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# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**The 4720 meeting of the Brisbane City Council,**

**held at City Hall, Brisbane**

**on Tuesday 29 August 2023**

**at 1pm**

**Prepared by:**

**Council and Committee Liaison Office**

**Governance, Council and Committee Services**

**City Administration and Governance**

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## PRESENT:

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER) – LNP

The Chair of Council, Councillor Steven TOOMEY (The Gap) – 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)  Fiona HAMMOND (Marchant)  Vicki HOWARD (Central)  Steven HUANG (MacGregor)  Sarah HUTTON (Jamboree)  Clare JENKINSON (Paddington)  Sandy LANDERS (Bracken Ridge) (Deputy Chair of Council)  James MACKAY (Walter Taylor)  Kim MARX (Runcorn)  Ryan MURPHY (Chandler)  Angela OWEN (Calamvale)  Andrew WINES (Enoggera) | Jared CASSIDY (Deagon) (The Leader of the Opposition)  Lucy COLLIER (Morningside) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)  Steve GRIFFITHS (Moorooka)  Charles STRUNK (Forest Lake)  Sara WHITMEE (Wynnum Manly) |
| **Queensland Greens Councillor (and Ward)**  Trina MASSEY (The Gabba) |
| **Independent Councillor (and Ward)**  Nicole JOHNSTON (Tennyson) |

## OPENING OF MEETING:

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

Chair: I declare the meeting open.

## APOLOGY:

Chair: Councillor HUTTON, any apologies? No apologies.

We move on, confirmation of minutes please.

## MINUTES:

**122/2023-24**

The Minutes of the 4719 meeting of Council held on 22 August 2023, copies of which had been forwarded to each Councillor, were presented, taken as read and confirmed on the motion of Councillor Sarah HUTTON, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair: I’d like to call on Miss Sharyn Bartlem who will address the Chamber on koala conservation in Brisbane. Welcome, Miss Bartlem. Please feel free to sit or stand.

You have five minutes from when you’re ready.

**Miss Sharyn Bartlem – Brisbane koala conservation**

Miss Sharyn Bartlem: Mr Chair, LORD MAYOR, and Councillors, thank you for the opportunity to speak for the koalas of Whites Hill, for the community who are concerned about their deaths, and future generations who may never get to see one. Whites Hill Reserve is home to an estimated 40-60 koalas and believed to be the densest and healthiest population in Queensland. While not a defined koala priority area, that is unrelated to ecological value. DES (Department of Environment and Science) confirms that population is critical and protection rests with Council. These gentle creatures have been killed on the roads surrounding Whites Hill for many years, with Boundary Road claiming at least six victims in just recent months. This atrocity has continued even since their endangered status in Queensland last year, and projections of extinction in the wild by 2050.

While Council has taken some recent actions, it is insufficient to prevent significant and unacceptable loss of endangered life. The recent speed limit reduction on Boundary Road to 60 will not save them, with two dying in the month-long trial. At 60, a sedan takes 45 metres to stop, which is discordant with when koalas cross suddenly from a verge that is obscured. Eighty per cent of car strikes are fatal, so threat mitigation is critical.

Sadly, most drivers will not stop for their victims. Without a humane witness to help, they will suffer and perish alone over hours, days, or even months from treatable injuries. A koala named Doreen, and her joey, the size of a soft drink can, recently were hit and left to die twice in nine days at a Boundary Road blackspot. Doreen did not survive and two koalas have since perished in that same blackspot.

Fatalities would be higher but for residents prompting safe driving at the roadside and tree sitting at-risk koalas. Just last week, I saved a koala on Boundary Road from death by helping him safely cross for the second time, but he will return as that is his home range.

Residents are passionate about their koalas with two recent petitions attracting circa 10,000 signatures, and almost every driver continues to support our roadside volunteers. The community has prepared a submission identifying 20 key recommendations which we wish to formally table today for response.

Our first key ask is to establish a collaborative working group to identify sustainable solutions. Secondly, we request exclusion fencing be extended. We realise that continual fencing is not suitable, but with restricted access crossing points, it is proven to be successful. Third is a dusk-to-dawn speed limit reduced for when they cross, successful in other areas.

As well as the symptoms, the cause related to habitat destruction requires action. Recent development approvals on Pine Mountain and Eric Road have further impacted them. Hence, our fourth ask is to review the code to ensure development approvals maintain adequate habitat and wildlife corridors. Fifth is increased lighting related to visibility. Six is regular monthly roadside maintenance during breeding season. Seventh is enhanced signage including regular VMS (variable messaging sign) updates and interchangeable signs through the Triangle of Death suburbs, and along the Whites Hill ring road. Eighth is education for Council‑employed and contracted drivers about wildlife-safe driving during breeding season. And ninth is a review of the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) ambulance service promoted on Council signs, which is not always available 24/7 when our koalas most need help.

It is devastating to see these innocent Australian icons die or cling to life after simply seeking a home, mate or food. If you witnessed the carnage like I have, you would be appalled and demand action, despite political affiliation. Breeding season will continue for several months and, after one of the worst weeks locally for deaths and injuries, further trauma is likely. The community calls on Council to take these nine actions as a matter of priority. We remind all that koalas are an endangered species and as elected officers and designated officials, you all have a duty of care to protect them.

We were concerned by recent comments made in this forum by the DEPUTY MAYOR about working with koala societies to prevent overpopulation in Whites Hill. Queensland Koala Society confirm that they have not been engaged on this matter to date, but welcome contact, and they do not have concerns about koala overpopulation. Thank you.

Chair:Thank you, Miss Bartlem.

I now call on Councillor DAVIS to respond.

Councillor DAVIS.

**Response by Councillor Tracy DAVIS, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee**

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair, and thank you, Miss Bartlem for taking the time to come in and share your thoughts. Thank you very much for providing the proposal that, as you said, will be tabled. There are a number of things here that cross portfolio areas, so it will be something that will need to be considered, and I thank you for outlining some of those ones that are of particular importance to you.

Let me assure you that the Schrinner Council is committed to the protection of these iconic and beautiful creatures, the koala, and, as you referenced in the proposal, Brisbane City Council—and in your presentation—Brisbane City Council is undertaking a number of actions in order to prevent wildlife strikes along Boundary Road and it’s always devastating to hear of a wildlife strike, and we will continue to work with experts about ways that we can make best—rather best practice, implement the things that they feel we can do to try and make sure that koalas can have safe crossing.

I noticed that you spoke a bit about fencing. You’re quite right; putting an exclusion fencing all the way along is not—has not been recommended by experts. But you will be pleased that we have asked for a further look to see whether there might be opportunity to have those short bursts of fencing along Boundary Road. But, of course, as you would know, the fencing needs to lead to a safe crossing point. And that’s why we’ve installed the world’s first koala bridge across Boundary Road, because there’s only one culvert along that stretch of road.

So please be assured that our Council is looking at the things that you have raised with us. We do care about koalas. We do appreciate that the residents in and around Whites Hill are very passionate about Whites Hill Reserve and preserving the koalas in that space, and we will continue to work with experts so that we can get the best outcomes for that stretch of road and for the koalas. Thank you for coming in.

Chair: Thank you Miss Bartlem for coming in today.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order Councillor GRIFFITHS.

**123/2023-24**

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

Chair:Just one moment, the motion itself has to be addressed for three minutes why the motion wasn’t put on to—yes, so three minutes, Councillor GRIFFITHS on why it wasn’t tabled yesterday before one o’clock.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Well, it wasn’t tabled yesterday before one o’clock because we just heard from this wonderful lady, Sharyn Bartlem and her Whites Hill Koala Society group that there is—action is needed and wanted by the community. To hear today that people have to sit beside the road, koala-sitting as they say, sitting beside the road waiting for wildlife to cross and then providing or ensuring it’s safe to cross would indicate that there are problems with koalas being killed on this road.

We also know it’s urgent because of the number of koala deaths we’ve had on this section of road. Twenty—over 20 koalas in four years; 20 koalas have died in four years along this section of road. And since the LORD MAYOR and DEPUTY MAYOR and Councillor CUNNINGHAM introduced the reduction in speed to 60, two koalas have been killed. There is not enough fencing along this road, and the group just said that. They’ve requested dusk-to-dawn speed limits. They have also requested a review code to maintain habitat and maintain the verge of the road. So they’ve requested—

Chair: Sorry, Councillor GRIFFITHS, sorry, just one moment. I understand what you’re saying, but you’re not addressing the reason why you could not get the motion in before one o’clock.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I am. I’m telling you why it’s urgent. I’m just giving you back all the reasons that we’ve just heard in relation to why we need to see these statistics. We need to see this information from the LORD MAYOR that Councillor DAVIS just said that they all depend on, that Councillor ADAMS has said that they depend on. We’re wanting to see that information at today’s meeting so we can share it with the community and we can go, this is the reason why there is no koala fencing along that road, this is the reason why the LNP has not acted, this is what we’re asking for. It’s not an unreasonable request. We’re just asking for transparency in this Council by this Mayor and his LNP Councillors who say they are concerned about koalas and fauna and flora death, but their actions don’t demonstrate that. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you.

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

Chair: Councillor GRIFFITHS, to your motion, please.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, and thank you, Mr Chair, and I thank the Chamber for allowing me to speak to this. As we know this has gone on for a number of months, even years, in relation to the deaths of koalas on this road.

Chair: Sorry, Councillor GRIFFITHS—sorry, sorry, Councillor GRIFFITHS, can you read your motion—

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Restate it, yes, okay, sorry.

Chair: —and restate it again, please?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Okay, sorry.

Chair: Because that was a different motion. That was around the three minutes. This is around the motion itself.

**124/2023-24**

At that juncture, Councillor Steve GRIFFITHS moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY—

*That the Lord Mayor tables all reports, findings, recommendations, official research and expert advice regarding fauna fencing along Boundary Road, Whites Hill Reserve, at today's Council Meeting.*

Councillor HUTTON: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor HUTTON.

**Procedural motion – Motion that debate on the motion be adjourned**

**125/2023-24**

At that juncture, it was moved by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY, that debate on the motion now before the meeting be adjourned until the conclusion of business on the next meeting agenda.

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

Thereupon, Councillors 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, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Councillors, before Questions Time starts, I’d like to make a statement regarding the use of the word liar in the Chamber. I have reviewed a number of statements by previous Chairs and Deputy Chairs in this Chamber and I have formed the opinion the use of the word liar is a reflection on Councillors’ and Council officers’ character and is against the Queensland Government Council Code of Conduct under section 2.1 and under section 2.2, as well as Meetings Local Law section 21(1) and section 55(2).

The use of the word liar in the form of a verb, noun or adjective in past or present tense is unprofessional in this place, and as a result of this ruling, further use of the word will be ruled out of order. I will consider it an act of disorder and I will ask you to withdraw your statement. Failing to do so may result in action being taken under section 21(8) of the Meetings Local Law.

Thank you Councillors.

Are there questions of the LORD MAYOR—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order, sorry.

Chair: Sorry, point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Sorry to be technical, just so no one falls foul of this rule, is the word lies appropriate? Or is it all tenses of the word lie? Can you clarify that piece?

Chair: Yes, all and inclusive.

*Councillor interjecting*

Chair: No.

Where was I up to?

## QUESTION TIME:

Chair: Question Time.

Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor JENKINSON?

**Question 1**

Councillor JENKINSON: My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, the Council you lead has a strong track record investing in Brisbane suburbs, ensuring residents pay less in rates but get more services in return.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JENKINSON: Can you please update the Chamber on the Schrinner Council’s recent investments into Brisbane libraries?

Chair: I will remind Councillors that we are going to listen to Question Time questions and answers in silence. We have guests in the Chamber here and you should all be on your best behaviour.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: It may not be important to Opposition Councillors to talk about libraries and important services in the suburbs. We heard the groan, but it is important to our side of the Chamber because this is a service that is valued greatly by the people of Brisbane. It is a service that I’m pleased to confirm today that over the past 12 months, we have seen a million more people visit our libraries than the 12 months before. We are now up to five—more than five million visits in a 12‑month period, which equates to around 14,000 people a day visiting our libraries.

So it is very clear that while the Opposition may not care about libraries, may groan about a question about libraries, that we are passionate about it, and we’re determined to grow our library usership, we’re determined to invest in our libraries, and we’re intended—determined to upgrade our libraries. Now whether it is—whether it is the project that is now underway up at Everton Park, Councillor DAVIS, where a brand new library is being built, once again, in the suburbs; not in the inner city, but in some of the more distant suburbs in Brisbane—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Just one moment, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor GRIFFITHS and Councillor COLLIER, consider this a warning. I did say before the Question Time started, we were going to listen in silence.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: It’s interesting, Mr Chair, that Councillor GRIFFITHS who has been the longest serving Councillor in this place, been here for 21 years, and was part of an administration that closed down libraries and sold them off to developers—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR: Closed down libraries, they closed down pools, and they sold them to developers, and he has the hide to interject.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: We would never do that.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: We would never do that. We build new libraries, we invest in libraries, we upgrade libraries.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So whether it’s Everton Park, or the many libraries that we’ve upgraded and improved in recent years, in the time that I’ve been LORD MAYOR, we’ve upgraded the Toowong Library, we’ve delivered a brand new Bracken Ridge Library, we’ve upgraded the Ashgrove, Stones Corner and Sandgate libraries. We’ve expanded the Carindale Library, we have refurbished the Inala and Zillmere libraries and, as I said, right now, we’re investing in a brand new Everton Park Library. We’re also planning a new Indooroopilly Library as well, one which—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor MASSEY.

LORD MAYOR: —one which Opposition Councillors clearly oppose, which is disappointing. But the reality is our ongoing investment is important because the numbers of people using our libraries are growing, and we’ve seen consistent growth over the last four years, to the point where, in the last 12 months, we had five million visits, which is fantastic.

Now, the last time that we saw numbers of that scale was well before the pandemic. And so obviously, whether it’s public transport use, whether it’s library visitation, it was all impacted during the pandemic, but it’s bouncing back strongly and we’re seeing those visitations improve, and we’re investing accordingly. This year, we’re investing $82 million over 12 months into our libraries across the city. That’s across the 33 libraries plus the mobile library that we’re investing, and that investment is at record levels. You would not find that investment under a Labor administration. You would not find that investment under a Green administration, and you would certainly not find that investment under a Green‑Labor coalition of chaos. You would certainly not find that. The reality is Labor has a record of selling off libraries and shutting them down. The Greens don’t have a record at all on anything except for opposing things, but we have a record of investing.

In a cost-of-living challenge at the moment, it is those low and free—low-cost and free services that people are valuing more and more as well, and whether it’s the libraries, whether it’s the free and low-cost activities in parks, whether there is the $2 Summer Dips that we’re bringing in this summer, we are focused on keeping costs down and providing many low-cost and free opportunities for our residents, because we know that it is important to them.

These are services which exceed in so many cases the services provided by other councils. Councils where they pay higher rates, but they get a lower standard of service. We are proud of our libraries. We are proud of our parks. We are proud of our community events and festivals and all of the low-cost things that we’re able to deliver for our residents, because by investing in these things, we’re investing in the things that really matter to the people of Brisbane. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor COLLIER.

**Question 2**

Councillor COLLIER: My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, you sensationally wrote to thousands of people weeks ago saying their houses would be resumed by your Council. Now you’re telling Brisbane residents that the only way that they can save their houses from being resumed in the middle of a housing crisis is to make a formal submission in an overly confusing process.

Councillor OWEN: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: In accordance with the rules, a question should be asked succinctly and factually correctly. Could you please rule on this?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you.

Councillors, please.

Councillor OWEN, I don’t uphold your point of order.

Councillor COLLIER, you’ve got the call.

Councillor COLLIER: LORD MAYOR, why won’t you fix this debacle once and for all?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Well, Mr Chair, first thing I need to do is point out inaccuracy in the question, because Councillor COLLIER clearly claimed that I wrote to thousands of residents when I did nothing of the kind.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I did nothing of the kind, and so a basic fact like that you would think would be important, Mr Chair. But it’s clear that those things aren’t important to the Labor Opposition. What I will say is this: Brisbane City Council does not resume homes for parks. Any suggestion otherwise is incorrect. Over the past several years that I’ve been LORD MAYOR, we have created 60 new parks.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: How many homes were resumed for those 60 new parks?

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: I’m not aware of any. I’m not aware of any.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: And so we purchase homes through agreement of the owner. We identify locations where we approach residents to see if they’re interested in selling, and where they are interested in selling, then we negotiate with them. but we do not resume park—homes for parks.

This is a point that I’ve made repeatedly. This is a point that Opposition Councillors have repeatedly ignored and continue to concern and alarm residents unnecessarily. But to the point of the question, it’s actually State Government legislation that requires us to create an LGIP (Local Government Infrastructure Plan).

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Just one moment, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor GRIFFITHS and Councillor COLLIER, you are to listen to that response in silence. Consider this your second warning.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. As I was saying, it’s State Government legislation that requires all councils to create LGIPs, but they also set up the process whereby the formal approval for an LGIP can happen. Now, that involves bringing a submission through to this Chamber, that it then involves sending that submission up to the State Government for their—effectively their interest check or their review.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor COLLIER.

LORD MAYOR: It then involves a public submission period which we’re going through at the moment, but under State Government requirements, once a plan has been put out for consultation, it can only be changed based on submissions that are received. It can only be changed based on submissions that are received. Labor Councillors, other Opposition Councillors will be well advised to work with their community to make sure the right submissions are in.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Labor Councillors are welcome themselves to put in submissions, as are all Councillors, because I can say right now that under the State Government requirements, if there is an issue that is of concern, but we don’t receive a submission on it, we cannot change the plan by law. I have made it clear that we are absolutely willing to make many, many changes to this plan; it’s the reason we do consultation, but there must be a submission. That’s the State Government process that’s been set up.

So rather than concerning people more, I would suggest that Opposition Councillors would work with their communities to make sure that submissions are put in and that would make sure that they put in submissions as well. Because if they have concerns as local Councillors about a particular parkland proposal, or another aspect of the proposed LGIP, this is the opportunity to have their say. So that is the best thing that we can all do, work with local communities, make sure submissions are put in.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: But we wouldn’t want a situation to occur where Labor Councillors raise issues in political forums or in the media, but then actually don’t put in a submission on those issues.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: That’s the important thing. The submission needs to go in. This is not because I’m asking for it. It’s because the State Government is asking for it. But it is the process which must be followed, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor CASSIDY: A point of order.

Chair: Point of order Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Just seeking your guidance, Chair. Each and every time Councillor COLLIER has got up to ask a question since she’s been Councillor, Councillor OWEN doesn’t do this for any other Councillor, gets up and raises the exact same point of order that you’ve ruled out of order each and every time. At what point does that become an act of disorder? Just wondering.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, as you would know, the act of disorder is at my discretion. Councillor OWEN has asked a number of times and has been ruled as not a point of order, not an appropriate point of order.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: They are in different meetings, thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR. They are in different—they are in different meetings. But for the sake of the meeting, we’re going to continue this meeting. But yes, thank you.

Further questions?

Sorry, Councillor JOHNSTON.

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

DEPUTY MAYOR: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order, DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Was the last question from Councillor COLLIER?

Chair: It was.

DEPUTY MAYOR: And it must be from side to side.

Chair: It is, but no one—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Not if any—not if anybody else is not standing.

Chair: Councillors, Councillors. Councillors on my right failed to stand. There was no one standing.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you. I’ve got the call.

Chair: I have given Councillor JOHNSTON the call.

**Question 3**

Councillor JOHNSTON: Thank you. My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, recently, your Council released a bus review that cuts the Yeronga West 105 bus loop. Yeronga residents have spoken up strongly and provided clear advice during consultation that they want to save the Yeronga West 105 loop. Will you commit today to retaining this important local bus service that connects Yeronga West residents with their major shopping centre at Indooroopilly?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

Just one—gallery, please. This is a place of Council business. While I’m addressing the gallery, I would like to acknowledge that the Yeronga Probus Club are here today. Thank you for coming in. It’s been wonderful to meet you this morning at morning tea, but the LORD MAYOR is going to be heard in silence. Thank you.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Thank you. Well, first of all, and I’ve had to do this twice already in this meeting, the question includes some inaccuracies. Because we haven’t in fact released a bus review. What we have released is a consultation report from the bus review.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So just to be clear about the process that we’ve been through, we put forward some initial proposals, we carried out public consultation, we included some really worthwhile and useful mapping tools that have never been used before so that people can understand the existing network and the changes proposed and drill down into the detail. We then received their feedback. That feedback is being considered, has been considered, and now we’re in the process of working with the State Government on the network going forward. Because ultimately, we are a partner in the delivery of bus services together with State Government and Translink, and any changes to the network must be approved and signed off by Translink, and so we’re not at that stage yet. So the idea—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Just one moment, LORD MAYOR.

Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, just on relevance, Mr Chair, my question was, will the LORD MAYOR commit today to retain this important local bus service—

Chair: Thank you. Thank you, Councillor—

Councillor JOHNSTON: —for Yeronga West residents?

Chair: Thank you—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Not the State Government, the LORD MAYOR.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor JOHNSTON. The LORD MAYOR is explaining the circumstances in which we operate under.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: So, as I was pointing out, this is a joint decision between the Council and the State Government.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: So I’m not in a position to comment on behalf of what the State Government might approve or might not approve. But I know that this was a matter that came up in the Transport Committee this morning, and the petition was considered on this matter, and there were some other petitions relating to network review changes, and these are all things we’re taking into consideration.

I think Councillor CASSIDY asked in the Committee a question on what will happen now, and Councillor MURPHY made it very clear that the all of these things are now being considered. The residents’ feedback is being considered, and we will absolutely be taking that as a key consideration in our discussions with Translink when it comes to the formal network and the final version of it.

But this is certainly not something that we’re rushing into because we want to get it right. This is a process that we’ve taken the time on. We wanted to give residents plenty of opportunity to understand what has been proposed and provide their feedback. We’re not rushing to make any kind of knee-jerk decisions at this point in time. We are working collaboratively with Translink on the future network.

But one thing is for certain, this network will involve a significant increase in investment from the Brisbane City Council in bus services. In fact, when we—at the point where we first released our network changes—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Just on relevance, my question was, and I understand what the LORD MAYOR is saying, will the LORD MAYOR commit today to Council retaining Yeronga West 105 loop service? So the LORD MAYOR could answer that today for these residents.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, the LORD MAYOR has plenty of time to respond to the question.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, as I’ve already pointed out, I’m not in a position to make commitments on behalf of a joint decision-making entity which is Council and Translink making a decision together. What I have said repeatedly is that we are taking the community feedback very seriously. We’ve taken that on board, we’ve witnessed the petitions, we are aware of the concerns that have been raised, and these are live discussions that are happening with Translink. So in terms of what might happen going forward, I can’t speculate at this point, or I can’t commit the State Government to a particular course of action because we’ve seen what happens in the past.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

LORD MAYOR: We’ve seen what happens in the past. If I was to get up here today and say, oh, this particular service is in, another one is out, this government has stung the ratepayers of Brisbane time-in, time-out on bus service saying, oh well, if you want to commit to that one, you wear 100% of the costs. Rather than the usual cost sharing arrangement, they sting us and ratepayers with the cost. So I’m not going to put ratepayers in that position. We’re going to do this in an appropriate manner.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: We’re going to do it in a considered manner, but exhibit A is the Maroon CityGlider. Now this is something that we championed, and the State Government said, oh, it’s a great service, but you can pay for it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Six million dollars a year—and by the way, the State Government takes $2 million in revenue from the service and doesn’t put a cent in to the service. So I’m not going to fall for that this time, and that is why when we’ve proposed the Gold CityGlider, when we proposed other network improvements and changes—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: We are doing this in good faith, but we need the support of State Government as well because bus services right now are funded 25% by Brisbane City Council and 75% by the State Government. So, by all means, we’ll work through this process—

Chair: LORD MAYOR, your time has expired.

LORD MAYOR: —we’ll come to a good outcome, but we’re going to do it the right way.

Chair: Councillor OWEN.

**Question 4**

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

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, last week we saw Councillor CASSIDY’s ill‑informed and ill-conceived version of accounting and economics on full display, which can only be described as an epically embarrassing budget blunder. Can you please take five minutes out of your day to educate the Opposition Leader on how to navigate budget documents.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, please.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Mr Chair, and thank you very much, through you, to Councillor OWEN for the question. I know I don’t need to go through things with Councillor OWEN, but it is very clear, Mr Chair, after last week’s debate in this Chamber, that Councillor CASSIDY is completely clueless when it comes to reading the budget papers. Councillor CASSIDY spent a lot of time in my budget information session this year, Mr Chair, which I absolutely welcome. We had a free-flowing session, there were plenty of opportunities for questions to myself, as well as senior officers, of course, including the Chief Financial Officer.

The Opposition did have a curious line of questioning though, such as wanting to know the breakdowns of various items in the statements of our commercialised business units, et cetera. All questions they’re entitled to ask, Mr Chair, of course, and which could be answered either in the room or later on, on notice. But after hearing the debate last week perhaps, Mr Chair, it would have been better for Councillor CASSIDY to ask questions like what is cash flow? Or what is capital? Because first up, we had Councillor CASSIDY’s desperate attempt to claim that cash flow changes were the same as an adopted change to the budget and that there was a mystery $85 million missing. What nonsense, Mr Chair.

After being absolutely schooled in Question Time by the LORD MAYOR, he then doubled down in E&C (Establishment and Coordination Committee)—in the E&C debate rather, with what could only be described, Mr Chair, as a bizarre and mindboggling contribution. It’s totally understandable for a Councillor in this place to not be across the minutiae of every detail of what’s in the financial reports. They are required to be presented in a certain way as per State Government and Queensland Audit Office guidance and not all Councillors have experience in accounting, absolutely. But what I don’t understand is why someone who purports himself to be a serious figure in this city would instead of asking legitimate questions in good faith first, just jump to falsehoods to try and drum up a media story.

He didn’t just stop with his fairy tale about the cash flow statement either, he kept on digging. He kept digging, Mr Chair, and things only got worse and worse for Councillor CASSIDY, through you. Not content with being exposed for misrepresenting the budget review, he then went on to reveal he didn’t know what capitalised expenses even meant. The budget presented in June by the LORD MAYOR was a $4.3 billion budget, Mr Chair, but of this Councillor CASSIDY said last week—and I quote, “well he didn’t talk about the figure of capitalised expenses, which is writing down and writing off assets of $1.5 billion”. He also said, “you can’t go out and say the budget is a $4.3 billion budget when in reality the operations were $2.3 billion minus the capitalised expenses, minus write-offs and write-downs”.

Mr Chair, our capitalised expenses are just that, expenses to fund capital. Capital means road upgrades, it means new playgrounds for the residents and children of Brisbane. It means major transport infrastructure for our city and it means new libraries. Throughout the budget book we see projects broken down by revenue and two types of expenses. Mr Chair, the two different types are operating expenses, things like ongoing service delivery and capital expenses, which is for building new and improved infrastructure. Depreciation is an operating expense and it even has its own line item, just a few lines above capitalised expenses, Mr Chair.

It’s all there on page 12 of the budget book and on page 2 of the first budget review. I have barely scratched the surface, Mr Chair, of the inaccuracies from what Councillor CASSIDY has said. At one point it seemed like figures were just being plucked from all over the place and he just doesn’t really care about the facts. They are tired and out of touch, Mr Chair, and they are absolutely clueless. The residents of Brisbane should be very worried about the prospect of a Green‑Labor coalition of chaos, leading our city and trying to manage—

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

Further questions?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Point of order—sorry.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: I was ready for the next question. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: It’s not a point of order?

Councillor GRIFFITHS: No, sorry.

Chair: Sorry, your question, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

**Question 5**

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. On Saturday, I learned that two house blocks—so my question is the Mayor.

On Saturday, I learned that there are two house blocks—at 37 and 39 Rachael Street in Moorooka—have come on to the market. I’ve been advised Council had previously tried to purchase these blocks using the Bushland Acquisition fund, but without success. Both blocks adjoin Cracknell Gully Park and are high in ecological significance and are zoned as koala habitat. Neighbours tell me—and they showed me a video, there is a mother koala and her joey on site now. Will you commit today to direct officers to negotiate to purchase the site using the Bushland Acquisition fund, LORD MAYOR?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, I want to congratulate Councillor GRIFFITHS on an excellent question. It is a nice change and one that’s not political for a change as well. Look, I’ve got some good news for you, Councillor GRIFFITHS, Cabinet has already preapproved the officers negotiating for the acquisition of this property. In fact, we have—like we do with parklands, we identify areas that could be suitable for acquisition through the bushland program or through parkland and then when there’s an opportunity that arises, we move into gear. So while we have previously attempted to acquire these properties, that didn’t work out at the point in time, they didn’t end up agreeing to the sale. But now that these properties have been listed for sale, it’s full steam ahead in terms of us gearing up our efforts.

I would love to see these two properties purchased, this is exactly what the Bushland Levy is used for. This particular land makes good sense, it is right adjoining a massive area of bushland and a conservation reserve. These are the kinds of blocks of land that we want to see purchased through the program, so Councillor GRIFFITHS, I can tell you we have already made the decision in Cabinet that we’ve given the officers authority to go and negotiate and that is a process that is underway at the moment. We’d really love to see these properties purchased by Council.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further questions?

Councillor MACKAY.

**Question 6**

Councillor MACKAY: Thank you for recognising me there, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS, the Schrinner Council’s upgrade of Victoria Park / Barrambin is creating more to see and do for Brisbane residents. Can you please update the Chamber on the latest event in Victoria Park / Barrambin held over the weekend?

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you very much, Mr Chair, and through you, can I thank Councillor MACKAY for the question, who I know had a fantastic time at Victoria Park on Sunday, I think you were there, Councillor—because there’s so much that’s going on at Victoria Park at the moment. Since reopening as a public park in 2021, we’ve seen visitation increase by 250% and more than 120,000 people in attendance over 275 events that have been held in the park. We’ve just had another Green Heart Fair which we’ve hosted, we’ve hosted Le Festival and of course we have Brisbane Festival coming up shortly.

But I’m excited to share with the Chamber the latest from Victoria Park’s inaugural Outdoor Adventure Festival that was held this past weekend. The Outdoor Adventure Festival is all about embracing Brisbane’s active outdoor lifestyle. The free event showcased a plethora of sports, activities, workshops, live music and food from across Brisbane. It was great to be joined by the LORD MAYOR and his family for the official opening on Saturday morning, where we were treated to a high-octane BMX stunt show that really got the crowd revved up. There were tricks, there were flames, it was a real heart-starter demonstration.

As you know, Mr Chair, Victoria Park will be home to the Brisbane 2032 Olympics’ BMX freestyle events and the incredible level of skill of these young champion riders from Brisbane means we might very well see them wearing the green and gold in nine years’ time. There was something for everybody at the Outdoor Adventure Festival. There were three zones, there was the base camp, the great outdoors and the sanctuary, which catered not only for those who had high energy levels but also for those who were looking for a more relaxed activity to enjoy. At the base camp, attendees got to enjoy a bite from a food truck, some coffee or craft beer and listened to live music, while enjoying talks and workshops from some very big names.

We had Outback Mike from *Alone Australia*, who showed off his handcrafted canoe and shared his secrets of survival and adventure and I know that Councillor MACKAY was a bit starstruck in meeting Outback Mike. He bought a copy of his book and I understand, Mr Chair, Councillor MACKAY’s seven-year-old daughter is reading that as a bedtime story at the moment. We had *Australian Ninja Warrior* champion, Ben Polson, who was there—well, sharing valuable insights and essential tips from the rigorous world of Ninja Warrior, which was a big hit with the attendees. We also heard from Natasha Price and Adam Sheppard, two incredible athletes who were kind enough to share their experiences about overcoming adversity and their insights into the world of elite adaptive sports. We got up close and personal with some native wildlife, some snakes and lizards, birds and even a crocodile, all of which were accounted for at the end of the day.

At the sanctuary, attendees were able to participate in a range of activities that were more on the relaxing side of the scale, while getting outdoors and connecting with nature. There was yoga, Pilates, fitness classes and even a horticultural workshop. At the great outdoors area, there were activities for all ages and abilities to run through the weekend, like the BMX stunt show I mentioned earlier. But for those not quite brave enough to attempt those daring stunts yet, we offered a BMX skills clinic where attendees got to learn the fundamentals under the guidance of expert instructors. While I was there, I had a chat to a young dad who brought his little one along, she would have been three at most, so probably up to my knee. Along with her, this tiny little bike without any training wheels at all and she was there to do the BMX clinic, so it was fantastic. It was an event where children from this high to adults—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: Kneehigh to a grasshopper, yes, so there was something for everybody on the day. But I would say, Mr Chair, there was just so much to see and do over the weekend. It was an event like none other that we’ve had in Brisbane before. As I said, it was the inaugural event and we had several thousand people turning up for this event and we were excited about that. I can tell you that the feedback was that people will be back next year, they’ll be sharing what was available with their friends. In fact, as I was leaving, a family came along, like several families, that were going to enjoy the day and have a birthday party at the same time. So the kids were very, very excited, they were looking at the rock-climbing wall, they were looking at the inflatable ninja warrior course and I know that that was going to be a great time for them. Mr Chair, again it was a huge success and I would encourage everyone to come along next year.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor CASSIDY.

**Question 7**

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

LORD MAYOR, when the Metro business case was released in 2017, the cost‑benefit ratio was 1.91. That was for a Metro that was costing $944 million and a bus network carrying millions more passengers than it is today. The Metro, then, also included an underground Cultural Centre bus station. Now that project has doubled in price and has been scaled back significantly and has a delayed opening, what is the new cost-benefit ratio for your Metro?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: I am glad, Mr Chair, that Councillor CASSIDY has finally read the Metro business case, because we know that there’s been a lack of understanding about the project for many years and hopefully, he has discovered what a fantastic and important project it is. Now obviously with things like the pandemic, passenger numbers change over time, but I have every expectation that that is a temporary impact on the network and not a permanent impact. With the population growing and Brisbane now being the fastest growing capital city in Australia, we know that the passengers will be there and that will only grow between now and 2032, when we host the Olympic and Paralympic Games. So a temporary blip for the pandemic is not something that would stop us building a project that needs to be done.

But I would say that whatever changes have occurred in terms of passenger numbers and also costs of the project, they are certainly not what Councillor CASSIDY has said. I heard him say just before that the project has doubled. He mustn’t have been listening when Councillor MURPHY explained very clearly what the project budget was. Now I’m happy to go through again because this is an important point. If you’re talking about a BCR (benefit-cost ratio) and a business case, you need to know what the cost of the project is. So we’ve heard repeated incorrect figures. Someone said in the Chamber yesterday—last week that it was $2.1 billion. It is not $2.1 billion, so the original Brisbane Metro proposal started off at $1.5 billion.

The project was then modified, it went to $944 million. The decision to go fully‑electric vehicles took the project up to $1.244 billion, so that was a cost associated with higher cost of vehicles because they were fully electric and required various charging infrastructure and other support. There’s then been cost escalation, which every major project is facing. The current contract, or the current cost of Brisbane Metro is $1.4 billion and so that is the project cost. A separate project altogether is The Gabba station, that is not part of the current project of Brisbane Metro. In fact, based on the State Government’s timeframes, that is a project that will be delivered much, much later. People will be riding on Brisbane Metro long before The Gabba Metro station is built and so that is part of a separate project.

But the reality is the cost of Brisbane Metro as of today is $1.4 billion. Is the project under pressure? Yes, it is, absolutely. We’re seeing a situation where month on month construction prices across the industry, whether it’s building a block of units, or whether it’s building a road upgrade, or whether it’s building a public transport project, those costs are under pressure, there’s no doubt about that and we’re seeing that—

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: My question specifically—on relevance, Chair, my question specifically was about the cost-benefit ratio. I understand those costs have changed, but the question was about what the current ratio is.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CASSIDY. I don’t uphold your point of order, I believe the LORD MAYOR is answering the question.

LORD MAYOR: I can tell Councillor CASSIDY that based on all of our understanding the cost‑benefit ratio, or the benefit‑cost ratio of Metro is always going to be above one. It is always going to be a positive benefit project. Now we can’t say the same for Cross River Rail, because they could never get it to one even with the old patronage numbers and the old cost numbers. So Councillor CASSIDY is quite happy to support investment in Cross River Rail, with a BCR of less than one and falling, yet he questions a project that clearly has a positive cost-benefit ratio.

This is the sad situation we see and the hypocrisy we see. So we will continue to invest in Brisbane Metro because it is a game-changing, transformative public transport project. It is one that the State Labor Government supports, it is one that the Federal Labor Government supports, it is one that Infrastructure Australia supports. Everyone whose opinion is worth listening to thinks Brisbane Metro is a fantastic project and there’s only one person that hasn’t gotten on board yet. I’m disappointed. I’m not angry; I’m disappointed. It would be nice if you supported Brisbane Metro just—do you know what?

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, we’re going to listen to the LORD—

Councillors—

Councillor MURPHY.

We’re going to listen to the LORD MAYOR in silence.

LORD MAYOR: The Deputy Premier came on board the Metro vehicle just last Friday and he loves it, he absolutely loves it. The second time he’s been on the vehicle and you know, take a leaf out of Steven Miles’ book.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillors, further questions?

Councillor HUTTON.

**Question 8**

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Chair. My question is to the Chair of Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, Councillor ADAMS. DEPUTY MAYOR, the Brisbane Fashion Festival has now wrapped up for another year. Can you please update the Chamber on the economic benefits of this event—of an event like this and how it pays dividends for Brisbane business?

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair, and thank you, Councillor HUTTON. Yes, last week we saw another five days of events driving the Brisbane economy. Now in its 16th year, the Brisbane Fashion Festival returned once again to King George Square and City Hall, welcoming more than 3,000 fashion fanatics across an array of runway show events and activations. It has grown to be an absolute staple in the city’s events calendar and one that is growing from strength to strength, recognised widely as Queensland’s largest and most prestigious fashion event. One that we, as the Schrinner Council, are very, very proud to support year after year. After selling out in 2022, this year’s event was even bigger with a jampacked program of events and activations spanning five days, bringing the streets to life with runway shows, foodie events, charity fundraisers and some of our best local, national and next-gen designers on show.

It’s not just about the fashion on the runways, as fantastic as it was; it’s about supporting the whole industry behind fashion and that message certainly cut through last week. The fashion industry is a serious business. Nationally, it employs over half a million people and generates more than $27.2 billion annually. While there is big business to compete with, there is undeniably a big shift towards supporting local talent and buying local. It’s through platforms like the Brisbane Fashion Festival that give our incredible home-grown talent their chance to share the stage with some of the heavy hitters in the fashion industry and reach new audiences right across Australia and around the world. As the first of the season launch for the spring/summer collections to the rest of the country, the Brisbane Fashion Festival has certainly carved out its place in the runway calendar.

This year’s program featured an incredible line-up of more than 50 designers, presenting a total of 460 unique, inspiring and must-have looks for the season. There’s a growing list of supporters and sponsors behind the event and this year I was thrilled to see even more of our emerging local designers on show. Twenty‑four local young up-and-comers took part in the next-gen group show in Wednesday night and it did not disappoint. Students and graduates from Brisbane’s fashion colleges and universities blew everybody away, showcasing their creative and innovation fashion wares on the big stage. Not quite sure if I would be ready to wear some of them, but they were definitely innovative.

A fantastic opportunity for them to gain some experience and exposure and of course make new connections in the Brisbane fashion community. That’s exactly what it is all about, building Brisbane’s creative community and building Brisbane’s reputation as a place that inspires and connects people to do great things. Each year this event creates an enormous ripple effect on the local designers, on the retailers, on the creatives, right through to our bars, restaurants and hotels right throughout the city. It gives a huge boost to our local economy. This event alone supports hundreds of jobs and drives upwards of $5 million into Brisbane’s local economy in just the three short days or evenings that it takes place. That is no small feat, it’s events like these that help drive Brisbane’s global reputation as a major events city.

From world-class sporting events like FIFA World’s Women’s—Women’s World Cup, the NRL Magic Round, the PGA golf that’s coming up later in the year, carrying us right through our green and gold runway to 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It really is about that booming live music, theatre performance scenes, including local favourites like BIGSOUND which is returning in October. I know Councillor HOWARD’s getting her pompoms out for DZ Deathrays and, of course, not to miss the Brisbane Festival which kicks off on Friday with a bang and Saturday night with an explosion over the city. Hundreds of theatre, music and art performances spread right across the city and hopefully, all Councillors know where their suburb serenades are going to be for their locals to enjoy some fantastic music in their suburban streets.

Our quiet achievers in terms of events for the city are our business events. More and more people and businesses from across Australia and around the world are turning to Brisbane. Working with key industry partners, Brisbane has secured more than 70 new business events over the next few years, generating an estimated $71 million in economic benefit to our city. It’s all about creating a year-round calendar of events that support local business, create jobs and drive our local economy. I want to take this opportunity to have a big congratulations to Lindsay Bennett and the entire Brisbane Fashion Festival team on another outstandingly successful year. We look forward to continuing the support of this event and many others exactly like it across the city for years to come, to make the Brisbane of tomorrow, even better than the Brisbane of today.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR and that ends Question Time.

Councillors, we’ll move on to the consideration—

Councillor COLLIER: Point of order, Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor COLLIER.

