dangerously off track. They need to be monitored closely. That means, according to the document, some progress is being made, but it does not match what was planned and budgeted or is difficult to measure. Isn’t that interesting? Four out of five areas within Council are difficult to measure or are not progressing as they were planned or budgeted.

That means Council is not on track when it comes to being an inclusive city, a prosperous city, a liveable city, or a well-managed city, which we’ve known obviously that last one definitely for some time under this regime. Things are pretty bleak for Brisbane under the LNP. I’m glad it is captured here in black and white, and colour as well—some colour printing—for all of Brisbane to see. They are all talk and no action. I heard the LORD MAYOR go off script a bit before and say that, in his view, everything’s getting better in Brisbane. We are now the most congested capital city in Australia. According to him, that’s better for the people of Brisbane.

We are now a dangerously unaffordable city, when it comes to rentals and it comes to purchasing a home. According to the LNP, that’s better for the people of Brisbane. When we see rates and fees and charges jacked up, and massive cuts to Council projects and services, according to the LORD MAYOR, that is better for Brisbane, and better for the people of Brisbane. I found it interesting today, one of the things that was of course not immune from LNP cuts last year was their advertising spend, reported in the QoNs (Questions on Notice) today, the pre-election advertising spend. Now, this just is just for one area, of course, for, oh, the Brisbetter.

Brisbetter apparently, Brisbane’s better under the LNP, apparently. Before the election, they spent $1.3 million on advertising on that specific campaign; after the election, just $400,000. One might think that the LNP regime here was using public money to promote themselves in the lead up to the last election, and trying to convince people that they were all better off, and then deliver a budget which locks in years and years of cuts to projects and services, locks in higher fees and charges, and locks in higher rates. We heard the LORD MAYOR just utter that he kept rates down. He actually said he kept rates down but, in fact, they went up.

Now, I know the LORD MAYOR said before that he doesn’t read the financial papers anymore. He doesn’t have an eye on all that sort of stuff in Council. He doesn’t bother about that. That’s probably part of the job that he ditched when he became a part-time LORD MAYOR, in looking at the financials of Council. If he genuinely believes that rates are down at the moment compared to last year or any year that he has been LORD MAYOR or in this regime, he is absolutely living in a fantasy land, because rates went up, fees and charges went up, and we still see these baked-in cuts to Council’s budget.

We’ve seen a lot of talk and heard a lot of talk from the LORD MAYOR just today and lately about transport for Brisbane as a program area in Council, and his Metro bus project. I’m sure LNP Councillors were as interested to read as I was on the public transport performance of their LORD MAYOR, particularly the section where it says there were, and I quote from the document “no changes to the annual operational plan” because Council did not provide any additional directions, and there were “no borrowings, major investments, or community service obligations to report” on, in the last year.

Apart from in the Transport for Brisbane area, apart from the couple of things that the LORD MAYOR mentioned—his Metro Bus project and the green bridges—the annual report confirms nothing else was done. The LNP gave Council, as an organisation, and the 8,000 employees, and the CEO of Council no further direction about investing in more projects to get Brisbane moving. We hear the rhetoric, talk is cheap. It turns out it’s actually not; it costs $1.7 billion. There’s very little action from the LNP, and that’s confirmed in this Annual Report before us today. Now, we see things are so bad, and so few projects have been completed that bikeway projects in the Annual Report have made it into the inclusive city section of the Annual Report—all five in total, five bikeway projects.

Obviously, it’s slightly less than the 18 bus stops that were upgraded, still leaving close to 1,000 non-compliant bus stops and inaccessible bus stops out in the suburbs of Brisbane. Now, apparently, according to the LNP, if you listen to what they say, Brisbane is entirely, 100% accessible. The Annual Report doesn’t lie, of course. I suppose this regime has been so focused on the budget, the black hole, of course, that is the Brisbane Metro project that all other transport projects have been ignored. We knew that, but it is good to have that confirmed in the Annual Report, of course. We know in the public transport space, of course, things are getting better.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order.

**131/2024-25**

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, Chair. We know things are, of course, getting better when it comes to public transport with the Labor Government’s 50 cent fares, funded by increased coal royalties if only the LNP would support it. In the long term, that would be great. We see in the Annual Report that work in the DEPUTY MAYOR’s portfolio area has been very light on as well—just 100 applications for footpath dining permits last year. Those people who have applied for them are going to get a very rude shock when they see how much that she has jacked those fees and charges up this year, massive—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —massive. Yeah, and they have to renew them, and then they’ve put an additional renewal fee on top of that as well, in some cases, thousands of per cent increases. Just absolutely—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Not very business friendly. There’s plenty of other examples of where this LNP regime is not very small-business-friendly in the suburbs of Brisbane. The liveable city section has, incredibly, just one reference to housing. This is the area of the Annual Report, of course, which reports on the work of the LNP in this section when it comes to housing. Now, LORD MAYOR said housing a few more times in his speech, but that’s certainly not reflected in the report card of the LNP. Just one reference to housing, Chair, in the middle of a housing and homelessness crisis, one passing reference to the Housing Supply Action Plan, which I spoke about earlier.

Now, this document is now over one year old. According to Councillor ALLAN—and I wrote it down on the front page here, this is his quote, everything—when it comes to Brisbane’s Housing Supply Action Plan—which is supposedly a document to respond to the crisis in real time—according to Councillor ALLAN, everything is up and running and in place. Apparently, according to the LNP, no more work to be done, which is, again, to the point I made earlier.

It’s very difficult to follow along with the LNP’s rhetoric when they get up in Question Time, and grandstand, and say lots of things. Then you see the report card on the work of the LNP, just one single reference to it. We hear from Councillor ALLAN the Housing Supply Action Plan doesn’t propose any new actions in the last year. It just confirms everything that’s already existing, up and running, and in place.

Last time I checked, rents were getting higher, supply was not keeping up, and house prices were getting more and more out of reach of ordinary people. But, the LNP thinks everything is fine and dandy. Maybe they want to go take a walk around the city tonight, go and knock on a few doors over the weekend, and they’ll quickly find out that things are not so great when they go and talk to ordinary people.

There’s also Council disclosures in the document—interesting to see how other Councillors spend their money when it comes to discretionary money in there. The annual report provides details on how much was spent on overseas travel last year for Council officers, which prompted me to go check the website for travel, which needs to be updated in real time, for Councillors. I know Councillor ADAMS has really struggled over the last few weeks to articulate and outline what we as ratepayers paid for on her trip over to Paris recently. She spoke very vaguely in the Chamber about some things that occurred over there for the Paris Olympics, but still very unclear what the $16,000 was spent on, other than a train ticket, and we now know accommodation in a five-star hotel with beautiful views of the Eiffel Tower.

That’s one of the selling points on that hotel’s website, an art deco, recently restored, 1930s vibe, beautiful view of the Eiffel Tower. I imagine many thousands of dollars a night for that. Those details, of course, are still missing, still absent from Councillor’s website, which hasn’t been updated since March this year. We are concerned about transparency. What is Councillor ADAMS hiding?

This annual report is thin too, Councillor STRUNK alluded to that. The financial papers are thinner this year. The annual report is thinner this year as well, to the tune of about 30-odd pages has been gutted from the annual report.

Now, I’m not saying that this isn’t a true and accurate record of Council’s performance over the last year, I think it genuinely is. What that points to is this LNP regime doing a whole lot less. There’s more money than ever coming into Council, but less projects than ever being undertaken. Disturbingly, going back to the original point about Council’s report card on being an inclusive city, a prosperous city, a liveable city, or a well-managed city, all of those critical indicators of a healthy Council and a healthy city are dangerously off track when it comes to this LNP regime’s management of Brisbane. What a great shame.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor KIM.

Councillor KIM: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak briefly on item E. In particular, I wanted to focus on the transparency, or the lack of transparency, particularly in regards to the ward office funds section of the annual report. I’ve actually been waiting quite a while to find the right situation to address this because it’s something that I experienced as a new Councillor just a couple of months ago, which I actually thought was pretty terrible that it’s not on the record. That’s why I’ve been talking about this today. I did do my homework as well, I know the LORD MAYOR made a few claims about the Opposition, saying that we didn’t have substance.

For this one, I have done my homework, and this is a document that I’d like to table, with highlights of every single section, because I did request for the register of items the list of all the—items in the previous Calamvale Ward Office for the former Councillor. What I noticed there was that there were quite a few items missing from the Calamvale Ward Office.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor KIM: A lot of these items were actually utilised by community groups in the Calamvale Ward. The problem is that the justification from the current City Council is that that’s okay. I just want to line it one by one, just to discuss why I don’t think that’s the case.

The reason why I think it’s very important and relevant to discuss today, especially if there’s going to be a section that says annual budget on a Council ward office, there’s $80,000 from the former Councillor, but it doesn’t actually talk about the fact that those items obtained with that amount of money weren’t actually included as a new Councillor for the next period. To start, the Lord Mayor’s Community Fund was used to purchase a portable stage and was absent upon my arrival to the office. I didn’t even know about this, and Calamvale Ward residents actually use it as well. That one is definitely a Calamvale Ward budget item, which is why it’s a shame to see that it was missing. I found out later it was transferred to the Hamilton Ward Office, but also a $349 generator was moved to the Hamilton Ward office, which means that Calamvale Ward residents are losing their items, which are getting transferred to other wards.

Next was also missing table tennis bats and also balls. If you actually look up on the website right now, it actually says that residents can come into the Calamvale Ward Office and borrow these items, but they’re missing. I think that’s such a bad problem.

Next is a wooden lectern transferred to the Bracken Ridge Ward. Next is also easels transferred to the Lord Mayor’s Office. The other week, the LORD MAYOR lectured me about making sure that I bring up local issues in this Chamber, which is why I’m bringing this up today. I think it’s something—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor KIM: I think Calamvale Ward residents deserve an explanation from everybody as to why they can’t use these items that they relied on for so many years for their community groups.

I think it’s not okay, and I think it’s not okay that the LNP Council has decided that it’s okay to do this, without having any mention or transparency in the annual budget report about where these items went. I think the justification provided isn’t satisfactory. I think it’s dishonest. I was elected on a platform of honesty, which is why I’m going to make sure that I make this commitment, and make sure that every single Calamvale Ward resident has this explanation, because they deserve it.

Further to this, the problem was, at the time I was elected and I started working out slowly, one by one, that these items were missing, is that I actually had no ward office funds to purchase new ones.

That means, for a couple of months, people were missing out on items that they used to rely on it. It’s actually pretty bad. I think that the more you read this report, the more there’s actually missing gaps about transparency for Brisbane ratepayers. What’s the point in doing an annual budget that should be talking about all of these items when there’s actually such a dark truth behind where our expenses are going?

The fact that there actually is no avenue as a new Councillor to express these concerns and find out how to get them back, let alone even be notified in the first place that it actually belonged to the Calamvale Ward Office, is a huge problem. I hope that this is something that will be addressed in future, given that there were one out of three Council offices that were changed. Also, they do need to be returned. I’d like to see some progress there, given that this is ratepayers’ money of Calamvale. I’d love to see more progress there.

Also, reading the report and continuing on, I did notice, after scrutinising every word in there, one thing that lots of residents always brought up to me was potholes. When I had a look in the report, it was only mentioned five times. Suburbs, six times. Let’s compare it to the Metro. It was mentioned 27 times.

I think we can really weigh up the priority of the LNP Council Administration relative to what residents have been telling me day by day when I was door‑knocking every single door for about eight months.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor KIM: Thank you. In the annual budget, as you can see, one of the things that we did try to do to contrast the current LNP Council with the Lord Mayor’s Community Fund is actually fund six community ward banners, because these used to previously be used by the former Councillor to promote herself, and also was used with Suburban Enhancement Funding to the point where it wasn’t even done competently. At one stage, the banner was actually obstructing the view of drivers coming out of an estate so that it had to actually be moved to a different location.

Chair: Councillor KIM, your time has expired.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. I rise to speak on the annual budget. I know that Councillor CUNNINGHAM is about to stand up and say, ‘the fraud perpetrated on the people of Calamvale needs to be corrected immediately’. We know that Councillor CUNNINGHAM is very concerned about how ward budgets are spent. For weeks, for weeks, she has stood up and said that Councillor MASSEY has to be accountable. Here, her LNP colleagues are the beneficiary of the previous Councillor giving away ward resources. Now, this is despicable behaviour. Councillor KIM has done the right thing putting it on the record. Those Councillors who have received items funded by another ward need to give them back. They need to drive over to Calamvale tomorrow and return those items to Councillor KIM.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Madam Chair.

Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I recognise what Councillor KIM said. The relevance to the annual report? This is something that you write to the CEO about.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you. Please speak to the report, Councillors.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, ward budgets definitely are in here. I just want to say to Councillor KIM, there is precedent for this. When Tennyson Ward was created in 2008, Councillor Abrahams took a lot of stuff out of the ward, and she took it down to The Gabba. When I got there, things were missing, and Councillor Abrahams was required to return it. Over the course of a couple of weeks, some tables turned up, a printer turned up, and that stuff was returned. All of those Councillors on the LNP side who have inappropriately received items that you can only say have been stolen from Calamvale Ward now know that that has happened, and they need to return those items immediately.

I know Councillor CUNNINGHAM will make this her top priority because she oversights the ward budgets. Councillor CUNNINGHAM has stood up and said how important it is that budgets are accountably managed. Well done, Councillor KIM. Now, I really wanted to talk about something else altogether, but that’s the best speech I’ve heard in here for a long time.

What I will say very briefly is, I just want to talk about the LORD MAYOR’s and the LNP’s horrific performance for 2023-24. The headline items are well known major cost blowouts, major budget cuts, 30-odd projects rolled over and not delivered in infrastructure, totalling tens of millions of dollars.

We know that they were too busy with their junkets and everything else to deliver what they promised—what they promised—in the budget. I just want to put some of their own facts on the record. In the annual report, there is a section called Progress and Performance, and it outlines across the five vision items for the city how Council’s going against their own established KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and objectives. Now, there are 29 of them. Does anybody want to guess how many of Council’s 29 objectives for the year have actually been delivered?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: No. Thank you.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Zero. Councillor STRUNK said three, he was being generous. Councillor MASSEY said zero, and it is zero. Not a single one of Council’s 29 KPIs or objectives for the year was actually delivered. At the other end, monitored closely, which is described as “progress being made but, due to external drivers”, ‘it’s not my fault, of course’—their usual excuse—“does not match what was planned and budgeted, or progress is difficult to measure”. Anybody want to guess how many of the 29 were monitor closely?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Fourteen. Forty-eight per cent, or almost half of Council’s own. These are the standards they set for themselves. They could not meet half of them. Not ‘we’re almost there, or we’re trying’, which are the other options. On track or action required. They’re in the too‑hard basket. Fifty per cent of all Council’s values, their vision, their objectives, their KPIs, they can’t meet them. It gets better, though. You get to the second one, which is on track, which is “continuing as planned and budgeted”. There are 13 that fall into that category, including—I’m going to read a couple because I’ve got like 20 seconds. Here we go. I’ll just do one. Let’s go with “increased resilience and reduced risk to residents and property from natural hazards”. This Council has abandoned people when it comes to flood recovery in this city. They’re failing to support them. Yet here they are, claiming it’s on track. This is the best bit of spin I have seen in a long time—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Five minutes has not been enough at all.

Chair: Are there further speakers? Further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair. It’s really telling that no one from the other side is going to rise to speak about this report card. You would think there would be lots of stuff in that report card that they could start—they would crow about, especially in their local areas. They did that last year. You all got pretty much—not everyone, but majority got up last year, and spoke to this report because you were happy. Of course, it was before the election, and you were happy to get up and crow about what was happening in your wards. I remember that very distinctly. You’re not getting up this year, so what does that tell you? Well, there’s not an election on, of course, this year.

Of course, it also tells you that maybe you’re not too happy with the report. I don’t know. Maybe a few will—you will get up now, before the end of this particular debate, and talk about some of those items in the report. Now, I had a look through. Just following up on those terms, of course, monitor it closely and/or on track, well, I’ve converted monitor it closely to off the rails. Basically, a lot of these items, these KPIs are off the rails. If you read through the reasons why, again, you don’t take any responsibility for what’s actually happening. It’s external pressures that are actually happening that’s causing you to go off the rails on a number of these KPIs, or almost half, if not a little bit more than half.

If we look at indicator one, the liveable city indicator is off the rails. We keep crowing about this liveable city. Well, if you look at the last *Forbes* report, that was 2023, there were four cities in Australia that we were behind. I think it was Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Perth. We were the fifth. *Forbes* also said that we were 16th in the world. Now, I can sort of remember that we used to be a little bit higher than that, going back a few years. I think we got up to eighth, or something like that. It’s those Scandinavian countries, they do so well, and, of course, some of those European countries as well for liveability.

Although sometimes I would disagree with some of those areas that they say are better than us. I think our climate and our way of life is fantastic. That’s why I’ve stayed here more than 50 years. I was never going to move back to the other place, because it’s a wonderful country, and that’s why I’ve stayed in Brisbane as well. I could have lived in any city in Australia. I was single. I didn’t have any attachments. I could have lived anywhere. I chose Brisbane because it’s fantastic. Anyway, *Forbes* didn’t come to that conclusion, which was a bit of a shame, but there you go. Maybe they’re a bit more objective than I am. Maybe that’s the case.

Another indicator, indicator three, the third indicator talks about improving Council’s facilities and park usage and satisfaction with—I mean, we’re talking about resident satisfaction here. It was the same the previous year, which was, again, off the rails. I would agree with that in a lot of instances, of course, because I don’t think we’re keeping pace with the amount of parks that we’re not opening up, with the huge developments that are happening right across the city, and also those other services as well that go along with that as well. Recreational space—sport and rec area really is not keeping pace. It’s not keeping pace with the demand for new soccer fields and other football codes as well.

I know in my area, I have a sport and rec area at Ellen Grove and Waterford Road—well, it’s actually Forest Lake, the other side of the road is Ellen Grove. We’ve been waiting for the consulted master plan to be to be delivered to me or being briefed about it. We had a consultation that actually happened, which was quite good. It was over a period of three days. Then they formed a bit of a plan from that consultation, and they were to have then another consultation in October.

Chair: Councillor STRUNK, your time has expired.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Are there any further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, Madam Chair.

Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise also speak on this item and say how disappointing this annual report is. I know the LORD MAYOR got up and said ‘fantastic things are happening over the last—have been happening over the last 12 months. We’ve made lots of achievements, and we’ve made lots of progress’. Well, LORD MAYOR, you failed. You have failed in your delivery for this city, and your team has failed in its delivery for this city. The shocking thing that we heard from Councillor CASSIDY is four out of our five areas that we pride ourselves on, we didn’t even get to base. We didn’t even get to base. We didn’t deliver.

Then more shockingly, from Councillor JOHNSTON, 29 of our KPIs we did not deliver on—29 of 29 KPIs we did not deliver on. What I’d like to focus the attention on, in the short few minutes that I’m given here, is page 33 of the report. What we have there is a load of crap. It’s literally a load of crap. I’m just astounded hearing the constant crap that is spoken in this Chamber. Here it is, “Council is committed to delivering safe and accessible footpaths for residents and visitors of all abilities to explore Brisbane”—hand on heart—“explore Brisbane at their own speed, whether they are walking or wheeling.”

What a load of crap. We built five footpaths. We built five footpaths. We’re sending people to Paris to talk about the Paralympics, and we are doing nothing for our community facilities. The majority of our 600 community facilities do not come up to scratch with current standards of accessibility. The majority.

This Mayor and this Council and these LNP Councillors are saying, ‘what a wonderful job we’ve done’. You haven’t. You’re failing the city. You aren’t delivering for the residents of Brisbane, and it is shameful the way you hide it, you paint over it, you pretend you’re doing something but you’re not.

If you were out there with people in wheelchairs or people with accessibility devices, if you were out there assisting those people, you would know that our city falls well short of where a modern, first-world, western city should be in relation to people with disabilities. On top of that, we know we have 1,000 bus stops that are not accessible. I think the answer last week was, ‘oh well, tough’. We are not looking after people who have needs in terms of accessibility. We are failing those people, and no amount of fine wording in this report will cover that up or hide what we aren’t doing for those residents.

This is a shameful report. This is really depressing for a first-world, western city. This is a really depressing report about how we aren’t delivering for the most vulnerable people in our city, people who need to get round our city, people who need to use the city for work and leisure and living. So, no, I’m ashamed of this report. To our employees, I’m ashamed of this report. This is not where we should be. We should be doing so much better. I think our employees, our executives know that.

The leadership provided by this LNP Council, by these people sitting on that side of the Chamber is shocking. Is shocking. It just means we get dribble like this given to the residents of Brisbane. Shame on you, LORD MAYOR. Shame on you, LNP.

Chair: Any further speakers?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thanks, Chair. Sorry, I pause just in case Councillor CUNNINGHAM—through you, Chair—was going to stand, but I didn’t see that. I didn’t see anyone from the LNP stand either. Look, on my brief notes, I am just going to focus on a couple of things. You know, there’s nothing—I just want to make sure we get on the record what this annual report shows. Less projects are being delivered. There’s less progress and performance by this Council. We know, as we’ve heard over and over again, the cuts that had to be made last November. What we see in this annual report is what I talked about last November, and that is that we’re going to constantly see projects after the other be rolled over and cut. We see that very clearly here.

There’s a couple of areas that I want to focus on in the brief time that I do have to say a couple of things. Firstly, our liveable city, “maintained infrastructure delivery in line with city growth”. Here it says, monitor closely, making sure everyone notes that monitor closely means “progress is being made but, due to external drivers, does not match what was planned and budgeted, or progress is difficult to measure”. Ensuring that the infrastructure delivery is in line for our city growth is one of the most important things Brisbane City Council could do. Obviously, in this case, the LNP Council has failed.

We know residents across The Gabba Ward have seen this time and time again, the lack of infrastructure delivered, the number of infrastructure projects that have been cancelled that we saw in the 2023-24 budget. The bridges, of course, the green bridges—which recently the West End to Toowong Green Bridge—through you, Chair—that the LORD MAYOR has come through and said, ‘we’re going to need funding from the other areas’—all the way to basic things that our city needs for infrastructure, like shade sales in Victoria Bridge. Look, I’m obviously going to mention the Victoria Street ferry or the second ferry for West End, which has been sitting dormant in the City Plan, delivered there by an LNP Council but undelivered now. What? 2011 to now, how many years is that? Too many is the answer.

The other thing I really want to highlight also, apart from the fact that the infrastructure delivery is not in line with our city growth, is of course, improved Council facilities, park use, and user satisfaction. Again, monitor closely. We are not delivering the parks in the city. We know this here in The Gabba Ward, where parks are so insufficient. We don’t even have a replacement dog park for the dog park that was closed. We have one dog park. The replacement dog park that was announced by the LORD MAYOR in February last year couldn’t be delivered, couldn’t be delivered.

It’s important to note that we’re not even delivering Council facilities, park use, and user satisfaction. I think another one that’s really important is—and very telling, and is important—and, again, I’m quoting directly. Page 31, I’m quoting directly, the majority—I’m using the, but it says, “majority of residents find Brisbane a great place to live”. Status? Monitor closely. Monitor closely, what does that mean? It means that the majority of Brisbane residents are not finding this place a great place to live. It says literally that Council’s progress—that some progress has been made, but external drivers does not match what was planned and budgeted, or progress is difficult to measure.

I think we can understand why there are Brisbane residents that do not find Brisbane a great place to live. Last year in June, I asked the LORD MAYOR to ensure that people would not be living in parks across the city. In respect—through you, Chair—the LORD MAYOR has stood to this. The LORD MAYOR also said at that moment that tents in parks across the city is a failure of Government. If we need to see anywhere more the failure of this Government and the State Government and the Federal Government, it’s tents littering our city.

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, your time has expired.

Further speakers? No further speakers?