**Procedural motion – Motion that the motion be taken off the table**

**126/2023-24**

At that juncture, Councillor Lucy COLLIER moved, seconded by Councillor Jared CASSIDY, that the motion submitted by former Councillor Kara Cook at the meeting on 6 September 2022, be taken off the table.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 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, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

Chair: LORD MAYOR, Establishment and Coordination Committee report please.

## CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR (Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER), Chair of the Establishment and Coordination Committee, moved, seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 21 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Before I go on, I just wanted to table the annual financial statements of the Museum of Brisbane and flag also that given that we’ve come past the end of the financial year and all of the annual reports and statements are being finalised at this point in time, there’ll be other statements coming through in the coming weeks as well for different controlled entities. So that includes Museum of Brisbane and other Council-controlled entities, so I do table this statement, the annual financial statement. I wanted to thank the Chair of the Board, Ian Klug; the patron of the Museum of Brisbane, Sallyanne Atkinson; the new CEO of Museum of Brisbane, Zoe Graham, for the work that they’ve done. Obviously, the Museum of Brisbane continues to go from strength to strength and grow visitation numbers and, most importantly, showcase the fascinating place that we call home with a very unique offering for the people of Brisbane and visitors.

Last night, the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge and Reddacliff Place were lit up in red, blue and white to support the Legacy Appeal Week. Legacy supports over 40,000 partners and children of veterans who have given their lives or health serving our country. Legal Week Appeal has been running since the 1940s and it’s a time for Australians to show their support for this important charity. Tonight, the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge will be lit up in purple to support International Overdose Awareness Day. This campaign raises awareness of overdose, which is one of the world’s top public health crises and we’ve seen some alarming figures coming out of a number of parts of Queensland in recent times on overdoses as well.

On Wednesday night, the Story Bridge and Victoria Bridge will be lit up in yellow to support the eve of Daffodil Day. Run annually by the Cancer Council, Daffodil Day supports all Queenslanders living with cancer, including informing them of the support services that can be offered for themselves as well as their families and support networks. Thursday is the eve of National Wattle Day and the wattle being our national floral emblem. That reminds me that we have a community consultation underway at the moment to choose a new Brisbane floral emblem. The Brisbane wattle is one of those in the mix at the moment, but there are three others as well.

*Councillors interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: But we’ll be lighting up the bridge—the Story Bridge, Victoria Bridge and Reddacliff Place in green and gold which are our national colours, which are based on the wattle, the golden wattle, and which we, obviously, see when it comes to our Australian sports uniforms in many different forms in places like the Olympics, FIFA Women’s World Cup and so many others. On Thursday night, the Sandgate Town Hall and City Hall will be lit up in red, blue and white, as well as yellow, to recognise Malaysia’s National Day. This day is celebrated on 31 August each year, which is also known as Freedom Day. Congratulations to Brisbane’s Malaysian community on that special day.

Last week, there were some legislation amendments introduced in the Queensland Parliament, giving the Valuer-General more flexibility to cancel land valuations after natural disasters. Now this is a debate that we had last year following the devastating floods, where we saw old figures being used, pre-flood figures being used. That included suburbs like Fairfield and Rocklea, which were obviously very heavily hit by flood, yet they experienced an average valuation increase of 24.5% in the case of Fairfield and Rocklea—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

LORD MAYOR: —and Rocklea experiencing a 20% increase in land valuations. We called very clearly for the valuations to be held off and redone based on the post-flood outcomes. The State Government refused, but now we have seen them change the legislation to give them the flexibility to do so if they choose. So while it’s not—it wasn’t a good outcome after the last flood, if and when we see future flooding, they have the flexibility now to cancel a scheduled valuation, or to hold it off or to hold it over, based on a natural disaster that may have impacted on land values. So I think that is a good thing, it’s not exactly what we wanted but the fact that this legislation change has been made I think is a very positive thing and gives the flexibility that’s necessary.

You’ll remember that the big push at that time was the State Government increasing land tax and so they wanted to get that land tax revenue and they refused to cancel the valuation, because they knew those valuations were increasing rapidly and their land tax take would increase rapidly. We have worked really hard to make sure that our costs across Brisbane on average are half the rate of inflation and that is not something that we’ve seen the State Government give appropriate consideration to, but anyway, they’ve got the power to do it now and that is a good thing.

Item A is the lease of land at 1300 Nudgee Road, Nudgee Beach, and this is for a renewal of a lease at Nudgee Beach. The lease is with Queensland Recycling Holdings for construction and demolition waste recycling purposes. Queensland Recycling Services—Holdings have held the lease since 1995. The new lease is for another three years, with amendments made to the lot area to correspond with the State Government’s environmental approval for the facility. Additionally, Queensland Recycling Holdings requested the new lease to be entered in by a different legal entity. It is the same operations, the same operator, but a different legal entity. As a result of these changes, Council is seeking an exemption from the Local Government Minister to renew the lease without going to tender. Site remediation and makegood obligations at the time when the site may return to Council are included as part of the lease arrangement.

Item B is the sublease of premises for the Police Beat in Adelaide Street, the city. This is something which we are very proud to support. Many people may not be aware that we’ve co-located the Police Beat and also our CitySafe security centre. It’s in the same lease centre and we provide a sublease to the Queensland Police so that they can operate a Police Beat there. Now in these times of community safety concerns and challenges with crime, particularly youth crime, it is very interesting to point out that the only reason the Police Beat is in the heart of the city is because we pay for the lease. We pay for the lease for the Police Beat, not the State Government, we pay for it. But obviously it would be a very concerning situation to see the Police Beat removed from the city, so it’s something we’re continuing to subsidise through this arrangement.

Obviously the CitySafe facility’s our responsibility, we do work closely with the police on the CitySafe facility, but the Police Beat is quite clearly a State Government responsibility and we cover the vast majority of the costs of the lease of that, so we’ll continue that. We sublease to the police at $1 per annum, so a peppercorn rent, which is a good outcome for them, but also a good outcome for the community who get an increased police presence in the heart of the city and help us keep Brisbane as safe as possible. Council’s current lease on the premises is due to expire on the 31st—sorry, the proposed lease is for an initial term to 31 January 2025, when there’s an option for a further two years and that is due to expire on 31 January 2027. So I assume all Councillors will support this lease going forward.

Item C is the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 8 June 2023. They’re presented in line with the City of Brisbane Regulation. Our independent Audit Committee reviews Council’s internal audit reports on operational risk and control measures. As the minutes set out, the Committee received updates from the CEO, CFO, Chief Internal Auditor and the Queensland Audit Office. We work really closely with the Queensland Audit Office and we appreciate the ongoing advice, independent advice from this Committee, to help us make sure we’re constantly updating our processes, we’re constantly managing our risks. This Committee does a really good job for us in managing all types of risks. We also have focused in particular in this meeting on cybersecurity and natural disaster management and recovery. I commend these reports to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Further speakers?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on these three items.

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

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| Councillor Jared CASSIDY requested that Clause C, REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 8 JUNE 2023, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much. Three very simple, business-as-usual, standard items that have to come to Council on the agenda today. We’ve heard from the LORD MAYOR about a lease—two leases that were up for renewal, had to come to Council and an Audit Committee report that, as the LORD MAYOR said, is required—the minutes are required to come to Council by legislation. Apparently, apparently this Administration is far too busy today to talk about koala fencing, or to debate a motion about flying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags on the Story Bridge. The business of Council is apparently too packed today with these three very simple items. I think the LORD MAYOR spent about five minutes—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: They haven’t got their lines ready, that’s right, so they have to delay it by—not just to the end of this meeting, but the end of the next meeting these days. Not a lot of accountability and transparency under the LNP, which brings me to the first two items, of course we will support—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, please continue.

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes, thanks very much, Chair. The first two items we’ll support, of course, those leases, two important leases. When it comes to accountability and transparency the report of the Audit Committee should be given as soon as practicable. That’s what’s there, needs to be given to, I presume, E&C as the delegate of Council to make decisions after a meeting. This one’s three months after its meeting and we’re not talking the reports that were attached at the meeting and a fulsome record or a *Hansard*-style record of what happened at the Audit Committee. This is a precis of what happened at the meeting, this is very, very light minutes indeed, but this is what we’ve come to expect from this Administration. Shutting down debate, gagging debate, pushing debate off, not bringing fulsome information to this Council Chamber for accountability and transparency.

So we’re supposed to, as Councillors, tick off on this, that’s what the LORD MAYOR’s asking us to do, with very limited information contained within these minutes at all. We’re told in there that there’s an update which is provided on the progress of Queensland Audit Office reports recently tabled in the State Parliament, but they’re not there and there are no details of that. We’re supposed to accept one sentence from the LORD MAYOR today about that. The Committee discussed updates on corporate rules requiring review, but what are they? What corporate rules are required to be reviewed and what is the process which Council is going through? The question is why, is that a legislative requirement just like these meetings are to happen? Has—perhaps some issue has been identified that corporate rules are out-of-date or someone was doing something wrong, we don’t know.

We know that this year—and Councillor STRUNK spoke about this a couple of weeks ago, the bushfire season we know is going to be particularly bad this year and the Committee had a report on the approach to disaster recovery, but we don’t see there what the plan is. We had a presentation, a high-level presentation about that. This is a serious risk, not just to the operations of Council, but to each and every person that lives in the City of Brisbane. We know it’s going to be particularly bad, but what is that approach to disaster recovery? We know from our experience on the ground in communities that were flooded, the LNP’s approach to disaster recovery was a disaster itself and that was a human-made disaster in their response to that flood in February 2022, in the lack of resources that were available to Council officers trying to respond.

We all remember that—the lack of sandbag machines, the lack of road closure equipment, the lack of staff on the ground because they’ve all been contracted out to contractors now. We really worry about Council’s ability to respond to these bushfire disasters because of the political decisions of this LNP Administration in gutting Council’s workforce. There’s still—and on floods, there are still outstanding recommendations from the 2022 Brisbane City Council flood review. They’re being talked about at this Audit Committee, but no detail is being brought to this Council Chamber about those outstanding items in the flood review. We’re still dealing with that aftermath, 18 months now, we’re beyond the 18-month mark after that and we certainly worry what’s on the horizon for people who live in Brisbane in these summer months, with a bushfire disaster looming now.

The last item in the report is other matters, a very vague term, of course. There was a discussion in there, at least as a dot point, that talks about procurement. There’s not a whole lot of detail in that section of the report, but we can see that there are some very significant issues around global risks, issues and impacts like supply chain disruption and labour shortages on that agenda. They were just the agenda items, not the discussion and some of the solutions that the Audit Committee came up for the LNP Administration. But here’s a suggestion, LORD MAYOR, maybe start making things here in Brisbane, maybe bring jobs back here to Brisbane. Instead of shipping off manufacturing jobs to China to build buses over there, why don’t we start building buses here in Brisbane again. They giggle along, the LNP, they think it’s a joke.

Chair: Councillor CASSIDY, I’m assuming your comments to the LORD MAYOR were through the Chair.

Councillor CASSIDY: Of course.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thank you. Perhaps start making more playground equipment here in Brisbane, rather than having those supply chain issues that we’ve seen over the last few years where playground equipment is important from Europe and from Asia and other places to Brisbane. Then we see those supply chain issues exacerbated and projects delayed and lo and behold, this year’s budget has a $300 million carryover of projects that aren’t able to be delivered by this LNP Administration. What a surprise that one wasn’t talked about in the Audit Committee, that’s the one they leave out. Our approach to these documents, to these processes and approaches will be very different in administration from the LNP.

Under Labor and a Tracey Price Lord Mayoralty and a Labor administration. We would make things here in Brisbane, we would be more open and accountable and transparent and they laugh away about openness and accountability and transparency, because they don’t think that’s a very serious issue, do they? They’ve been there, they’ve been there for 20 years, 20 long years and you see, Chair, you see the letter issue that we’ve been discussing for the last three weeks is just a symptom of that bigger problem of this LNP Administration being in there too long. Another symptom of that bigger problem of this LNP Administration being there too long is when we talk about accountability and transparency here in Council, they laugh it off. That’s the difference between the LNP and a Labor administration.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, a bit of shush.

Further speakers to the E&C? I see no items.

We’ll now put item—

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Mr Chair.

Chair: Sorry, Councillor CUNNINGHAM. Sorry, I missed you. Sorry, my apologies.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: That’s okay, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on items A, B and C just very briefly, to add to the debate and clear things up for the Chamber. So item A is for the renewal of a lease of land at Nudgee Beach to Queensland Recycling Holdings, or QRH, for construction and demolition waste material recycling purposes. Since 1995, Queensland Recycling Holdings have held this lease at the site. Their lease—this new lease, rather, is for a total of three years, Mr Chair. The area QRH occupies corresponds with the area identified in the environmental approval which was granted by the Queensland Government for the facility back in 2001.

It includes an additional area in the south-eastern corner of the site which is not included in the current lease area. Since the initial lease was granted, the land has been reconfigured and the new lease is proposed to be over the whole of the land to match that area occupied by QRH. For commercial reasons, QRH have requested to enter the new year—the new three-year lease under a different related entity, being Queensland Recycling Proprietary Limited. To facilitate this, the submission seeks an exemption from the Local Government Minister which is necessary. We’ve also allowed for makegood obligations and the site remediation as part of that lease.

To item B, Mr Chair, this is to grant the new sublease for the Adelaide Street Police Beat, as the LORD MAYOR described. Council lease part of the ground floor of 65-69 Adelaide Street in the CBD, which is occupied by our CitySafe team. Excuse me, Mr Chair. Council’s lease is funded through the Queen Street Mall Special Levy. The ground floor location and access being available—thank you—from both Adelaide Street and Burnett Lane meets the requirements of the Police Beat. Council’s leasehold tenure of the premises has been renewed and this item for a new sublease for QPS (Queensland Police Service) via the Department of Housing—this is a new sublease for QPS via the Department of Housing and Public Works.

The proposed rental for the sublease is just a dollar, if they demand it. We fully support and encourage the continued presence of the police in our mall and we’re happy, more than happy in fact, to offer that peppercorn rent. The proposed lease is for an initial term to 31 January 2025, with a further option of two years expiring one day prior to Council’s head lease over the premises. The *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* provides an exemption from the requirement to go to public tender for the disposal of an interest in an asset where the disposal is to a government agency, there you go. Council’s current lease at the premises is due to expire on 31 January 2027.

Finally, Mr Chair, just on item C, we have a rigorous audit regime in this city with independent oversight through the Audit Committee and, of course, the Queensland Audit Office. Frankly, Mr Chair, it would be far greater concern to me if there were no issues that were identified by auditors. We receive frank and fearless advice and that is exactly how it should be. Our Audit Committee comprises of independent members appointed through a totally external recruitment process. Further, our internal audit process brings a systematic, disciplined and risk-based approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, internal control and governance processes here at Brisbane City Council and I commend this report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Are there any further speakers?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair, I rise to speak on item B.

**Seriatim - Clause B**

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| The DEPUTY MAYOR requested that Clause B, SUB-LEASE OF PREMISES FOR THE POLICE BEAT AT 65-69 ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE, be taken seriatim for voting purposes. |

DEPUTY MAYOR: This is the sublease of the premises at 65-69 Adelaide Street, the Police Beat and as the LORD MAYOR said, we’re very proud to support the support of the QPS within the city centre as well. Having our Police Beat station centrally and co‑locating with our CitySafe room is an incredibly important and effective way to keep our city and its residents, visitors and workers safe. It operates 24/7, we monitor 142 CCTV cameras across the network and 101 of those located in the CBD. So since 1984, this CitySafe network has—we continue to invest in and work closely with the QPS to help prevent crime, respond to issues quickly and make sure everyone feels safe at all times of day and night in our city centre.

By having these offices centrally located and in constant contact with our CitySafe team, a large number of these incidents were able to be deescalated or prevented entirely. Over the last year, we’ve had our CCTV network actually critical in capturing over 23,000 incidents, so it is great to see the QPS on hand to help us with that. It’s not just crime and emergencies, it’s also about planning ahead, preparing for events, knowing when there’ll be large crowds through the city, major events where we know we need to alert people moving through particular locations as well.

Being able to consult with the QPS in advance and make sure our network of cameras are monitored, we are better prepared and more alert for anything that may arise as well. So we’ve worked with the local Police Beat stations including Adelaide Street Police Beat, Roma Street and the Valley with our dedicated networks for many, many years. Brisbane is known as a safe, clean and friendly city and there’s no denying, however, that people are getting concerned about the crime that is rising recently. We will continue to closely work with the QPS, support the CBD Police Beat and make sure our city can continue to be safe for everybody. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Are there any further speakers? I see no one rising.

LORD MAYOR, right of reply.

LORD MAYOR: Just briefly, Mr Chair, Councillor CASSIDY continues to suggest incorrectly—and I think he claimed that the workforce of Council had been gutted. It’s just absolutely and patently not the case and, in fact, I know my Brisbane City Council history very well and I know that the two major outsourcing operations that occurred—actually no, three major outsourcing operations were all done by Labor. (1) Outsourcing the ferry operations to a private contractor rather than Brisbane City Council employees, (2) outsourcing the rubbish collection to a private contractor and (3) outsourcing the grass cutting to a private contractor. So I need to correct the record, the biggest outsources ever in the history of Brisbane City Council have been the Labor administrations who did all of those things. That was their mentor Jim Soorley, their mentor Jim Soorley did all three of those things.

So I just need to correct the record. We obviously have continued those existing arrangements. Why? Because they provide value for ratepayers. You won’t hear Labor admitting that they provide value for ratepayers, but that is the reality. But it was them that did the major outsourcing of Council services.

Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

We’ll now put item A of the report.

**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.

Chair: We’ll now put item B of the report.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 27 - 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, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON

Chair: Right, I’ll now put item C of the report.

**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: 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, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 7 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Steve GRIFFITHS, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, 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, Tracy Davis, Vicki Howard, Kim Marx, Ryan Murphy and Andrew Wines.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Councillor Fiona Cunningham.

#### A LEASE OF LAND AT 1300 NUDGEE ROAD, NUDGEE BEACH

**112/445/444/213-002**

**127/2023-24**

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

2. Council leases land at 1300 Nudgee Road, Nudgee Beach to Queensland Recycling Holdings Pty Ltd (QRH) for construction and demolition waste material recycling facility purposes. The lease expired on 6 April 2023 and QRH are continuing to occupy the land under the lease holdover provisions. QRH has requested to renew the lease and the asset owner, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability branch, support a renewal.

3. The lease area, as per current agreement, is over Lease G on SP155782 being part of Lot 2 on RP841319 (refer Attachment C, submitted on file). The area QRH occupies however, corresponds with the area identified in the environmental approval granted by the Queensland Government for the facility in 2001, which includes an additional area in the south‑eastern corner of the site not included in the current lease area. Since the initial lease was granted, the land has been reconfigured and the new lease is proposed to be over the whole of the land within Lot 1 on SP272249 which matches the area occupied by QRH (refer Attachment D, submitted on file, outlined in blue).

4. In addition, for commercial reasons, QRH have requested to enter the new 3-year lease under a different, related legal entity, being Queensland Recycling Pty Ltd (ACN 070 222 847). As a result of the proposed change in lease area and legal entity, Council is unable to apply the exception in section 226(1)(c)(iii) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) to renew the lease to the existing tenant without going to tender.

5. A new lease will therefore be subject to Council obtaining an exemption from the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (the Minister) pursuant to section 226(1)(f) of the Regulation from complying with the lease tender requirements under section 217 of the Regulation.

6. During the lease negotiations, Council engaged valuers to provide a market rent assessment for the site to ensure the proposed rent of a new lease is at market value. Negotiations for a new three-year lease and associated rent have now been concluded on terms set out in Attachment B (submitted on file). As part of the proposed new lease agreement, an improved site remediation outcome will also be sought via amended make good obligations required to be completed by Queensland Recycling Pty Ltd before returning the site to Council.

7. The lease will otherwise be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager, Property Portfolio, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure, and the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance.

8. Upon Council approval to grant the lease, the Minister’s exemption under section 226(1)(f) of the Regulation will be sought.

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

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO DISPOSE OF AN INTEREST IN LAND BY LEASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 226(1) OF THE *CITY OF BRISBANE REGULATION 2012***

As:

(i) Council is the owner of the land (freehold), which is used for construction and demolition waste material recycling facility purposes

(ii) Council proposes to grant and enter a new lease in respect of the land, which is used for construction and demolition waste material recycling facility purposes,

then Council:

1. resolves to enter a new three-year lease with Queensland Recycling Pty Ltd (ACN 070 222 847) over existing land at 1300 Nudgee Road, Nudgee Beach, being Lot 1 on SP272249, in accordance with the lease terms, as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file), and otherwise on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager, Property Portfolio, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure and the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance
2. grants the lease subject to Council obtaining an exemption from the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning pursuant to section 226(1)(f) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) from complying with the lease tender requirements under section 217 of the Regulation.

**ADOPTED**

#### B SUB-LEASE OF PREMISES FOR THE POLICE BEAT AT 65-69 ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE

**112/445/444/557-003**

**128/2023-24**

11. The A/Divisional Manager, Brisbane Infrastructure, provided the information below.

12. Council is the lessee of part of the ground floor of 65-69 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, and holds this site for CitySafe (the premises). The Queensland Police Service (QPS) shares possession of the premises for the Police Beat and have been operating here Queensland Police Service since 2011. The ground floor location and access being available from both Adelaide Street and Burnett Lane meets the requirements of the Police Beat (refer Attachment C, submitted on file).

13. The CitySafe facility is funded through the Queen Street Mall Special Levy (the Levy), which is paid by property owners within Queen Street Mall and surrounds. The Levy covers the rental costs for the lease of the premises on the basis that the QPS has a presence in close proximity to the mall.

14. Council’s leasehold tenure over the premises has been renewed and the Department of Energy and Public Works, acting on behalf of QPS, is seeking a new sub-lease for the area occupied by the Police Beat at the premises.

15. The proposed rental for the sub-lease is $1 (if demanded) per annum. The proposed lease is for an initial term to 30 January 2025 with a further option of two years, expiring one day prior to Council’s head lease over the premises. Council’s lease at the premises is due to expire on 31 January 2027 (refer Attachment B, submitted on file).

16. Section 226(1)(b)(i) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* provides an exception from the requirement to go to public tender for the disposal of an interest (lease/sub-lease) in an asset where the disposal is to a government agency.

17. The A/Divisional Manager provided the following recommendation and the Committee agreed.

18. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**Attachment A**

**Draft Resolution**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION TO APPLY THE EXCEPTION UNDER SECTION 226(1)(b)(i)** **OF THE *CITY OF BRISBANE REGULATION 2012* AND TO GRANT A SUB-LEASE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE POLICE BEAT AT 65‑69 ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE**

As:

1. Council is the lessee of part of the ground floor of 65-69 Adelaide Street, Brisbane (the premises), for CitySafe
2. the Queensland Police Service (QPS) shares possession of the premises for the Police Beat
3. the Queen Street Mall Special Levy covers the rental costs for the lease of the premises on the basis that the QPS has a presence in close proximity to the mall
4. Council’s lease tenure over the premises has been renewed and the Department of Energy and Public Works, acting on behalf of QPS, is seeking a new sub-lease tenure over the areas occupied by the Police Beat in the premises
5. section 226(1)(b)(i) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* provides an exception to the requirement for Council to run a public tender process for the disposal of interest in an asset where the disposal is to a government agency
6. under the terms and conditions of Council’s lease from the owner of the premises (the “Head Lessor”), the Head Lessor’s consent to the granting of the sublease to QPS is required,

then Council:

1. resolves that the exception under section 226(1)(b)(i) of the *City of Brisbane Regulation 2012* applies to the granting of sub-lease tenure to the Department of Energy and Public Works for the Police Beat at the premises
2. resolves to grant a sub-lease to the Department of Energy and Public Works for the Police Beat at the premises, for an annual rental of $1 (if demanded), in accordance with the lease terms, as set out in Attachment B (submitted on file) and otherwise on terms satisfactory to the Head Lessor, the Manager, Property Portfolio, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure, and the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance
3. resolves to, if required by the Head Lessor, enter into a deed of consent to sublease (or similar document) in respect of the granting of the sublease on terms satisfactory to the Head Lessor, the Manager, Property Portfolio, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure, and the Chief Legal Counsel, City Legal, City Administration and Governance.

**ADOPTED**

#### C REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 8 JUNE 2023

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

**129/2023-24**

19. The Chief Executive Officer provided the information below.

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

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

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

23. **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 8 JUNE 2023, AS SET OUT IN ATTACHMENT A**, submitted on file.

**ADOPTED**

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR.

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

The DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor Krista ADAMS), Civic Cabinet Chair of the Economic Development and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, you’ve got the call.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Thank you, Mr Chair. Business Hub busy as ever, lots of drop-ins in the last week, particularly as we’re heading into spring and people are coming back out again and may have been in for some of the events in the city last week and stayed—dropped by to do some work as well.

But we do have one event that is coming up this week on the 30th, which is tomorrow at 9.30am, Transforming Waste into Profit—I know you’ll love this one, Councillor MARX. This is being presented by our business partner, ASPIRE (Advisory System for Process Innovation and Resource Exchange), again, somebody you know very well, about the circular economy solutions for Brisbane businesses. This is how commercial waste management for businesses can become opportunities, to explore what resources are available for you to reduce your waste, save on costs and maybe even make money out of your waste disposal as well. So that is at 9.30 tomorrow morning and I suggest even if you let your businesses know and keep an eye out for another one, that work that ASPIRE do in the circular economy is absolutely outstanding, so it’s wonderful to have them at the hub as well.

Last week we had the presentation on the Asia Pacific Cities Summit (APCS). That comes up again in October this year. It is—I’m going to say the 16th, but I’m thinking I felt like I said the 16th for the Fashion Festival, but it is the 16th iteration of APCS as well. Please let your businesses know in your local areas that early bird finished this Friday for registrations. But I’d just like Councillors to know that registration is free for you if you go on to register, we’d love to see as many Councillors as possible there. APCS has an absolutely proven track record of delivering innovation, connecting cities and creating commercial outcomes. The 2019 APCS, which is actually the last iteration of the full in-person APCS—we had a hybrid one in 2021—actually won the Conference of the Year Award in Australia for their clear vision and their purpose, so it is an outstanding conference.

This year the theme is shaping cities for our future. It’s going to address the cities of connection, focusing on technology, data and the people. Cities of sustainability, adapting to growth, inclusivity and wellbeing and cities of legacy, sorry, creating events of longevity and prosperity. So over three days from 11 to 13 October, there are site visits, there’s networking, there are keynote speakers, there are plenary sessions, there’s heaps there. We’ve already announced Bo Seo as one of the keynotes, the two-time world champion debater; Andrew Liveris AO (Officer of the Order of Australia), obviously the organising Committee president; and Charles Montgomery, who is the award-winning author of *Happy City*, is joining us from Vancouver, so a great range of delegates.

There’s the Mayors’ Forum and the City Leaders’ Forum, as well as companies, businesses, CEOs, directors, managers and of course in currency with that, we have the Young Professionals’ Forum for students and those under 30 that want to come and network and have a look at some of the city’s challenges that they could work for us as well. We’ve also got the major project announcement briefings, which we started in 2019, has been a great success for businesses and for briefings for projects right across the Asia Pacific countries as well. So please share it with your businesses and your workplace colleagues, or people that you know under 30 that might like to be involved, there are some places available. Councillors, you can register free, we’d love to see you there. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAYOR.

Further speakers on the report? I see no one standing.

We’ll now put the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Krista Adams (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Sarah Hutton (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Greg Adermann, Jared Cassidy, Lucy Collier and Steven Huang.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – 2023 ASIA PACIFIC CITIES SUMMIT AND MAYORS’ FORUM

**130/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, International Relations and Multicultural Affairs, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an overview of the 2023 Asia Pacific Cities Summit and Mayors’ Forum (APCS). She provided the information below.

2. APCS is Council’s signature international event which takes place every two years, representing the largest and most diverse gathering of mayors in the Asia Pacific region. First held in 1996 and held 14 times across the Asia Pacific, 2023 will be the nineth time that it has been hosted in Brisbane. The host city alternates between Brisbane and an offshore delegate.

3. APCS has a proven track record of delivering innovation, connecting cities and creating commercial outcomes. Hosted by Brisbane, the 2019 APCS received the Conference of the Year award and was commended for its clear vision and purpose. The event attracted more than 1,400 delegates from 140 cities, including 83 mayors and deputy mayors. There were 196 speakers, 86 exhibitors and 34 sponsors and partners. The number of APCS alumni cities has now surpassed more than 500 cities, with a combined represented population of 99 million people.

4. The overall theme of the 2023 APCS is Shaping Cities for our Future. The content will address three sub-themes:

- Cities of Connection – focusing on technology, data and the people

- Cities of Sustainability –adapting to growth, inclusivity and well being

- Cities of Legacy –creating events of longevity and prosperity.

The Committee was shown a draft of the 2023 APCS program which is set to span over three days from 11 October to 13 October 2023 and includes site visits, networking events and half a day dedicated to each sub-theme.

5. The Summit will host three keynote speakers:

- Bo Seo, a two-time world champion debater

- Andrew Liveris AO, the inaugural President of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee

- Charles Montgomery, the award-winning author of *Happy City*.

6. APCS attracts a diverse range of delegates, which traditionally break even between the private and public sectors, including:

- city mayors, councillors and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs)

- company and business CEOs, directors, managers and leaders

- peak body representatives

- government heads of Local, State and Federal departments

- policy makers

- leaders in city tourism

- emerging leaders, researchers and change advocates

- innovators, influencers and trend setters.

7. APCS has a wide range of partners, sponsors and supporters, including Griffith University, which will hold the 2023 Summit Young Professionals’ Forum. Designed for students and early career delegates, this forum offers real-world learning opportunities for professionals aged 18 to 30 years. Participants will work on practical challenges during sessions run alongside the APCS program and will work together on a presentation which will be delivered on the final day of summit. APCS also holds the Major Project Announcement Briefings which invites organisations to present on upcoming tender opportunities, with a combined value of projects presented at $4.2 billion.

8. The APCS Market Square will be held at the Brisbane Pavilion and host a number of conference rooms, the auditorium and Innovation Alley: a dynamic space with changing exhibits of new or small innovation businesses. The display space is offered for half a day and businesses that register for Innovation Alley will have access to APCS for the full day they attend.

9. Businesses are encouraged to register for the Meet@APCS program, a dedicated business introductions program designed to create opportunities to pre-arrange meetings with other delegates, create their own meeting agenda throughout the forum, scan delegate cards for contact information and access ongoing business development support after the event.

10. Attendees experiencing APCS will gain key insights on emerging opportunities and world‑changing ideas on cities, connections to world-class keynote speakers, city leaders and high-calibre delegates, access development support through the award-winning APCS network of alumni and develop business leads and commercial outcomes.

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

12. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor MURPHY, Transport Committee please.

### TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Ryan MURPHY, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Transport Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor MURPHY: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week’s Transport Committee presentation was a general construction update on the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge. We know the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge will span 80 metres long over the entrance of Breakfast Creek and will provide an enhanced active transport link along the river from the inner city to the northern suburbs. Councillors may remember that I mentioned in the Chamber earlier this year that the bridge has reached its 50% construction milestone and we’ve continued to see significant progress on the project.

All concreting works for the bridge’s landing structure in Newstead Park were completed in May of this year and the bridge approach structure being completed—was completed in August, so just completed. All marine piling works are now completed, I’m happy to say residents can now walk underneath part of the bridge in Newstead Park and will soon be able to enjoy the new landscaping. Newstead Park landing area works, including concreting and landscaping, are underway, with works starting near the creek and progressing up towards Breakfast Creek Road. Roadworks on Breakfast Creek Road are ongoing, including centre median and road pavement works, kerb works and signalling.

As well as this, sections of the permanent two-way on-road bike path on Newstead Avenue was also completed in February this year, as well as cycle path on Newstead Terrace. Heading north to the other side of the creek at Cameron Rocks Reserve, residents will start to see the extension to the ever-popular Lores Bonney Riverwalk start to take shape. When Council delivered the riverwalk alongside the Kingsford Smith Drive upgrade, what we saw from the community was feedback around a desire to link in with the existing riverwalk network and the inner city active transport network.

Around 150 metres of this extension has been completed thus far, which has required over 1,500 tonnes of concrete. One hundred metres of this has already been balustraded, which will be completed along the entire length by September this year before the grand arch of the bridge arrives. Fabrication for the arch is being undertaken by a local SEQ contractor, Sun Engineering, and makes up about 40% of the overall works required to deliver the project. Works began at the start of 2023, with the first bridge components being delivered to the Port of Brisbane for assembly in late June 2023.

I’m happy to say, Chair, that we received some of the first arch sections of the bridge for assembly just last week down at the Port of Brisbane and assembly will be anticipated to be completed this year onsite by October 2023. We’re of course preparing to lift then the single arch bridge span by late this year, where we transport it, as I said, down the Brisbane River from the Port of Brisbane to the site and lift it in one fell swoop. Once completed, Chair, it will be more than a bridge; it will be an important link to the Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct and an important link to the Athletes Village at Hamilton. But most importantly, it will provide a safe and active connection for the many residents who are flocking to this growing part of Brisbane.

Now before I finish, Mr Chair, I’d also like to just share a milestone that’s been reached a bit further down the river at the Kangaroo Point Green Bridge. The past week has seen a flurry of construction, with multiple concrete pours, deck pours and module installations being done. The first concrete is now going into the viewing platform on the bridge’s main pier, pier 4, with pours commencing yesterday. Pier 5 on the Kangaroo Point side of the river is receiving its final touches on its support arms, with pouring also commencing yesterday.

Just as pieces of a jigsaw puzzle come together to gradually form a picture, the bridge’s deck modules are also beginning to come together, which will reveal to the public for the first time the structure of the eventual built form of the bridge. Span 4’s final deck module will be installed this week, span 3’s first module was installed last week and span 2’s concrete deck installation will be completed this week. So jargon aside, that means essentially, Chair, by October the bridge will be connected from the CBD all the way out to the main mast point, the centre of the bridge. It’s all happening, Mr Chair, and this Council is focused on creating infrastructure that enhances the liveability of our city and delivers more active transport links to help us move more residents more efficiently and sustainably. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MURPHY.

Further speakers on the report? I see no one standing.

We will now put the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Ryan Murphy (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Angela Owen (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Jared Cassidy, Julia Dixon, Steven Huang and Trina Massey.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – BREAKFAST CREEK GREEN BRIDGE UPDATE

**131/2023-24**

1. The Project Director Green Bridges, Civil Major Projects, Major Projects, City Projects Office, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Breakfast Creek Green Bridge project (the project). He provided the information below.

2. An aerial view and context map were shown to the Committee, displaying key project features such as the Lores Bonney Riverwalk (the Riverwalk) extension and Newstead Park landing, including integration into existing paths and the dedicated two-way bike path along Breakfast Creek Road into Newstead Avenue and Newstead Terrace.

3. On the north side of Breakfast Creek, a small parcel of land west of Cameron Rocks Reserve, Hamilton, was excavated between October 2022 and March 2023 to create the space necessary to construct the future Riverwalk landing. The Riverwalk landing and abutment piles were installed in March 2023, the landing structure and retaining wall were constructed in June and July 2023 and current works include backfilling, concreting and landscaping behind the landing structure.

4. Major works including land-based piling activities commenced in August 2022 on the southern side of Breakfast Creek with the installation of two piles at Newstead Park, which form the foundation of the bridge land pier. All concreting works for the landing structure were completed in May 2023. Two major retaining walls, which extend from the bridge supports in Newstead Park towards Breakfast Creek Road, were constructed in March 2023. The bridge approach structure, which is located between these two major retaining walls, was constructed over two separate concrete pours and completed in early August 2023. Newstead Park landing area works, including concreting and landscaping, are underway with works starting near the creek and progressing up towards Breakfast Creek Road.

5. Permanent roadworks on Breakfast Creek Road are ongoing, including centre median and road pavement works, kerb works and electrical and traffic signal works. Newstead Avenue and Newstead Terrace to Halford Street were permanently converted to one-way vehicle traffic from mid-July 2022. Sections of the permanent two-way, on-road bike path on Newstead Avenue and the cycle path on Newstead Terrace at this location were completed in February 2023.

6. Marine piling works for the new green bridge and Riverwalk extension were completed in March 2023, with the marine bridge pier being completed in April 2023.

7. Bridge fabrication works began in January 2023 with works to pre-assemble the single-span steel arch bridge at the Port of Brisbane commencing in July 2023. Off-site bridge fabrication and assembly works is ongoing. Upon completion, it is anticipated that transportation from the Port of Brisbane to the project site via barge will occur in November 2023. Breakfast Creek will remain temporarily closed to all marine craft for the duration of these works.

8. Drone footage was shown to the Committee of the first concrete deck pour for the Riverwalk extension, the progress of the Riverwalk landing at Cameron Rocks Reserve and the Riverwalk extension deck works in Breakfast Creek.

9. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Project Director Green Bridges for his informative presentation.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor WINES, Infrastructure Committee please.

### INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Councillor Andrew WINES, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Fiona HAMMOND, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor WINES, you’ve got the call.

Councillor WINES: Thank you, Mr Chair. My Committee last week heard a report about contributed assets, how they’re received, now the negotiations with the third-party entities operate as they transfer from the third party to us. In a very fast summary, a contributed asset is an asset created by a party that is not Council and then ownership of that asset is transferred to us for ownership and ongoing maintenance. Because of those two things our interest in them is very high, because we want to be able to be sure that the item that is being transferred to us is of a standard that we would accept and that Council does not incur costs or labours as a result of bringing that item up to an acceptable standard.

The other thing is we also are often involved in its planning work, so that we understand the maintenance requirement of that asset so that when it is transferred to us, we understand the expectation of maintenance and that is brought into our maintenance programs and scheduled. For a contributed asset to be accepted by Council certain principles must be met, including clear ownership of that asset from all parties, an understanding of what is required to maintain that asset and understand that Council does in fact have the ability to do that maintenance. That the completed asset must meet our quality standards and Council’s plans for replacements where required and has sufficient information to register each asset.

Once contributed assets are completed, compliance during and after handover is achieved through joint inspection with the asset owner and the delivery partner. Defects—so the asset owner is a term we use internally in the organisation, which part of Council, so whether it be—if it’s roads it’s a certain individual, if it’s parks it’s a different individual, so that’s what I mean by asset owner. The delivery partner is the third party that delivers to us. Defects identification, agreed remediation of that—if there is a requirement for a mediation on that defect—finalisation of the separation of the boundaries, that is clear delineation of what is ours and what is theirs, undertaking post-defect inspections and then creating an asset registration and documentation.

Some of the big projects that we’ve dealt with tend to come from a number of groups. Our big—the big people—the big organisations, I should say, who contribute to us typically, the Queensland Government, the Queensland Government entities like the Economic Development Queensland Priority Development Areas (PDAs), the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland Rail and Seqwater are the main ones that handover contributed assets. Within the last 12 months, Council has been involved with approximately 50 interactions, as we prepare to receive assets from those asset deliverers. They range in scale from small intersections to multibillion dollar projects.

Projects where we’re interacting with them to understand what our obligations would be when we become the asset owner include Cross River Rail, Queens Wharf, Northshore Hamilton, Oxley, the Eastern and Northern Transitways, the Beams Road open level crossing, a number of park ‘n’ rides and station accessibility upgrades, to name but a few. I thought it was an important opportunity for the Councillors to consider some of these ordinary operational matters, which has been a feature of this session and will be moving to project work in the next session. But I thought it’s important that we take a moment to consider what are contributed assets, how do we accept them and what is the oversight that goes with receiving these items.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor WINES.

Further speakers on the Infrastructure Committee report?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you. I rise to speak on item A, contributed assets from State-led projects. This is an area where I think Council is not getting it right. There are a number of examples that I’m going to refer to today, but in my experience, Council has failed to (1) be involved at an early stage to ensure good planning and development outcomes, including making sure the right mix of new facilities goes into these areas. As we’ve heard from Councillor WINES, Council’s involved in this at an early stage, that they give feedback, that they make sure the assets and structures are all okay. That’s not been the experience I’ve had in my ward and the Tennis Centre is one of the primary examples of a massive failure of that process. Yes, car parking, but no, I’m just literally talking about footpaths, street gardens and street maintenance.

After it came off the developer’s 12-month hold, Council just didn’t have it on its assets. The asset officers told me there was no money to maintain the gardens and this is a huge inherited section of—so it was a mess. It took at least a year, at least a year and then ongoing complaints to try and get things done. We are still doing that 10 years later. Council’s saying that’s not ours, that’s the State, that’s not ours, that’s the State. That’s what happens every single day in my ward. What Councillor WINES says is going on at Council is not what is being reflected in reality on the ground in Tennyson Ward.

I can then point to other examples. There are two PDAs happening in Tennyson Ward. One is the Oxley PDA, which is technically now on the Jamboree side of the line, but as that was going through it was in Tennyson Ward. I pushed very, very hard to have parkland created and a lot of that open space be returned to Brisbane City Council. So Brisbane City Council, instead of perhaps looking at a really good water-sensitive design that would allow for water to be harvested and reused to maintain the open space, they’ve just allowed the State Government to build a swamp, a giant swamp.