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. I just want to make three quick points. Firstly, this has a lot of information, including a progress report. I’ve really thoroughly enjoyed to see Labor and the Opposition trying to spin this monitor closely thing. It’s like, what would they do if they were in Administration? They wouldn’t monitor anything closely. Monitoring something closely is not a bad thing, if you want to make sure you want to shape the outcome, and you want to make sure it gets on track and stays on track and delivers the right outcomes. The way that they’ve tried to spin this is quite ludicrous.

We monitor all of our key priorities closely, and that’s what the people expect us to do, the people who put us there. We’ll continue to monitor these things closely, but it’s clear that Labor and the Opposition just want to play political games.

Let’s talk about ward office items. These items are owned by all of the residents of Brisbane. They’re not owned by a particular Councillor. They’re not owned by an office. They’re owned by the Council and the residents of Brisbane. If Councillor KIM wants to ask some questions, maybe she should start by asking what was left in the Wynnum Manly Ward Office by Labor?

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: That would be a really good place to start asking questions.

Thirdly, I want to say, it’s really disappointing to see how much Labor and the Greens want to talk down Brisbane. Because it’s one thing for them to have a crack at us, and we expect that, and its water off a duck’s back, but they’re really down on this city. They’re really down on—and Councillor CASSIDY took a personal objection to me saying that Brisbane gets better every year, Brisbane keeps getting better. Well, it does. It actually does. People are voting with their feet to come here from all over, and people appreciate the progress that’s been made. Do they think we’ve arrived? Do they think everything is perfect? No, but they see that progress is being made and we are getting better and better each year in so many different ways, and most people appreciate that progress. But Labor and the Greens just want to talk this city down.

They want to not just talk the Administration down, they’re talking Brisbane down. They have such a negative view of this city, and it’s basically because they’re not in charge. So, they have this tarnished view of everything that’s happening in the city when most people actually see all of the positive things that are happening and continuing to evolve in this city, and they have a positive view of it.

Now, notwithstanding we have a State and Federal Government that are letting down our residents really badly on so many counts, and those things affect their daily life in a way that affects cost of living and the bills that they pay and the lack of infrastructure investment in Brisbane. These are things that have an influence, but having said that, most people have an overwhelmingly positive view of this city and its future. I do, I know my team does, and it’s a shame that not everyone shares that view, but I think it says a lot about them.

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

**Clause E put**

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion for the adoption of Clause E 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 Adam Allan, Fiona Cunningham, Tracy Davis, Vicki Howard, Sarah Hutton, Ryan Murphy and Andrew Wines.

#### A AMENDMENTS TO *BRISBANE CITY PLAN 2014* – STONES CORNER SUBURBAN RENEWAL PRECINCT

**152/160/1218/555**

**132/2024-25**

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

2. On 11 June 2024, Council resolved pursuant to section 18 of the *Planning Act 2016* (the Act) to amend the *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (the planning scheme) to include precinct planning for the Stones Corner Suburban Renewal Precinct, amend planning scheme policies associated with the proposed amendments, and to make supporting and consequential amendments, including changes to the Eastern corridor neighbourhood plan (the proposed amendment). At that meeting, Council also resolved to request a tailored amendment process from the Chief Executive of the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (the Department) pursuant to section 18(2) of the Act.

3. A notice for a tailored amendment pursuant to section 18(3)(a) of the Act was received from the Chief Executive on 16 August 2024. The proposed amendments have now been prepared (refer to Attachments B to E, submitted on file) and are to be provided to the Chief Executive for State interest review. Public consultation on the proposed amendments will be undertaken pursuant to the section 18 notice and in accordance with the Act and the *Minister’s Guidelines and Rules*.

4. Following consideration of submissions received during public consultation, any proposed changes and the State interest review, Council will give a notice to the Chief Executive requesting approval to adopt (including any draft conditions that the Chief Executive may consider imposing to respond to the matters raised during public consultation and State interest review). Once the Chief Executive gives notice that Council may adopt the proposed amendments, Council will then decide to adopt the proposed amendments into the planning scheme.

5. To support the proposed amendments, the Stones Corner Suburban Renewal Precinct Plan Summary will be prepared for release when public consultation is undertaken.

6. The proposed amendments seek to revitalise the precinct through the introduction of additional high density housing, mixed use outcomes and convenient access to key employment hubs, while maximising connections to high frequency public transport and quality open space.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO PROGRESS AMENDMENTS TO *BRISBANE CITY PLAN 2014* – STONES CORNER SUBURBAN RENEWAL PRECINCT**

As Council:

(i) has prepared the proposed amendments to *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (the planning scheme) as identified in the proposed amendment and associated amendments to planning scheme policies as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file) and Attachment C (the proposed amendment, submitted on file)

(ii) has given pursuant to section 18(2) of the *Planning Act 2016* (the Act) the relevant notice of the proposed amendment to the Chief Executive of the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (the Chief Executive)

(iii) has received a notice pursuant to section 18(3)(a) of the Act from the Chief Executive

then Council:

(i) decides, pursuant to the notice given under section 18(3) of the Act [pursuant to Part C, Step e of the Chief Executive Notice] to provide the proposed amendment to the Chief Executive for review

(ii) directs that the Chief Executive be requested to undertake a State interest review and consideration of the proposed amendment

(iii) directs, pursuant to the notice given under section 18(3) of the Act by the Chief Executive, that public consultation on the proposed amendments be undertaken.

**ADOPTED**

#### B PRESENTATION AND TABLING OF THE AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDITOR-GENERAL’S AUDIT REPORTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

**134/695/317/1207**

**133/2024-25**

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

10. The Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared by Council based on the requirements of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012.* The Consolidated Financial Statements comprise:

1. the general purpose financial statements for the financial year, audited by the Auditor‑General (refer Attachment A, submitted on file)
2. the current-year financial sustainability statement for audited ratios for the financial year, audited by the Auditor‑General (refer Attachment B, submitted on file)
3. the Auditor-General’s audit reports on the general purpose financial statements and the current‑year financial sustainability statement for audited ratios (refer Attachment B)
4. the current-year financial sustainability statement for unaudited contextual ratios (refer Attachment C, submitted on file) and the long‑term financial sustainability statement for the financial year. (refer Attachment D, submitted on file)

11. The Consolidated Financial Statements have been reviewed and endorsed by the Audit Committee.

12. The Auditor-General has a statutory obligation to audit Council’s financial statements, as required by the *Auditor-General Act 2009* (the Act). The Auditor-General has completed the audit of the general purpose financial statements and the current year financial sustainability statement for 2023-24, and has provided Auditor‑General audit reports.

13. Section 40(4)(c)(ii) of the Act requires that the statements be provided to the Lord Mayor as soon as practicable following certification.

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

15. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITOR-GENERAL’S AUDIT REPORTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENTS A, B, C AND D,** submitted on file**, BE TABLED AT COUNCIL.**

**ADOPTED**

#### C CONTRACTS AND TENDERING – REPORT OF CONTRACTS ACCEPTED BY DELEGATES OF COUNCIL FOR AUGUST 2024

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

**134/2024-25**

16. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

b. the value of the contract

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

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

21. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

22. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

| **Report of Contracts Accepted by Delegates of Council for August 2024** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Contract number/contract purpose/successful tenderer/comparative tender/price value for money (VFM) index achieved** | **Nature of arrangement/ estimate maximum expenditure** | **Unsuccessful tenderers/VFM achieved** | **Comparative tender price/s** | **Delegate/**  **approval date/start date/term** |
| **BRISBANE INFRASTRUCTURE** |  |  |  |  |
| **1. Contract No. 512400**    **JAMBOREE PARK PLAYGROUND UPGRADE – PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION (JAMBOREE HEIGHTS)**    **Bespoke Playgrounds Pty Ltd – $290,717**  Achieved VFM of 28.53\*  *\*Design represents best value to Council.* | Lump sum    **$290,717** | Moduplay Group Pty Ltd (Offer 2)  Achieved the highest VFM of 31.29  Moduplay Group Pty Ltd (Offer 1)  Achieved VFM of 31.25  WillPlay Pty. Ltd.  Achieved VFM of 23.27  Austek Constructions Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 21.86 | $254,590  $248,520  $338,022  $366,000 | **Delegate**  Executive General Manager, City Standards  **Approved**  15.08.2024  **Start**  26.08.2024  **Term**  Eight weeks |
| **2. Contract No. 521200**    **DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A DRIVER TOILET FACILITY AT THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL BUS STOP LAYOVER**  **Dart Holdings Pty. Ltd. trading as A. Dart & Co – $473,080** (Offer 2)  Achieved the highest VFM of 16.28 | Lump sum    **$473,080** | Dart Holdings Pty. Ltd. trading as A. Dart & Co (Offer 1)  Achieved VFM of 14.25 | $529,940 | **Delegate**  Chief Procurement Officer  **Approved**  07.08.2024  **Start**  26.08.2024  **Term**  Five months |
| **3. Contract No. 534124**  **COMMUNITY FACILITIES CAR PARK UPGRADES – PACKAGE 1**    **Epoca Constructions Pty. Ltd. – $470,248**  Achieved the highest VFM of 194 | Lump sum  **$470,248** | ProBuild Industries Australia Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 162  Dart Holdings Pty. Ltd. trading as A. Dart & Co  Achieved VFM of 158 | $474,210  $512,370 | **Delegate**  Executive General Manager, City Projects Office  **Approved**  06.08.2024  **Start**  07.08.2024  **Term**  16 weeks |
| **4. Contract No. 534073**  **BOWEN BRIDGE ROAD BRIDGES REHABILITATION (BOWEN HILLS)**    **Pensar Building Pty Ltd – $363,783**  Achieved the highest VFM of 20.6 | Schedule of rates  **$363,783** | Building Solutions Brisbane Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 16.3  Fortec Australia Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 12.0  Ecospec Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 10.9  Doval Constructions (QLD.) Ltd  Achieved VFM of 8.3  Raw Worx Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 6.7  Dynaciv Pty Ltd  Achieved VFM of 6.0 | $381,323  $490,849  $596,195  $946,336  $940,149  $644,779 | **Delegate**  Chief Procurement Officer  **Approved**  15.08.2024  **Start**  26.08.2024  **Term**  Six months |
| **CITY ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **CITY PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **LIFESTYLE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |
| **TRANSPORT FOR BRISBANE** | | | | |
| Nil |  |  |  |  |

**ADOPTED**

#### D STORES BOARD SUBMISSION – SIGNIFICANT CONTRACTING PLAN FOR ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND AQUATIC WEED MANAGEMENT SERVICES

**165/830/179/1016**

**135/2024-25**

23. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

24. The A/Chief Executive Officer and the Stores Board considered the submission, as set out in Attachment A (submitted on file), on 26 August 2024.

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

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

Purpose

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

Contract title: Ecosystem Restoration and Aquatic Weed Management Services

Type of procurement: Establishing a Corporate Procurement Arrangement (CPA) in the form of a Panel Arrangement (PA).

Categories/portions: Category 1 – Ecosystem Restoration Services

Category 2 – Vegetation Condition Audits

Category 3 – Aquatic Weed Management

Market engagement strategy: Seek offers publicly

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

Price basis: To be determined during the tender and negotiation process.

Background/business case

28. Council manages, maintains and restores the natural environment across the Brisbane City Council Local Government Area to achieve Council’s vision of a clean, green and sustainable city.

29. Ecosystem restoration includes pre-emptive ecological maintenance as well as returning degraded bushland to a healthy, diverse and largely self-sustaining condition. Services may include vegetation condition audits, classification assessments, removal of weed infestations, site preparation for fire management activities, replanting and maintenance of natural stormwater channels, sediment basins, sand filters, infiltration trenches and bio-retention systems.

30. Ecosystem restoration is carried out to restore biodiversity and may be undertaken on a range of sites including major natural areas, Habitat Brisbane sites, waterways and properties as part of the Wildlife Conservation Partnership program. Restoration may also include the preparation of areas for Council’s bushfire management program.

31. Ecosystem restoration services and vegetation condition audits will be separate categories in the CPA. The third category will be aquatic weed management, which is currently a separate CPA.

32. Council has a responsibility to preserve flora and fauna in their natural environment for Council-owned or controlled water bodies. It forms part of an integrated weed management strategy by using qualified, experienced operators to remove, control and dispose of floating and submersed aquatic weeds. The outcome can be achieved with harvesting equipment, hand removal, herbicides and biological control, using whichever method is best suited to minimise the impact to the surrounding ecosystem.

Policy and other considerations

33. Is there an existing arrangement for these services?

Yes. CPA 511133 for Ecosystem Restoration Services which expires on 18 April 2025; and CPA 511170 for Aquatic Weed Removal Services which expires on 3 November 2024.

34. Could Council businesses provide the services?

Council does not have the capability to provide all of these specialised services. This arrangement complements Council’s existing resources.

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

Nil

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

No

37. Does the proposed contract involve leasing?

No

Market analysis

38. In the ecosystem restoration industry, there are a large group of suppliers ranging from large national organisations to small businesses consisting of one to two employees. These suppliers provide a diverse range of services including weed management, revegetation and environmental offsets, bush regeneration, habitat improvements, slashing, fire hazard reduction, firebreaks, erosion and sediment control and pest management. Smaller suppliers tend to be more focused on a few activities with larger suppliers covering a broader range of activities.

39. There are 16 suppliers on the current Ecosystem Restoration panel. This includes commercial suppliers and community-based organisations whose focus is based around specific waterways (e.g. the Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordination Committee). Similar community groups not currently on the panel will be invited to respond to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for this CPA.

40. There are five identified suppliers of aquatic weed management services in South East Queensland, all of which are on the current panel or have been utilised as a sub-contractor by the panel participants. All five will be invited to respond to the tender.

Procurement strategy

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Procurement objective: | To procure the goods/services/works in a way which complies with the Sound Contracting Principles set out in section 103(3) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* and provides the most advantageous outcome for Council.  The achievement of the above procurement objective will be measured in the post-market submission. |
| Title of contract: | Ecosystem Restoration and Aquatic Weed Management Services |
| Type of procurement: | Establishing a CPA in the form of a PA |
| Categories/portions: | Category 1 – Ecosystem Restoration Services  Category 2 – Vegetation Condition Audits  Category 3 – Aquatic Weed Management |
| Process to be used: | Request for Proposals (RFP) |
| Tendering standards to be used and any amendments: | Council’s corporate standards with no amendments. |
| Contract standard to be used including any amendments: | Council’s standard Construction Works Panel Arrangement contract. The arrangement includes a provision that allows Council to add further participants to the panel if needed. Any additions to the panel will be approved by submission to the Chief Procurement Officer, Strategic Procurement Office (SPO), Organisational Services (OS).  The arrangement includes Council contract standards which are utilised for jobs/works under the panel. Some amendments to the minor works template have been made to better reflect the nature of works under the panel. |
| Market engagement: | Offers are to be sought publicly via Council’s supplier portal. |
| How tender documents are to be distributed: | Via Council’s supplier portal |
| How tenders/proposals are to be lodged: | Via Council’s supplier portal |
| Part offers: | Part offers will be considered. |
| Contract duration: | An initial term of three years with options to extend for additional periods of up to five years, for a maximum term of eight years. |
| Insurance requirements: | Public liability of $20 million, motor vehicle insurance of $20 million (including supplementary bodily injury) and workers’ compensation insurance as per legislated requirements. |
| Price basis: | To be determined during the tender and negotiation process. |
| Price adjustment: | To be established as a result of negotiations and advised in the post-market submission. |
| Liquidated damages: | Where required, liquidated damages will be reflected in the respective contracts made under the CPA. |
| Security for the contract: | Not applicable |
| Defects liability/warranty period: | Not applicable |
| Other strategy elements: | - An informal market sounding has identified process improvements for operational efficiency gains and potential implementation of drone technology for vegetation condition audits.  - Include aquatic weed management as an additional category to the CPA as there are synergies with ecosystem restoration services. These were previously two separate CPAs. Amalgamating the CPAs will save the time and cost of a separate tender process.  - Rationalise the number of suppliers for each category to attract commitment from the suppliers.  - Aggregate, package and bundle jobs where appropriate to increase efficiency, save overhead costs and attract competitive quotes.  - For appropriate opportunities, explore competitive quoting for low-value jobs, where the benefits of reduced pricing exceed the additional costs of the quote evaluation process.  - Explore the opportunity to make the evaluation of quotes (for jobs under the panel) more efficient, e.g. fewer non-price deliverables/criteria.  - Obtain assurance from suppliers that landscape materials provided are free from contaminants and biohazards.  - Invite other relevant community and social enterprise organisations to respond to the tender.  - This CPA has been identified as a candidate for demand management and may experience a reduced level of expenditure compared to previous years. |
| Alternative strategies considered: | Having a schedule of rates included to lock in rates was considered but the diversity of projects may make this impractical. This option will be explored during the negotiation if it can provide a better value for money option. |

Anticipated schedule

41. Pre-market approval: 10 September 2024

Date of release to market: 13 September 2024

Tender closing: 11 October 2024

Evaluation completion (including formalised contract offer(s)): 14 February 2025

Post-market approval: 10 March 2025

Contract commencement: 19 April 2025

Funding and budget considerations

42. Estimated expenditure:

Estimated expenditure is anticipated to be in the order of $40 million over the potential maximum eight‑year term.

43. Sufficient approved budget to meet the anticipated expenditure under this CPA?

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

44. Indicative program and supporting information:

Not applicable

45. Anticipated procurement benefits (if any):

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

Procurement risk

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

No

47. Summary of key risks associated with this procurement:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Procurement risk** | **Risk rating** | **Risk mitigation strategy** | **Risk allocation** |
| Price increases outside of market rates | Medium | - Each project to be competitively tendered from the panel. | Council and contractor |
| Quality of product or service | Medium | - Requirements for the services, design, installation and maintenance must be clearly defined in the project brief or specifications and meet relevant standards. | Council and contractor |
| Delivery and performance | Medium | - Evaluation of quotations and the management of project deliverables by the relevant project managers.  - Use of contractor performance reports and key performance indicators review. | Council |
| Contamination or other environmental risks | Medium | - Successful tenderers will be required to maintain a certified environmental management system in accordance with legislative requirements. | Council and contractor |
| Risk of supplier insolvency or withdrawal from CPA | Low | - Having a number of suppliers on a panel arrangement will mitigate the risk. The contract contains the provision to add additional suppliers to the panel. | Council |

Tender evaluation

48. Evaluation criteria:

(a) Mandatory/essential criteria:

Nil

(b) Non-price weighted evaluation criteria:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Weighted Evaluation Criteria** | **Weighting**  **(%)** |
| Local benefit | 30 |
| Capability and capacity | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Track record and experience | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Quality, workplace health and safety, environmental systems | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| Value adds | [Commercial-in-Confidence] |
| **Total:** | **100** |

(c) Price model (to establish a comparative price):

Not applicable

49. Evaluation methodology:

(a) Evaluation plan and shortlisting:

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

(b) Negotiations:

Negotiations are not anticipated but may be undertaken if required.

(c) Value for Money (VFM):

The VFM scores will be based on the non-price evaluation criteria.

50. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

51. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Title of contract: Ecosystem Restoration and Aquatic Weed Management Services**

**Type of procurement: Establishing a Corporate Procurement Arrangement in the form of a Panel Arrangement.**

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

**Price basis: To be determined during the tender and negotiation process.**

**ADOPTED**

#### E BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

**134/695/586/345**

**136/2024-25**

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

53. Section 174(2) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) requires that Council adopt its Annual Report for a financial year within one month of the day the Auditor-General gives the Auditor‑General’s report regarding Council’s financial statements. The Auditor‑General’s report was provided to Council on 16 August 2024.

54. The financial statements, which form part of the Brisbane City Council Annual Report 2023‑24 (the Annual Report, refer Attachment B, submitted on file), are also the subject of a separate submission to Council.

55. The Regulation provides that the Report must include (among other things):

(a) the general purpose financial statement for 2023-24 and the current year financial sustainability statement, audited by the Auditor-General

(b) the long-term financial sustainability statement for 2023-24

(c) the Auditor-General’s audit reports about the general purpose statement, and the current year financial sustainability report

(d) the community financial report

(e) details of Council’s business activities

(f) particulars of Councillors’ remuneration, expenses, facilities, meeting attendance, and orders and recommendations made regarding Councillors

(g) particulars of administrative action complaints

(h) particulars of overseas travel by Councillors and employees

(i) information regarding Council’s annual performance and achievements against the Annual Operational Plan and Budget

(j) reporting by the Chief Executive Officer regarding Council’s progress in implementing Council’s *Corporate Plan 2021-2022 to 2025-2026* (the Corporate Plan) as required by section 157(3) of the Regulation

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

57. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24**

As:

(i) section 174(2) of the City of Brisbane Regulation 2012 (the Regulation) requires that Council adopt its Annual Report within one month after the day the Auditor-General gives the Auditor General’s audit report about Council’s financial statements for the financial year to Council

(ii) section 157(3) of the Regulation requires that the Chief Executive Officer must present a written assessment of Council’s progress towards implementing Council’s *Corporate Plan 2021-2022 to 2025-2026* (Corporate Plan)

(iii) Council has prepared the Brisbane City Council Annual Report 2023-24 (the Annual Report), as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file),

then Council:

(i) pursuant to section 174(2) of the Regulation, resolves to adopt the Annual Report as set out in Attachment B

(ii) notes the Chief Executive Officer’s written assessment of progress towards implementing Council’s Corporate Plan, as set out in the Report.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Lord Mayor, Establishment and Coordination Committee of 9 September 2024, please.

### ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Chair of the Establishment and Coordination Committee, moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 9 September 2024, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Madam Chairman. Madam Chairman, can you please advise when the three hours for Council business expires?

Chair: We have about 15 minutes, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Right. So, we’re just going to get the LORD MAYOR—

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Righto.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

Lord Mayor: Thank you. Madam Chair, this is an exciting submission that’s come through, because after a very, very involved national, and in fact international search, we have now a recommendation for the new CEO or Chief Executive Officer of the Brisbane City Council. Now, following the departure of Colin Jensen after 13 years in the role, this is obviously an important decision and one we haven’t made for 13 years. So, it’s important that we have a very fair, competitive process that attracts the very best candidates for this role, and that is exactly what we have had. I particularly want to thank Davidson, the recruitment agency, for the work that they have done in making sure that we got the very best people to consider.

We had more than 160 applications and they were shortlisted down to around 15 for consideration. Those 15 were then shortlisted down to three that were interviewed by Civic Cabinet. I have to say, all of the people that were interviewed could have easily done this job. They were all incredible, high-calibre candidates. They all brought different strengths. But I have no doubt that any of those people could have easily done this job and done a great job. So, it was an incredibly difficult decision to make because we had three incredibly good people out of a list of 15 incredibly good, shortlisted people, but our preferred candidate coming through, Dr Kerrie Freeman, had an edge. That edge was very clearly because—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Lord Mayor: It wasn’t that, it wasn’t that, although that was one of the endearing things in the interview. The experience that she has had, Dr Freeman, in leading a large and complex organisation, or large and complex organisations, and the experience that Dr Freeman has had in transforming those organisations to give better outcomes for the community, they’re critical things, and the experience that Dr Freeman has had in also delivering building infrastructure and building projects as well.

Now, Dr Freeman is currently the CEO of the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, with a workforce of over 9,500 people, a similar size to the Brisbane City Council. Previously she’s held roles as the Chief Executive of West Moreton Health and the Executive Director of Hospital Services at Children’s Health Queensland.

If that’s not enough, in leading those big organisations, those complex organisations, those organisations that have so many different job types, so many different issues to deal with, so much complexity, and also, if you get them wrong, the implications are diabolical. If you mess up the health system, if you mess up hospitals, there are serious implications. So, if her record in that respect is not enough, she also happens to have a PhD (Doctorate of Philosophy) as well. So, we’re talking about a high achiever here, a Bachelor of Business, and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors as well.

So, I think Dr Kerrie Freeman will be a fantastic CEO for Brisbane City Council. I think that she will also be warmly welcomed and develop a great rapport with the staff of Brisbane City Council, the employees, the officers, the people who work for this city, dedicated to a better Brisbane. I think that we will see, definitely, a spring in the step of people throughout this organisation, knowing that they have someone who will make sure that this organisation works well, but also that we can perform even better for the people of Brisbane as an organisation. Because we know that Dr Freeman is determined to make sure that any organisation she leads is one that gets better and better each year, just like we’re determined to see Brisbane get better and better each year.

So, this report and recommendation is, as I’ve said, the end result of a highly competitive process, a national and international search, of a lot of candidates nominating, of a rigorous shortlisting process, and then an interview process of three incredibly high-calibre candidates. But I would commend Dr Kerrie Freeman as our preferred option and the best person to help lead this city forward working with Council and the Administration. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on this Clause, the appointment of a new CEO for Council. At the outset, before I speak about Dr Kerrie Freeman, a person of which I learnt existed 24 hours ago on receiving the papers of the special E&C, the process which the LORD MAYOR’s just outlined was not open and transparent to Councillors in recruiting a CEO. Now, I understand that it’s a prerogative of the LORD MAYOR and E&C to do this, but to get up and actually say it was an open and fair and transparent process—it wasn’t. It was a process that was done in secret by three LNP Councillors, initially. We read in the papers that it was the LORD MAYOR, the Chair of the Finance Committee and the Chair of the City Planning Committee that did the interviews—I presume the interviews on the three candidates the LORD MAYOR talked about—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —I think, or maybe, and then I think Dr Kerrie Freeman may have been then interviewed by the whole Civic Cabinet, I think, according to the papers we received 24 hours ago. We don’t have any of those details other than what has been provided to us, a resume and an E&C report, which the Administration has given us. So, we have been given, as Councillors before this Council meeting started, 20 hours to consider the appointment of a Council CEO. Appointing a CEO, the single most important position in Council other than what is resulted from an election in electing all of us is done in such an opaque way, no wonder people refer to this as a regime. It’s that kind of behaviour, unfortunately. But it is what it is. The deal is done. The LORD MAYOR has picked a candidate.

So, I have serious, serious reservations about the process, of which the LNP went through to land on this person, again, who—my only knowledge of is what has been presented to us in the Council papers. So, I do congratulate Dr Kerrie Freeman on achieving this role within Council. I certainly wish her the best of luck in doing this, because she’s taking on a mammoth role not only in Council, being, obviously, the largest local government in Australia, representing 1.3 million people across our city and employing 8,500-odd staff. From what we have learnt over the last 20 hours or so, Dr Kerrie Freeman joins our organisation with a great depth of experience in health and hospital services around Australia.

Leading those organisations to deliver services and infrastructure projects in a health sense, I’m sure that knowledge will be transferable to project delivery here in Brisbane with whatever resources she is allocated by the LNP. Dr Freeman is certainly entering the position in a challenging time for our city. According to the LORD MAYOR today, everything is hunky dory, it’s all great. Brisbane, according to him, as he’s continued to say, gets better and better every day. But we do know that, from those statements comparing what the LNP says to what they are doing, this regime is well and truly running their own race at the moment.

Cutting services, outsourcing work to contractors, diminishing the budget, and prioritising just a handful of small inner city projects—small in scale but very large in budget terms. We have read in the papers that Dr Kerrie Freeman is passionate about making sure government services provide for people who need them most. We certainly have that in common. This Council has plenty of work to do to make sure the renters and rate payers of Brisbane are getting what they pay for. We will certainly be very happy to work with her to highlight some of those wicked challenges she’s walking into, because I don’t reckon she would have got a full and clear picture of the challenges she’s walking into—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —having been interviewed by just three LNP Councillors in taking up this work. Despite often being silenced in here by this LNP regime, we certainly do have ideas and are passionate about representing our communities. So, we’ll certainly be passing those ideas on to the incoming CEO. We’re optimistic that this new appointment will lead a constructive—will lead constructive conversations what we believe, on this side of the Chamber, to be the best way forward. However, in asking us all, and we are all responsible—clearly all of us, all 27 of us here, are responsible for appointing a person to lead Council in the role of CEO.

For us, this side of the Chamber, to have been given 20 hours’ notice of the entire process including, apparently, a months-long search, weeks-long shortlisting and interviewing process, to now, for the LORD MAYOR to lob in here today and say, with 20 hours’ notice, you have to make a decision on accepting that—what is clearly a very accomplished person in her field, Dr Kerrie Freeman is the best person to lead Council, is difficult to do. It is incredibly difficult to do for us. So, what are we to do? Again, just accept everything the LNP says, that this process was open and transparent? It is a very difficult decision for us to make, and the LORD MAYOR, I know, in leading a regime, says, you must accept, over here, what he says. But we find that very difficult to do, Chair.

So, this is a difficult decision for Councillors who are continually denied proper information to carry out our work as Councillors in here making these extremely important decisions in someone that will be paid, I think, maybe twice as much as the Prime Minister of Australia? Certainly a lot more in leading the largest local government here in Australia. It’s an incredibly important position and we take that very seriously. But we have not been afforded the respect that we all should have, not just here but every single one of those Councillors that wasn’t on the interview panel in the LNP. They deserve that respect as well, and I certainly hope the LORD MAYOR hasn’t briefed just LNP Councillors well before we get these papers 20 hours ago. That wouldn’t be very transparent.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So, it is a very difficult decision for every Councillor here to make, given the scant information we’ve been provided.

Chair: Further speakers?

Deputy mayor.

Deputy Mayor: Thank you, Madam Chair, and I rise to support the appointment of the new Chief Executive Officer. I can say, as the LORD MAYOR said, there was a rigorous selection process, and we’re very proud that Dr Kerrie Freeman is the preferred candidate and recommended to Council for her appointment. I think the point to make is that the South Australian Health Minister also said her appointment is a testament to her leadership and intellect. In particular his comments, the Health Minister was, they have seen Kerrie in what we have—someone who lives and breathes her work and is passionate about making sure government services provide for people who need them. She’s not a CEO who sits in an office. For over two years, she’s been getting her hands dirty—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Deputy Mayor: —getting involved.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, Madam Chairman. None of this is in the actual Council papers before us today, and it is concerning, given the importance of this, that the Deputy Mayor appears to have additional information that we have not seen and not been provided.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON. I don’t uphold the point of order.

Deputy Mayor: It was in the media today, Madam Chair.

Chair: Yes, Deputy Mayor, please continue.

Deputy Mayor: Getting her hands dirty, getting involved in every aspect of southern hospitals, sometimes helping on the floor into the early hours of the morning. Well, here I hear you saying that I wasn’t on the selection panel because you believe the media. So, pot, kettle, black, Councillor COLLIER. I take your interjection. I welcome Kerrie to the Brisbane City Council family. I look forward—

Chair: Councillors.

Deputy Mayor: I look forward to working with her in the years to come and I commend this item to the Chamber.

***EXPIRATION OF PERIOD FOR DEBATE OF COMMITTEE REPORTS***

At that point, 5.43pm, the Chair advised that the period allowed for debate of Committee reports had expired.

Chair: Thank you, Councillors. As we are now reaching the three-hour expiry, under the provisions of section 35(13) of the Meetings Local Law on the—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please don’t call out while I’m speaking.

Under the provisions of section 35(13) of the Meetings Local Law, on the expiration of the period allowed for debate of Committee reports, I shall now put the motions to the meeting for the adoption of any Committee report not yet voted upon without further amendment or debate.

I will now put the motion for the adoption of the Establishment and Coordination Committee report of 9 September 2024.

**Motion put**

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 19 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Alex GIVNEY, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

ABSTENTIONS: 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.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL

**164/285/291/41**

**137/2024-25**

1. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

2. The role of Council’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO) became vacant in April 2024. An extensive search and recruitment process commenced in June 2024 to identify prospective candidates following the appointment of the recruitment agency, Davidson.

3. Public advertisement of the role appeared on SEEK, the Davidson website and LinkedIn from 10 June 2024. Additionally, a print advertisement was placed in the *Australian Financial Review* with a closing date of 9 July 2024.

4. Brisbane City Council is by population the largest local government in Australia, with assets over $38 billion, an annual budget of $3.9 billion and a workforce of over 8,000. Council is responsible for delivering significant capital works infrastructure, a wide variety of community services including the nation’s largest network of public libraries and community facilities and managing over 600 leased sites on Council-owned land. Council is also responsible for delivering bus and ferry services for the people of Brisbane in conjunction with the State Government as well as other commercial activities to support the residents of Brisbane.

5. One hundred and sixty-eight applications were received for the role of Council’s CEO. These were assessed for suitability of an organisation of Council’s size and scale and 15 prospective candidates were provided to the selection panel for consideration.

6. First round interviews were undertaken by the selection panel (comprising the Lord Mayor, Adrian Schrinner, Deputy Mayor, Krista Adams, Councillor Fiona Cunningham, Civic Cabinet Chair for the Finance and City Governance Committee and Councillor Adam Allan, Civic Cabinet Chair for the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee) on Monday 19 August and Monday 26 August 2024.

7. Following this, three candidates proceeded to interview with Establishment and Coordination Committee (E&C) on Monday, 2 September 2024.

8. At this meeting, E&C determined that Dr Kerrie Freeman was the preferred candidate and should be recommended to Council for appointment.

9. The A/Chief Executive Officer provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL**

Council approves:

(i) the appointment of the recommended candidate, Dr Kerrie Freeman, to the role of Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Brisbane City Council; and

(ii) entering into a written contract of employment with the proposed CEO which provides for:

(a) the obligation of the CEO to meet performance standards set by the Lord Mayor; and

(b) the CEO’s conditions of employment (including remuneration).

**ADOPTED**

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Madam Chairman, can I just clarify—are we—will you allow us to take items seriatim for voting purposes?

Chair: No, it has to be voted as a complete—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I understand we have to vote, but are you saying that we can’t—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —yes, ask for items to be separated for just voting purposes.

Chair: Correct, you can’t.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Can you say—is that in the Meetings Local Law? Can you tell us what section you’re relying on?

Chair: It’s in section 35, under 14, “on the expiration of the period allowed for debate of all Committee reports, unless Council resolves otherwise, the Chair shall put a motion to the meeting for the adoption of the following without further debate: every Committee report not yet debated, and every Committee report debated but not yet voted upon, and every Committee report partially debated and voted upon.”

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, thank you, Madam Chairman, for clarifying that. Madam Chairman, that clearly refers to debate. I’m not asking to debate. I’m asking for voting purposes that items are taken seriatim. So, clearly voting is not excluded in that provision that you’ve raised.

Chair: Because it’s a motion, there’s no chance for seriatim, Councillor JOHNSTON. We’re putting the motion. Councillors, I am now putting the Economic Development Nighttime Economy in the Brisbane 2032 Olympic—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Madam Chairman.

Chair: —and Paralympic Games Committee Report.

Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. Just with respect to 35(14), it does say here that the expiration of the period allowed for debate unless Council otherwise resolves. So, is there some reason we can’t vote on whether or not, as a Council—because there is clearly provision here for us to vote on whether or not something can be taken seriatim?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: There’s no option for seriatim, just extension for debate, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Okay, thank you.

Point of order, Madam Chairman.

**138/2024-25**

Councillor Nicole JOHSTON moved, seconded by Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS, that the debate of Committee reports be extended for a period of one hour. Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion was declared **lost** on the voices.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Division.

*The division lapsed for want of a seconder.*

Chair: There’s no seconder, so we will move to the—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors—

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

Chair: We will now move to the Economic Development Nighttime Economy and the Brisbane 2032—Councillor ADERMANN—the Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee Report.

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, Julia Dixon and Steve Griffiths.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – TOUR OF THE BRISBANE BUSINESS HUB

**139/2024-25**

1. The General Manager, Industry Engagement, Brisbane Economic Development Agency (BEDA), attended the meeting to provide a tour of the Brisbane Business Hub (the Hub). He provided the information below.

2. The Hub moved to its current location in July 2024 and continues to be a free resource for local businesses to connect and access support programs including workshops, events, one-on-one mentoring, networking opportunities and convenient drop-in and co-working spaces.

3. Approximately 1,500 visitors have used the Hub since it moved to its new location. One workshop has been hosted each week since the move, averaging 55 attendees per workshop, and 20 mentoring sessions have also been hosted.

4. The Committee was shown one of the drop-in meeting spaces, which can be utilised for business connection and collaboration or as a focus space. There is also a number of meeting rooms that are available for bookings. The Committee was also shown the boardroom, which can be partitioned into three separate rooms depending on the size of the event. The boardroom can be used for the workshop program and is fully equipped with audio visual functionality.

5. The Committee was shown the kitchen, lounge area and outdoor courtyard which can be used by attendees as a casual workspace or as a bookable space for events. The Committee was also shown the conference rooms on level 3 of the Hub, which are utilised as training and presentation spaces and for general meetings.

6. The Hub’s new location allows user to travel directly from Central train station through an underground thoroughfare, with end-of-trip facilities located at Post Office Square.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Chair: Transport Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Ryan Murphy (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Danita Parry (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Julia Dixon and Emily Kim.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Lucy Collier.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – METRO DEPOT

**140/2024-25**

1. The General Manager, Strategy and Network Services, Transport for Brisbane and the General Manager, Major Projects, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Brisbane Metro depot (the depot). They provided the information below.

2. Council is constructing the new 10-hectare depot to provide advanced charging solutions for the electric metro fleet. The Committee was shown artistic impressions, a video and map of the facility which will be one of the largest and most technologically advanced bus depots in Australia.

3. The depot features:

- separate fast and slow charging areas

- maintenance workshop and carpark

- vehicle wash bay

- laydown and stabling area

- administration building with visitor parking and delivery area.

Fast charging is delivered via a pantograph, charging the metros in just over six minutes. Slow charging is an overnight process with energy management to reduce peak loads.

4. The administration building is mixed-use and designed to meet current and future operational requirements. It is located on the left side of the main structure and connects to the driver facilities on the right side of the building.

5. The all-in-one maintenance facility has been designed to support the change in vehicle powertrain and maintenance requirements, as well as deliver improvements in efficiency, safety and integration. The facility features an on-site body repair facility including a spray booth, frame puller and panel fabrication.

6. The depot has been designed to accommodate 60 metros as part of the first phase of Brisbane Metro, with additional space allotted for future fleet expansion. This includes an area between the current slow charger and vehicle wash bay and an area behind the workshop.

7. The team of metro drivers was selected from 300 applications who have undergone a Council designed and delivered training program verified by the Department of Transport and Main Roads. The depot also houses five qualified and HESS-trained maintainers who have inspected, tested, commissioned, procured and installed more than 2,500 individual items across the depot. Operational readiness testing campaigns are also underway across the network.

8. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the General Managers for their informative presentation.

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

### INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Chair: Infrastructure Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BEAMS ROAD UPGRADE STAGE 1A (LACEY ROAD TO BALCARA AVENUE)

**141/2024-25**

1. The Program Director, Civil and Transport, Major Projects, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Beams Road Upgrade Stage 1A – Lacey Road to Balcara Avenue (Beams Road). He provided the information below.

2. The Committee was shown an aerial view of Beams Road and its proximity to Gympie Road, Carseldine train station and the Queensland Government’s Department of Transport and Main Roads rail level crossing project.

3. Beams Road is an important arterial road and commuter corridor to major arterial roads such as Gympie and Sandgate Roads. Forecasted growth in the northern suburbs will impact the corridor which carries approximately 19,000 vehicles each day.

4. Beams Road offered poor connectivity for active transport and vulnerable road users and experienced a high crash history prior to its commencement with 18 casualty crashes recorded between 2018 and September 2023. The crashes resulted in four hospitalisations, 12 instances of medical treatment and two instances of minor injuries.

5. The project objectives for Beams Road include improving road safety, travel time and reliability and connectivity for people walking and riding as well as reducing traffic congestion.

6. The main construction activities of Beams Road includes the following.

- Commencement of the Dorville Road intersection upgrade to install traffic signals and signalised pedestrian crossings.

- Widening of the roadway between Cowie Road and Balcara Avenue.

- Construction of a new shared path for people walking and riding from Lacey Road to Balcara Avenue.

- Upgrading services by public utility authorities such as Urban Utilities, Energex and Telstra from Lacey Road to Balcara Avenue.

7. A super weekend was conducted during the construction of Beams Road which included a full road closure of the northern end of Dorville Road from Friday 12 July 2024 at 7pm to Monday 15 July at 5am. The full road closure improved productivity for works in the middle of the intersection including a full pavement reconstruction and replacement of unsuitable base material and reduced the amount of night works by 5 weeks which would have otherwise been required. Additional benefits of the full road closure over a weekend included:

- reduction in number of night shifts within the roundabout by five weeks

- less impact to residents and motorists

- motorist detour routes and bus stop changes were coordinated in advance with Council’s Congestion Reduction Unit, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, and Transport for Brisbane and was implemented successfully.

The full road closure did not receive any complaints from the community.

8. Design for Beams Road was completed in late 2022 with land acquisition gazetted in March 2023 and the civil contract awarded in August 2023. Construction commenced in September 2023 and is set for practical completion in early 2025.

9. Beams Road is a jointly funded project between the Australian Government and Council. The Australian Government funding is $50 million from the Urban Congestion Fund.

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

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

### CITY PLANNING AND SUBURBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Chair: The City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Adam Allan (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Penny Wolff (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Jared Cassidy, Seal Chong Wah, Steven Huang and Sandy Landers.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – 399 MONTAGUE ROAD, WEST END (A006296514)

**142/2024-25**

1. The A/Manager, Planning Services, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on 399 Montague Road, West End (the site). He provided the information below.

2. The development application for the site was Impact assessable and included Material change of use for Multiple dwelling, Shop, Food and drink outlet and Office. The proposed development is an 11‑storey building which includes units in the following sizes:

- 32 one-bedroom with a floor plan between 51 m2 to 79 m2

- 48 two-bedroom with a floor plan of 85 m2

- 16 three-bedroom with a floor plan of 111 m2.

The site has a total area of 1,986 m2 and a total commercial gross floor area of 1,881 m2.

3. The site is located in the Mixed use (corridor) zone as part of Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan).

4. The site is within close proximity to active and public transport connections including the:

- riverside cycleway

- CityGlider bus service

- West End ferry terminal.

5. The build-to-rent component of the site’s development approval has no land use definition in the *Planning Regulation 2017*. Development approvals for build-to-rent developments are assessed as ‘Multiple dwelling’ under City Plan. Build-to-rent developments are specialised residential buildings where all units are retained and operated under one ownership and leased out rather than sold, while also providing on-site management services. Build-to-rent developments also provide long‑term rental supply and greater certainty and flexibility for renters in the housing market.

6. The site’s building design includes:

- a podium and tower form

- an activated ground plane with retail and commercial tenancies

- enhanced pedestrian movement along Tondara Lane

- integrated landscaping at the street, podium and rooftop levels

- residential dwellings orientated to street frontages.

7. Four commercial tenancies are proposed on the ground level (Food and drink outlet or Shop) with a total gross floor area of 582 m² and an office tenancy on the first floor with a total gross floor area of 1,299 m².

8. The development approval provides for flood requirements including:

- all floor levels achieve Brisbane River flood immunity

- essential building services conditioned to be flood-proof or back-up power supplied

- the basement construction conditioned to be structurally adequate to resist flood loads up to the defined flood event.

9. Landscaping along all street frontage complements and softens the building form and contributes to the subtropical microclimate of the site and streetscape with a mix of shrubs, groundcovers and trees. Rooftop planting includes canopy trees and 182 m² of the site has been dedicated to deep planting.

10. The site provides 328 m2 of communal open space on the rooftop with a function space, pool, barbeque, community garden and yoga lawn. Each unit includes a balcony for private use ranging in size from 11 m2 to 38 m2.

11. Parking is provided with vehicle access from Tondara Lane, separate pedestrian access and on‑site servicing. The building provides the following parking provisions:

- 103 resident spaces

- 15 visitor spaces

- 2 persons with disability spaces

- 96 resident bicycle spaces

- 24 visitor bicycle spaces.

12. The site will provide for streetscape upgrades to Tondara Lane and Rogers Street and will retain and protect existing street trees. Other streetscape upgrades include:

- a land dedication to achieve a 3.75-metre-wide verge on Montague Road

- a truncation at the corner of Montague Road and Rogers Street

- an activated frontage with ground level tenancies and pedestrian awnings.

13. The proposed development provides the following community benefits.

- Contributes to the provision of build-to-rent residential accommodation.

- Supports the supply of long-term inner city rental accommodation.

- Provides high-quality communal spaces to promote community and connection between residents.

- Supports a mix of housing supply within West End and within close proximity to the CBD.

- Revitalisation of an underutilised site within West End with strong access to transport, services, recreation and employment opportunities.

14. The development was approved for the following reasons.

- Encourages high-density housing with a diverse residential accommodation mix.

- Supports the creation of a walkable neighbourhood being well connected to high‑frequency public transport.

- The building has a height, bulk, scale, form and intensity that responds to site constraints and appropriately integrates the existing and intended neighbourhood structure for the area.

- Ensures the proportion of built and natural features provides a high-level of amenity for occupants and adjoining residents including access to open and landscaped spaces, natural light, sunlight and breeze to support outdoor subtropical living.

- Provides open space that capitalises on Brisbane’s subtropical climate, which is accessible and attractive.

- Mitigates flood risk through location, siting, design, construction and operation, and minimises exposure of people and property to unacceptable risk from flood hazard.

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

16. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

### ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Chair: Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee report.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 18 - 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, Sarah HUTTON, Sandy LANDERS, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

NOES: 1 - Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON.

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

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 – NORMAN CREEK 2012-2031 MASTER PLAN

**143/2024-25**

1. The Manager, Major Projects and Asset Coordination, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the Norman Creek Master Plan (the Master Plan). He provided the information below.

2. The Master Plan outlines key initiatives aimed at rejuvenating the Norman Creek catchment and guides long-term investment and community actions. The following areas are included in the Master Plan.

- Four key goals:

- Healthy ecosystem: Connect catchment ecosystems and ensure water remains healthy as it enters and moves through the catchment.

- Recreation and activity: Improve the accessibility and diversity of open space areas and create sport and recreation activities to meet the needs of a growing community.

- Living with Brisbane’s climate: Design homes, buildings, streets and neighbourhoods with water in mind so they are resilient, even during times of drought and flood.

- Connected communities: Strengthen community connections to history, place, activities and services within the catchment.

- Nine focus areas, with three priority precincts:

- Coorparoo-Camp Hill

- Norman Park

- Greenslopes

- Holland Park West

- Holland Park

- Tarragindi

- Coorparoo (priority precinct)

- Woolloongabba (priority precinct)

- Stones Corner (priority precinct).

- Three engagement and consultation groups:

- key stakeholders

- the community

- Council.

3. The Master Plan was developed in consultation with the community, including the Norman Creek Catchment Coordination Committee and a community reference group. Workshops were also held throughout the process where Council’s internal stakeholders were consulted on various aspects of the plan.

4. The Hanlon Park / Bur’uda project (the project) has been delivered under the Master Plan. The project’s aim was to revitalise Norman Creek, introduce more trees and natural spaces, increase recreational and social opportunities, improve connectivity and accessibility, and increase local economic activity.

5. The design of the project considered various factors, such as flood management, topography, water quality, access, leisure, growth, community identity and cultural significance.

6. The delivery of the project involved:

- engaging and communicating with the community and key stakeholders through online surveys, information kiosks and interviews

- preparing a 35% design package, including the designs and specifications for the concept plan

- preparing a design and construction tender package

- formalising Council’s design and technical overview

- developing a construction methodology

- retaining some public access during construction.

7. Since the completion of the project, contractual maintenance was completed in May 2024 and ongoing maintenance has been scheduled throughout 2024 and 2025, in accordance with relevant legislation.

8. Council has received various awards and acknowledgements for the project, including:

- Stormwater Australia’s 2023 National Award for Excellence in Integrated Stormwater Design

- various Australian Institute for Landscape Architects awards, including:

- 2023 Award of Excellence

- 2023 Landscape Architecture Award

- 2023 Climate Positive Design Award.