There are no upgrades to the stormwater assets beyond putting in the new stormwater pipes for the new residential areas. The bottom of Cliveden Avenue floods, it floods in heavy rain and instead of getting upgrades to support the surrounding residential area that gets flooded, Council’s done nothing. Council didn’t push back there, to my knowledge. Council has said sure, we’ll just take that bit and we’re losing open space that should be sporting fields. We should have water tank collection, filtration and reuse and we should have an innovative solution here that does not make the stormwater system worse for Corinda and Oxley residents who live in Blackheath Road, Cliveden Avenue.

I also pushed really, really hard for Council and the State to look at a water reticulation system. If we’re coming into a brownfield’s development like this, where we can look at best practice to make sure that we are using these natural resources in the most effective way, water harvesting and reuse should be part of that. That wasn’t discussed and instead, as I said, there’s a big bioretention basin that takes up a huge amount of area, which will be a swamp in this part of the back of Corinda and Oxley. There is no upgrades to infrastructure, none and there’s a whole community of hundreds of residents going in there and yes, they’re getting a stormwater pipe that feeds down to the open channel, it’s an open channel that I’ve got to call in every 6 months and get Council to clean out so the water can run through it. That’s what this Council does.

Or we can go to Yeerongpilly, the other PDA happening in my area. Now I know, because again I made submissions as part of that process and I pushed hard to make sure that the small amount of parkland we are getting there will be useful parkland for the residents. Six storeys, community centre, aged care, public housing and there’s a small section of park that’s going in there. I said to the State people, I said well righto, so what community facilities are you going to put in the park? Picnic shelter, taps, bins, a pathway? No, Council didn’t want anything. Council did not want anything. So Council had the opportunity to make sure we got facilities in a small pocket park going in in the Yeerongpilly PDA area and I think we’re actually in the end going to inherit probably a bioretention area. That’s not going to have any practical use for residents as greenspace.

Not only that, not only that, the other big issue is immediately adjoining this site to the north, there is a footpath that has a staircase in it. The stairs go down under a rail bridge. Now I said to the State and to—you know, part of this process, it is critical that the project makes sure that those stairs are removed and one of the connections that we can get that would improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure for people in my area was to get rid of a staircase in the middle of a footpath. Now the State’s not doing that, I doubt Council could be bothered to do anything whatsoever. What Councillor WINES has said here today is so far removed from reality. This Council—and look at Cross River Rail, I could do this all day, Cross River Rail. This Administration refused, they voted against putting in a pedestrian crossing on Mildmay Street at Fairfield.

I’ve pushed for it as part of the Cross River Rail project. Do you know who’s doing it? Cross River Rail is putting it in for me, not the Council I represent. This is a pedestrian crossing, a zebra crossing on a Council street and Cross River Rail’s going to put it in because I’ve been pushing for it, not Council, not anyone in there. They said they didn’t want it and because I’ve pestered the Cross River Rail people, they’ve gone back to Council and it’s happening. This is what this Administration is like. They are not doing the work that we need as a community to ensure that when major State Government projects happen, the infrastructure that connects to it is actually upgraded in a way that meets the intensified level of development that is happening in that part of the world. That’s a huge problem and this Council’s just failing to do the work.

The second problem is that there is a very, very tenuous connection to actually maintaining these assets and half the time Council don’t even know that it’s now a Council asset and it’s not getting maintained. I just say this to Councillor MARX and Councillor WINES, just go and clean up the centre of the road verge out there at the Tennis Centre. It’s Council land, stop saying it’s State Government land. It looks terrible, it is the premier tennis centre for the State and Council keeps saying it’s the State, the State say no, that’s definitely Council. It’s definitely Council, so I think what Councillor WINES has said might be how it’s supposed to work in practice, but in reality, every day I see the poor planning and the poor design and the failure to be innovative and the failure to properly maintain these assets when they come back online.

It is having a lasting impact on the communities that live around these major assets. It is a major shortcoming of Council that Council’s not doing the work needed to make sure these big projects are handed over to us in a way that enhances community liveability, enhances functionality, improves the outcome of community facilities and resources. Because if you’re plonking more people down in these areas then there is a responsibility to make sure the surrounding footpaths, roads, vegetation is of a decent standard and that is not happening.

Chair: Further speakers? I see no one rising.

Councillor WINES, right of reply. No?

We’ll put the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – COUNCIL’S CONTRIBUTED ASSETS FROM STATE-LED PROJECTS

**132/2023-24**

1. The Asset Management Project and Innovations Manager, Asset Management, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on Council’s contributed assets from State-led projects. They provided the information below.

2. A contributed asset is a physical asset constructed by a third party for Council projects which Council own and maintain. These assets can be on freehold, Crown or trust land, and are recorded in physical and financial registers to monitor and manage the life and financial costs of each asset. Council is currently working with multiple third parties including the Queensland Government, Economic Development Queensland Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), Queensland Rail and Seqwater.

3. Within the past 12 months, Council has been involved in approximately 50 contributed asset projects ranging in scale from small intersection upgrades to multibillion-dollar projects including:

- Cross River Rail

- Queens Wharf

- PDAs such as Northshore Hamilton and Oxley

- Eastern and Northern Transitways

- Beams Road open level crossing

- park ‘n’ rides

- station accessibility upgrades.

4. For a contributed asset to be accepted by Council, certain principles must be met including:

- clear ownership of the asset from all parties involved

- an understanding of what is required to maintain the asset, and the ability to undertake this maintenance

- the completed asset must meet Council’s quality standards

- Council plans for replacements where required and has sufficient information to register each asset.

5. At the Mount Crosby Weir, works are currently being undertaken to replace the existing two‑way single‑lane bridge with a new two-lane bridge, to improve flood resilience and meet modern standards. Other assets as part of this project include a community park, an upgraded intersection at Stumers Road and upgrades to the existing community facility on Stumers Road.

6. The Carseldine urban village and part of Oxley have been identified as PDAs, where surplus State land will be developed and delivered across multiple stages. Typical assets that are handed over once development is completed include roads, footpaths, stormwater drains, lighting and parks and natural areas.

7. TMR projects include the Eastern Transitway and the recently completed Sumners Road interchange upgrade. The Eastern Transitway is expected to have minor works completed by late 2023 and, once completed, Council’s contributed assets will include separate bus transit lanes as well as road, drainage, footpath and intersection infrastructure. The Sumners Road interchange upgrade was completed in 2021, with Council completing scheduled maintenance in March 2023. The upgrade included new signals that replaced two roundabouts, a two-lane eastbound bridge, a new four-lane bridge that replaced the existing westbound bridge and a cycle track which joins the Centenary Cycleway.

8. Once contributed assets are completed, compliance during and after handover is achieved through:

- joint inspections with the asset owner and delivery partners

- defect identification and agreed remediation

- finalisation of separation boundaries

- undertaking post-defects inspections

- creating asset documentation.

9. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Asset Management Project and Innovations Manager for his informative update.

10. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor ALLAN, City Planning please.

### CITY PLANNING AND SUBURBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Adam ALLAN, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Planning and Suburban Renewal Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Lisa ATWOOD, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor ALLAN, you’ve got the call.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Item A was a Committee presentation on a development application (DA) at 110 Melton Road, Nundah. Situated in the vibrant suburb of Nundah, 110 Melton Road is a well-planned development that encompasses a range of meticulously designed residential units, communal spaces and environmentally conscious amenities. Conveniently located within walking distance to the Nundah Village and close to high-frequency public transport options, 110 Melton Road also provides access to employment hubs, entertainment venues and essential community facilities. The development is a five-storey residential development with two basement levels and has a diverse mix of units, including two one-bedroom units, 32 two-bedroom units and one three-bedroom unit. Certainly the type of product that we are hoping to see at that affordable end of the housing spectrum.

The development boasts spacious private balconies ranging from 10 square metres to 16 square metres, providing residents with their own light-filled spaces. One of the hallmarks of 110 Melton Road is the approach to subtropical design elements that are evident in the 2.7-metre-high ceilings, practical incorporated weather protections and sun shading mechanisms that enhance the appeal of openings. The approved development offers 68 resident car parks and 35 dedicated bike spaces. An additional nine visitor car parks and complimentary bike spaces extend a warm welcome to guests. The development’s emphasis on accessibility aligns with Council’s strategy of promoting sustainable urban living.

There is 108 square metres of communal open space and that’s been dedicated to just project an ability for the community to engage, and also 162 square metres of deep planting. I’d also note that the development is about 100-odd metres from Oxenham Park, which provides approximately five hectares of sport and recreation space. Further adding to the sustainable urban living is the presence of deep planting along the western boundary, which contributes to an urban cooling effect whilst adding aesthetic value. 110 Melton Road was approved as it supports *Brisbane’s Sustainable Growth Strategy* by providing the right mix of housing that is delivered with function, sustainability and location in mind. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor ALLAN.

Further speakers?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to speak on item A, the development at 110 Melton Road, Nundah. I want to start by saying that I’ve been on the Planning Committee for three weeks now and I was actually quite shocked when this DA came through last week. This is a code assessable DA, code assessable, and with all the planning issues that are going on the City of Brisbane at the moment, bringing up a code assessable DA that had been decided by officers a week earlier, so we weren’t even making a decision, is honestly lazy. I don’t think there’s any other way other than to describe that as lazy. Either that or it is designed to try and just be as bland as you can be in this Council.

We’ve got so many important issues that we should be considering. Today we had a briefing on the South East Queensland Regional Plan, you know, that’s a good one. We’re not talking about the LGIP or the LTIP (long term infrastructure plans), we’re not talking about City Plan, we’re not talking about any policy issues from Brisbane precinct plans, you know. It was fascinating today, next week will be a good one, I’ll enjoy talking about that. But my point here is this is a code assessable DA. However, I think Councillor ALLAN has kicked an own goal here, because I was listening to the DA and this is a five-storey area and this is a—DA presentation, sorry—this is a five-storey area, this is a five-storey development, you would think that it would be pretty straightforward, right?

As the development’s gone—it went for about 29 minutes, the presentation on a code assessable DA. As this went on, it was very clear there are a few things that the officer was not saying in the presentation. I feel like Councillor ALLAN is going to end up a bit like the former Councillor for Walter Taylor, Julian Simmonds, in that he’s going to bring in such bad development in his area, his residents are going to revolt. They will revolt, that is what happened, that is what happened to Councillor Julian Simmonds and the current Councillor’s still feeling the impact of that. But Councillor ALLAN has set a benchmark today that is quite surprising for his local area. So this is what this development has approved, a 40‑centimetre front setback. Suburban area, five-storeys, it’s a 40-centimetre front setback.

There is—it’s shocking to me. I think it’s four metres is the five-storey front setback, but Council has required verge widening is they’ve taken 3.9 metres of the frontage, which fine, that’s what they’re doing, but then they’ve not established a front setback to the building. The building is essentially going to be hard up to the boundary of the footpath and the road if and when Melton Road is widened. Now this is bad planning. It contributes to a gross overdevelopment of the site. When you reduce the amount of land and you allow a big building to be put on it, the GFA (gross floor area) and the site cover are increased and that has an adverse impact. That sets a precedent. Now this is a precedent that’s been set in the ward of Northgate that I don’t think many people in Northgate will be proud of.

I think they want proper setbacks, I think they want to know that development in their area is going to preserve their amenity and the community’s amenity going forward. So I think that without question—and I know that I often get contacted by people who, you know, are in many areas around Brisbane, but I understand there are—there is an Independent running in Northgate, I think there’s a Green running in Northgate, there’s a Labor Opposition running in Northgate. If Councillor ALLAN wants to contribute to poor planning in his own ward and put it on the public record, I think that’s something that the candidates running against him in Northgate are going to be really interested in.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, Councillor JOHNSTON, can I draw you back to the report please? Who’s running in what ward at the moment is not in the report.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: No, I’m not touchy, Councillor GRIFFITHS. I’m running by the rules, thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Well okay, you just—I’m just going to do this whenever anybody mentions something else.

Chair: No, no, hang on. Hang on, Councillor JOHNSTON, I haven’t given you the call back yet, you can wait.

You’ve got the call, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: That’s a good ruling, I look forward to raising that when others talk about—mention any kind of politician not in the report. So I think that there are a lot of people who’ll be really interested in this decision. There are a number of other issues, I think, that are problematic. As I said, it’s five storeys, that’s fine, but Councillor ALLAN wasn’t here when City Plan went through in 2014 but I was, I was. I remember the arguments made at the time by people like Councillor ADAMS; the former Planning Chair, Amanda Cooper; the Lord Mayor of the time, they said no, no, the setbacks will protect communities. We’re taking out GFA as a measure of ensuring that there is not overwhelming bulk at scale, the setbacks will prevent that from happening.

Guess what this Administration has done for the past decade, chop setbacks back. The only measure left to try and control overdevelopment on sites and they have cut it and they’ve cut it so that there is a 40-centimetre front setback. Do you know, you would think—I think it is two metres, you’re supposed to have two metres of landscaping, from memory, on the front setback. Do you know what is going in the front setback in the 40 centimetres? Containerised plants. Pot plants, pot plants. So here we are in an area that is undergoing significant change, that is undergoing densification and fair enough, if that’s something Councillor ALLAN supports that’s good, but putting pot plants in a 40-centimetre front setback in a five-storey building, that is not good planning, that is not good public policy.

That is actually contrary to what City Plan says is a basic level of amenity for good design in this city. This is in Councillor ALLAN’s own area. I don’t think that is right. It is not right. You would think the Planning Chairperson would stand up and say hey, we need to preserve the amenity of these residents. Yes, they’re going to be in high-rise, we need to make sure there’s a proper setback, that the minimum setback is met. We need to make sure that minimum landscaping requirements are met to protect their amenity, to ensure a good subtropical design to the street, that would be good. But it gets better, as it went on you could hear—you heard more about the open space. It’s a patio, there’s a patio. Is there a barbecue? Is there a pool? Is there anything like that? Is there picnic tables and chairs? No, there’s nothing.

So again if you look at City Plan where you’re talking about densification like this, we should be seeing some community facilities going in that will benefit the residents. We also then—and this is the craziest bit in my view, right—so we were told that the front setback of 3.9 metres was being taken to preserve future road widening. Guess where Council’s putting the footpath that has to be built, they’re putting it out on the original street alignment to connect with the existing buildings on either side, so that if Council has to come and widen the road they’ve got to destroy the footpath that goes in and rebuild the footpath. Council’s not even putting the footpath in to start the new location of the footpath.

Now, okay, that’s a little deviation, but that means this developer is going to waste, I don’t know, 100 grand, 120 grand, on building a footpath that Council’s just going to demolish. This is not good planning. I don’t think nine square—sorry, nine-metre balconies, three by three-metre balconies are good, they’re tiny. Some of the balconies on this place I don’t think you’ll get a table and chairs on. I presume that you’ve still got to have all the air conditioning infrastructure out on the balconies. They’ll be tiny. So if Councillor ALLAN thinks that bringing presentations like this, that actually show erosion of good planning standards under City Plan 2014 in his own ward is a good idea, he’s got another thing coming. I’m enjoying being on this Committee, thank you for electing me to it.

Chair: Councillor HUTTON.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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| --- |
| **133/2023-24**  At that time, 3.08pm, it was resolved on the motion of Councillor Sarah HUTTON, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY, that the meeting adjourn for a period of 15 minutes, to commence only when all Councillors had vacated the Chamber and the doors had been locked.  Council stood adjourned at 3.11pm. |

**UPON RESUMPTION:**

Chair: Any further speakers? Anyone standing? No.

Councillor ALLAN, right of reply.

Councillor ALLAN: Thank you, Mr Chair. Look, part of the reason that this application was brought through to Council was that one of the areas where we aren’t seeing a lot of activity across the city is in the medium density residential zoning. Where, for one reason or another, the feasibilities just aren’t stacking up.

Realistically we need some of this housing out in our suburbs. It’s an opportunity to provide well-located, affordable housing for our suburban communities. Now, in the context of this particular application, there is a road widening dedication there. Where that development doesn’t prejudice a 3.9-metre future road widening along Melton Road. The streetscape will include street trees, it will include a footpath and turfing. So, the appearance from the street will be attractive.

This particular point that Councillor JOHNSTON was raising, that’s the most, the narrowest point. The rest of the building is set back quite a lot further than what she was proposing. I think disappointingly it is an example of Councillor JOHNSTON not supporting housing in our suburbs. It’s really well located.

It is something that is going to be certainly something the market is demanding out there. To take a negative view on this, I think is not appropriate when we are facing a housing crisis. Certainly, this type of product is aimed squarely at the affordable end of the market and we think that’s a good thing. So, thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor ALLAN.

We will now put the report of City Planning.

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.

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 24 - The DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Kim MARX, Ryan MURPHY, Angela OWEN, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE and Trina MASSEY.

ABSTENTIONS: 1 - Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON.

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Adam Allan (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor Lisa Atwood (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Lucy Collier, Fiona Hammond, Clare Jenkinson and Nicole Johnston.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – 110 MELTON ROAD, NUNDAH (A006095592)

**134/2023-24**

1. The Manager, Planning Services, Development Services, City Planning and Sustainability, attended the meeting to provide an update on 110 Melton Road, Nundah (the site). She provided the information below.

2. The site comprises of three allotments that make up a total area of 1,620 m². The development application included material change of use for Multiple dwelling which was submitted to Council on 6 September 2022 and decided on 11 August 2023. The proposed development is a five-storey building which includes 35 units in the following sizes:

- two one-bedroom

- 32 two-bedroom

- one three-bedroom.

The site currently has two multiple dwellings which will be demolished to construct the proposed development.

3. An aerial view and context map were shown to the Committee, displaying the proximity of the site to surrounding locations, including Oxenham Park, Nundah train station, Nundah Village shopping centre and Albert Bishop Park and Criterium circuit. The site is approximately 10 kilometres north-east of the CBD.

4. The site is located in the Medium density residential zone and the Oxenham Park Medium density residential sub-precinct of the Toombul-Nundah neighbourhood plan as part of *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan). The purpose of the Medium density residential zone is to provide for medium density multiple dwellings, typically up to five storeys in height, in locations that are within close proximity to significant centre or growth corridors.

5. The overall design maintains human scale and promotes activation through the building layout including increased openings and the location of all private open spaces adjoin the Melton Road frontage on each level. The building height, scale and form remains consistent with expectations of the area and supports liveability for residents. It has been designed to reinforce subtropical character and expected vegetation amenity through the location of deep planting within the rear boundary setback.

6. The subtropical design includes:

- 2.7-metre-high ceilings

- 50% of units are corner units and have dual aspect

- weather protection and sun shading to openings

- balconies which provide deep recesses and shade to the habitable spaces

- deep planting along western boundary to provide shade and promote urban cooling.

7. The proposed development complies with the crime prevention through environmental design principles as balconies and openings are orientated to the Melton Street frontage to facilitate casual surveillance and improve interface within the streetscape. A clear pedestrian entry is also provided to the centre of the site with a clear entry structure that acts as a wayfinding cue. Lighting will be incorporated into the design that complies with relevant Australian Standards and low-height fencing along the front property boundary will help define public and private boundaries.

8. The proposed floor plate will include three units on the ground level, eight units on levels one to four, with an internal floor plate ranging from 64 m2 to 96 m2. All bedrooms are a minimum of three square metres and have access to a window and natural light.

9. The design includes a concept landscape plan to demonstrate how the site can be landscaped in accordance with the outcomes in City Plan. Tulip woods and Tuckeroos have been proposed in the 162 m2 of deep planting at the rear of the property. Planting at the front of the property will provide shade along the street frontage and reduce building bulk and appearance. Shrubs such as Xanadu and Rojo congos have been proposed in these areas. Screen planting is provided along the interface with the adjoining developments, rear boundary and open spaces. The southern boundary comprises of a 1.8‑metre-high acoustic barrier and shrub plants to screen visitor car parking from neighbouring properties.

10. The proposed development will include 108 m2 of communal open space, which is 6.6% of the site area. Private balconies will range between 10 m2 to 16 m2. Streetscape improvements works include a concrete path, turf and street trees. One vehicle crossover is provided which reduces the number of possible crossovers and increases streetscape character and interface with the street. The building provides the following parking provisions:

- 68 resident spaces

- nine visitor spaces

- 35 resident bicycle spaces

- nine visitor bicycle spaces.

11. Stormwater run-off from impervious areas will be directed to the existing stormwater pipe in Melton Road via a new gully pit constructed by the developer along the kerb fronting the property. Stormwater quality treatment is also required for a development of this size and filter baskets are integrated into the driveway outlets to prevent debris and fine sediment from entering the stormwater system.

12. The proposed development provides the following community benefits.

- Supports housing supply and housing diversity in Brisbane.