- Planning Institute of Australia’s 2023 Award for Excellence

- commendation for the 2024 Movement and Place Award, as part of the Minister’s Award for Urban Design.

9. Kingfisher Creek has been identified as another priority project to be delivered under the Master Plan. Kingfisher Creek runs primarily underground through Woolloongabba and East Brisbane until it connects with Norman Creek at Moorhen Flats.

10. The concept plan for the Kingfisher Creek corridor (the corridor), including Watt Park and Woolloongabba Rotary Park, is currently being developed in consultation with the community. In late 2023, 340 surveys about the corridor were submitted, with 72% of respondents indicating their support for the overall concept plan.

11. Proposed features for Watt Park will include:

- a village green

- waterplay area

- urban rain gardens.

12. Proposed features for Woolloongabba Rotary Park will include:

- multi-use sport courts

- vegetated swales

- nature playground area

- new/upgraded lighting

- designated dog areas.

13. During the initial community consultation period, concerns were raised regarding road closures that were proposed in the draft concept plan. Council has considered the feedback provided and completed technical investigations to develop a revised road network proposal. Following this, a secondary community consultation period was held between August and September 2024, with 140 responses received for the survey.

14. Council is continuing to develop the concept plan, with the final plan scheduled to be released in late 2024.

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

16. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL ESTABLISH AN UNFENCED DOG OFF-LEASH AREA WITHIN ANNERLEY, GREENSLOPES OR TARRAGINDI

**137/220/594/294**

**144/2024-25**

17. A petition requesting Council establish an unfenced dog off-leash area (DOLA) within Annerley, Greenslopes or Tarragindi (the area), was received during the Election Recess 2024.

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

19. The petition contains 46 signatures. Of the petitioners, 39 live in Annerley, Greenslopes or Tarragindi, and seven live in other suburbs within the City of Brisbane.

20. The petitioners have proposed Ekibin Park South (the park), 24 Arnwood Place, Annerley, as a suitable open space location. The park is classified as a local general outdoor sport and recreation park, district access/recreation corridor and local specialised community facility. As such, the park is not classified to be suitable for the establishment of an unfenced DOLA as per the requirements of *Brisbane City Plan 2014*. Attachment B (submitted on file) shows the locality and classifications of the park.

Council aims to provide DOLAs within approximately two kilometres of residents. The below list of parks are located within the vicinity of the area:

- Ekibin Park East, Greenslopes – 400 metres

- Shaftesbury Street Park, Tarragindi – 880 metres

- Yeronga Memorial Park, Yeronga – 1.86 kilometres

- Fairfield Park, Fairfield – 1.5 kilometres

- Hyde Road Park, Yeronga – 2.3 kilometres.

21. As the area is already suitably serviced by existing DOLAs, the establishment of an unfenced DOLA in the park is not supported. A complete list of DOLAs can be found on Council’s website by visiting www.brisbane.qld.gov.au and searching ‘DOLA’.

22. Upgrade works for the DOLA in Ekibin Park East have been approved in Council’s 2024-25 Suburban Works Program.

Consultation

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

24. Councillor Steve Griffiths, Councillor for Moorooka Ward, has been consulted and does not support the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

27. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/294

Thank you for your petition requesting Council establish an unfenced dog off-leash area (DOLA) within Annerley, Greenslopes or Tarragindi (the area).

Council has completed an onsite investigation and considered the request.

Council aims to provide DOLAs within approximately two kilometres of residents. The below list of parks are located within the vicinity of the area:

- Ekibin Park East, Greenslopes – 400 metres

- Shaftesbury Street Park, Tarragindi – 880 metres

- Yeronga Memorial Park, Yeronga – 1.86 kilometres

- Fairfield Park, Fairfield – 1.5 kilometres

- Hyde Road Park, Yeronga – 2.3 kilometres.

As the area is already suitably serviced by existing DOLAs and the park is not classified to be suitable for the establishment of an unfenced DOLA as per the requirements of *Brisbane City Plan 2014*, your request is not supported.

A complete list of DOLAs can be found on Council’s website by visiting www.brisbane.qld.gov.au and searching ‘DOLA’. You may be interested to know that upgrade works for the DOLA at Ekibin Park East have been approved in Council’s 2024-25 Suburban Works Program.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

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 3407 0841.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### C PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL INVESTIGATE EXPANDING CITYCAT SERVICES UPSTREAM AND EXPLORE MEASURES TO STOP DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE BACKING UP OF OUTFLOW AT THE MOUTH OF OXLEY CREEK

**137/220/594/304**

**145/2024-25**

28. A petition requesting that Council investigate expanding CityCat services upstream and explore measures to alleviate damage caused by increased outflow of water from heavy rain into the Brisbane River at the mouth of Oxley Creek, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 23 April 2024, by Councillor Steve Griffiths on behalf of Councillor Nicole Johnston, and received.

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

30. The petition contains 47 signatures.

31. The Oxley Creek catchment (OCC) is one of the largest tributaries to the lower Brisbane River, with parts of the OCC subject to both Oxley Creek and Brisbane River flooding. In 2019, as part of the Queensland Government’s *Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan*,

options to mitigate river flooding in the OCC, such as the use of flood gates and realignment of the mouth of Oxley Creek, were investigated.

32. Flood gates were considered upstream of Pamphlett Bridge at Graceville Avenue, Graceville, and further upstream at the rail line crossing of Oxley Creek in Tennyson. Flood gates provide a physical barrier between flood waters and areas that are being protected, removing sections of the floodplain that otherwise would have been used for flood storage, or flow conveyance. Loss of floodplain storage increases flood levels in the river and can have a detrimental impact on other areas. The assessment identified that flood gates would provide benefits to some residents, but at the expense of worsening conditions for a larger number of residents elsewhere in the Brisbane River catchment. The assessment ultimately concluded that flood gates were not recommended to progress further.

33. The option to realign the mouth of Oxley Creek investigated if the discharge of water in an upstream direction at the confluence with the Brisbane River, has a detrimental effect on the flooding within the creek. The investigation concluded that realigning the entrance of Oxley Creek does not have any material impact on flood levels in the Oxley Creek floodplain.

34. The investigation outlined that inundation within Oxley Creek is largely caused by backwater from the Brisbane River, supplemented by the storage of runoff from the OCC. The orientation of the creek entrance does not impact on flood behaviour as the dynamics associated with converging flows at the junction would be highly localised. The biggest influence on flood behaviour within Oxley Creek is the flood level in the Brisbane River, which controls the level to which backwaters inundate the Oxley Creek floodplain.

35. Despite a long history of implementing flood management and mitigation measures, it is not always feasible to eliminate the risk of flooding. As outlined in Council’s *Brisbane’s FloodSmart Future Strategy 2012-2031*, focus has shifted to planning, flood resilience, and flood awareness measures. Council does, however, continue to review, assess, and prioritise flood mitigation opportunities across the city. All flood mitigation works across the city are subject to thorough assessment of benefits, costs, practical feasibility, and prioritisation against other opportunities.

36. With regard to the extension of the CityCat service, Council has previously investigated the feasibility of extending the service past Dutton Park. These investigations identified potential riverbank erosion impact from CityCat operations as there is no riverbank protection upstream beyond Dutton Park.

37. Council’s investigations also found that upstream of Dutton Park, the river is used extensively for recreational water sports including rowing, water skiing, sailing and kayaking, all of which would be impacted by the introduction of CityCat services. Furthermore, extended CityCat services would have greater travel times compared to current bus and rail services. This is due to the speed limits needed to protect riverbanks, the need to navigate underwater obstacles and the number of private pontoons which would be impacted by constant wash from regular CityCat-type services. The lower speed limit would impact service efficiency and attractiveness to potential patrons. Taking into account these investigations, it is currently not feasible to extend CityCat services beyond Dutton Park.

Consultation

38. Councillor Nicole Johnston, Councillor for Tennyson Ward, has been consulted and does not support the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

40. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed, with Councillors Steve Griffiths and Trina Massey abstaining.

41. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/304

Thank you for your petition requesting Council investigate expanding CityCat services upstream and explore measures to stop damage caused by the backing up of outflow at the mouth of Oxley Creek.

In 2019, as part of the Queensland Government’s *Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan*, options to mitigate river flooding in the Oxley Creek catchment (OCC), such as the use of floodgates and realignment of the mouth of Oxley Creek, were investigated.

Flood gates were considered upstream of Pamphlett Bridge at Graceville Avenue, Graceville, and further upstream at the rail line crossing of Oxley Creek in Tennyson. Flood gates provide a physical barrier between flood waters and areas that are being protected, removing sections of the floodplain that otherwise would have been used for flood storage or flow conveyance. Loss of floodplain storage increases flood levels in the river and can have a detrimental impact on other areas. The assessment identified that flood gates would provide benefits to some residents, but at the expense of worsening conditions for a larger number of residents elsewhere in the Brisbane River catchment. The assessment ultimately concluded that flood gates were not recommended to progress further.

The option to realign the mouth of Oxley Creek investigated if the discharge of water in an upstream direction at the confluence with the Brisbane River, has a detrimental effect on the flooding within the creek. The investigation concluded that realigning the entrance of Oxley Creek does not have any material impact on flood levels in the Oxley Creek floodplain.

The investigation outlined that inundation within Oxley Creek is largely caused by backwater from the Brisbane River, supplemented by the storage of runoff from the OCC. The orientation of the creek entrance does not impact on flood behaviour as the dynamics associated with converging flows at the junction would be highly localised. The biggest influence on flood behaviour within Oxley Creek is the flood level in the Brisbane River, which controls the level to which backwaters inundate the Oxley Creek floodplain.

Despite a long history of implementing flood management and mitigation measures, it is not always feasible to eliminate the risk of flooding. As outlined in Council’s *Brisbane’s FloodSmart Future* *Strategy 2012-2031*, focus has shifted to planning, flood resilience and flood awareness measures over time. Council does, however, continue to review, assess and prioritise flood mitigation opportunities across the city. All flood mitigation works across the city are subject to thorough assessment of benefits, costs, practical feasibility and prioritisation against other opportunities.

With regard to the extension of the CityCat service, Council has previously investigated the feasibility of extending the service past Dutton Park. These investigations identified potential riverbank erosion impact from CityCat operations as there is no riverbank protection upstream beyond Dutton Park.

Council’s investigations also found that upstream of Dutton Park, the river is used extensively for recreational water sports including rowing, water skiing, sailing and kayaking, all of which would be impacted by the introduction of CityCat services. Furthermore, extended CityCat services would have greater travel times compared to current bus and rail services. This is due to the speed limits needed to protect riverbanks, the need to navigate underwater obstacles and the number of private pontoons which would be impacted by constant wash from regular CityCat-type services. The lower speed limit would impact service efficiency and attractiveness to potential patrons. Taking into account all of the above, it is currently not feasible to extend CityCat services beyond Dutton Park.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Aoife Soden-Taylor, Senior Officer Engineering, Water, Energy and Environmental Systems, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, on 3178 2678.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### D PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL PURCHASE PART OR ALL OF THE FORMER BETH EDEN RIVERSIDE VILLAGE SITE AT 85 BANK ROAD, GRACEVILLE FOR GREENSPACE

**137/220/594/307**

**146/2024-25**

42. A petition requesting Council purchase part or all of the former Beth Eden Riverside Village site at 85 Bank Road, Graceville for greenspace, was presented to the meeting of Council held on 7 May 2024, by Councillor Steve Griffiths, and received.

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

44. The petition contains 45 signatures and the petitioners requested acquisition of the site to:

- expand Graceville residents’ access to local parkland

- retain and protect tracts of riverfront bushland

- preserve heritage buildings.

45. Constructed in 1888 as a private dwelling, Beth-Eden functioned as a health care facility from the 1950s until March 2023, when it permanently closed. Buildings and associated circulation areas occupy a large portion of the 2.48 hectare site, concentrated towards the southern and eastern boundaries. Additionally, there is a large area of open space at the western end of the site.

46. The site is included on the Queensland Heritage Register (QHR) as the Beth-Eden heritage place (QHR ID 600215). Council is therefore not the responsible authority for the management and protection of the site’s heritage values. All advice with respect to the heritage values of the site, including how any development on the site is assessed for impacts on heritage values, must be sought from the Queensland Government’s Department of Environment, Science, and Innovation.

47. Council understands that the property was purchased in late April 2024 by a private entity. Regardless of the availability of the site, it is generally not desirable or appropriate for Council to purchase land for park purposes in order to protect private heritage buildings. The development controls imposed over the site by Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014,* and the Queensland Government, are intended to ensure heritage values are protected without the need for the property to be in public ownership.

48. Alongside the protection afforded by Beth-Eden’s QHR listing, vegetation on the site is also protected under Council’s *Natural Assets Local Law 2003* (NALL), with the three distinct NALL categories, Significant Urban Vegetation, Significant Native Vegetation, and Waterway and Wetland Vegetation, all covering large areas of the property, with considerable overlap.

49. Council therefore has no intention of seeking to purchase this site. While Council will not seek ownership of the site, the heritage and environmental values of the property will continue to be protected by the various Council and State planning controls and local laws in place over the site.

Consultation

50. Councillor Nicole Johnston, Councillor for Tennyson Ward, has been consulted and does not support the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

52. The Divisional Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed, with Councillors Steve Griffiths and Trina Massey dissenting.

53. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/307

Thank you for your petition requesting Council acquire part or all of the former Beth Eden Riverside Village site (the site), at 85 Bank Road, Graceville for greenspace.

Constructed in 1888 as a private dwelling, Beth-Eden functioned as a health care facility from the 1950s until March 2023, when it permanently closed. Buildings and associated circulation areas occupy a large portion of the 2.48 hectare site, concentrated towards the southern and eastern boundaries. Additionally, there is a large area of open space at the western end of the site.

The property is included on the Queensland Heritage Register (QHR) as the Beth-Eden heritage place (QHR ID 600215). Council is therefore not the responsible authority for the management and protection of the site’s heritage values. All advice with respect to the heritage values of the site, including how any development on the site is assessed for impacts on heritage values, must be sought from the Queensland Government’s Department of Environment, Science, and Innovation.

Council understands that the property was purchased in late April 2024 by a private entity. Regardless of the availability of the site, it is generally not desirable or appropriate for Council to purchase land for park purposes in order to protect heritage listed private buildings. The development controls imposed over the site by Council’s *Brisbane City Plan 2014,* and the Queensland Government, are intended to ensure heritage values are protected without the need for the property to be in public ownership.

Alongside the protection afforded by Beth-Eden’s QHR listing, vegetation on the site is also protected under Council’s *Natural Assets Local Law 2003* (NALL), with the three distinct NALL categories, Significant Urban Vegetation, Significant Native Vegetation, and Waterway and Wetland Vegetation, all covering large areas of the property, with considerable overlap.

Council therefore has no intention of seeking to purchase this site. While Council will not seek ownership of the site, the heritage and environmental values of the property will continue to be protected by the various Council and State planning controls and local laws in place over the site.

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

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

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### E PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL NAME TRACKS IN KARAWATHA FOREST PARK, KARAWATHA, IN HONOUR OF BERNICE VOLZ OAM

**137/220/594/281**

**147/2024-25**

54. A petition requesting Council name tracks in Karawatha Forest Park, Karawatha, in honour of Bernice Volz OAM, was received during the Summer Recess 2023-24.

55. The General Manager, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability City Planning and Sustainability, provided the following information.

56. The petition contains 115 signatures.

57. Karawatha Forest Park (the forest) encompasses approximately 1,000 hectares of bushland and coastal lowlands on the southern edge of Brisbane. For more than 30 years, the community has worked to preserve the forest corridor by acquiring land through donations, bequests and buy‑backs from various stakeholders. High-value biologically diverse habitats exist within the forest, including a number of identified ecosystems registered in South East Queensland.

58. In 1991, Karawatha Forest Protection Society Incorporated was formed in response to strong public opinion in preserving the area. Council has since purchased a large amount of land through its Bushland Acquisition Program to protect the forest, and the Queensland Government has also made a significant contribution to the size of the reserve.

59. Bernice Volz OAM has been an environmental advocate since the 1990s and has dedicated a substantial amount of time and effort towards the foundation and preservation of the forest. Her contributions include:

- involvement with Karawatha Forest Protection Society Incorporated

- volunteering as a guide at Council’s Karawatha Forest Discovery Centre

- delivering education programs at the Queensland Government’s Pullenvale Environmental Education Centre.

60. The petitioners have requested that the track currently known as Entolasia Trail be renamed ‘Bernice’s Crystal Pathway’. This track is covered in crystal quartz grains that have been dislodged from larger rocks within the reserve, demonstrating the geological history of these grains. The track is also the only remaining quartz crystal path in the reserve, as all other trails have been surfaced in gravel.

61. The petitioners have further requested an additional track be formally named ‘Bernice’s Meditation Pathway’.

62. Council appreciates that the naming of parks, tracks and prominent facilities within public space can engender a feeling of local community ownership by:

- celebrating historic, social, and cultural connections with facilities and open spaces

- recognising natural features that contribute to the enjoyment of our spaces

- assisting visitors and emergency services to orientate themselves and locate specific facilities within larger parks.

63. Council therefore supports naming a section of Entolasia Trail as ‘Bernice Volz Crystal Pathway’ in honour of Bernice Volz OAM, in accordance with Council’s *OS03 Naming Parks,* *Facilities or Tracks Procedure*.

Consultation

64. Councillor Emily Kim, Councillor for Calamvale Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

66. The General Manager recommended as follows and the Committee unanimously agreed.

67. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/281

Thank you for your petition requesting Council name tracks in Karawatha Forest Park, Karawatha, in honour of Bernice Volz OAM.

Council appreciates that the naming of parks, tracks and prominent facilities within public space can engender a feeling of local community ownership by:

- celebrating historic, social, and cultural connections with facilities and open spaces

- recognising natural features that contribute to the enjoyment of our spaces

- assisting visitors and emergency services to orientate themselves and locate specific facilities within larger parks.

Your request has been investigated in accordance with Council’s *OS03 Naming Parks, Facilities or Tracks Procedure*, which sets out criteria to ensure a fair and thorough assessment of naming requests.In recognition of Ms Volz, Council supports naming a section of Entolasia Trail as ‘Bernice VolzCrystal Pathway’.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Nicola Barlow, Parks Policy and Planning Service Delivery Manager, Parks and Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, on 3178 7699.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### F PARK NAMING – FORMAL NAMING OF A SECTION OF ENTOLASIA TRAIL IN KARAWATHA FOREST PARK, KARAWATHA, TO ‘BERNICE VOLZ CRYSTAL PATHWAY’ IN HONOUR OF BERNICE VOLZ OAM

**161/540/567/247**

**148/2024-25**

68. The General Manager, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, provided the following information.

69. Council received a petition requesting tracks in Karawatha Forest Park, Karawatha, be named in honour of local resident, Bernice Volz OAM, who has a long association with the reserve. The petition contained 115 signatures.

70. Karawatha Forest Park (the forest) encompasses approximately 1,000 hectares of bushland and coastal lowlands on the southern edge of Brisbane. A number of high-value biologically diverse habitats exist within the forest. For more than 30 years, the community has worked to preserve the forest corridor by acquiring land through donations, bequests and buy-backs from various stakeholders. High-value biologically diverse habitats exist within the forest, including a number of identified ecosystems registered in South East Queensland.

71. In 1991, Karawatha Forest Protection Society Incorporated was formed in response to strong public opinion to preserve the area. Council has since purchased a large amount of land through its Bushland Acquisition Program to protect the forest, and the Queensland Government has also made a significant contribution to the size of the reserve.

72. Bernice Volz OAM has been an environmental advocate since the 1990s, and has dedicated a substantial amount of time and effort towards the foundation and preservation of the forest. In 2023, Ms Volz was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) to acknowledge her contributions, including:

- involvement with Karawatha Forest Protection Society Incorporated

- volunteering as a guide at Council’s Karawatha Forest Discovery Centre

- delivering education programs at the Queensland Government’s Pullenvale Environmental Education Centre.

73. In recognition of her efforts, Council supports naming a section of Entolasia Trail as ‘Bernice Volz Crystal Pathway’ (refer to Attachment A, submitted on file). This part of the trail spans 100 metres and runs east from the Urban Utilities Reservoir to the Rocks Track and picnic shelter, and its surface is covered with crystal quartz that once covered the nearby area.

Funding

74. Funding for the name sign is available in Program 6 – City Standards, Community Health and

Safety.

Consultation

75. Councillor Emily Kim, Councillor for Calamvale Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

76. Formally naming part of Entolasia Trail as ‘Bernice Volz Crystal Pathway’ will acknowledge the contribution made by Bernice Volz OAM to the preservation of Karawatha Forest Park, Karawatha.

77. The General Manager recommended as follows and the Committee unanimously agreed.

78. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT APPROVAL BE GRANTED TO FORMALLY NAME A SECTION OF ENTOLASIA TRAIL (WHICH LINKS TO THE ROCKS TRACK), AS ‘BERNICE VOLZ CRYSTAL PATHWAY’, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL’S *OS03 NAMING PARKS, FACILITIES OR TRACKS PROCEDURE.***

**ADOPTED**

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Chair: We will now put the City Standards Committee 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 Sarah Hutton (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Greg Adermann (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Lisa Atwood, Nicole Johnston, Emily Kim and Steven Toomey.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – RESPONDING TO UNMANAGED VEHICLES

**149/2024-25**

1. The General Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Services (CARS), Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide information about Council’s response to unmanaged vehicles. She provided the information below.

2. CARS is granted power through section 114(2) of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* and Council’s *Health and Safety Amenity Local Law 2021* (HSALL) to ensure members of the public comply with local laws, specifically regarding unmanaged vehicles.

3. HSALL defines four categories of vehicles that are actioned by CARS’ unmanaged vehicle process.

- Unregistered: Registration number and vehicle identification number are used to confirm the registration status of a vehicle.

- Abandoned: Under HSALL, an abandoned vehicle is understood to be either illegally parked or in a marked bay.

- Hazardous: Relates to the presence of the vehicle being hazardous, not limited to the condition of the vehicle presenting risk of harm.

- Dilapidated or unsightly: Generally involving missing car body parts, neglected body or being inoperable without significant mechanical intervention.

4. The impact of unmanaged vehicles contributes to:

- roads and public spaces becoming inaccessible

- reduction in vehicle movements and the flow of traffic

- reduced parking availability

- safety concerns for the community

- detracts from the visual amenity of streets.

5. Unmanaged vehicles can attract a high number of complaints from multiple complainants and usually, multiple vehicles are left at the same time. Managing those vehicles requires a targeted response.

6. In 2023-24, CARS managed a total of 6,385 complaints regarding unmanaged vehicles, including:

- 1,632 abandoned vehicles

- 515 dilapidated/unsightly vehicles

- 170 hazardous vehicles

- 4,068 unregistered vehicles on the road

- 452 vehicles were towed

- 6,482 complaints were closed.

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

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

#### B PETITION – REQUESTING REMOVAL OF TWO LIQUIDAMBAR TREES ON THE VERGE BETWEEN 31 AND 35 POPE STREET, TARRAGINDI

**137/220/594/235**

**150/2024-25**

9. A petition requesting removal of two liquidambar trees on the verge between 31 and 35 Pope Street, Tarragindi, was received during the Winer Recess 2023.

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

11. The petition contains 20 signatures. Of the petitioners, four live on Pope Street, two live on other streets in Holland Park, ten live in other suburbs within the City of Brisbane and four live outside of Brisbane.

12. The petition requested Council complete an assessment of the two liquidambar trees to determine if damage to the property located at 35 Pope Street (the property) has occurred as a result of the trees. An inspection by a Council arborist on 18 August 2023 identified the trees to be located some distance from the property, where no obvious damage or health concerns were noted. A recent inspection on 12 July 2024 confirms this still to be the case. The damage to the house, therefore, could not be directly linked to the liquidambar trees on the verge in front of the property.

13. Furthermore, during the inspection, a Council officer observed two large trees in closer proximity to the house, on a private property. The first tree was identified as a *Delonix regia* approximately five metres from the house. The second tree was identified as a *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, approximately four metres to the right of the house. These trees may be a contributing factor to the property damage stated in the petition. The resident of the property is encouraged to contact Council’s authorised third-party liability claims manager, JLT Risk Solutions Pty Ltd, who can investigate and finalise claims for damage to private property.

14. Leaf and seed drop occurs across all parts of the urban forest and is a naturally occurring part of a healthy tree’s life cycle. A natural amount of leaf drop was noted as occurring at the time of the inspection. Council maintains a proactive schedule of street sweeping programs across the City of Brisbane, to improve street cleanliness and minimise build-up of organic waste such as leaves and seed pods.

15. Council delivers standard tree maintenance works in response to resident requests. These works are conducted after a Council arborist has inspected the reported tree and determined if maintenance is required. Delivery timeframes of requested works are based on Council’s regular ward cycle. All works are carried out to Australian Standards by qualified Council arborists.

16. The trees on the verge between 31 and 35 Pope Street are currently healthy and in good condition. Council will retain the trees, hence, there is no reason for replacement plantings to be considered at this stage.

Consultation

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

Customer impact

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

19. The Executive General Manager recommended as follows and the Committee agreed, with Councillor Nicole Johnston abstaining.

20. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/25

Thank you for your petition requesting Council remove two liquidambar trees on the verge between 31 and 35 Pope Street, Tarragindi.

Your petition requested Council to complete an assessment of the two liquidambar trees to determine if damage to the property located at 35 Pope Street (the property) has occurred as a result of the trees. An inspection by a Council arborist on 18 August 2023 identified the trees to be located some distance from the property, where no obvious damage or health concerns were noted. A recent inspection on 12 July 2024 confirms this still to be the case. The damage to house, therefore, could not be directly linked to the liquidambar trees on the verge in front of the property.

The liquidambar trees located at 31 and 35 Pope Street, Tarragindi, are currently healthy and in good condition. Therefore, it is not recommended for replacement plantings to be considered at this stage. When new plantings are required, Council works from a large pallet of options, mostly made up of native species.

You can choose to lodge a claim for damage to the property, by contacting Council’s authorised third‑party liability claims manager, JLT Risk Solutions Pty Ltd (JLT), who can investigate and finalise claims of damage to private property. To lodge a claim with JLT, you are encouraged to contact JLT directly on (07) 3000 5555, or by searching ‘Notice of Injury, Loss or Damage – compensation claim’ on Council’s website at brisbane.qld.gov.au.

Council does not take specific action to prevent seed pod and tree debris from occurring, as this is a naturally occurring part of a tree’s lifecycle in an urban forest. However, Council maintains a proactive schedule of street sweeping programs across the City of Brisbane, to improve street cleanliness and minimise build-up of organic waste such as leaves and seed pods. More information can be found on Council’s website by searching ‘road cleaning schedule’.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Andrew Barwick, A/Manager, Operations, Public Space Operations, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3178 5612.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

#### C PETITION – REQUESTING COUNCIL AMEND LAWS THAT BAN DOGS FROM INDOOR FOOD VENUES

**137/220/594/320**

**151/2024-25**

21. A petition requesting requesting Council amend laws to allow dogs into indoor food venues, was received during the Winter Recess 2024. The petitioners specifically raised concerns about the impact to Archer Brewing located at 1/278 Newmarket Road, Wilston, as they no longer allow customers to bring dogs.

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

23. The petition contains 22 signatures.

24. Council investigates complaints about dogs allowed inside food businesses in accordance with the provisions of the *Queensland Government Food Act 2006* (the Act) and the Food Standards Code (the Code). The Code was developed by the Australian Government Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ), who are an independent statutory authority established by the *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991* (FSANZ Act). The FSANZ Act sets out the functions of FSANZ including the development of food standards. These food standards are implemented with uniformity across all states and territories in Australia.

25. In Queensland, the implementation of the Code is achieved through the Act. Section 23 of the Act sets out which provisions are to be administered and enforced by local governments and not the Queensland Government. This includes section 39(1) of the Act which states, “a person must comply with a requirement imposed on the person by a provision of the food standards code in relation to the conduct of a food business or to food intended for sale or food for sale.”

26. Under the Code, a food business may permit a dog that is not an assistance animal to be present in an outdoor dining area. This is an area that is used for dining and/or drinking and is neither an enclosed area or an area that is entered by the public through an enclosed area.

27. Council records show that a complaint from a member of the public was received on 9 October 2023 about dogs in the indoor dining area of Archer Brewing. In response, officers from Council’s Environmental Health team inspected the site on 7 December 2023 and met with the business owners to discuss the concerns raised and investigate possible solutions. However, it was determined that Archer Brewing does not have a suitable outdoor dining area that would comply with the Code to enable the business to allow dogs.

28. Education was provided to the business owners regarding the relevant provisions of the Act and the Code. The business owner subsequently informed their customers that dogs were no longer allowed in the business due to the requirements of this legislation.

29. While delegated and required to enforce the Act and the Code, Council has no authority to amend or update the legislation. However, the Queensland Government and Australian Government can request FSANZ to review its decisions.

30. The Lord Mayor of Brisbane Adrian Schrinner wrote to the Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care the Honourable Mark Butler MP on 19 July 2024 advocating for a timely review of the Code to ascertain whether there could be circumstances in which dogs may be inside a food business that still maintains a high standard of food safety and personal hygiene.

31. Petitioners are encouraged to contact their local State or Federal Member of Parliament to request amendments to the Act and the Code.

Consultation

32. As this is a citywide matter, Councillor Sarah Hutton, Civic Cabinet Chair for the City Standards Committee, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

Customer impact

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

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

35. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Response**

**Petition Reference:** 137/220/594/320

Thank you for your petition requesting Council amend laws that ban dogs from indoor food venues.

Council notes the concerns raised about the impact to Archer Brewing located at 1/278 Newmarket Road, Wilston, as they no longer allow customers to bring dogs.

Council investigates complaints about dogs allowed inside food businesses in accordance with the provisions of the *Queensland Government Food Act 2006* (the Act) and the Australian Government Food Standards Code (the Code). The Code was developed by Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) who are an independent statutory authority established by the *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991* (FSANZ Act). The FSANZ Act sets out the functions of FSANZ including the development of food standards. These food standards are implemented with uniformity across all states and territories in Australia.

In Queensland, the implementation of the Code is achieved through the Act. Section 23 of the Act sets out which provisions are to be administered and enforced by local governments and not the Queensland Government. This includes section 39(1) of the Act which states, “a person must comply with a requirement imposed on the person by a provision of the food standards code in relation to the conduct of a food business or to food intended for sale or food for sale.”

Under the Code, a food business may permit a dog that is not an assistance animal to be present in an outdoor dining area. This is an area that is used for dining and/or drinking and is neither an enclosed area or an area that is entered by the public through an enclosed area.

Regarding Archer Brewing, Council records show that a complaint from a member of the public was received on 9 October 2023 about dogs in the indoor dining area. In response, officers from Council’s Environmental Health team inspected the site on 7 December 2023 and met with the business owners to discuss the concerns raised and investigate possible solutions. However, it was determined that Archer Brewing does not have a suitable outdoor dining area that would comply with the Code to enable the business to allow dogs.

Education was provided to the business owners regarding the relevant provisions of the Act and the Code. The business owner subsequently informed their customers that dogs were no longer allowed in the business due to the requirements of this legislation.

While delegated and required to enforce the Act and the Code, Council has no authority to amend or update the legislation. However, the Queensland Government and Australian Government can request FSANZ to review its decisions.

The Lord Mayor of Brisbane Adrian Schrinner wrote to the Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care the Honourable Mark Butler MP on 19 July 2024 advocating for a timely review of the Code to ascertain whether there could be circumstances in which dogs may be inside a food business that still maintains a high standard of food safety and personal hygiene.

You are encouraged to raise your concerns directly with Queensland Health by phoning 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or via online at www.health.qld.gov.au.

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

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Luisa Gurrieri, Senior Environmental Health Officer, Environmental Health, Community Standards, Compliance and Regulatory Services, Lifestyle and Community Services directly on (07) 3178 5219.

Thank you for raising this matter.

**ADOPTED**

### COMMUNITY AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE

Chair: We now put Community and the Arts Committee 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 – WITTON BARRACKS REFURBISHMENT

**152/2024-25**

1. The Chief Executive Officer, White Box Enterprises (WBE), the A/Manager, Healthy and Vibrant Communities, Connected Communities, Lifestyle and Community Services, and the Project Delivery Manager, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the Witton Barracks (the Barracks) Refurbishment. They provided the information below.

2. The Barracks is located at 9 Lambert Road, Indooroopilly. The Barracks has been identified to have local and State heritage values and is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register.

3. The Barracks was requisitioned by the Australian Army in 1942 and served various purposes during World War II. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, the Barracks witnessed a range of developments, including the demolition of Witton House, the construction of Provost Company Barracks and the subdivision of the Barracks land parcel from the Tighnabruaich property, which sold into private ownership.

4. Council acquired the Barracks in 2016 and has progressively remediated and upgraded the site, as part of the Witton Barracks Park and Community Hub project. The project has been delivered over several years.

- 2016: Site investigations and structural rectification works were undertaken to improve the condition of the buildings across the site.

- 2017: Open greenspace was created for community use, consisting of approximately 5,000 square metres at the front of the site.

- 2018: Maintenance works to heritage buildings completed, including various repairs and repainting.

- 2019: Installation of a new playground and picnic shelter.

- 2022: Upgrades to site services including new connections to Energex and Urban Utilities.

- 2024: Completion of the Witton Barracks and Community Hub project.

5. Several construction challenges were encountered during refurbishment including unearthing archaeological artefacts and building fabric which required careful handling due to the historical significance of each piece. Investigation, reporting and recording of heritage aspects were also necessary to adhere to heritage notification requirements. Additionally, the project encountered events which required work to temporarily cease, causing delays and disruptions to the project.

6. Since the completion of the project, WBE has entered a lease with Council to manage the Barracks. Operating under WBE, the facility offers an inclusive and creative community space with a range of amenities and services.

7. Current tenants of the Barracks include:

- Brisbane History Group

- Cleanable

- Yoga on the Inside

- Eco Solutions

- Good People Group

- Brisbane Astronomical Society

- Showzer.

8. The Barracks is a versatile venue space and has hosted various occasions such as birthday parties, dancing events, social gatherings, music performances and art exhibitions. The Barracks has also been used as a venue for hosting Council functions and meetings as well as local small business functions. Concessional and local rates are available when hiring the Barracks as a venue.

9. The Barracks holds monthly star gazing sessions hosted by Brisbane Astronomical Society as well as monthly History Talk tours. There are ongoing plans to develop additional activities at the Barracks, such as markets and festivals as well as a range of social, wellbeing and seasonal events.

10. Extensive community consultation has been undertaken to ensure that the operations of the Barracks align with the needs and desires of the community, including:

- local schools and universities

- local councillors

- community and social outreach organisations

- local businesses

- historical groups

- environmental groups

- local residents.

11. WBE has introduced sustainable business practices to the Barracks, including event space rentals, cell rentals and dog wash facilities. As part of their commitment to environmental responsibility and economic viability, WBE is also planning to introduce:

- sustainable manufacturing

- electric car charging stations

- temporary parking areas

- cafes and bike shops.

12. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Chief Executive Officer, A/Manager and Project Delivery Manager for their informative update.

13. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: We’ll now put the Finance and City Governance Committee report to the vote.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Lucy Collier.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – PROCUREMENT UPDATE

**153/2024-25**

1. The Chief Procurement Officer, Strategic Procurement Office, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to provide a procurement update. He provided the information below.

2. The Committee was provided an overview of market movements in the June quarter of 2024, highlighting changes to indices including fuel, electricity, cement, steel beams and computer and electronic equipment.

3. Significant capital work is forecasted throughout Queensland with unfilled construction vacancies double pre-pandemic levels. Peak labour demand is expected in 2027/28, a 78% surge compared to 2023/24. Key roles experiencing these conditions include electricians, structural steel and welding trades and earthmoving plant operators. Mixed input material costs are higher for gypsum, copper, cement, timber and joinery and lower for steel due to weak global demand.

4. The *International Construction Costs Comparison 2024* report benchmarks 100 global cities. Despite high inflation in Australia, Brisbane’s position on the list fell from 46 to 51 due to a weaker Australian dollar. Brisbane is 8th in the Asia-Pacific however, most ‘less costly’ cities have low labour costs and benefit from proximity to Chinese industrial producers.

5. Council’s *SP103 Procurement Policy and Plan 2024-25* (the Procurement Policy)has been streamlined through consolidating sections and focusing on simplified language. Policy settings have also remained unchanged from the previous year, providing continuity and a persistent focus on value delivery. There is an emphasis on ensuring the procurement framework supports and promotes supplier innovation and partnerships. Barriers faced by suppliers to do business with and to sell to Council continue to be removed under this Procurement Policy.

6. On 24 June 2024 Council introduced SAP Ariba, a new cloud-based sourcing and procurement system. The system provides a modern interface for both buyers and suppliers. 5,200 active vendors migrated over to the system and 1,529 interested suppliers self-registered. At present there are 26 full sourcing processes underway and 45 Guided Buying Requests for Quotes to market. There are 1,400 contract workspaces that were set up at go-live and an additional 51 that have been input by Council officers.

7. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Chief Procurement Officer for his informative presentation.

8. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Councillors, are there any petitions?

Councillor CHONG WAH.

Councillor CHONG WAH: Yes, I have a petition for implementing of traffic calming measures in Mackay Terrace and Angus Street, Bardon.

Chair: Councillor WOLFF.

Councillor WOLFF: Thank you, Madam Chair. I have a petition requesting Council install designated bicycle and scooter lanes on Hawken Drive in St Lucia.

Chair: Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Chair, I have a petition requesting Council rename Timaru Close Park at Westlake to Two Mile Reach Park.

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

**154/2024-25**

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:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **File No.** | **Councillor** | **Topic** |
| 137/220/594/348 | Seal Chong Wah | Requesting Council implement traffic calming measures in Mackay Terrace and Angus Street, Bardon. |
| 137/220/594/346 | Penny Wolff | Requesting Council install designated bicycle and scooter lanes on Hawken Drive, St Lucia. |
| 137/220/594/347 | Sarah Hutton | Requesting Council rename Timaru Close Park, Westlake to ‘Two Mile Reach Park’. |

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

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

We’ll now move to General Business.

Are there any matters of General Business?

Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, I rise to give a report on the Paralympics and my visit to Paris to learn more about how we, as a Host City, will be able to learn from the experiences that our friends in Paris have gained. Madam Chair, there’s been a little bit of discussion already earlier today, and I really want to put on record that this is an emotive and immersive experience for those who attended on the ground to really gain an understanding of what it is that we will be experiencing in eight short years. The City of Paris had a fairly similar time to get ready, and all of the sessions that I attended, everybody was in agreement that it took all of that time and that there were many learnings that could have been had from each of those particular areas.

*At that time, 5.54pm, the Deputy Chair assumed the Chair.*

Councillor HOWARD: So, many of the people that we talked to on the ground were very much about making sure that the experiences that people had in attending their cities was very much about a welcoming city, just as we will be wanting to be in 2032. I think there’s been a lot of discussion even since I’ve been back about some of the learnings from those presentations, and I really want to put on record my appreciation to the City of Paris for all of their effort. They were very willing to speak to all of us. They were very willing to share with us their learnings, the challenges that they had faced, and we’re very much looking forward to the evaluation that will now occur now that the Paralympics is over.

One of my first presentations was with Pascal Mathieu, who spoke to us about accessibility and the fact that they had used the opportunity to teach all of their managers French sign language. The importance of signage across the city, because the city, of course, is a very ancient city, and there were things such as cobblestones that weren’t sort of conducive to people in wheelchairs. However, they had done a very good job of trying to make sure that all of the signage and all of the areas that they were able to make wheelchair friendly as well as accessible in other areas had occurred. The opening ceremony was one such. It was near the Arc de Triomphe, but it was somewhere where they had to lay rubber matting so that those in wheelchairs could access it.

But again, the opening ceremony was all about celebrating the achievements of the Paralympians and the fact that there was so much diversity on that stage. It was truly amazing. I was very thrilled to be able to catch up with Robyn Smith, who was the CEO of Sport Inclusion Australia. Robyn’s also been involved with Virtus Sport and is on the International Paralympic Committee. She was very generous with her time, and she introduced me to the International Paralympic Committee, Mr Andrew Parsons, who was the president, and Mr Duane Kale, the Vice President, along with a number of the other Committee members. There are 14 Committee members, and they were there on site to be able to help the athletes.

One of the most amazing things was being invited by the Australian Ambassador to France, her Excellency Gillian Bird and Minister Wells to greet the Paralympians. That was held at the embassy and it was a fantastic opportunity for us to meet the Paralympians and the President of Paralympics Australia, the President Alison Creagh was there. To actually get to speak to the athletes was a really amazing opportunity. I would like to just read into the minutes of this meeting. The Brisbane athletes that competed at the Paralympics, and I think it’s very important that we honour those people. Abby Craswell from Para-athletics, Lewis Bishop, Para-swimming, Rowan Crothers, Para-swimming, Jack Ireland, Para-swimming. Rachael Watson, Para-swimming, Hani Watson, power lifting, and Josh Nicholson with the wheelchair rugby. Minister Wells and I were at the very first wheelchair rugby, and of course, Josh able to go on, so I gave an extra big cheer to him. But I can just say that—

Deputy Chair: Councillor HOWARD, your time has expired.

Councillor HOWARD: —each and every—okay.

Deputy Chair: Any further General Business?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks, Chair. I rise to speak on two items, a report for overseas travel, and receiving stolen goods. Well done to Councillor HOWARD. That was a report, right? From overseas travel. I’m sorry that the deputy mayor wasn’t in the Chamber listening. She only came in after Councillor HOWARD finished her report. But that was a genuine report.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: So, we certainly look forward to seeing the breakdown in expenditure from that trip. But I know this will probably happen in the next session as well. It will be updated on the website. But—and I’m sure Councillor ADAMS has made sure that the breakdown on her expenditure for the work part of her personal trip overseas recently will be updated on the website as well, given that hasn’t occurred yet. But I just wanted to reflect on an issue that Councillor KIM raised about items that were stolen from her ward office. So, certainly what it appears like, anyway, and have—and turned up in other ward offices.

Now, the response from the LORD MAYOR to that, Chair, was that if it was paid for by Council funds, generally speaking, then it can go anywhere in Council. So, I just want to confirm this. I know the LORD MAYOR’s not in here now. But I’m sure a relevant Chair will be able to confirm this for us. I want us to put this on the public record that according to the LORD MAYOR, I could go down to the Einbunpin Lagoon parklands and rip out a chair, a seat that is there and put it up in the foyer of my ward office. That’s perfectly fine, because that was paid for out of a capital budget, Council budget, and it can go in there.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I could go into the Sandgate Town Hall and pull those curtains down off the stage and take them back to the ward office and hang them there on the wall there if I wanted to as well, because according to the LORD MAYOR, those things—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, well, that’s right. Yes, if you could go find the 3D printer or something. Yes, go over to the Chandler Ward Office and pick up Councillor MURPHY’s drone and use that as well, and not return it—and not return it, because according to the LORD MAYOR, that is perfectly fine if we just take stuff from in here. I might take that chair over there and put that in my ward office. I assume that’s okay, Chair. Is that right?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I assume that it’s okay, because according to the LORD MAYOR, if things are transferred from the Calamvale Ward Office to the Hamilton Ward Office and to which other—Bracken Ridge Ward Office.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: And into the LORD MAYOR’s office, it’s perfectly fine. It’s perfectly fine if those items are transferred when an LNP Councillor loses that ward and wants the incoming Councillor to not have those items. I was also disturbed to learn that there are other items missing from the Calamvale Ward Office that are not accounted for. So, they have possibly left Council entirely. So, I think a proper and thorough investigation needs to be undertaken here. Potentially, Chair, potentially, if that investigation isn’t able to locate those items, that that should be referred to the CCC (Crime Corruption Commission). Now, I’m not yet sure who needs to do that, because an investigation does need to be undertaken if it’s done by the CEO, and he can’t—as the Acting CEO, currently still, until the end of the year—no, the incoming CEO is not starting until after 15 December.

I heard someone interject there. But I assume the Acting CEO will still be in place. If that investigation can’t locate that folding machine in the LORD MAYOR’s office and that lectern that’s in the Bracken Ridge Ward Office and those items that were transferred to the Hamilton Ward Office, staging over in the—they can’t find that, then those items may have been stolen I guess, and perhaps the CCC needs to look into that. So, that’s an incredible thing for the LORD MAYOR to have said, that in his view it’s okay for a Councillor that had clearly lost the election, lost that seat, to then make the decision to transfer those items out of that ward office so the incoming Councillor didn’t have access to them, and according to the LORD MAYOR—and didn’t even know they were gone.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: I’ll take that interjection, until an asset register was accessed, and then questions were asked. Then the answer to those questions were, those items were transferred to LNP ward offices and you do not get to receive them back. I don’t think that’s right, and I appreciate Councillor KIM for having raised them. I certainly hope the Acting CEO will undertake a thorough investigation and make any referrals to the CCC that are deemed—or the police, perhaps, if they’re missing entirely. If we can ascertain someone has taken them and has benefited from Council resources being used to buy them. But if they’re also just totally missing, perhaps they need to be referred to the police as well.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, your time has expired.

Further General Business?

Councillor GIVNEY.

Councillor GIVNEY: Thank you, Chair. Today, I rise to share the sad news of the passing of esteemed former headmaster of Moreton Bay College (MBC), Mr Ken Waller. As a past student of Moreton Bay College who attended the school during Mr Waller’s final year as headmaster, I was deeply saddened to hear the news from a fellow MBC Old Girl and Wynnum resident, Nici Bickley, last week. In 1980, Mr Ken Waller made history as the first male headmaster of Moreton Bay College, bringing fresh leadership with a bold vision to the school. During his tenure, Mr Waller led significant transformations, took calculated risks and made difficult decisions, and his signature safari suits are a fond memory to us all.

When he first took the helm alongside our beloved Miss Handley on Bay Terrace in Wynnum, the school was struggling. The original campus was worn, enrolments were at just 116, with only 15 boarders. The board recognised the school needed a leader with not only educational acumen but also entrepreneurial skills. Mr Waller’s background with The Shell Company proved to be pivotal in addressing both the business and educational challenges that the school faced. Under Mr Waller’s leadership, the decision was made to close the boarding house in 1980, refocusing the school’s efforts on day school education. With change, along with the purchase of 14 acres on Wondall Road at Manly West in 1981, this set the stage for the opening of the new primary school in 1984 led by the late Leita Boswell who was the Head of Primary.

By the end of 1985, the secondary students joined the new campus, and additional land purchases brought the campus to 37 acres. Over his 19 years at Moreton Bay College, Mr Waller’s vision for a thriving girls’ school became a reality thanks to his unwavering commitment, the dedicated team that he built, and the pride of the students who attended during his tenure. By the time he retired in 1998, enrolments had grown to 1,142 students, and they were supported by 133 staff members. His leadership left a lasting legacy on the college, which flourished under his guidance. Mr Waller’s wife Janet, Mrs Waller to us Old Girls, was also a dedicated presence at the college, supporting her husband’s work. The Ken and Janet Waller Sports Centre, affectionately known as the Waller centre, remains the hub of school and international events, serving as a lasting reminder of their contribution.

Mr Waller had a profound impact on students, staff and families alike. Over the past few days, the Moreton Bay College Old Girls’ Facebook page has been filled with over 100 heartfelt messages and reactions, celebrating his legacy. I’d like to share a few of these tributes. Danyelle Elson. Two things I remember Mr Waller teaching us. (1) Win or lose, do it with grace. (2) How to shake hands with a firm grip. Mel Lyell. I’m very sad to hear of Mr Waller’s passing. He was an inspirational leader who successfully steered the college through challenging times. Sending love to Mrs Waller and the family. Melinda Gale. So, so, so, so sad to hear this news. Sincere condolences and prayers to Mrs Waller and the children, who were similar ages to us 1980s girls.