- Provides for the future road widening of Melton Road and upstream stormwater drainage connection to improve the stormwater network in the immediate locality.

- Delivers housing that is well located and within walking distance of high-frequency public transport, employment, entertainment and community facilities.

- Contributes to the high level of amenity through increased vegetation on-site, encouraging outdoor living and connection to the surrounding streetscape.

13. The development was approved for the following reasons.

- Provides a medium-density residential use at a concentration and intensity that is commensurate to the location of the site in Nundah.

- Supports the creation of a walkable centre that optimises the potential for residents to live within walking distance of, and be well connected to, high-frequency public transport, employment, entertainment and community facilities.

- Minimises amenity impacts on adjoining developments and the surrounding area.

- Provides a building design that positively contributes to the immediate streetscape and pedestrian environment with highly articulated building facades and varied roof form elements and a subtropical building design that activates Melton Road.

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

15. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Tracy DAVIS, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor James MACKAY, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair. Last week’s Committee presentation was on Council’s Green Heart event program. Now in its 15th year, the Green Heart Fair remains one of Brisbane’s favourite community events. Since 2009, residents have flocked in ever growing numbers to learn about sustainability and what they can do to live in an ecofriendly lifestyle.

Since moving to Victoria Park, the two fairs have been our biggest yet, with over 35,000 residents enjoying this signature sustainability-themed event. In the presentation we heard some of the highlights from this year’s fair, which was held in May. There was plenty to do on the day with 116 sustainable exhibitors, displays and workshops, featuring 12 sustainability expert talks throughout the day. We had really positive feedback in the live music, ecofriendly crafts and food trucks and more than 3,000 free native plants were given away throughout the day.

The Committee heard some fantastic sustainability outcomes, including that with more than 18,000 people in attendance, the entire fair managed to fill only four wheelie bins full of general landfill waste.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: Which is an amazing outcome. All serve ware was compostable and our waste sorting station helped to divert 960 litres of organic waste from landfill. One hundred and eighteen containers were collected through Containers for Change and the proceeds of that donated to a local sustainability social enterprise.

Overall, we received really great feedback on the event, more than half of the attendees were new to the event and 98% of those surveyed told us that they had a great time.

The move to Victoria Park has allowed us to put on bigger and better Green Heart Fairs. Since 2022 we’ve been bringing the Green Heart Fair program back to the suburbs through pop-up stalls in local shopping centres across the city and of course our community planting days. Our pop-up stalls are held for one to two days at suburban shopping centres throughout the city. Where residents can collect a free native plant or a Green Heart Ranger bag for the kids. Of course, everyone will be familiar with our community street tree planting days which we hold across the city and are always a fantastic time.

Mr Chair, we also had a number of SEF (suburban enhancement fund) expenditure submissions: a DOL (dog off leash) refurbishment at Wittonga Park, The Gap; playground upgrade at Merriwa Park, Sunnybank Hills; playground upgrade at Fallon Park at Everton Park; pathways, landscaping and seating at The Lake Parklands in Forest Lake; and fitness equipment at Trundle Park, Coorparoo. I’ll leave further debate to the Chamber. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

Are there any further speakers?

Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Yes, thanks, Mr Chair. I rise to also speak on this Committee report, our Green Heart Fairs, can I say I was interested to hear Councillor DAVIS talk about the fact that only four wheelie bins of rubbish came out of the event held at Victoria Park. I think that’s a really good outcome for the residents of Brisbane and certainly what we’ve been talking about in relation to FOGO (food organics garden organics).

Can I just say, in relation to my ward, we’ve had great difficulty getting any bins from Council for any of the community events that we’re doing. So, it’s been very, very difficult to get community bins for community events because apparently Council has no bins.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Council has no bins.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: Point of order.

Chair: Councillors. Councillors, please.

Councillor MARX: Point of order.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

Point of order, Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Councillor GRIFFITHS is misleading the Chamber.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: The request was put in at 2.30pm, before the event on a Sunday, on a Friday afternoon.

Chair: Thank you, thank you.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors, Councillors.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor STRUNK. You’re getting quite vocal.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: He’s been quiet all meeting.

Chair: He has not. He was rather rowdy at the beginning.

Councillor GRIFFITHS, you’ve got the call.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Thank you, thank you, Mr Chair. What I would say and no, I think that’s not correct—

Chair: Councillor MURPHY.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —to the Councillor, I think that’s not correct. We have applied for bins and we’ve been told previously Council has no bins.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Council has no bins. How many other Councillors have had that same response or is it just this side of the Chamber? Oh, it’s just the Opposition—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —side of the Chamber.

Chair: Councillors.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Wow, ok, that—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor MARX. We—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: We do not yell out across the Chamber, Councillor MARX.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor COLLIER.

Not yet, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Well, I’m just going back.

Chair: You can stand there until I’m satisfied that the Chamber’s quiet.

You’ve got the call Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Thank you. Anyway, it touched a sensitive nerve there, but I would ask—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —I would ask that the Administration—

Chair: Councillor HAMMOND.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: —do provide bins to all Councillors for all events and that you do it in a fair way. But now getting back to the Green Heart city fair. That city fair costs us $325,000. Now our little Brisbane Sustainability Agency that we own, that apparently, we own but we don’t get information from. So, I asked for—they did a report, they did a survey of the people attending that fair—I would have been interested—there were thousands of people there but apparently, we did a survey on them but no one can tell me.

So, here’s a survey going into the details, but then I asked how many people were surveyed. We can’t tell you that, Councillor, we don’t know. They haven’t told us, they won’t tell us, but people apparently from all over Brisbane came but we don’t know if this is five people surveyed or 1,500 people surveyed or 35,000 people surveyed. We just don’t know that information.

This, I suppose is getting to the point that really worries me with this Administration, is we’ve set up a company, Brisbane Sustainability and they’re running the show. They’re doing the whole lot and some things they do really well and some things they do shockingly.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: But we don’t have a say in it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: We don’t have a say in it.

Chair: Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: In fact, you ask for feedback on it and it has to be filtered. It can’t be given to you. Has to be filtered, can’t be given to us. This is very concerning for me. This is very, very concerning for me. But more so what’s concerning is now we’ve moved to a system of green pop-up fairs in local shopping centres.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: What do I hear? They’re all in LNP wards. Brookside, Indooroopilly, Queen Street Mall and Greenslopes, they’re great. We heard if from that side of the Chamber, they’re great.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: It’s a bit like the bins. It’s great to get bins at our events. Not for this side of the Chamber but for that side, it’s great. This is really disturbing and it’s more disturbing because we should be looking after—and it should be how we’re governing. We should be looking after everyone in Brisbane.

I know at my event on the weekend, we had the Moorooka Family Fun Day, we had thousands of people there. We didn’t have to have one of these pop-up events set up in a shopping centre for two days to give out a couple of plants. We could have actually had a Council tent there with these people in it for four hours giving out thousands of plants. We could have had that.

I think that’s what should be happening. It used to happen, it used to happen in 2009 under Campbell Newman, it used to happen.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: It went well, people loved them. People in the suburbs got plants. People benefited from it. It was actually committed to everyone, not just people in—well, wherever. Not just people in LNP wards. I really think there’s so many opportunities out there. We already fund festivals, not well but we fund them. We have our libraries go there, we had our graffiti unit there, we had our sustainability people there, but we couldn’t do this there.

I just think that’s a missed opportunity for Council. It’s a missed opportunity for spending $325,000 on this event and we can’t get any data from it, $325,000 for this event.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, questions are for Question Time.

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Unbelievable. So, I’d like to see this event changed. But where’s the feedback loop? You ask questions in Committee and it’s like well no, we can’t give you that information because they’re a company owned by us and they don’t share any information with us.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Are you stupid? Do you really want information? One of the other Councillors even goes well you should just come along to the event. You should just come along to the event, then you’ll find it out. As someone who’s passionately interested in the environment and loves it and enjoys working with the community on it, I just think they’re the wrong answers. If you actually put your defensive guard down, you could actually get some really good results by listening to us and listening to, more broadly, the community.

You’d come up with some good ideas so that Council was working for everyone, not just for this political group. Because it should be something we’re achieving for our whole community, our whole city and not just one particular group.

People want to be educated, they want to be involved, they are passionate. Young people are passionate about the environment, older people are passionate about the environment. They love it and it’s such an easy thing to do. It’s something we, I think, can do well. I don’t think we’re doing particularly well and I don’t think at the moment we have a very dynamic team who’s leading this particular operation.

I think it’s falling really—it’s missing the mark and you’re not, at any point, meant to question or ask any information about this sort of thing, the Green Heart Fair. You’re meant to sit there and be told how great it is. If you don’t agree with how great it is or if you have any questions, God help you, because we’re not going to give you an answer.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: Anyway, I hope the Administration reconsiders the Green Heart Fairs. They can be so much better than what they are and I’d like to think that Tracey Price as Mayor would—well she was passionate.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor GRIFFITHS: She was passionate about what could be done for the environment and what could be done for our city. Like it was great to see her go round and meet every group that was there and have a discussion about them and actually be involved in the community. Thank you, Mr Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor GRIFFITHS.

Are there any further speakers?

Councillor WHITMEE.

Councillor WHITMEE: Thank you, Chair, I rise to enter the debate on the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee report. Through you, Chair, I congratulate the Councillor for being able to receive four event bins to her event on the weekend. I’m looking at an email at the moment dated 22 August for an event on the 10 September, which is just shy of three weeks.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor WHITMEE: Notice saying sorry, cannot provide you bins on those dates.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor WHITMEE: So, I can congratulate her on that.

Councillor DAVIS: Point of order, Mr Chair.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Just one moment, please.

Point of order, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: An event in three weeks’ time is not in the Committee report. It’s about the Green Heart Fair and I ask the Councillor to speak about that.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor WHITMEE: No, no, no. No, no, no.

Chair: Yes, I tend to agree with you, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor WHITMEE, can you go back to the report please and—

Councillor WHITMEE: I’m going—I’m speaking directly on the report that the Councillor gave. Where she spoke about the community bins. She was able to fill four bins that are in this report. That’s what I’m speaking on.

Chair: Councillor WHITMEE, they were the bins for that event.

Councillor WHITMEE: Yes.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Yes, right.

Councillor WHITMEE: I’m just saying congratulations on being able to secure them because I’ve got an event that’s three weeks out and I was denied them. So, my question is you know obviously not a question to the—

Chair: Questions are for Question Time—

Councillor WHITMEE: —Chair.

Chair: —Councillor WHITMEE.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor WHITMEE: A rhetorical question would be why are we not resourced enough to actually supply the city?

Chair: Just one moment, Councillor WHITMEE.

Councillors, can I acknowledge these young gentlemen up in the Chamber before they leave? They are heading off to Taipan to represent Brisbane in basketball. So, can I have a round of applause?

Thank you very much for coming in and seeing us today lads.

Councillor WHITMEE, you’ve got the call.

Councillor WHITMEE: Thank you. All I was rising to speak on was the four bins that were secured for this event and just to congratulate the Councillor on being able to secure those bins and whether she can provide any tips and tricks on actually how to do it, because we obviously can’t.

Chair: I think that’s an acknowledgement of some kind of failure.

Anyway, Councillor DAVIS—

Oh sorry, any further speakers? No.

Councillor DAVIS, right of reply.

Councillor DAVIS: Oh well thank you very much, Mr Chair. That was an amazing contribution by—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: —Councillor GRIFFITHS. Let me just show you the paperwork that I provided Councillor GRIFFITHS this morning, which was exactly what he had asked for. What I cannot provide, Councillor GRIFFITHS, is identifiable information about people who filled in a survey. It’s a survey that was open to attendees of the last Green Heart Fair. It was one that was organised and run by the Brisbane Sustainability Agency. All information as part of that was not to be shared with anyone but the Brisbane Sustainability Agency.

However, Brisbane Sustainability Agency extrapolated from that information a little bit of information here. Let me just tell you what’s in here, Mr Chair. It talks about 18,000 estimated attendees, 3,000 native plants, 116 sustainable exhibitors, displays and workshops. There was 98% attendee satisfaction, 12 sustainable living expert talks, 960 litres of organic waste diverted from landfill, four general waste bins to landfill, 1,180 containers collected, with funds donated to Substation33.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: Well, we’ll keep going because there’s more, there’s more. We had 100% compostable serve ware. It was a solar-powered stage, there were hydration stations, 91 mugs were used at our mug library. Waste stations for organic compostable and recyclable waste and landfill, 48% of attendees were returning fair friends, 52% were new and many shared their favourite fair moments on social media. I won’t go through that but there’s a page devoted to it.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: The favourites at the fair were free native plants, sustainable workshops, live entertainment and engaging activities for adults and kids. The favourite zones were the Brisbane City Council Green Home Living, Eco-Kids, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Sustainable Shopping. Favourite things about Council zones were ‘the free plants and native plant advice, the friendly staff and great information provided’. ‘The staff were so friendly, approachable knowledgeable and engaging, thank you BCC’.

There’s a whole heap more information in this and including a demographic snapshot of the post-event survey respondents. It also has a map of those that came, or filled in the survey, as to where they lived. I’m actually not sure what more information that the Councillor is after.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor DAVIS: What I can provide the Councillor, though because he asked additional questions this week that he did not ask last week, were how many questions were asked? Well, Councillor, there were just over 20. How many people responded to the survey? I haven’t got it right in front but around 200. Now that’s all he asked for. I have provided it.

In our Committee, Mr Chair, I always provide a response to Councillors. I have never not done that for Councillor GRIFFITHS. I don’t intend to do that in the future, but it is most irritating when he comes in here filibustering and carrying on about something that he asked for, that he got and now is complaining about.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Thank you, Councillor DAVIS.

We will now put the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Tracy Davis (Civic Cabinet Chair), Councillor James Mackay (Deputy Chair), and Councillors Julia Dixon, Steve Griffiths, Sandy Landers and Charles Strunk.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – GREEN HEART FAIR

**135/2023-24**

1. The Chief Executive Officer, Brisbane Sustainability Agency (BSA), attended the meeting to provide feedback on the Green Heart Fair (the Fair). She provided the information below.

2. The BSA delivers the Green Heart Events Program on behalf of Council and has been part of Brisbane’s event calendar since 2009. These events showcase Council’s commitment to a clean and green city, provide residents with information and advice on sustainable living and promotes the goals contained within *Brisbane. Clean, Green, Sustainable 2017-2031.* The 2023-24 program includes:

- the Fair

- community planting events

- Green Heart Pop-Ups.

3. Community planting days are delivered as part of Council’s Greener Suburbs program. Residents are invited to plant street trees to contribute to a cleaner, green Brisbane. These events include educational displays, children’s activities, live entertainment and a barbecue. The benefits that these provide include:

- shadier and more comfortable pathways for cycling and walking

- improved air quality

- shelter, habitat and food for wildlife

- reduced stormwater runoff to manage erosion

- improved property values.

4. Green Heart Pop-Ups are held at locations throughout the city. These events offer residents with free native plants and activity bags for children. Other sustainability initiatives showcased at the Pop-Ups include the Brisbane Carbon Challenge and the Flood Resilient Suburbs Program.

5. Launched in 2009, the Fair celebrates and promotes innovative sustainable living practices in a fun and family-friendly environment. The event includes free activities, entertainment and sustainability workshops and features more than 120 of Brisbane’s leading sustainability organisations, community groups, artisans, businesses and conservationists. Through recycling and reduction practices, BSA’s goal is to have a waste-free event.

6. In 2023, the Fair saw increased attendance through event promotion and programming. A post‑event survey sent to attendees found that 98% were satisfied with the Fair’s offerings. The 2023 Fair featured:

- 18,000 estimated attendees

- 3,000 free native plants given away

- 116 sustainable exhibitors, displays and workshops

- 12 sustainable living expert talks.

7. The 2023 Fair was divided into zones that aligned with the key sustainability pillars of waste, water, energy, green living, eco kids, sustainable fashion, transport, resilience and community organisations. Each zone featured stallholders, workshops, hands-on activities, displays and educational information for attendees to explore. A central zone showcased Council’s sustainability message through a selection of sustainability programs and initiatives.

8. The Fair featured the following sustainability practices:

- food vendors used 100% compostable cutlery and tableware

- a solar-powered stage

- hydration stations

- a reusable mug library

- waste stations for organic, compostable and recyclable waste.

This resulted in 960 litres of waste diverted from landfill.

9. For future events, BSA will continue to:

- cater for increased community interest in sustainable living practices

- ensure the event is inclusive and accessible to all

- ensure the programming continues to provide a fun, exciting and engaging event for the community to enjoy.

10. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the Chief Executive Officer for her informative update.

11. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

Chair: Councillor MARX, City Standards please.

### CITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Kim MARX, Civic Cabinet Chair of the City Standards Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Greg ADERMANN, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor MARX, you’ve got the call.

Councillor MARX: Thank you, Mr Chair. Before I get to last week’s Committee presentation, I just want to address the conversation, or if that’s we want to call it, that was just held here in the Chamber about bins. Council officers have—or Council officer within the waste space—they have on hand 75 bins red, 75 bins yellow. Up until now, once that allocation is exhausted, there are no more bins to go out to community groups.

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: The LORD MAYOR—we don’t own—we don’t have a stock warehouse full of rubbish bins lying around. They seem to think that we do. So—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: —can I finish, please?

Chair: Just one moment, Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: Seriously.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor GRIFFITHS. Come on, that cheeky smile won’t get you off the hook mate.

We’re going to listen to Councillor MARX in quiet.

Councillor MARX.

Councillor MARX: So, as I was saying, Council does not have a warehouse full of empty bins sitting around doing nothing. The other thing that needs to be taken into account is we actually transport those bins to the location upon the Councillor’s request. So, the other thing that we do ask for is a timely manner to organise the bins being requested.

So, 2.30pm on a Friday afternoon is nowhere near enough time for an event being held on Sunday. I’m quite happy to take on notice Councillor WHITMEE’s comments, through you, Mr Chair, to find out about that particular situation. What we have—what the LORD MAYOR has asked the Waste team is to source more bins. We will be doubling the bin allocations from 75 to 150.

However, I must impress upon all the Councillors, you need to give us plenty of notice. Can I tell you, as a local Councillor, I don’t organise a movie night on one week and then plan to have it the following week. None of us do that in this place. We’re all adults, we know how to organise events. We all know that there’s plenty of notice needed for a variety of things, bins being one of them.

So, can I just please ask you, if you’re having an event, make sure you give the waste people plenty of notice. It’s not just the bins, it’s the truck driver and the truck that we have to hire and organise, take him off whatever job he may be doing, to deliver those bins to you. Then he has to get to—or she—to the location that you had the event on—either when it’s finished or the next day. Remove all those bins and then empty them.

So, it’s not just a matter of going somewhere, picking up bins and shoving them wherever you want them to be. There is a process involved and all that you need to do is send an email to the waste email .com which I think you all know.

As far as the comment about saying that it’s just one side of the Chamber, I think that’s very offensive to the Council officer who works extremely hard in that role. She does everything she can to make sure all the Councillors’ needs are met.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MARX: So, I apologise to her on behalf of what was being said and insinuated.

Last week’s presentation was on the New Farm lighting upgrade in Cutters Landing, which I have to admit, I’ve never heard of before. But apparently, it’s in New Farm and Councillor HOWARD, obviously is across this presentation and this project. So, I’m happy to leave any debate to the Chamber, thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MARX.

Further speakers? I see no one rising.

We will now put the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – CUTTERS LANDING LIGHTING PROJECT

**136/2023-24**

1. The General Manager, Construction, City Standards, Brisbane Infrastructure, attended the meeting to provide an update on the lighting project at the Cutters Landing, New Farm (the project). He provided the information below.

2. Located near the old CSR sugar refinery site at 32 Refinery Parade, New Farm, the project was scoped to solve street lighting issues on nearby streets such as:

- old lamp technology with poor energy consumption

- trees creating shadows and inconsistent lighting patterns on roads and footpaths

- high lamp failure rates which increase maintenance costs and create unsafe conditions.

3. Refinery Parade was patrolled in three-month cycles from March 2022 to July 2023, to identify issues and post-project results. The project has resolved street lighting issues through the installation of extended arms on street light poles, relocated and newly installed light poles, fitting of new light emitting diodes (LEDs) and minor tree trimming work. In total, 23 lights were upgraded, four lights were replaced, six new lights were installed and three inadequate lights were removed.

4. The LEDs installed during the project are devices that use heat sinks to dissipate heat and do not contain mercury. Each LED is coated with a phosphate to produce warm and cool white coloured light. When compared to older metal halide lamps, the new LEDs:

- are twice as efficient

- can operate four times longer, at more than 50,000 hours

- use a smaller light source, which concentrates light better and reduces spill light on nearby properties

- produce 29% of the carbon dioxide (CO2), saving nine tonnes of CO2 output per year.