They attended other schools, but we were always updated on their progress. So, we thank you for sharing your dad and husband with us. Mr Waller steered the college through some dark days and it emerged as the amazing place of learning that it is today. Last time I saw him, he said, Melinda, it’s been more than 30 years since school. You can call me Ken, and I replied, thank you, Mr Waller, but I just can’t. You will always be Mr Waller to me, just as Miss Handley will always be Miss Handley. Rest in peace, Mr Waller. Over the past five years, I had the privilege of spending more time with Mr and Mrs Waller through my role at the Moreton Bay Colleges in the Community Engagement Team.

We often discussed the school’s history, the current strategic direction, and both Mr and Mrs Waller were extremely supportive of my journey into politics. When I spoke to Mrs Waller yesterday to express my condolences, she told me that Mr Waller was very proud of my win of the seat of Wynnum Manly, and that meant as much as hearing it from my own parents. Mr Waller was a steadfast leader who dedicated his life to ensuring the success of Moreton Bay College and its students. His legacy will continue to inspire the college community for generations to come. Rest in peace, Mr Waller. You’ll be dearly missed. Thank you.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Further General Business?

Councillor KIM.

Councillor KIM: Thank you, Chair. I rise to report my travel to South Korea, where I stayed in Seoul for three nights at the tenth Global Korean Politicians’ Conference with the Korean Government on 20 to 23 August. The overseas Korean Cooperation Centre, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, helps organise this annual event with attendance from over 100 politicians of Korean heritage from all across the globe. I was invited by the Consulate of the Republic of Korea in Brisbane, whose office actually overlooks City Hall in Brisbane. I’ve had the pleasure of meeting and establishing a positive relationship with the consulate at various community events in Brisbane, such as the Korean Festival organised by the Korean Society in Queensland in King George Square last month.

The Ariehrang Queensland Showcase just this weekend in Queen Street Mall, drawing in large crowds for some epic timber board breaking demonstrating Taekwondo and traditional Korean performances, where I was joined by Peter Russo, MP (Member of Parliament), and Councillor Steven HUANG. I was invited to this conference by the Korean Consulate as the first Korean-Australian elected to office in Brisbane. In my tabled document, you’ll also find my full day to day itinerary on page four with locations. Most of the conference was held in Seoul Yeouido at a hotel function room near where the National Assembly Building and several broadcasting companies operate, but also where my dad actually grew up before he moved to Brisbane with my grandparents in the late 1980s.

The park redeveloped after my dad moved to Brisbane, where I stayed, but I didn’t get the time to walk over. It’s called Yeouido Park, consisting of an ecological forest, cultural arena, lovely biplanes and beautiful lawns. In 1924 it was actually the first airport in the country under Japanese colonial rule. A coup followed, and then this was actually turned into a large asphalt strip in the 1970s, where locals used to ride their bikes and skate on it. There’s historical significance that local infrastructure has no matter where you are in the world, and the fact that it could have a deeply complex one while servicing the local community is sure a takeaway. I wanted to recognise especially that regardless of shared cultural heritage, there was a strong diversity of political views at the forum and representatives from all levels of government.

Those from California, Texas and America, not all from the same party as LBJ (Lyndon B. Johnson), Canada, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Argentina and Sydney, too. It was interesting to hear about the Democrat convention from those in the party as it was happening the same time as this conference. I wish my friends good luck in the upcoming election, and it’s one of the few times I’ll be siding for the blue team. While we were brought together by shared cultural heritage, like eating kimchi at nearly every meal after a long day of lectures, we were also proud of the country we call home. It was amazing to see the number of people whose mother tongue was English, Spanish, Russian, Japanese, and sometimes the only way for us to communicate with each other was via Korean or the translator.

Many were also of the first elected of Korean heritage back at home, but the conference actually wasn’t that tokenistic. It was really about sharing our experiences in a practical way, like the goals on our Council website for our sister cities. Daejeon, Korea is one of Brisbane’s current sister cities, and I look forward to expanding our relationship on behalf of Brisbane City Council to more cities and regions in Korea. There’s a lot we can learn from, which I’ll revisit later, and resources we can share as Brisbane’s population scales leading up to the Olympics. I do have a long list of thoughts for Brisbane, particularly after crossing the 20-kilometre Incheon Bridge over the Han River to reach the airport or the accessibility-friendly public toilets with automatic doors in Seoul’s biggest streets, accommodating also for Korea’s ageing population.

All the emergency bells in toilets that detect abnormal noise, including screaming, breaking glass or explosions, that automatically phone the police. It was interesting to learn also about the way the government also accommodates for North Korean defectors and the challenges surrounding this. Last week, Melbourne City Council just launched their first Korea Town, following Sydney and Ryde Council. While there are many things we argued about in the Council Chamber today, I’d like to think that we should end on a matter that we can all agree on. So, I’d like to conclude by tabling my list of Brisbane’s top five Korean barbecues and restaurants, as suggestions for where the Brisbane City Council can begin their research and follow our Korean diaspora.

So, the first is Daon Korean restaurant in Calamvale. Midam Korean Charcoal Barbecue in Sunnybank Hills, Ye Dang in Sunnybank, Noonane in Sunnybank, and the Charcoal BBQ House in Runcorn. So, I look forward to discussing this with Councillor Kim MARX. I propose an investigatory Committee, given we’ve just established an ethics one, where we all go out to explore. Just this weekend, I celebrated my cousin’s baptism and 40th anniversary of our Korean Presbyterian Church, with around 1,000 people in attendance, and maybe in the future, we’ll see a Korea Town, too. But ultimately, Brisbane is the best place to live and we’re lucky for our shared cultures. Thank you, everyone.

Deputy Chair: Further General Business?

Councillor CHONG WAH.

Councillor CHONG WAH: Thank you, Chair. I rise to speak on the behaviour of this Schrinner Council and on State-facilitated developments. On the very first day of this 2024 Council, I will not forget the Mayor launching into an incredibly malicious attack in these Chambers, devoting much of his speech to demonising the Greens and attacking a former Councillor. It was shocking and saddening to hear. I genuinely thought the first day of a new Council would hold some goodwill to each other, that a Mayor elected for a second term would seek to find cooperation and genuine dialogue with all Members elected to these Chambers, but that was not the case. In my first five months, I’ve continued to see a style of personal attacks by this Schrinner-led Council—it is more personal than issue-based—culminating in attacks on my colleague, Councillor MASSEY, last week and today.

When the Schrinner Council are misusing their majority to attack individual Councillors, when they are unwilling to hear criticism of their management of Brisbane City, when they start changing the laws that govern the democratic process with an aim to reducing oversight, transparency, and debate, then it is not hard to see that these are signs of an increasingly autocratic party that has been in power for far too long. It is not surprising that 20 years in power breeds contempt of others and a contempt of our democracy.

I would also like to speak on the abuse of power in undermining the planning system of Queensland and in Brisbane. We are now seeing the first State-facilitated developments being notified under that Housing Availability and Affordability Bill 2023. We have seen the first 12 developments being notified in Queensland, with one in Milton, in my ward. This development, at 29-33 Manning Street, Milton, has a very chequered and infamous past already. There are plenty of media stories you can find out about long-term renters losing their homes.

A development tied up in legal arguments was finally approved by Brisbane City Council through a legal loophole. However, successfully manipulating the Brisbane planning system wasn’t good enough. Now, this new State Labor autocratic legislation provides even greater ways of circumventing the planning system, and even greater profit margins. The developer has jumped on that bandwagon, has of course expanded their approved 20-storey, 130 units, to a 305‑unit development.

Unfortunately, the State Government won’t even tell us how high this building will be. By the number of units, my guess is that the developer has now managed to bump their 20-storey building up to possibly 40 storeys. Millions of dollars of profit will be rolling in. The ironic thing is that this Council did whatever it could to bypass the planning system with the inappropriate use of the Temporary Local Planning Instrument (TLPI) with the Kurilpa TLPI. Well, the State Government has now one-upped the Council and has completely sidelined the city planning system. Under a State-facilitated development, the State Government doesn’t even tell the Council how high the buildings will be. This is exactly what land-banking developers have dreamed of.

The Brisbane City Council are a lame duck in their own planning system. Developers paying virtually no infrastructure charges, building anywhere they want, as high as they want, and deed planning—well, what even is that anymore? Yes, they technically have to provide 15% affordable housing, using a definition of affordable many industry experts are very concerned about. So, for 15% affordable housing, they get to build anywhere at any height and at any time they want. In Paris and in London and many other cities, developers must provide inclusionary, affordable housing in their development and they still have to abide by the planning system.

It’s called mandatory inclusionary zoning. While many cities around the world are embracing this, it seems in Australia only the Greens have adopted these progressive policies. In Queensland and Brisbane, for a little affordable housing, Labor and the LNP will give them anything they want because that’s what they do for our developer mates here. Well, it’s not this LNP Council’s fault, is it? This is clearly driven by a Labor State Government and a Federal Labor agenda, but we all saw the Council-funded adverts calling on the Queensland Government to provide more funding for buses. What did the LNP Council do to fight for control of our planning system? Well, they wrote a submission.

Deputy Chair: Further General Business?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thanks, Deputy Chair. I rise to speak on five items. The Kangaroo Point action group, public traction action group, Project Hope for Sudan, the Filipino‑Australian Foundation of Queensland, the Serbian Festival, and also Kurilpa Derby. Firstly, I want to thank the Kangaroo Point action group, who meets every month, usually, on a Wednesday morning. I joined them last Wednesday morning. As always, it is great to work with this amazingly active group, who are passionately advocating for Kangaroo Point to have sufficient, frequent and accessible public transport. They, residents across Kangaroo Point and myself know, it’s time for Kangaroo Point to have a CityCat stop, and it’s time for Kangaroo Point to have increased bus services.

Second item, Project Hope for Sudan, had their fundraising dinner at Food Connect Shed this weekend. The organisation supports children and young people in South Sudan who have been orphaned or extremely disadvantaged. I’ve been a proud supporter of this local organisation and the committee since 2022. The event raised over $7,785. Congratulations to the committee and to the Chair, Rosa. If you’d like to contribute to this amazing local organisation, please check out Project Hope for Sudan online.

The Filipino-Australian Foundation of Queensland had their coronation and gala dinner this weekend also. An amazing night at SunPAC in Sunnybank, which acknowledges the great charity contributions of Filipinos calling Brisbane and Queensland home. Hundreds of people were there. It was such a wonderful evening. It was such a wonderful evening, I actually had difficulties getting my mother off the dancefloor, because I needed to go home. I want to congratulate Ivy, who was crowned miss charity 2024. You see, part of the event is actually about the contributions of Filipino people and their charity projects, which return funding back to some of their villages or their homes, or previous homes in the Philippines. I’d like to congratulate Tita Sicilia and the board for an amazing event. I’m looking forward to seeing you all soon, and again, to everyone that was there, I really appreciate us sharing our language together.

On Sunday, Dutton Park State School hosted the Serbian festival, delivered by St Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church of Woolloongabba, an incredible event that showcased Serbian culture through food, dance and song. Also, I want to give a quick shout-out, because there were an incredible amount of volunteers including some people that work with us here in Chambers. You know who you are. Thank you for volunteering. The cabbage salad was fantastic. I want to thank Father Milos, Ivan, and Biljana, the President of the committee, for their warmest welcome. We’ll be seeing each other very soon, December, I believe, if not beforehand.

Lastly, I want to congratulate and spend some time talking about the Kurilpa Derby. Festivals like the Kurilpa Derby are far and few in between. A local street party in the middle of West End celebrating the weirdness of life across two or more wheels. An event that celebrates community creative expression and what it means to be a community on the ground at a grassroots level together. Some numbers about the Derby.

Fifteen local business supporters, seven sponsors, 85 performers, 30-plus volunteers, 3,000-plus punters, plus their dogs. Fifteen-plus floats, two boats, over 100 scooters and bikes, 30-plus skateboards, 10 hours of programming, 35 meetings, and also 300-plus hours of *pro bono* volunteer work. Apart from serving up a barbecue for punters, I was also there to marshal the parade, and also, do more consultation around Davies Park. This event is only possible because of the residents who show up and support it each year through attendance and volunteering. A huge congratulations to the West End Community Association, who deliver the Derby with no pay but with love. Thanks, fam. Across this week, I want to thank all the amazing people at these festivals and events for all their support. I’ve never felt more energised to be city wide.

Councillor DIXON: Point of order, Chair.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| --- |
| **155/2024-25**  It was resolved on the motion of Councillor Julia DIXON, seconded by Councillor Alex GIVNEY, 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 6.30pm. |

**Upon resumption:**

Deputy Chair: Further General Business?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair, thank you, Deputy Chair, sorry. I rise to speak on a couple of items. One is an event coming up on Saturday and a reflection on some Council assets. Firstly, I just want to say that the Children’s Moon Festival is on at Inala, a Vietnamese Moon Festival, the children’s festival, coming up this Saturday, starting at about five o’clock. I mean that’s the formal stuff and it’ll be a who’s who that will be there, of course, with the upcoming State election of course, everyone will want to get a couple of photographs, which is fair enough and the Vietnamese community will appreciate everyone coming along. The Vietnamese chapter, under Dr Cuong Bui has been doing a fantastic job over the many years, both with the Moon Festival and of course the Tet festival as well. everyone will be in their Vietnamese costumes, costume dress I should say and including me. That’s a sight I’ll tell you. I hope I can still get it in. Anyways, we’ll find out.

Then also want to reflect on some Council asset or a Council asset that actually left me for a short period of time back in the 2016-17 financial year. There was some banner poles in front of the lake stage.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: I’ll tell you in a minute, through the Chair.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: So, what happened was, someone reported that one of the uprights, the banner pole had disappeared. The other one was still there and the banner that was actually on the pole had sort of been neatly folded up and laid on the ground, so I was told at the time. I had a call from Councillor Owen-Taylor at the time, who was the new Councillor for the Calamvale Ward. It used to be Parkinson of course and she said that I’ve taken one of your banner poles because one of my banner poles got destroyed and I need it for an upcoming event, so I’ve just taken it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: I thought, I was a new Councillor, so what did I know, you know? So, we made contact with or sent an email, I should say, to the regional manager at the time and pointed out that this had occurred. I didn’t think it was right and could he look into it and investigate. Well, he came back to me pretty quickly and said, it will be returned to you, it should not have happened, she did note it and back within one day it was back up, as it should be. So clearly you can’t just move assets around at a Councillor’s whim.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: The regional manager didn’t even know it had happened, so I don’t know actually how it happened, when he didn’t know it happened, so I’ll just leave that one, because I don’t really know what happened there. But when Emily KIM told me about her problem with some assets in her office, I thought, yes, she’s got form and she’s continued on and that’s what’s happened. It’ll be interesting to find out when you follow up that, either with the OIA or the CCC or whatever just to see what the outcome of that is because you can’t just, you know, move assets around at a whim because you had a problem, it was damaged and you’re just going to take one from another ward. Just doesn’t seem morally right, let alone—it could be legally, I don’t know, but it’s certainly not morally right. To her credit, she just rang me up and told me the way it was. So wasn’t like she was hiding behind anything, but I just thought it was wrong and I found out it was wrong and the regional manager sorted it out and it was all put back into place.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Sorry?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, well that’s—Outcomes Manager now. Anyways, I just thought I would interject that into the debate. Thank you, Deputy Chair.

Deputy Chair: Any further General Business?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I’ll go, okay, thank you. Thank you Councillor JOHNSTON. Mr Chairperson, I rise to speak about my disappointment with the Administration and with Council at the moment and I think the point that Councillor CASSIDY was making earlier in the report that this Council is not meeting its targets, not delivering for residents is what I’m inundated with in my ward office. I am finding that in my ward office, after being there 22 years, that we are just seeing this constant churning in the office about people trying to find out what’s going on, why Council isn’t delivering, what’s the hold up, why aren’t we getting action, you know, what is Council doing. And literally we are spending all our time just going over and over this thrashing inadequacy of Council and it just keeps going. You speak to executives, you speak to senior managers, you’d speak to staff, you try and sort it out and yet this problem just keeps going and going and going.

I don’t know, you see it in PPI, in PSO, I see it in NEWS not talking to PPI and PSO and PSO and PPI saying to me, wow we can’t get them to listen to us. We can’t get them to talk to us. We can’t get them—let’s find a way round them, how do we get around these people? How do we make things happen for residents even though we can’t get the policy area of Council to respond? It’s in leasing, it’s in our community facilities, it’s in CARS. Everywhere we go is dysfunctional. Everywhere I touch and I try and get a resolution to, there’s no resolution to it, it’s just dysfunctional. It’s just residents are sick of it. I’m embarrassed by it because at one stage, yes you had an LNP majority, but they’re actually interested in governing. At the moment, they’ve stepped back from governing and they go, run your own show, we’ll be over here and we’ll just be elite. We’re just going to be elite and love our privilege and you guys run the show and there’s no connection between what’s happening and their governing. It’s a real failure. Staff are lost and Council is lost and the residents of Brisbane lose out.

So, I’ll just give you these few examples and table them. The corner of Tuckett and Lillian Avenue, Salisbury, it’s all crumbling, put through, trying to get action. Corner of Days Avenue and Kingsley Parade, the footpath is all crumbling, it’s been patched up, patched up and yet it’s been left there, no action. What I’m getting is, oh look it can take a year for our construction team to actually come back and do this job. 64 Days Avenue, which is right next door to the issue I just raised, we had a Council officer go out there, five metres away is another problem, but they just looked at this problem because ‘I’m just paid to look at this problem, I don’t look at that problem.’ We just have no customer service. We have staff are disinterested, they want to do their best, but this organisation does not value the outcomes they’re producing.

We have equipment left all over the ward and all over the city just piled up and I collect it and pile it up, pile up caps, pile up equipment for collection because our staff just leave it. It is, what is happening out there at the moment and I’ve raised this before and I was hoping there would be some improvements, unfortunately all I hear is the only improvement that’s going to happen is we’re going to go through another restructure. What? We’re going to send our Council staff who are unhappy that we can’t keep through another restructure because we stuffed up the last restructure. What I’m hearing is it’s not just me who’s raising these issues, it’s Councillors on that side and they complain about it and they say, oh this is bad, it’s not working, how do we get outcomes for our officers and you know what happens? They don’t speak up in their party room, crickets. They just sit there because they’re happy with the pay and happy with the privilege of being in a majority but they’re not prepared to speak up. You need to speak up so we get better outcomes for our residents.

Deputy Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS, your time has expired.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I will table this.

Deputy Chair: Further General Business?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise to speak on two items. Firstly, the delegation for the appointment of the CEO, Dr Kerrie Freeman and secondly, the petition to purchase parkland in Graceville on the former Beth Eden site. Firstly, I will just say, with respect to the earlier item, the E&C report that came through Council, we were given less than a day’s notice to the appointment of the CEO. I think that this is one of the most fundamental failures of good governance in this city, that the CEO’s appointment is not being done in an open and transparent way. Now this is no reflection on Dr Freeman. This is a direct result of the actions of the LORD MAYOR of Brisbane City Council, Adrian SCHRINNER and that’s—my comments reflect upon his actions.

Now there are two things of concern with what has happened. Firstly, as we’ve heard, the recruitment process has been done solely by the LNP. There weren’t even any other senior Council officers involved in the process, so the acting CEO didn’t even sit on the panel. Now it is an outrageous decision that three or four LNP Councillors think they are in the best position to determine who should be the CEO of Brisbane City Council. That is a decision that should be made by the full Council and as they have done in previously appointments with Colin Jensen, the decision today was not to appoint Dr Freeman, the decision was to delegate the appointment of Dr Freeman to the LORD MAYOR who will enter into arrangements and terms that are agreeable to the LORD MAYOR, to the LORD MAYOR. We don’t know what they’re going to be. The LORD MAYOR could be writing a clause in there saying, ‘don’t ever speak to the Labor Party, don’t—those Greens are bad’. The whole process has been done by the LNP for the LNP in secret and it is not transparent and accountable to the people of Brisbane.

Now into this environment comes Dr Kerrie Freeman and—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes. I feel sorry for her because I’m sure she’s been sold a rosy picture of this city by the LNP Councillors who have spoken to her, who have driven our Council into the ground. It is bad governance the way in which the LORD MAYOR and the LNP Councillors involved in this process have handled it, even down to the fact that apparently it was announced to the media before we were told, so you’ve got people in South Australia commenting on it before we even know about it. So, the way in which this has been done is appalling, it does not serve the interests of democracy or good governance, it has not been transparent or accountable and we can have no confidence in the process because of the secret way in which the LORD MAYOR has conducted it.

Secondly, I just want to speak briefly about one of the petitions. Because of the LNP’s changes to the Meetings Local Law, they guillotined debate today so that we did not get to debate motions in the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee. I moved a motion to extend the meeting for an hour so we would have the opportunity to debate those petitions and the LNP Councillors voted against that. The petition before us today was to purchase either part or all of the parkland at Bank Road, Graceville, which was a former nursing home, that has been purchased by Retire Australia and a 120-bed retirement village and nursing home has been proposed on the site.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: They are retaining the heritage buildings, but they want to demolish 90% of the trees on the site.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Ninety per cent. Now in this part of Graceville, Council has identified in the LGIP that there is a shortage of parkland in Graceville. In the LGIP put out for public consultation, Council recommended two houses, houses people live in, be acquired in future for parkland. What Council could have done was purchase part or conditioned part of this land for parkland.

Deputy Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: It’s a lost opportunity.

Deputy Chair: Any further General Business?

Well that concludes the General Business.

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTIONS:

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

### CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADJOURNED MOTION – PINE ROAD, ARCHERFIELD ROAD AND AZALEA STREET INTERSECTION UPGRADE, RICHLANDS

Deputy Chair: Now we are continuing to debate on adjourned motion. Councillors, we now resume debate on to the adjourned motion from the meeting of 3 September 2024, moved by Councillor STRUNK, seconded by Councillor CASSIDY that Council amends that 2024-25 Council Budget to include funding to upgrade the intersection of Pine Road, Archerfield Road and Azalea Street, Richlands, with traffic signals during this current financial year. Is there any further debate?

Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I rise this evening to move an amendment to this motion to make it factually accurate. Mr Deputy Chair, I’d like to replace the words, amends, with the words, notes, replace the words, to include, with, includes, add the words, design the, between the words, to and upgrade, change the words, the, to to, after the upgrade, and add the words at the end of the sentence, progress a commitment made by the LORD MAYOR in the 2024 Council election.

So in total, the amendment should read, Council notes that the 2024-25 Council Budget includes funding to design the upgrade to the intersection of Pine Road, Archerfield Road and Azalea Streets, Richlands, with traffic signals during this current financial year, progressing a commitment made by the LORD MAYOR in the 2024 election.

This amendment is required to make the motion factually correct as this project has funding—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

Councillor TOOMEY: —allocated in the budget already as detailed—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Councillor TOOMEY: —in the Suburban Works program—

Deputy Chair: Councillor TOOMEY, point of order.

Councillor TOOMEY: —in the 2024-25—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Councillor TOOMEY, point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Is Councillor TOOMEY—he seems to be making a speech, where is the amendment and has the amendment been seconded? He’s still reading the amendment?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, Mr Deputy Chairman—

Deputy Chair: Yes, I am about to request a copy.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —this amendment clearly is completely contradictory to the original motion. It is not in the terms of order of the original motion and you should rule it out of order as not complying with the Meetings Local Law.

Deputy Chair: I will seek advice.

Councillor WINES: Point of order, Mr Chair, when you’re ready.

Deputy Chair: Motion in writing first.

Councillor TOOMEY: I do have it here, Mr Deputy Chair, I was waiting for a seconder when I finish reading the motion.

Deputy Chair: Yes, okay. Well read the motion, then second it and I’ll have a look at the written motion.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. Can I continue finishing the amendment?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: I’m happy to start again. Start again, Mr Deputy Chair?