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

6. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### COMMUNITY, ARTS AND NIGHTTIME ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Councillor Vicki HOWARD, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Community, Arts and Nighttime Economy Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Sandy LANDERS, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, you’ve got the call.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you, Mr Chair. Prior to moving to the report, just want to let everybody know the wonderful things that have been happening across Brisbane this week. So, one of the events that we were very pleased to host was the Lord Mayor’s Photographic Award winners. It was fantastic to see everyone who had become a winner. We’ve got lots of different awards.

We had put those photographs up at Brisbane Square Library. It’s a great opportunity for local people to get involved with what’s happening around Brisbane and to take some fantastic photos. So, I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who entered and a big congratulations to all of our award winners.

We also held our very first Pawty in the Park, which was P-A-W-T-Y in our dog park. Councillor DIXON was there and it was a great event supported by local businesses. It was really something that was extra special down in the Newstead area.

The QUT (Queensland University of Technology) Dragon Boat Regatta took over for a second year at the New Farm Park. Again, I think people who were going for the picnics in New Farm Park were quite surprised to see dragon boats. I know that, through you, Mr Chair, I know that Councillor OWEN and Councillor STRUNK are very seasoned dragon boat people. But I have to say, seeing them in the Brisbane River in the New Farm Park reach is very new.

But the QUT team have done an amazing job of encouraging, particularly international students to participate in the dragon boat race. It really was a great regatta and we’re looking forward to hosting them well into the future.

Finally, I just want to talk about Brisbane Sings 2023. This is the 10th year now that Brisbane Sings has performed, with 600 members of community choirs across Brisbane. It was a fantastic event at QPAC (Queensland Performing Arts Centre) on Sunday evening with family and friends and everybody has just such a wonderful time. I’ve been proud to support the Queensland Show Choir who bring all of these community choirs together.

Brisbane City Council has been supporting them for very many years now and they were absolutely delighted to be able to be up on that stage singing their hearts out. We all got involved, we had to do our little bit of singing towards the end. So, it was a great evening and something that I really want to say a huge congratulations to all of the performers because I know what a thrill it is for them to be performing on stage.

Mr Chair, moving to the report. We had a Committee presentation on the St Thomas Brisbane Planetarium. Yet again, our Committee finds out such interesting bits of information when we have these wonderful presentations. So, we heard very much about the Planetarium hosting a lot of school holiday activities, theatre productions and special music events.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Chair: Councillor HOWARD, please.

Councillor HOWARD: Thank you. We also heard that we were able to provide community groups with the opportunity to host theatre or musical performances such as the Anywhere Festival and the Fringe Brisbane Festival utilising the planetarium. So, there were quite a number of activities that were there.

But, of course, the Cosmic Skydome was something that we were all very much interested in and there’s a number of events coming up. First of all, *The Navigators*, which tells the story of the Māori, Pasifika and European navigation and *Magic Globe: A Story of the Seasons*, which is a children’s movie that will be in the school holidays.

But something that we’re all looking forward to is a visual display accompanying the album *The Dark Side of the Moon* by Pink Floyd. Now, I’m sure that there are very many people here, in the Chamber, who are Pink Floyd fans. This will be a unique opportunity for them to experience that. So, I will make sure that we send you information about that wonderful event that will be coming up very soon.

But I just want to finish by saying a huge thank you to the Planetarium staff. The Planetarium went through quite an upheaval, as did all of our venues and businesses across Brisbane during the COVID. They have sprung back beautifully. They are doing an amazing job out there in the Botanic Gardens.

We know that school children are loving the fact that they can go along and really, first-hand, find out about the universe, so to speak. So, I just want to say, through you, Mr Chair, a really huge thank you to all of our Council officers and the amazing work they do at the Planetarium. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor HOWARD.

Any further speakers? I see no one rising.

We will now put the report.

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

The report read as follows⎯

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – THE SIR THOMAS BRISBANE PLANETARIUM

**137/2023-24**

1. The A/Manager, City and Community Halls, Community Facilities, Lifestyle and Community Services, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium (Planetarium). He provided the information below.

2. Located in the Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha, the Planetarium hosts a range of versatile indoor and outdoor spaces including two telescopes (open to the public during facilitated programs) and the 125-seat Cosmic Skydome. The Planetarium’s vision is to share knowledge that inspires, challenges and engages audiences in ways that enhances their appreciation and understanding of the cosmic environment and Planet Earth.

3. In 2022-23, the Planetarium returned to full operational capacity following the COVID-19 pandemic and saw the highest attendance on record for both the general public and school groups. During this period, the Planetarium hosted hands-on school holiday activities, theatre productions and special music events. By providing school groups with engaging, curriculum‑aligned programs, the Planetarium is well positioned to respond to the growing demand for quality programs that engage students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects. School groups represented approximately 30% of total revenue from admission fees in 2022-23.

4. Social media is the Planetarium’s primary channel for promotion. In March 2022, the management of the Planetarium’s Facebook page was transferred to City Communication, City Administration and Governance, which led to increased engagement and reach. The Planetarium’s Facebook page is followed by 17,000 people and has reached 276,965 accounts. Recognition of the Planetarium includes its listing in Tourism Queensland’s Best of Queensland Experience Program and being a highly-rated destination on TripAdvisor’s Things to Do in Brisbane.

5. Venue hire fees were reviewed in 2022-23 to support the delivery of smaller, more frequent events. This has provided community groups with the opportunity to host theatre or musical performances, such as the Anywhere Festival and the Fringe Brisbane Festival. Utilising the Planetarium at night, these performances have been attracting new audiences to the venue. Program highlights include:

- the Sunset Star Walk fundraising event for disability support charity BestLife Foundation

- school holiday robotics activities sponsored by the Australian Space Agency

- screenings of *Coral: Rekindling Venus* as part of the World Science Festival Brisbane

- musical and theatre performances including:

- *Constellations* by Nick Payne

- *Planets, Pianos and Projections* held as part of the Fringe Brisbane Festival

- *Soul Gazing* by Menaka Thomas and DJ Sai Ishan Chand as part of the BrisAsia Festival

- string quartet Angel Strings and K-Mak as part of the Anywhere Festival

- live music events as part of National Science Week

- children’s musical *Zoom to the Moon*

- *West End to Broadway* by Underground Opera.

6. Upcoming screenings at the Planetarium’s Cosmic Skydome include:

- *The Navigators* which tells the story of Māori, Pasifika and European navigation towards Aotearoa, New Zealand, through the eyes of a navigator named Moko

- *Magic Globe: A Story of the Seasons,* a children’s movie with a clear educational structure that weaves science-related topics into the storyline

- an immersive visual display accompanying the album *The Dark Side of the Moon* by Pink Floyd.

7. The Planetarium is looking to increase and broaden its audience and revenue by building upon its strengths while also identifying and testing new opportunities for growth. Additionally, by developing and delivering quality, curriculum-aligned education programs, the Planetarium will continue to offer excursions that achieve a high level of student engagement. The Planetarium will continue to innovate and grow through:

- new Cosmic Skydome shows

- hands-on activities

- collaboration with arts and academic sectors

- Australian Space Agency sponsorship

- new curriculum-aligned school programs

- hosting events as part of:

- National Science Week 2023

- BrisAsia Festival 2024

- World Science Festival Brisbane 2024.

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

9. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

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

### FINANCE AND CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Civic Cabinet Chair of the Finance and City Governance Committee, moved, seconded by Councillor Steven HUANG, that the report of the meeting of that Committee held on 22 August 2023, be adopted.

Chair: Councillor CUNNINGHAM, you’ve got the call.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM: Thanks, Mr Chair. Our presentation at Committee meeting last week was from the People and Culture branch on Council’s refreshed Employee Value Proposition, or EVP, as it’s known. At the heart of our EVP is the summation of compelling reasons why people choose to work and want to stay to work for Brisbane City Council.

The core EVP is Grow your career to deliver a better Brisbane and it’s supported by five pillars. Those pillars are Supporting growth in Brisbane, Growing your career, Benefits that matter, Passionate in our work and Connection to a diverse workforce. Council’s EVP permeates through all phases in the employment lifecycle, from attraction, recruitment, retention and also upon exiting.

Through careful consideration, Mr Chair, and continued effort in living the values of an EVP, it helps improve business performance promote Council to diverse talent and network and provide a positive employee experience. I commend the report to the Chamber.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor CUNNINGHAM.

Are there any further speakers?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes, thank you.

Chair: Your microphone please Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Microphone on, thank you, Chair.

Chair: My pleasure.

Councillor STRUNK: I rise to speak on the presentation we had last week in regards to EVP. Of course, we should first state of course the Council’s greatest asset is its people. It is a team of employees that carry out the various assignments and sorry—that carry out the work for this city, that is needed to be a first world city. I think Brisbane’s working towards that. I don’t think we’ve got there yet but I think we’re working towards that.

So, it was interesting to listen to the presentation in regards to how we attract and recruit, basically. How we retain and sadly sometimes, of course, employees leave us and for various reasons. It’s always important to know why people—why some of the staff leave from time to time. I’m not talking retirement here now but I’m talking about leave during their employment, prior to maybe retirement.

I asked a question regards to what was the percentage, in a generational point of view—say 18 to 35, 35 to 45 and over 55, what percentage of employees leave us in those age groups within a year or maybe the last three to five years. Unfortunately, we weren’t able to be told what those figures were. I think these are very important figures. I think it was really germane to the presentation.

But the Chair undertook to get that information for us and make it available at the Committee this morning. Unfortunately—and I take the Chair at her word—some of the information that came through wasn’t relevant to the question I asked. She has re-asked the question. But because this is being debated or talked about in the Chamber today and it won’t be next week, I decided to raise that issue and put it on the record.

Now, the other thing I asked about was in regards to employee satisfaction surveys. Which I think would be really germane or relevant to this program as well. We used to get those stats on a yearly basis, but I was told that now it doesn’t come out as one report, each department do their own. So, I suggested that maybe that information could be made available as well. It wasn’t forthcoming. So, I said well I would put the questions on notice and just find out.

Because it’s really important to know why some of our employees leave, under what circumstances. It’s very important to know, also, this sort of information. Because with an incoming administration next year, led by Tracey Price, I’m sure any incoming Lord Mayor—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

Councillor STRUNK: —would like to know what has been going on over the last 20 years in regards to employee satisfaction.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor STRUNK: Very important. So anyways, with those few words, I think the presentation was great by our Council presenter. Very, very extensive and it really covered all those boxes I would have thought are very important in regards to knowing how to attract, recruit, retain and sadly, sometimes exit, this Council. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor STRUNK.

Any further speakers on the Finance Committee report? I see no one rising.

Councillor CUNNINGHAM, no right of reply?

We’ll now put the report.

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 Lisa Atwood, Angela Owen, Trina Massey and Charles Strunk.

#### A COMMITTEE PRESENTATION – EMPLOYEE VALUE PROPOSITION

**138/2023-24**

1. The A/Chief People Officer, People and Culture, Organisational Services, attended the meeting to provide an overview of Council’s refreshed employee value proposition (EVP). She provided the information below.

2. *Our People 2020-2024* is Council’s plan to attract, retain and develop people in a positive and productive work environment to meet the needs of Brisbane now and in the future*.* The EVP is a set of strategic guiding principles to help improve business performance, promote Council to diverse talent and networks and provide a positive employee experience.

3. The refreshed EVP ensures Council employees are:

- supporting growth in Brisbane by being dedicated to a better Brisbane

- growing their career through opportunity, career advancement and education

- receiving benefits that are tailored to support staff’s individual goals

- passionate about the work they deliver for Brisbane

- connected to a diverse workforce that work together to deliver value for the community.

4. There are four principles for successfully applying Council’s EVP.

- One size does not fit all – the EVP must be true for all but flexible enough for specific employee groups.

- Leader driven – leaders and managers model desired experience, driving EVP conversations.

- Addresses points of need – areas of greatest opportunity and focus are identified and prioritised.

- Human-centered story telling – sharing of personal stories to communicate the EVP.

5. Council’s EVP continues to be expressed through key touchpoints in the employee lifecycle, from attraction, recruitment, retention and upon exiting, including:

- leveraging prior experience with Council and its employees

- candidate experience during interviews

- career development opportunities

- exit interviews and communication after the last day of employment.

6. Following a number of questions from the Committee, the Civic Cabinet Chair thanked the A/Chief People Officer for her informative presentation.

7. **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**ADOPTED**

## CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTION – THE GABBA STADIUM REBUILD:

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

**139/2023-24**

The Chair, Councillor Steven TOOMEY, then drew the Councillors’ attention to the notified motion listed on the agenda, and called on Councillor Trina MASSEY to move the motion. Accordingly, Councillor Trina MASSEY moved, seconded by Councillor Nicole JOHNSTON, that—

*Brisbane City Council does not support the Queensland Government proposal to demolish and rebuild the Gabba Stadium at the cost of at least 2.7 billion.*

Councillor OWEN: Point of order, Mr Chair.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor OWEN

**Declaration of Declarable Conflict of Interest on notified motion - Councillor Angela OWEN**

Councillor OWEN: Mr Chair, I have a declarable conflict of interest in relation to this matter, due to property held in the vicinity. Therefore, I will be excusing myself from debate and voting on this matter.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor OWEN.

*Councillor Angela OWEN* *retired from the meeting room and associated public places for the duration of the debate on the notified motion.*

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, you’ve got the call.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. Three weeks ago, the Labor Government, State Government, announced four options for The Gabba redevelopment, landing on the $2.7 billion option. In this process, the State Government announced the relocation of East Brisbane State School and its 300-and-something students to a site at Coorparoo Secondary College and move forward with plans to lock out residents for an unknown period of time from—and residents of Kangaroo Point, East Brisbane, Woolloongabba and South Brisbane—from their beloved and well-used park, Raymond Park, for what would be a half-size athletics track.

This announcement was received by students, families, friends, residents with disapproval. That disapproval grows daily. Not just within these areas but citywide and State-wide. This announcement was received with disapproval, not just because of the disruptive effects on parents, teachers and students. The disruptive effects of building and spending another $100 million in a school outside of the East Brisbane catchment on what is a bat-infested floodplain.

It’s not just about the flow-on effects of the closure of the East Brisbane State School would have on schools like West End and Dutton Park State School. This disapproval is also about financial management at a time where people across Brisbane struggle with mortgages, rents and the cost of living. It’s also about legacy and the legacy that could be left behind.

When initially announced, The Gabba rebuild was estimated at a cost of $1 billion. We now know that that cost has since blown out and there is no doubt in my mind, and the mind of many others, that The Gabba rebuild would cost more than the current $2.7 billion that it’s budgeted for. This is an incredible amount of money at a time when our schools, health and housing systems are in desperate need of funding.

It’s a financially irresponsible decision by State Government to spend $2.7 billion and probably more, on 8,000 more seats. When the reality is The Gabba can be upgraded. A new lick of paint has been used, implementation, potentially, of unisex training change rooms and increased accessibility, which has been previously done at other stadiums, for anywhere between 250,000 to 500,000.

Doing this, The Gabba would be able to deliver an incredible opening and closing ceremony and still be an Olympics venue. Maybe just not for athletics because there are other options. Olympic Rugby Sevens were introduced in Rio 2016 and played in Tokyo 2020. For football, which would be pretty timely after the FIFA Women’s World Cup, remembering the associated football group games were played at The Gabba during the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

The case for why The Gabba rebuild shouldn’t happen, grows even more damning when you consider legacy. That’s a word often used when we are talking about the Olympics. The Gabba rebuild will deliver a temporary world-class athletics venue, the key word being temporary. Doesn’t Brisbane and Queensland Athletics deserve more? We all remember Cathy Freeman’s 400-metre win and how it ignited a nation and built a new dream for young athletes across this nation.

Being a highlight, premier sport, athletics will, again, ignite excitement and ambition for young future Cathy Freemans. Do they not deserve the legacy of world-class track and training facility to remain in Brisbane? This, of course, could be delivered in Nathan, at the Queensland Sport and Athletics Centre. There’s even a practice track next door. This centre could be upgraded to Olympic standard and the cost would be much less than $2.7 billion.

Last Tuesday, as we were in the Chambers, Senators packed into a Brisbane conference room to scrutinise the cost and benefit of the city’s Olympic and Paralympic Games. This inquiry was sparked when the Premier decided to scrap an independent infrastructure agency to oversee projects for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

At this inquiry, Matt Carroll, the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) CEO, stated clearly the IOC (International Olympic Committee) does require the building of new venues unless you really need them. He also said the reconstruction of The Gabba is for AFL and cricket.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: The Gabba rebuild is not required for Brisbane to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games. That’s why the Federal Government walked away from its contribution to the cost. The other thing about Brisbane 2032 is this challenge, zero waste, zero fossil fuels. Brisbane 2030 is supposed to be the first climate positive Olympics. Yet architects and experts have warned us that The Gabba rebuild will blow out the Games’ carbon footprint.

The Brisbane 2032 to be climate positive, we not only have to take out the emissions from the event, the emissions that we build for the event and then more. The amount of energy to pull it down, to turn it—and then turn around and rebuild a stadium will most likely jeopardise a climate-positive Olympics.

Residents across Brisbane, as they learn more and more about The Gabba rebuild and the destruction they’ll leave to local communities. How it’s not actually there for the Olympics and how it won’t leave a lasting legacy for athletics in Brisbane and Queensland. How it could put this climate-friendly Olympics in jeopardy—are viewing to more and more negatively.

The Save East Brisbane State School petition and the Save Raymond Park petition now have over 6,000 signatures and its growing daily. These residents, parents and students in The Gabba and Coorparoo Ward and beyond have vowed to keep fighting and bringing their message to a broader and wider audience,

Today it’s time for Brisbane City Council to stand with them. To stand and push for a delivery of a true legacy for Brisbane athletics. To actually deliver a climate‑positive Olympics and not just future greenwashing. To demonstrate in real time, as the LORD MAYOR says over and over again, that it has a stance, a firm stance on financial responsibility and management.

I urge every Councillor to support this motion and to state clearly and loudly that Brisbane City Council does not support The Gabba rebuild. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor.

Further speakers? I see no further speakers—

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Sorry, I’m sad that the LNP aren’t going to rise to speak on this. For anybody who may be watching at home or the East Brisbane community, the local Councillors who represent this part of Brisbane are hiding. In particular, I think that’s Councillor CUNNINGHAM. I have seconded this motion, as I did, I think last year now. I can’t—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: November, thank you. I have never seen such a bad public policy decision by the State Government and I’ve seen some doozies. There is no justification to knock down a perfectly good sporting stadium—sorry to knock it down and rebuild it. But to essentially take away a beloved local school that services a high-growth catchment. It does not make sense, it does not stack up.

It is bad public policy, it is a diabolical decision that will have an adverse impact on the suburbs of East Brisbane, Kangaroo Point, South Brisbane and then a knock‑on—Coorparoo—a knock-on impact into my ward, into areas like Buranda, Dutton Park. Because hundreds of local families are going to be displaced to schools kilometres away from where they go to school now.

Now my views on this are very clear. They have been clear since this decision, this absolutely diabolically disastrous decision was announced. The redevelopment of The Gabba was never part of our Olympics bid. Now I know, because I sat here through the debate and I asked a lot of questions. I wasn’t sure what I was going to do until we got to the vote.

There are a lot of new Councillors here and some of them may be forgiven for thinking, well this is just part of the Olympics bid. No, it is not, it was never part of our formal bid to the IOC. It is not part of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic infrastructure pitch. The IOC themselves have said that the new model for the Olympics, which we’ve heard over and over and over again from Councillor ADAMS—yes, yes Councillor ADAMS and the LORD MAYOR.

We heard over and over again, no, no, this is about reusing infrastructure, and this is about being smarter, it’s the new bid model. Stupid me, I’m the stupid one here because I believed them, I believed what they said. I believed that we had a plan, this is what we would be doing. I didn’t agree with everything but at least there was a plan that I understood would happen. That was blown out of the water by one of the worst decisions that I’ve seen Annastacia Palaszczuk make, and I think that it is going to hurt the Labor Party so badly at the election next year. I don’t even know, the LNP are probably on board. I mean David Crisafulli is probably going—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: —to knock the thing down too, who knows. But this stadium does not form part of our Olympics bid for Brisbane 2032. In fact, the bid includes a new stadium at Albion, I think near the old dog track area. It is such a waste of money. It was a back-of-the-envelope billion-dollar announcement, which now in today’s terms is $2.7 billion, which I think will be double by the time it will be built. In addition to that it’s going to have an adverse impact on construction in Brisbane because this project, big project, will suck in all the construction, all the workers, all the materials, all the resources and put more pressure back on building homes that we need for development in Brisbane and in the south-east corner.