Deputy Chair: Please continue.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: Fair enough, thank you. Thank you, I’ll take the interjection, thank you Chamber for your indulgence.

**Motion for amendment to motion**

**156/2024-25**

It was moved by Councillor Steven TOOMEY, 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:

*Council notes the 2024/25 Council Budget includes funding to design the upgrade to the intersection of Pine Road, Archerfield Road, and Azalea Street Richlands with traffic signals during this current financial year, progressing a commitment made by the Lord Mayor in the 2024 Council election.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order. Point of order.

Councillor TOOMEY: Point of order, Mr Chairman.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Hang on.

Councillor TOOMEY: This is—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Hello.

Councillor TOOMEY: This is the second time Councillor JOHNSTON has interrupted me reading this motion.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Yes, you stood up. What’s your point of order?

Councillor JOHNSTON: Mr Deputy Chair, firstly, I’ve been given an amended motion, not an amendment. My understanding is amendments have to be in writing. This is a completely different amended motion so we have not been provided with an amendment, number one. Then number two, Councillor TOOMEY continues to speak about things that are not even in his revised amended motion. So I would say we’ve not been given the proper paperwork and two, we—it’s not in the terms of the original motion.

Deputy Chair: Well that motion has been hand written and so I accept it is a proper motion.

So Councillor TOOMEY, please continue.

Councillor STRUNK: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Listen, as the mover of the original motion, the community called for it to be upgraded in this financial year, not be designed, so it is totally not—it’s unacceptable.

Councillor WINES: Point or order, Mr Chair. Council cannot—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Sorry.

Councillor WINES: No, no, I must object.

Deputy Chair: Councillor WINES, I am dealing with this point of order first.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Councillor STRUNK: I’m still on my feet.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor WINES: Mr Chair, point of order. Councillor JOHNSTON—

Councillor STRUNK: I’m still on my feet.

Councillor WINES: No, Councillor JOHNSTON just screamed ‘sit down’ at me, something she would not tolerate from—

Councillor STRUNK: I am still on my feet with my point of order.

Councillor WINES: —any person.

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

Councillor WINES: Completely unreasonable.

Deputy Chair: Councillors.

Councillor WINES, please let me deal one by one.

Councillor WINES: Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you, Chair. Listen, this is totally—it’s just totally different than the original motion calling for it to be upgraded this financial year. It doesn’t say in my motion for design.

Deputy Chair: Yes, Councillor STRUNK—

Councillor STRUNK: Nothing to do with design.

Deputy Chair: Yes, I am going to hear—

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair.

Deputy Chair: —from Councillor TOOMEY. Let Councillor TOOMEY finish his—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: You are presiding over the meeting, it is your responsibility to address whether or not this is a valid amendment, it’s not Councillor TOOMEY’s and, Mr Deputy Chairman, Councillor STRUNK and I have both raised concerns, mine are even stronger, this is a replacement motion. You’re substituting one motion for another which is not what amendments are about. So Councillor STRUNK has raised a valid point of order and you need to address it. It’s not a matter for Councillor TOOMEY to debate.

Deputy Chair: Okay, well I believe he retains the original identity of the motion and I am content to hear Councillor TOOMEY’s argument along with. Thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order—

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —Mr Deputy Chair.

**Procedural motion – Motion of dissent**

**157/2024-25**

Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON moved, seconded by Councillor Charles STRUNK, that the Deputy Chair’s ruling be dissented from.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 11 - Councillors Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

Deputy Chair: Councillor TOOMEY, to the amendment motion.

Councillor TOOMEY Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. I will finish moving my amendment by saying that in particular case, if this motion is not amended, the original motion would become null and void because it speaks—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: Hang on a second, Councillor GRIFFITHS, through you, Deputy Chair, because it speaks to something that’s happened in the past. So, within the suburban budget, there is a budget allocation for this intersection, so this amendment corrects that motion. Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate on the amended motion?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Oh gosh, yes. Thank you, Deputy Chair. Well it’s really interesting, Deputy Chair, that Councillor TOOMEY moved this other motion, which as he just said, it’s already in the budget for design and that’s not what we need. We need it to be done, not just designed.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: And that’s what my motion was about, right? Now they had till the end of the financial year to do that, or to at least start doing it, right, doesn’t have to be completed, but you know, this intersection was a political promise by the LORD MAYOR, now he’s wanting to cover himself.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: So much so, so much so, that he advertised in the newsletter, after, of course, after the Council election, so he’s still advocating for just the design, right, in his newsletter. He then spent about $16,000 to $20,000 on that one to everyone in my ward and then he put out a half page in *The Lake News*. I’ve never seen, outside of a campaign period, I’ve never seen our LORD MAYOR advertise in *The Lake News*, ever. That’s another $700 of waste because what my constituents want is the thing to actually be built. There has been—this is the fourth lot of design money since 2017, the fourth one, totalling $1.7 million. Now I tell you what, if it happened din your ward—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: You probably wouldn’t say anything because you’d probably then get ousted from your party like poor Councillor JOHNSTON did sticking up for her community.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: But honestly, this is just an unbelievable state of affairs that this intersection has had 38 accidents in the last five years, more than any other intersection in Brisbane, and that is the reported accidents and the police told me that probably more than half were not reported. So, this is probably 70 or 80 accidents over the last five years. There has been two accidents over the last week. It’s just an appalling set of affairs here that an intersection that has been so neglected, right, from an upgrade, just by throwing design money at it, right and then not going to the next step and actually upgrading it, right, has had to—we’ve had Margie Nightingale, the current Member for Inala, right, when she was door knocking, this was the number one issue, so she decided to do a petition to try to get the LORD MAYOR to do something now, not 12 months from now or two years from now, right. That’s what this motion that Councillor TOOMEY just moved, right, the amended motion. It was just for design. And that’s not what the residents want and that’s why I moved the local motion, notified motion, as the LORD MAYOR commanded, it’s got to be local or it doesn’t count, right? So, I went along with it and there’s another local one coming up a little bit later on.

So honestly, this was—it’s really hard to sort of explain the emotive issue—this is in my ward, right, this particular intersection has been a disaster right from the original design, probably decades and decades ago and it’s just gotten worse and worse with all the development that’s happened down Pine Road with all the townhouses and houses down Littleton Road and of course the industrial estate has been ramping up as well, they’ve been building more and more of industrial complexes that is the suburb, pretty much the suburb of Richlands now, right? So, it’s really important that this intersection be addressed now, not just throwing more design money. Yes, this is a substantial part of the money, $850,000, right? But we’ve now spent or will have spent $1.7 million since 2017 and what have we got? Nothing. We could have used all that money and probably have built it back in 2017 for $1.7 million, if you think about it, because things were a lot cheaper back then, as we keep being told.

So I just want to, I’ll finish my comments there and it’s just very disappointing that the LORD MAYOR, who promised this upgrade, right, to the residents back in the—during the campaign has really reneged on that.

Deputy Chair: Councillor STRUNK, your time has expired.

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Well, I’m glad some LNP Councillors bothered to show up after this dinner break this week, unlike last week, where they had to shut down the meeting, where the mover of the motion was sitting here and you said, Chair, that he wasn’t. He was here ready to debate this motion, but this LNP rabble couldn’t be bothered turning up and what do we have here tonight? The B team, the B team of the LNP.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Where’s the LORD MAYOR, the part-time Mayor’s gone, the so-called leader of the house—

Councillor TOOMEY: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Councillor CASSIDY: —has abandoned this place—

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, to the motion please.

Councillor CASSIDY: —and the court jester of the LNP is moving amendments.

Deputy Chair: Yes, point of order, Councillor TOOMEY:

Councillor TOOMEY: Councillor CASSIDY is not speaking to the amendment. Also, name calling is very, very low, Mr Deputy Chair, and in fact one would expect the Leader of the Opposition who berates this Chamber for doing such things—and I’m happy to accept his apology.

Deputy Chair: Noted. Councillor CASSIDY, please come back to the motion.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you. I didn’t understand a word he just said then, honestly, I don’t know what he was talking about, Chair.

Councillor TOOMEY: Point of order, Mr Deputy Chair. If Councillor CASSIDY did not understand it the first time, I take offence being called the court jester of the Chamber and I’m requesting that he withdraws that statement now.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, would you care to withdraw?

Councillor CASSIDY: This comes from a bloke who compared solar panels to toasted sandwiches just a couple of weeks ago, so I won’t withdraw that.

Deputy Chair: Please come back to—

Councillor CASSIDY: No, I won’t.

Deputy Chair: Okay.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, firstly, please come back to the report and secondly, please stop name calling, otherwise I will give you a warning.

Councillor CASSIDY: Oh right, yes. DEPUTY MAYOR gets away with it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, yes, no, okay, yes. So, this new motion that Councillor TOOMEY has moved here in this debate is saying no to the community, they’re saying no to people in the Forest Lake Ward who are desperately crying out for an upgrade to this intersection. Through you, Deputy Chair, I ask Councillor TOOMEY when did you last visit this intersection?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Oh, he jumped up pretty quick before, but he won’t now. I suspect the answer is never, never. I was there with Councillor STRUNK and Councillor COLLIER and Councillor KIM and Margie Nightingale, the State Member just a couple of months ago, not even a couple of months ago, about six weeks ago and we observed this intersection, how bad this intersection is, how dangerous this intersection is.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Thirty-eight incidents over that period that Councillor STRUNK talked about, does the LNP want someone to die?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Does Councillor TOOMEY want someone to die at this intersection before they will support some action immediately? Some action this year, which is what Councillor STRUNK’s motion called for. It’s not rocket science, it’s traffic engineering. We have traffic engineers in Council, god knows the LNP outsources a whole lot of work to external traffic engineers and designers as well, there are a lot of resources to design an intersection upgrade and this is the fourth lot of funding, Councillor STRUNK spoke about this last week, $1.7 million worth of design work now on this one single four-way intersection, is some sort of sick joke that we have the part-time LORD MAYOR announcing more design money this year and no action, no project, sends out, you know, sets part of the $1.3 million worth of advertising—no actually that’s on top of, that was just the Brisbetter advertising. On top of all that advertising, the LORD MAYOR is happy to send out all that junk mail and continue to break his promises to the people of Brisbane. If we were allowed to call him a liar, I would, but of course I can’t do that in the Council Chamber. But his actions point to that, point to that absolutely.

This is a dangerous intersection. There is a fairly simple fix. The LNP know that because they have designed it three times. They’re designing it a fourth time now and it was a very simple ask. The LNP clearly don’t support this. The LNP don’t support this, but instead of actually just standing up behind their convictions and saying—being honest and saying they’re just not going to support it, they decide to move this pathetic amendment to just note that they, like the lemmings they are, just support everything that the LORD MAYOR says and does, a morals-free zone, yes, that is the modern LNP here in Brisbane. They just simply don’t care. We certainly hope that there isn’t a fatality at this intersection while we see it designed for a fourth time under the LNP’s watch.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor TOOMEY, right of reply.

Oh sorry, okay, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Waiting to see if possibly the Infrastructure Chair, who is actually responsible for this area, who gets paid an extra $20,000 a year on top of his Chair’s salary might stand up and talk about an important road project in his portfolio. Instead he sends deputy do-little, Councillor TOOMEY, from the northside out to—

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order.

Councillor HOWARD: I ask that the Councillor refrain from name calling. This is ridiculous. We are all adults, act like it.

Deputy Chair: Yes, Councillor JOHNSTON, I find that language totally inappropriate, stop doing name calling like that.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I didn’t call anybody anti-Semitic or a grub or a groin rub, I mean all of those things are acceptable in this place and Councillor HOWARD has never questioned any of those issues, so I find her fake outrage to be confected. Now—

Councillor HOWARD: Point of order, Mr Deputy Chair.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, Councillor HOWARD.

Councillor HOWARD: The Councillor for Tennyson should grow up and debate properly.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor HOWARD: Neither is what anything that you’ve all been saying in the last five minutes.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor HOWARD, that is not a point of order.

But Councillor JOHNSTON, please, use proper language in this Council Chamber.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well, the LORD MAYOR, the DEPUTY MAYOR couldn’t be bothered to turn up, the Chairperson for Infrastructure is asleep or playing Wordle, oh no, he wouldn’t be that bright, is fiddling with his phone and they send out the Councillor for The Gap on the northside to do the heavy lifting, never been here, wouldn’t know where the southside is if he tried, moves an amendment to say we’re going to do what we’re already doing, which is essentially the opposite of what Councillor STRUNK has asked for and in listening to Councillor STRUNK’s speech, the fact that this has been designed four times, $1.7 million in funding, no doubt that were part of the budget cuts, the rollovers, I think it was 34 projects and was it $200 million or something of projects that were rolled over in Councillor WINES’— and Councillor TOOMEY’s, the Deputy—that were rolled over and this is the impact of the mismanagement of this LNP Administration, is that projects that they announce for funding year after year, after year, after year, never get delivered.

Well good on you, Councillor STRUNK for bringing in here a motion and trying for your residents to get this important safety project funded. You can go out there and tell your residents that the Councillor for The Gap on the northside stopped you from getting a road project delivered in your ward. I’m sure they’ll scratch their heads and go, why? And you’ll be able to go, because the rest of them are so gutless they couldn’t be bothered to debate your motion, they couldn’t be bothered to turn up, the Infrastructure Chair doesn’t care and you’re stuck having to deal with their amend—it’s a whole new motion, which does the opposite of what you say. So good on you for seeking action over inaction which is what they’re proposing.

What I’ll also note, just to wrap up, the LORD MAYOR and the DEPUTY MAYOR spent weeks saying this hour was to debate local issues for the Opposition and what’s the first thing they do when they can’t get their own way, is they turn it into a motion that they want, not what local Councillors want in Opposition.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes and communities. So, it is just an indictment, it is an indictment upon every backbench LNP Councillor that they are allowing themselves to be used, used when the Chairs of Council don’t have the guts to stand up and speak to these motions and do the work, they’re using you. They’re using you all. It’s such a joke. It reflects badly on the LNP and when Councillor STRUNK tells his people what Councillor TOOMEY has done, they will think this LNP is a joke. If you ever want Kylie to get re-elected, this is not the way to do it and I can tell you now, I’ll be happy to share it with my people too.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Councillor TOOMEY, right of reply.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. Can I thank all the Councillors on the opposite side of the Chamber for debate, for their contribution for debate. I particularly want to thank Councillor STRUNK for actually bringing a motion into this place in advocacy for his community. I think it’s quite—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: I think it’s quite honourable that Councillors do do that and there’s nothing should be taken away from him. Just on a few things—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: —that Councillor STRUNK said—Councillor JOHNSTON, I would appreciate a silence in the Chamber, please. You would have to be the most rudest individual I think I’ve ever met. Councillor STRUNK said during his speech that all he’s after, he just wants the project to start and this design is the start of that project, that’s why it is in the suburban enhancement section of the budget—sorry, the suburban—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: Oh, give me a break. It’s in the suburban—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: Suburban Works Program, thank you Councillor WINES. Thank you. Suburban Works program. Councillor CASSIDY, in his debate, mentioned that Councillor STRUNK was here last week in the Chamber to debate this motion and he was, he definitely was, but if this motion was so—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor TOOMEY: If this motion was so important to every member of the Labor Party, they would have all been here last week, but they weren’t. there was no one here.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: There was no one here.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor TOOMEY: There was no one here except Councillor STRUNK.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors. Councillors. Councillor TOOMEY is having the floor.

Councillor TOOMEY: There was no one here to debate this motion except for Councillor STRUNK. Councillor CASSIDY also mentioned the ham and cheese toastie. Mr Deputy Chair, I’m actually taking that as a badge of honour, because if Councillor CASSIDY actually remembers that, then my ability as an educator has hit at high success, so I thank you very much for that. Councillor JOHNSTON—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor TOOMEY, please.

Councillor COLLIER, I am warning you, stop calling out during other people’s speech.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair. Councillor JOHNSTON said that this motion stops the project. That is not what this motion does. This motion ensures that the project actually starts and it starts with the design and that’s what this motion is about. Thank you, Mr Deputy Chair.

Chair: I now put the amendment motion to the vote.

**Amendment put:**

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

Deputy Chair: So now we will debate on the amended motion.

Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor LANDERS: Thank you, Chair, and I rise to support this amended motion. As Councillor TOOMEY has pointed out, this was already promised prior to the election by the Lord Mayoral representative for Forest Lake, Kylie Gates.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor LANDERS: For Councillor STRUNK to put a motion—

Deputy Chair: Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor COLLIER, you are on caution.

Councillor LANDERS.

Councillor LANDERS: For Councillor STRUNK to put a motion forward prior to the budget and again now on something that is already promised is disingenuous. It was promised by the Schrinner Council, who is committed to better roads to tackle congestion. Our position has been well documented and our record proven.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor LANDERS: Councillor STRUNK even stated in his speech, when he moved the original motion and I will quote it, the LORD MAYOR in The Lake News and other places as well, but in *The Lake News* said that they are going to upgrade the intersection. It is there in black and white.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor LANDERS: It is this side—it is this side of the Chamber who has delivered again and again and not just—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillors, Councillor LANDERS has the floor.

Councillor LANDERS: And not just for Forest Lake, but all of Brisbane. In fact, councils beyond our jurisdiction are benefiting from our infrastructure upgrades. We have a plan for the future and to keep Brisbane moving, in fact there is more to come in Forest Lake to help ease congestion and get residents home sooner and safer. We hear those on the other side complaining, yet we didn’t see infrastructure plans and promises from them leading up to the election. They have no plans, they have no solutions. We are already delivering and currently underway is the removal of the Beams and Dorville Road roundabout in Carseldine, which recorded—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor LANDERS: —almost 30 accidents and this intersection of Forest Lake is next. As Councillor STRUNK himself said, in his speech and he acknowledges that it is already a Schrinner Council promise and it will be delivered. Councillor STRUNK’s motion was nothing more than a stunt and is wasting our time. We, on the other hand—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor LANDERS: Deputy Chair, we on the other hand are getting on with the job of delivering and keeping Brisbane moving and I support this amended motion.

Deputy Chair: Any further speaker?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, I will. Sorry Lucy, I know, I’m not letting that go. That’s outrageous. So, the amended motion has passed because the LNP have the numbers no matter what. Now the Chairperson of Council, who is even further away from this area than Councillor TOOMEY, who represents the area of Bracken Ridge, has stood up and said the local Councillor, who is committed to seeing a road project delivered in his ward, not just promised, but delivered, is—it’s a stunt and it’s a joke. Right? It’s ridiculous that Councillor Sandy LANDERS, who has nothing to do with this, has stood up and—never been there for sure, has stood up and criticised Councillor STRUNK for moving a motion to have an intersection, a dangerous intersection in his ward fixed. What does the LNP do? They do the opposite of what the motion says and says, we’ll just do design, the same design that’s been promised year after year, after year, and not delivered and we know that because Councillor WINES cannot manage his portfolio. Thirty-four projects last year not delivered and rolled over and Councillor LANDERS just stands up and says, we will deliver on our promises.

Well clearly this LNP Administration cannot do that. Their track record says they cannot do it and I understand why Councillor STRUNK is fighting for his community and I think it is an appalling reflection upon the LNP that they send out two far northside Councillors to criticise Councillor STRUNK for standing up for his residents on the southside. Shame on you.

Deputy Chair: Any further debate?

Now I put the motion to the vote.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 11 - Councillors Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sandy LANDERS, Danita PARRY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES and Penny WOLFF.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Emily KIM, Charles STRUNK and Nicole JOHNSTON.

### CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADJOURNED MOTION – BULIMBA MEMORIAL PARK UPGRADE

*At that time, 8.23pm, the Chair resumed the Chair.*

Chair: Councillors, we now resume debate on the adjourned motion for the meeting of 3 September 2024 moved by Councillor COLLIER and seconded by Councillor CASSIDY, that Council amends the 2024-25 Council Budget to commit funding to an upgrade of the playground in Bulimba Memorial Park during this current financial year.

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Yes, thanks very much, Chair, and it was only two weeks ago that I presented a petition in this place with nearly 300 signatures, calling on Council to deliver an upgrade for the beautiful Bulimba Memorial Park’s playground. I have spoken in this place a number of times about this beautiful, iconic park. It’s home to the mighty Southside Eagles Soccer Club with around 1,000 families playing during soccer season and cricket in the summer months, it’s host to iconic community events like Hocus Pocus and Blues on Bulimba, both of which are happening next month. It’s also an important part of history, recognised on the Queensland Heritage Register in 1992 due to its significance as a First World War memorial park. When you consider the young families who enjoy the park now in the context of the memorial and the park’s history, I think it’s a really important part of connecting our past to our future.

I can’t tell you, Chair, how many times people who are new to the area come and tell me how amazing they think this park is and I know people like my friends and I who grew up in this area have so many special memories connected to this really important place. As Brisbane City Council, we have the responsibility and the privilege of being custodians to amazing public and natural spaces across Brisbane. We have the opportunity to help families create lasting memories when we look after these places, places that host birthday parties, maternity leave meetups, your kids’ soccer games, walking through the 100-plus-year-old fig trees as the sun is coming up.

So, when my community was informed that one of the trees near the playground was in poor health and the playground would need to be partially closed earlier this year, many people were pretty disappointed and I understand why. According to Council’s own figures, over 1,000 families use this playground every week. When Council told me that the best solution with the limited funds available to them was to simply relocate existing 16-year-old playground equipment elsewhere in the footprint, I didn’t think that that was going to be a great outcome for my community. Other Councillors in this place may recall my ask to the LORD MAYOR prior to the budget, and I thought it was a reasonable one, to co‑fund an upgrade with me. I have signed the form, community consultation is underway and there will be a contribution from the Morningside Ward Suburban Enhancement Fund. So, if the LORD MAYOR could make some funding available in the Council budget to contribute to playgrounds like he does elsewhere in the city, that is what this motion is calling on.

This project is going to be significant, it’s not your standard playground upgrade. So, if we’re going to get the best outcome for the community, we would work to deliver an upgrade together. I’d be willing to put politics aside, LORD MAYOR, I’ve—he’s not here, but I have said a few months ago I would invite the LORD MAYOR to cut the ribbon if he was willing to contribute some of the funds. Yet time and time again we see the priorities of this LORD MAYOR and this LNP regime on full display. The LORD MAYOR who, under the City of Brisbane Act, has the responsibility to prepare and deliver the budget, has made a decision to not support this upgrade now three times. I moved a motion in this place prior to the budget which the LNP did not support, I submitted in my budget submission on behalf of my community, my community deserves better than no, no, no from this LNP LORD MAYOR and his team.

The LORD MAYOR is happy to spend $90,000 on a tiny bikeway extensions opening party, over $120,000 to send LNP politicians to Paris, millions and millions and millions of dollars on advertising the LORD MAYOR in expensive mailouts but can’t find the money to fund the basics. The LORD MAYOR can’t find the money for important projects in Morningside Ward, like playground upgrades and safety improvements at intersections where school children get hit by cars. I think that’s wrong and I urge the LORD MAYOR and the LNP Council, sorry, the LNP regime, to rethink their priorities.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Madam Chairman. Given from what we’ve just heard from Councillor COLLIER that she said she has signed her SEF form, I would like to move an amendment.

**Motion for amendment to motion**

**158/2024-25**

It was moved by Councillor Steven TOOMEY, 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:

*Council notes the 2024/25 Council Budget has provided funding for an upgrade of the playground in Bulimba Memorial Park during this current financial year, from the Suburban Enhancement Fund for Morningside Ward.*

Chair: Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Madam Chairman. One of the best parts of our job is to actually deliver playground infrastructure for our ward and part of that is done through the Suburban Enhancement Fund. I’m quite fortunate, I have a wonderful outcome manager that helps me deliver those projects through the Suburban Enhancement Fund and I know with Councillor COLLIER, now that she has signed her form, that she is going to enjoy a lot of engagement with her community in delivering a project that they are seeking for their, for her community. Madam Chairman, given that Councillor COLLIER—again, I say—has admitted that she has signed the form, I’ll leave the motion as it is and leave the debate for the rest of the Chamber.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Thanks very much, Chair. Through you, Councillor TOOMEY clearly doesn’t listen when I speak in this place because I’ve made a very reasonable and compelling argument about what I’m doing, so I guess the amended motion will now just acknowledge that I, alone, as the local Councillor and the only person who gives two stuffs about the Morningside Ward community and that the LORD MAYOR could not even be bothered to have a reasonable discussion and an argument or a debate in this place about why he couldn’t possibly make some funds available from—I don’t know—potentially the millions and millions and millions of dollars that this Council spends every single year on advertising.

So, maybe I should be thanking Councillor TOOMEY because he’s pointed out a very real issue, which is that the LORD MAYOR and his LNP regime are solely focused on pet projects and self-promotion and it is only local Councillors on this side of the Chamber who are willing to come into this place, make the LNP Council put their track record on the record here. I will go back to my community, through you, Chair, and tell—and Councillor TOOMEY, I will tell them what you’ve done tonight and how you’ve recognised my hard work as a community champion and a local advocate for the area that I grew up in. I’m not sure if you’ve—any LNP Councillors—maybe a couple have visited Oxford Street recently. The Morningside Ward community is—yes, sorry—I’m very biased, but it is the best community in Brisbane, and it deserves so much better from this LNP Council.

The LNP Council—you are in the majority. You control the purse strings. I must agree with Councillor TOOMEY in the fact that the Suburban Enhancement Fund is an amazing opportunity to deliver very real upgrades and set your priorities as a local Councillor, so I will continue to work alongside my community and note that the LORD MAYOR has no interest in doing that.

Chair: Further speakers? Councillor—

Councillor DIXON: Point of order, Chair.

**Procedural motion - Motion that the amendment be now put**

**159/2024-25**

Councillor Julia DIXON moved, seconded by Councillor Lisa ATWOOD, that the amendment be now put.

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

Chair: We’ll now put the motion.

All those in favour, say, aye—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Sorry. Councillor TOOMEY does have a right of reply.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Madam Deputy Chair. As I said before, the Suburban Enhancement Fund is a great mechanism for Councillors to deliver projects for their ward and engage with their community, and also seeking great input and feedback from our outcome managers. I would—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: One moment, please, Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor COLLIER, you have failed to comply with the request to take remedial action for calling out across the Chamber while other Councillors are on their feet so I hereby warn you in accordance with section 21(6) of the *Meetings Local Law 2001*, that failing to comply with the request may result in an order being issued.

Councillor TOOMEY.

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I will finish up by saying the LORD MAYOR does supply the Suburban Enhancement Fund to all Councillors in this place for each of our wards and it is our responsibility to spend that accordingly with our priorities, as Councillor COLLIER said. I will finally finish by saying I’m very happy for Councillor COLLIER to go back to her community and toot her own horn about all the good things that she’s doing. I think it’s one thing that the Morningside Ward deserves. Thank you.

Chair: We will now put the amendment to the vote.

**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: So, that now becomes the substantive motion.

Further speakers?

No further speakers so we’ll now put that amended motion to the vote.

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

### LAKE STAGE ACCESSIBILITY FUNDING

**160/2024-25**

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

*This council amend the 2024/25 Budget to provide funding in order to make the Lake Stage at the Forest Lake Parkland Precinct accessible to all residents with mobility constraints.*

Chair: Is there debate?

Councillor STRUNK: Thank you, Chair. Listen, I brought this local issue to a notified motion because over the last probably seven years, the lake park precinct and the Lake Stage have been a drawcard, of course, to the community. Not just the Forest Lake community, but many other communities as well because they use it for weddings, receptions, and other events, small and large. The problem with this particular venue is that the accessibility for people with mobility issues has never been addressed. When the Lake Stage was built—or when the parkland precinct was built, the Lake Stage didn’t actually exist and even then, people that were in wheelchairs or on walkers or had some mobility issues couldn’t access that part of the side of the lake where the, of course, Lake Stage was eventually built.

So, what we’ve had over the last—well, certainly before—even before, well before my time—probably over the last 20-odd years, is a venue that is not accessible to all residents. Now, we asked some years ago when we started getting a number of complaints—especially people with wheelchairs—who wanted to take part in the events that were happening on the Lake Stage but couldn’t access it because it’s just stairs going down to the Lake Stage. We asked for some money. We asked for how much it would cost to design access to that part of the parklands precinct, and we were told that the design itself would cost about $120,000.

Anyway, it was far beyond my reach at that stage with all the other commitments that were being undertaken around the lake out of — funding but we never lost sight of that. It’s been in the budget—for the LORD MAYOR’s budget for the last four years, asking for at least the design money to be—should come out of capital works rather than my SEF funding.

Now, our current Outcome Manager is looking into that with the access team just to see what they can do to remediate this problem. I mean, if you just think about it, the lake was built 30 years ago and there’s a carpark just above it where people obviously put down and get out and then walk down to the lake—now, the Lake Stage. The developers actually were—they should have actually dealt with this issue back 30 years ago when Council took possession of the parkland precinct 20 years—in 2000, they should have conditioned that handover with accessibility for people in wheelchair and other mobility devices to be able to get down and participate at an event that’s happening on the Lake Stage. Obviously, that didn’t happen. Council signed off, accepted the problem but then did nothing about it. Now, what we’re trying to do is to ask the LORD MAYOR—the Council and the LORD MAYOR—to actually fund the upgrade so that people with mobility issues can actually take part and see the dragon boat races.

Now, the LORD MAYOR comes out to the dragon boat races every year and comes out with the family but guess what? There’s a lot of people in the community that can’t come down and enjoy the view of what’s happening on the Lake Stage—and there’s a lot of entertainment—and it’s really difficult also to be part of that race as a participant just watching. They said that there was a possibility of doing something up top—like a viewing platform up top—but again, that’s many, many metres away from the Lake Stage and an elevated level which really wouldn’t—it really wouldn’t be the same as able bodied people being able to sit on the terrace seating in front of the Lake Stage. That’s why I move the motion to ask the LORD MAYOR to have a look at that and to fund it in this financial year. I’ll just finish my comments there. Thank you.

Chair: Further speakers?

Councillor ATWOOD.

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise to amend the motion.

**Motion for amendment to motion**

**161/2024-25**

It was moved by Councillor Lisa ATWOOD, 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 notes the 2024/25 Budget provides funding in order to make the Lake Stage at the Forest Lake Parkland Precinct accessible to all residents with mobility constraints from the Suburban enhancement fund for the Forest Lake Ward.*

Chair: Councillor ATWOOD?

**Procedural motion - Motion that the amendment be now put**

**162/2024-25**

Councillor Lisa ATWOOD moved, seconded by Councillor Julia DIXON, that the amendment be now put.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY?

Councillor CASSIDY: This amendment is incompetent, Chair, because Councillor TOOMEY just explained how local Councillors have autonomy over decisions around the Suburban Enhancement Funding and now Councillor ATWOOD has moved an incompetent amendment directing Councillor STRUNK, essentially, to allocate Suburban Enhancement Funding, so there’s some serious inconsistency. A motion was allowed just before this one which said something completely different.

Chair: I don’t uphold your point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

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

Chair: We’ll now move to the vote—debate on the amended motion. Further speakers on the amended motion?

Councillor ATWOOD: Thank you, Madam Chair. I’d just like to summarise in saying that I encourage all Councillors to support this motion—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order.

Councillor ATWOOD: —so that Councillor STRUNK—

Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Just clarifying, that vote, I thought was whether we put the amendment—not the amendment itself, so it probably needs to be two votes—another vote.

Chair: Sure. We now put that to the vote. Councillor?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: As a right of reply. Yes.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: What we have done is we put to the vote, the amended motion so that this is now the substantive one so we can now speak on the substantive motion.

Councillor WINES: Sorry. Point of order.

Chair: Councillor WINES.

Councillor WINES: It’s actually the right of reply to the movement of the amendment—is the right—so it’s Councillor ATWOOD.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor WINES: Because there was a movement—

Chair: Proceed your motion to—

Councillor WINES: There was a movement of the—

Chair: That’s right. A procedural motion.

Councillor WINES: Yes. There was a movement of the motion.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: It was a procedural motion to—you can do the right of reply, Councillor.

Councillor ATWOOD: Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair. I would just encourage all Councillors to support Councillor STRUNK this evening in his desire to make the parklands more accessible for all residents of the Forest Lake Ward. I’d like to put this motion now to the Chamber.

Chair: We’ll now put that amendment to the vote.

**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: Now we will move to the amended motion.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Well, the motion of which we are now debating—interesting that Councillor ATWOOD just summed up a debate which never happened so the LNP just guillotined debate entirely on an amendment to a motion that Councillor STRUNK brought to Council seeking capital funding for accessibility upgrades at the Lake Stage. Now, the situation we now have is that every single request for capital funding from local Councillors is now being met with an answer from the LNP that, everything needs to be funded from the Suburban Enhancement Fund, despite—

***EXPIRATION OF PERIOD FOR DEBATE OF NOTIFIED MOTIONS***

At that point, 8.48pm, the Chair advised that the period allowed for debate of notified motions had expired.

Chair: One moment, please, Councillor CASSIDY. Sorry to interrupt but under the provisions of section 41(13) of the Meetings Local Law, on the expiration of the period allowed for debate of all notified motions, I shall now put the current motion to the meeting without further amendment or debate, so I’ll now put the motion.

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

Chair: I now close the meeting. Thank you, Councillors.

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

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

**Submitted by Councillor Jared Cassidy (from meeting on 3 September 2024)**

1. What is BCC definition of Affordable Housing for planning and infrastructure purposes?

**A1.** *The Queensland Government’s Planning Regulation 2017 stipulates definitions to be applied by all local governments, including Brisbane City Council, for urban planning and infrastructure purposes in their planning schemes.*

1. How many bus stops are currently operational in the BCC LGA?

**A2.** *6,305.*

1. How many bus stops are currently in working order, but are not in use?

**A3.** *0.*

1. How many bus stops have been permanently de-commissioned in 2023-2024 FY and 2024-2025 FYTD?

**A4.** *5.*

1. How many new bus stops have been installed in 2023-2024 FY and 2024-2025 FYTD?

**A5.** *No new stops have been installed during this period as no new bus services have been funded by the State Government.*

1. How many in use bus stops are currently not DDA compliant? Please provide location, stop number or unique identifier for each.

**A6.** *As advised in Questions on Notice of 27 August 2024, Council owns and maintains approximately 5,800 bus stops across the city. 82% of these bus stops are DDA compliant with 90% of patrons boarding and alighting from compliant stops. The remaining 1,022 bus stops have been assessed as being useable and functional. The Bus Stop Upgrade Program will continue to provide accessibility and amenity upgrades.*

1. How many bus stops which are currently in working order, but not in use, are not DDA compliant? Please provide location, stop number or unique identifier for each.

**A7.** *0.*

1. Please advise how many exemptions BCC has lodged regarding DDA Compliance? List each instance and location or unique identifier for each.

**A8.** *There is no requirement for Council to lodge an exemption for DDA compliance.*

1. Please list all Requests for Service received by the Call Centre regarding traffic calming, including street and suburb of request, received in 2024.

**A9.** *The Contact Centre received 1,997 contacts for Requests for Service in relation to ‘traffic calming’ for the period from 1 January to 2 September 2024. This figure includes multiple contacts for the same request, and can also include requests for information, complaints, suggestions, or a status update on an existing request.*

1. How many of these 2024 Requests for Service regarding traffic calming have been investigated and resolved?

**A10.** *Council officers are unable to answer this question within the timeframe provided by the Meetings Local Law 2001.*

1. Please list all Requests for Service received by the Call Centre regarding rat running, including street and suburb of request, received in 2024.
2. How many of these 2024 Requests for Service regarding rat running have been investigated and resolved?

**A11 and A12.**

*Council does not have this information. Unsafe driver behaviour should be reported to the Queensland Police Service.*

1. Please provide a breakdown of all vehicles in BCC fleet, including number of each by fuel types, hybrid or electric

**A13.**

|  | ***Passenger*** | ***Truck*** | ***Utes & Vans*** | ***Grand Total*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Diesel* | *8* | *394* | *514* | *916* |
| *Battery Electric* | *73* | *1* |  | *74* |
| *Unleaded Petrol* | *244* | *1* | *9* | *254* |
| *Hybrid* | *99* | *5* |  | *104* |
| *Grand Total* | *424* | *401* | *523* | *1348* |

1. What is the total number of redundancies offered within BCC, and the total $ figure for these redundancies, in 2023-2024 FY, and 2024-2025 FYTD, listed seperately.

**A14.**

| ***Financial Year*** | ***Redundancies*** | ***Cost*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *2023-24* | *5* | *$547,374.89* |
| *2024-25* | *0* | *$0* |

1. Please list the month-by-month number of downloads of the Brisbane App from May 2023 to current.

**A15.**

| ***Month*** | ***Number of downloads*** |
| --- | --- |
| *May 2023* | *14,200* |
| *June 2023* | *7,484* |
| *July 2023* | *4,084* |
| *August 2023* | *4,287* |
| *September 2023* | *8,339* |
| *October 2023* | *6,840* |
| *November 2023* | *8,272* |
| *December 2023* | *5,440* |
| *January 2024* | *3,595* |
| *February 2024* | *2,911* |
| *March 2024* | *2,775* |
| *April 2024* | *2,129* |
| *May 2024* | *2,053* |
| *June 2024* | *2,162* |
| *July 2024* | *2,367* |
| *August 2024* | *2,256* |

1. Please list the month-by-month number of uninstalls or deletes of the Brisbane App from May 2023 to current.

**A16.**

| ***Month*** | ***Number of uninstalls or deletes*** |
| --- | --- |
| *May 2023* | *3,533* |
| *June 2023* | *2,653* |
| *July 2023* | *2,117* |
| *August 2023* | *1,854* |
| *September 2023* | *2,295* |
| *October 2023* | *2,481* |
| *November 2023* | *2,725* |
| *December 2023* | *1,952* |
| *January 2024* | *1,819* |
| *February 2024* | *1,406* |
| *March 2024* | *1,504* |
| *April 2024* | *1,257* |
| *May 2024* | *1,203* |
| *June 2024* | *1,205* |
| *July 2024* | *1,097* |
| *August 2024* | *1,077* |

1. Please list the month-by-month average time spent on the Brisbane App per use/session from May 2023 to current.

**A17.**

| ***Month*** | ***Average time spent per use/session*** |
| --- | --- |
| *May 2023* | *20 minutes 54 seconds* |
| *June 2023* | *20 minutes 4 seconds* |
| *July 2023* | *17 minutes 57 seconds* |
| *August 2023* | *17 minutes 11 seconds* |
| *September 2023* | *16 minutes 33 seconds* |
| *October 2023* | *18 minutes 5 seconds* |
| *November 2023* | *17 minutes 29 seconds* |
| *December 2023* | *14 minutes 44 seconds* |
| *January 2024* | *13 minutes 55 seconds* |
| *February 2024* | *14 minutes 2 seconds* |
| *March 2024* | *12 minutes 58 seconds* |
| *April 2024* | *12 minutes 8 seconds* |
| *May 2024\** | *5 minutes 56 seconds* |
| *June 2024* | *3 minutes 23 seconds* |
| *July 2024* | *3 minutes 30 seconds* |
| *August 2024* | *3 minutes 23 seconds* |

1. Please provide the number of incidents/accidents reported to Council under obligation by providers of e-mobility devices for the FY’s 2021-2022, 2022‑2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025YTD, listed separately by FY.

**A18.**

| ***Financial Years*** | ***Minor Incidents*** | ***Hospital Visits*** | ***Life-threatening*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *2021/2022* | *321* | *94* | *2* |
| *2022/2023* | *228* | *52* | *1* |
| *2023/2024* | *107* | *29* | *1* |
| *2024/2025 (YTD)* | *20* | *3* | *0* |

1. How many contacts have been made to the contact centre regarding e-mobility in any context – provide a breakdown into categories of contact reason eg. request for information, advice, or service.

**A19.** - *Request for Information: 1,906*

*- Request for Advice: 5*

*- Notification: 291*

1. How many petitions for bikeway installations/upgrades remain unfunded, uncommitted, or no allocated funding available since June 2023?

**A20.** *2.*

1. How many petitions for footpath installations/upgrades remain unfunded, uncommitted, or no allocated funding available?

**A21.** *1.*

1. How many petitions for traffic calming remain unfunded, uncommitted, or no allocated funding available since June 2023?

**A22.** *1.*

1. How many petitions for road resurfacing remain unfunded, uncommitted, or no allocated funding available since June 2023?

**A23.** *2.*

1. How many petitions for road maintenance remain unfunded, uncommitted, or no allocated funding available since June 2023?

**A24.** *0.*

1. Please list all the outstanding e-petitions that have not been through the Committee process and provide a brief outline on each one, and the petitions closure date.

**A25.** *This information is publicly available on the Council website.*

1. Please list all the outstanding paper petitions that have not been through Committee and provide a brief outline on each one, and the petitions closure date.

**A26.**

| ***File Number*** | ***Subject*** | ***Presented to Council*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *137/220/594/224* | *Requesting Council close access to Lytton Rd East Brisbane from Geelong St.* | *23/05/2023* |
| *137/220/594/249* | *Requesting Council remove four Leopard Wood footpath trees in Tamarang St, Tarragindi.* | *12/09/2023* |
| *137/220/594/283* | *Requesting Council address the intersection at Network Drive and Randall Road, Wynnum West.* | *11/01/2024* |
| *137/220/594/308* | *Requesting Council remove the local heritage overlay on the blue building at 350 Mortimer Road, Acacia Ridge.* | *07/05/2024* |
| *137/220/594/314* | *Requesting Council consider renaming Didbrook Street Park, Robertson, “David Smerdon Park”.* | *21/05/2024* |
| *137/220/594/315* | *Requesting Council consider removing the yellow lines along 1-5 Cremin Street, Upper Mount Gravatt* | *21/05/2024* |
| *137/220/594/316* | *Requesting Council implement traffic calming measures to address rat running via Willis Street, Rochdale Avenue and Barr Street, Tarragindi.* | *28/05/2024* |
| *137/220/594/322* | *Requesting Council name the park area between Penina Place and Oakmont Avenue, Oxley, as ‘Nyiang pa’.* | *11/06/2024* |
| *137/220/594/327* | *Requesting Council install traffic calming on Wigan St, Mitchelton.* | *15/07/2024* |
| *137/220/594/331* | *Requesting Council implement traffic calming on Marelda Street, Sunnybank.* | *31/07/2024* |
| *137/220/594/334* | *Requesting Council ensure the redevelopment of 17 Skyring Terrace, Teneriffe, provides a compliant riverwalk and bikeway.* | *13/08/2024* |

***Note:*** *the closure date for paper petitions is managed by the head petitioner, not Council.*

1. How many petitions, regardless of current status, in total were lodged to BCC in 2019?
2. How many petitions, regardless of current status, in total were lodged to BCC in 2020?
3. How many petitions, regardless of current status, in total were lodged to BCC in 2021?
4. How many petitions, regardless of current status, in total were lodged to BCC in 2022?
5. How many petitions, regardless of current status, in total were lodged to BCC in 2023?
6. How many petitions, regardless of current status, in total have been lodged to BCC in 2024 to date?

**A27 to A32.**

*This information is publicly available on the Council website.*

1. Since the announcement of the Housing Supply Action Plan by the Lord Mayor on 31 August how many infrastructure fee waivers have been granted since, and in which category

**A33.** *In regard to the Housing Supply Action Plan, Council does not grant “infrastructure fee waivers”.*

1. Please provide a breakdown of all advertising to promote BrisBetter as per the below table:

| **Channel** | **2023-2024** | **2024-2025 FYTD** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TV Advertising |  |  |
| Online Advertising |  |  |
| Social Media: |  |  |
| * Facebook |  |  |
| * Instagram etc. |  |  |
| Influencers |  |  |
| Performance Marketing |  |  |
| Print Advertising |  |  |
| Radio |  |  |
| Outdoor advertising |  |  |
| BVOD |  |  |
| Other |  |  |

**A34.**

| ***Channel*** | ***2023-2024*** | ***2024-2025 FYTD*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *TV Advertising* | *$449,428* | *$6,500* |
| *Online Advertising (including BVOD)* | *$275,140.67* | *$7,274.85* |
| *Social Media:* |  |  |
| * *Facebook + Instagram (META)* | *$57,545.93* | *$12,215.57* |
| * *TikTok* | *$6,486.81* | *$1,496.27* |
| * *LinkedIn* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Influencers* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Performance Marketing* | *$56,403.36* | *$14,493.86* |
| *Print Advertising* | *$31,680.19* | *$2,296.36* |
| *Radio* | *$232,693.03* | *$147,962* |
| *Outdoor Advertising* | *$196,108.95* | *$222,097.01* |

1. Please provide a breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising as per the below table:

| **Channel** | **2023-2024** | **2024-2025 FYTD** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TV Advertising |  |  |
| Online Advertising |  |  |
| Social Media: |  |  |
| * Facebook |  |  |
| * Instagram etc. |  |  |
| Influencers |  |  |
| Performance Marketing |  |  |
| Print Advertising |  |  |
| Radio |  |  |
| Outdoor advertising |  |  |
| BVOD |  |  |
| Other |  |  |

**A35.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Channel*** | ***2023-2024*** | ***2024-2025 FYTD*** |
| *TV Advertising* |  | *$6,500* |
| *Online Advertising (including BVOD)* |  | *$11,139.85* |
| *Social Media:* |  |  |
| * *Facebook + Instagram (META)* | *$212,816.87* | *$14,215.56* |
| * *TikTok* | *$26,368.68* | *$1,996.27* |
| * *LinkedIn* | *$11,228.15* | *$499.50* |
| *Influencers* | *$3,300* | *$0* |
| *Performance Marketing* | *$109,777.20* | *$14,493.86* |
| *Print Advertising* |  | *$11,322.22* |
| *Radio* |  | *$302,361* |
| *Outdoor Advertising* |  | *$334,057.01* |

1. Please provide a breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising the Brisbane App as per the below table:

| **Channel** | **2023-2024** | **2024-2025 FYTD** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TV Advertising |  |  |
| Online Advertising |  |  |
| Social Media: |  |  |
| * -Facebook |  |  |
| * -Instagram etc. |  |  |
| Influencers |  |  |
| Performance Marketing |  |  |
| Print Advertising |  |  |
| Radio |  |  |
| Outdoor advertising |  |  |
| BVOD |  |  |
| Other |  |  |

**A36.**

| ***Channel*** | ***2023-2024*** | ***2024-2025 FYTD*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *TV Advertising* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Online Advertising (including BVOD)* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Social Media:* | *$0* | *$0* |
| * *Facebook & Instagram (META)* | *$23,210.23* | *$0* |
| * *TikTok* | *$4997.25* | *$0* |
| * *LinkedIn* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Influencers* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Performance Marketing* | *$37,084.01* | *$0* |
| *Print Advertising* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Radio* | *$0* | *$0* |
| *Outdoor Advertising* | *$0* | *$0* |

1. Please advise the total spent in the 2024-2025 FYTD, and the 2023-2024 FY, on advertising the discounted BCC Green waste recycling service.

**A37.** *- 2023-24: $60,696.88.*

*- 2024-25 FYTD: $43,692.81.*

1. Please list the 10 routes which have had the highest number of services cancelled each month for 2024 so far, per below table. Note. Rank of 10 being highest number of cancellations of all routes.

|  | **JAN** | | **FEB** | | **MAR** | | **APR** | | **MAY** | | **JUN** | | **JUL** | | **AUG** | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** | **Route** | **No. Svces** |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**A38.** *The entirety of A38 is Commercial-in-Confidence and has been provided to Councillors separately.*

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 8.49pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Dorian Maruda (A/Council and Committee Coordinator)

Madeline Platt (A/Council and Committee Officer)

Ethan Van Roo Douglas (Policy Advisor)

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