The State are overheating the market by delivering a project here that is unnecessary, it will overstimulate the construction market and put more pressure on smaller projects in the residential area that are needed. It is also bad public policy. This is the thing that I can’t get over, I’m the beneficiary of such a good education because my parents said, this is how you change your life, this is how you change what happens to you. They benefited from some, they made sure my sister and I got a great education. Knocking down part of a school, kicking the kids off the school site and moving them kilometres away to a swamp, is bad public policy.

It puts pressure on roads, it puts pressure on parents to drive their kids to school, it disconnects them from their local community, it disconnects them from their neighbourhood, it is such a bad decision. We know that education in local schools, in local communities, that builds that sense of community, creates a safe place, a nurturing place for children. That’s where they’re going to learn well, that’s what we want. We want walkable neighbourhoods; we want families that can actively travel to school and can do so safely with their kids. This decision will knock that out of the park, absolutely will not happen, so it is bad public policy.

I too follow the news and saw the Federal Committee inquiry that was on underway, and I just want to reconfirm, this is what the Australia Olympic Committee CEO, Matt Carroll, said about The Gabba—the multibillion-dollar redevelopment of Brisbane’s Gabba Stadium, quote, “was not necessary for the city to host the 2032 Olympic Games”. He went on to say that it “was not required by the International Olympic Committee”. You can’t get it any clearer than that.

Even the AOC is saying we don’t need it. They very clearly said, this is being done for cricket and AFL. The cricket and AFL people are cranky because they’ll be seven years without the State’s venue for AFL and cricket, so it has an adverse impact on ongoing sport. It’s not necessary as part of the Olympics bid. The AOC are saying—the Australian Olympic Committee are saying it’s not necessary. It means that Raymond Park has essentially got to be destroyed to accommodate the warm-up track. It is completely wrong.

Finally, where this school is going to go? Into a floodplain, into a swamp, into a terrible area where it’s going to flood, this is not—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, out of catchment for all these kids, it’s going to have a knock-on impact on the catchments around Coorparoo and it just will have an adverse impact. I just want to say, this should just be an easy decision for this Council, we should stand up stand up as a Council now and say to the State Government, they have got this wrong. I know that’s hard for the Labor Councillors, who feel they probably have to support their colours, but this is a bad decision. Every single resident that I speak to in my area will tell me when I ask them, it’s a terrible decision, it’s a terrible decision.

I don’t want to see this Council enabling the Queensland State Government, like they are doing, the LORD MAYOR has publicly said, he supports the redevelopment of The Gabba. The only way the redevelopment of The Gabba can happen is if East Brisbane State School is decommissioned as a school and part of that land taken. The LNP currently support the redevelopment of The Gabba and the loss of that local school. I find the two local Councillors who are most impacted here, their silence is shocking. Councillor CUNNINGHAM and Councillor ADAMS, really should be hopping up and saying, yes, good on you Councillor MASSEY for bringing this forward again, I know we didn’t support it—look at Councillor CUNNINGHAM, I think that’s very—

Chair Councillor.

Councillor JOHNSTON: I think it’s very deliberate.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, to the motion please.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: You saw it, I saw it too and so will everybody on the telly. I am just shocked that the local Councillors cannot stand up and do the right things by their community here. The impact of this school going kilometres away from where it is currently, will have a knock-on impact in the inner southern suburbs and that is not good for anybody. I was very happy to support it almost a year ago, I’m happy to support it again here today. The LNP should not be tricky here, they should not be tricky. You can’t say you support redevelopment of The Gabba because it involves the demolition of, well, part of a school and relocation of those students.

It is critically important that Brisbane City Council does not enable the State Government to demolish this school. Our approvals will be required for some things, and we heard from Councillor WINES, we know that this Council works closely with the State Government on assets and those assets are going to be—have to be managed between Council and the State Government. We shouldn’t be facilitating this; we shouldn’t be supporting it.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Councillor JOHNSTON: We should send a clear message—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, your time has expired.

Further speakers?

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’m very disappointed but not surprised that nobody in Labor has stood up to talk about this. But Councillors are very aware of this motion because there was an almost identical motion that came through the Chamber just over a year ago and Councillor JOHNSTON confirmed that. We made our position very clear then and we’ll do the same again now. As for Councillor CUNNINGHAM and the disgraceful bullying we just saw from Councillor JOHNSTON, she’s been very clear—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

DEPUTY MAYOR: —in her position.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: At no point—sorry. I believe Councillor ADAMS is engaging in unsuitable meeting behaviour by making an adverse allegation about me, when I’ve simply been debating this issue. It is unsuitable meeting conduct to accuse me of bullying and I ask that you rule it out of order.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, I did call you back to the report because you were engaged in debate—well not debate—

DEPUTY MAYOR: With another Councillor.

Chair: —with another Councillor, but you were discussing the Councillor’s—

DEPUTY MAYOR Demeanour.

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order. It’s not bullying to—

Chair: Hang on, Councillor JOHNSTON, I haven’t given you the call.

Councillor JOHNSTON, your point of order.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Mr Chair, it is not bullying to talk about a Councillor’s position. It is outrageous that Councillor ADAMS has stood up and accused me of bullying. It is offensive to me, it is completely untrue and I would ask that it is withdrawn. It’s unsuitable meeting behaviour to make an allegation of that kind.

Chair: DEPUTY MAYOR, would you consider to withdraw or maybe rephrase?

DEPUTY MAYOR: I’ll rephrase, I’m absolutely not withdrawing. If Councillor JOHNSTON spoke about Councillor CUNNINGHAM’s position, that would have been fine, she did not. She made a snarky comment about her face and her reaction and, did you get it because they’ll get it on TV. That was the quote.

Chair: Yes, thank you.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Just clarifying that.

Chair: Thank you, DEPUTY MAJOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: Councillor CUNNINGHAM has been very clear about the position and that’s probably what the rolling the eyes was, because the blatant mistruth we just heard and the innuendo from Councillor JOHNSTON, were just incorrect. One thing that is correct though, is that the redevelopment of The Gabba is a State Government project. We agree, it is a completely independent project of the Olympics, it has got nothing to do with OCOG (Organising Committees for the Olympic Games). Again, that was confirmed by Matt Carroll as well. But whether they have designs now or have designs in three years, this project is bubbling along on the State Government timeframes, taking advice from State Government Members and Ministers, not Council, not OCOG, not the Federal Government that are also not involved with this. This is purely a State Government project.

Does it need refurbishment? Yes, we have said it needs refurbishment, but none of us are privy to what any of the intimate designs, the PVRs (project validation reports) and everything are around The Gabba because it’s not an OCOG process, it’s a State Government process. But one thing is very, very clear today here through you, Mr Chair, is that the Greens don’t support the upgrade, but Labor does. Anyone standing up today to have a chat? Oh, no, no, no. I warn the people of Brisbane in alliance, in the coalition of chaos between a Labor and Greens in City Council, is the worst possible outcome you can see for Brisbane residents and this motion is the prime example of it. It is such a chaotic situation, not one Labor person stood up to vote, looked down very, very, very intently at their paper when the call was for the next speaker.

*Councillor interjecting.*

DEPUTY MAYOR: They do need the Green preferences, LORD MAYOR, so it’s a vote each way. Labor’s Lord Mayoral candidate, who we’ve heard a lot about this afternoon, she’s going to do this, she’s going to do that, is she going to take a position on this? Oh, no, no, no. Actually, asked on ABC Radio earlier this month point blank—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: You’ve made a ruling you’re not allowed to speak about other political candidates in debates, so I would ask that you apply that ruling—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Councillor JOHNSTON: I will ask that you—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —apply that ruling—

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: —to the DEPUTY MAYOR.

Chair: Councillor JOHSTON, when I am speaking, you do not speak.

Councillor JOHSTON: I’d like to finish.

Chair: You don’t need to finish because I did not talk about candidates, I spoke about something else. I don’t uphold your point of order and you can look back in the minutes to figure it out yourself.

DEPUTY MAYOR.

DEPUTY MAYOR: When talking about the stadium and the demolishing of the stadium, which is very relevant to this motion today, the Lord Mayoral candidate for the ALP was asked point blank, what is your view on demolishing and rebuilding at this stage? Her response was—oh no, sorry, the question was, do you have a view? The response was, no. We were shocked to hear this because Labor’s previous position on this matter is in fact that they supported the refurbishment because this motion has been here before, but we’ll see what they do here today, Mr Chair. So no, we will not be supporting the motion in this place today and obviously the ALP does not want to speak about this.

**Procedural motion – Motion that the notified motion be now put**

**140/2023-24**

It was moved by the DEPUTY MAYOR, seconded by Councillor Sarah HUTTON, that the notified motion be now put.

Upon being submitted to the Chamber, the motion that the notified motion be now put, was declared **carried** on the voices.

Thereupon, Councillors Nicole JOHNSTON and Trina MASSEY 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, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY and Andrew WINES.

NOES: 6 - The Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Charles STRUNK, Sara WHITMEE, Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

Chair: Councillor MASSEY, you have a right of reply for five minutes.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. You know what I don’t hear just before, a position from the DEPUTY MAYOR. They said they wouldn’t support the motion but at no point was there actually a clear statement on a position whether they did or didn’t support The Gabba rebuild.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor MASSEY: I didn’t hear it and I’ll check the minutes, but what I heard was also deflection. Deflection, saying very clearly, it’s State Government, they’re on a timeline, they’re making the decisions. This doesn’t make sense; it’s deflecting back. Even though week after week in this Chamber we hear the LNP constantly go on about working with State when it’s convenient and not working with them and what they’re doing incorrect when it’s also convenient. Here it’s convenient to say that it’s a State Government decision that this Council can’t stand against.

I think that’s pretty—I mean I had expected more honestly, I had expected more from the Chair, I’d expected more from Councillors on the opposing side, to actually input into this debate, because I do think this is going to be a really, really important topic as we move closer, not only to the Council elections but also to the State elections, but most importantly than that it’s because it actually affects people that we are supposed to represent.

They don’t just exist in The Gabba Ward, the flow-on effects won’t just happen in The Gabba Ward, they’ll happen beyond, and we’re supposed to represent these people. Here, very clearly, there is no responsibility and if there is a responsibility, it’s saying, no, we won’t stand, we won’t even make a statement to signal to State Government that we do not support it. I think the people at home are watching, I know that residents are watching. I know that students, I know the parents that will continue to fight every day, the residents that will keep fighting for their park, to keep their park, will keep fighting and they’ll keep sending that message out wider and wider and wider and I’ll refer back to this vote.

Again, the DEPUTY MAYOR used an opportunity to discuss any of the points that I mention, but chose to use it as a political football, to bring out a tired tagline that no one’s listening to because there is no coalition. There’s only one coalition here, it’s the Liberal National Party that are afraid of using the Liberal National Party—

*Councillors interjecting.*

Chair: Councillors.

Councillors MASSEY: —they’re the coalition.

Chair: Councillors.

Councillor MASSEY you’ve got the call.

Councillor MASSEY: The truth is, that’s all it is. I think, I hope, that residents remember this. I hope they remember the fact that this was used as a political football by the DEPUTY MAYOR. Their real lives, their real concerns, the real results that will happen on the ground to them. It was dismissive, it was clear, and I think it’s hurtful. I am disappointed but not surprised. Thank you, Chair.

Chair: Thank you, Councillor MASSEY.

We will now put the motion.

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

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

The voting was as follows:

AYES: 2 - Councillors Trina MASSEY and Nicole JOHNSTON.

NOES: 22 - The Right Honourable, the LORD MAYOR, Councillor Adrian SCHRINNER, DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor Krista ADAMS, and Councillors Greg ADERMANN, Adam ALLAN, Lisa ATWOOD, Fiona CUNNINGHAM, Tracy DAVIS, Julia DIXON, Fiona HAMMOND, Vicki HOWARD, Steven HUANG, Sarah HUTTON, Clare JENKINSON, Sandy LANDERS, James MACKAY, Ryan MURPHY, Steven TOOMEY, Andrew WINES, and the Leader of the OPPOSITION, Councillor Jared CASSIDY, and Councillors Lucy COLLIER, Charles STRUNK and Sara WHITMEE.

## PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:

Chair: Councillors, are there any petitions?

I don’t think anybody is standing. No.

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

Chair: Councillors, are there any statements required as a result of the Office of the Independent Assessor or Councillor Ethics Committee Order? Again, I see no one standing.

Councillors, are there any items of General Business?

Councillor HUANG.

Councillor HUANG: Thank you, Mr Chair. I rise to commend a bus driver who I witnessed handle an unexpected incident with professionalism, respect, and dignity. Mr Chair, last Friday morning I took Council’s free City Loop to attend CoMSEQ (Council of Mayors South East Queensland) Local Government Forum that was held in QUT. I got on the bus at King George Square stop and enjoyed the trip towards the city’s Botanic Gardens, which is the closest stop to the venue.

*At that time, 4.45pm, the Deputy Chair, Councillor Sandy LANDERS, assumed the Chair.*

Councillor HUANG: The electric bus was travelling smoothly along Adelaide Street but as the bus was waiting to turn right onto Wharf Street there was a sudden commotion from a female passenger in the rear of the bus. She was accusing the bus driver of not turning fast enough and continued yelling until the bus reached the next stop. This sudden incident put everyone, both the driver and the passengers in shock, as this lady was acting quite aggressively and was highly emotional.

However, the driver, called Allan Gallaugher, has acted professionally, with respect and dignity, in calmly dealing with this passenger and let her get off at the next stop without causing further panic to the passengers onboard. When I got off at the Botanic Gardens stop, I went forward to the driver and introduced myself and thank him for handling the situation. Mr Chair, I would just like to take this opportunity to commend this driver, Allan Gallaugher, and all our bus drivers, for doing an outstanding job in serving the commuters of Brisbane with professionalism and acknowledge their hard work and dedication to our city. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further business?

Councillor COLLIER.

Councillor COLLIER: Thank you. I’d just rise to speak on Pashen Street and Riding Road. Locally, we all know the dangerous Pashen Street and Riding Road intersection and for too long this LNP Council has ignored the calls of locals to fix it. I stand with my community, and I once again call on the LNP to urgently fix Pashen Street and Riding Road. Families and children use it to get to school. Primary school age children have been hit by cars here. Elderly couples have been injured.

Silence and inaction from this Council is just not good enough. Accidents like these are preventable. It is all about priorities, LORD MAYOR, you decide what gets funded in the budget and what doesn’t. The LNP have been silent on this for years, but our community simply will not stop fighting for this intersection to be fixed. Let me be clear, I stand with them. The community is calling, will the LORD MAYOR listen?

Deputy Chair: Any further business?

LORD MAYOR: Yes.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Look, I want to talk about the intersection of Riding Road and Pashen Street because this is an issue that there’s been a lot of discussion about over a significant period of time. What I would simply say in direct response to what Councillor COLLIER has put forward today, is that this proposed intersection upgrade, that’s been discussed for a number of years, is not without pros and cons. We have had a look at the different options. We’ve had a look at potential upgrades. But what I will say to Councillor COLLIER is, if you are genuine about this upgrade and you don’t want to play politics, then the first thing I—Madam Acting Chair—

Deputy Chair: Councillor COLLIER.

LORD MAYOR: —I hear Councillor COLLIER saying, just do it. I would be interested to know what consultation Councillor COLLIER has done with the immediate property owners around that area, because as with any intersection upgrade that requires the replacement of an un-signalised intersection with a signalised intersection, it requires the removal of all parking in the immediate vicinity of that intersection.

Now, we know that there are multiple businesses along there. We know across the road is Hawthorne Park and that there are major generators of parking demand in that area. If Councillor COLLIER is happy to put in writing to me that she is happy to remove all of that parking in the immediate vicinity, then we can move forward with this project.

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: We can move forward with this project. Because, in the end, really, that’s what it comes down to. This is a project that can proceed, and we are willing to consider putting up for budget funding if we can get that commitment in writing from Councillor COLLIER that she is happy to see the removal of parking throughout that precinct.

That involves the parking outside the businesses on both sides of the intersection and the parking on the other side opposite Hawthorne Park. So, I am very familiar with this intersection, like many of us are. That is the reality. It is easy to call for someone else to do something. What we need to do here is see the local Councillor do her job.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: One moment, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor COLLIER, you were listened to in silence.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: What we need to see is the local Councillor do her job, and if she supports the intersection upgrade and is willing to proceed with what will be a removal of parking—a significant removal of parking in the area, then we can talk turkey. We can have a serious talk about how to progress this intersection. But what I suspect will happen is that she’ll defer the hard decisions to other people. She’ll make it someone else’s problem. She will simply call for something to happen and then no responsibility on her part.

Let’s have a bit of give and take here. I’d like to see something in writing from Councillor COLLIER that she supports consideration of the removal of parking. Have a chat to the local business people, have a chat to the park users, have a chat to the residents, and based on those chats, please put something in writing to me and I will consider it. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Any further business?

Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Thanks very much, Chair. I rise to speak on three items. The Voice, housing and the process for the upgrade of intersections in Brisbane—and I’ll start with that. We just had an amazing intervention by the LORD MAYOR in this Council meeting where he’s just upended the whole entire process—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: —Chair, of how a project is to proceed. Apparently, we’re now to believe for this—at Pashen Street and Riding Road, there is a secret design that is being held by the LORD MAYOR here because he said—he listed out all of the qualifications for this upgrade—

LORD MAYOR: Point of order.

Deputy Chair: Point of order, LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: Claim to be misrepresented.

Councillor CASSIDY: So, the LORD MAYOR said that all of the parking would have to be removed right around there, all these major changes—so he has a design.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: The LORD MAYOR has a design. He’s let the cat out of the bag on that one but won’t give that design to the local Councillor.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Or the community—won’t release that publicly. So, I’m sure if the LORD MAYOR would release that design, the consultation could happen on it. But I suspect what the LORD MAYOR’s actually doing is just going to play politics with us. He’s clearly going to go out to the community and say—that sounds familiar, doesn’t it? Doesn’t that sound so familiar when the LORD MAYOR says it’s someone else’s problem—it’s somebody else’s fault?

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: That is a common theme of this LORD MAYOR. Not just today, but every meeting we have here today. So, according to the LORD MAYOR, now this really is—Rome is burning, and Nero is fiddling over there at the moment when the entire process for an intersection upgrade in Brisbane has been totally flipped on its head because the LORD MAYOR had a thought bubble.

In General Business, LORD MAYOR just gets up and says, oh, well, an intersection upgrade can only proceed when a local Councillor goes and does their own consultation on a design that doesn’t exist in the public realm. What if we all do that? Then the LORD MAYOR said they’ll get funded. So, what if we all come back next week after having done consultation on intersection upgrades? Every LORD MAYOR’s commitment today is that he’ll fund every single one of them.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Yes. What rubbish. What absolute rubbish from this LORD MAYOR. How ridiculous to just be making some sort of silly policy on the fly like that because he’s had just a very small amount of pressure put on him by Councillor COLLIER.

*Councillor interjecting.*

Councillor CASSIDY: Just getting started. But I want to talk about two other things as well tonight, Chair. One of those is the upcoming Voice referendum. I was at Zillmere train station this morning handing out information on the upcoming referendum to the—referendum on the Voice to Parliament, and the response from the community on the ground was overwhelmingly positive. A couple of people had some questions. There was a few that didn’t want the information, but there would have been in excess of 100 people very keen to get that, already saying they’re voting yes.

What’s also been really positive for me over the last couple of days was news of more moderate Liberals coming out in support of a yes vote on the referendum. We saw Pat Farmer, who was the Liberal Member of Parliament for Macarthur in New South Wales. He’s running for yes alongside Robert de Castella, and we saw, last night, Julie Bishop perform—a Deputy Liberal Leader of the Liberals come out strongly in favour of a yes vote for the Voice, and she said something really powerful last night. She said that after 20 years of sitting in Parliament, she never saw anything that worked and that’s why she thinks the Voice should be given a go.

The no side last night rolled out Barnaby Joyce to hit back. That’s the calibre of the no side. So, I’m continually impressed by Liberals who are putting the national interest above politics, and I’m continually disappointed by Brisbane’s LNP Councillors who are now coming across as the most conservative faction of the Liberal party, nationwide.

Now, on housing, Chair, I want to speak a bit about this LNP’s approach to the delivery of housing here in Brisbane. It took this LNP Council five years to deliver a housing strategy that they promised in 2018, except they couldn’t quite bring themselves to call it a housing strategy, because since being released five months ago, we haven’t seen any outcomes from it. Oh, actually, except for the Kurilpa TLPI (Temporary Local Planning Instrument), which the DEPUTY MAYOR admitted recently that it would take half a decade to come to fruition. But what else? What is next, is the question.

Now, we know this LNP Mayor has form. He’s called social housing, slum living. We know the LNP have supported the building of five-star hotels in the CBD of Brisbane over affordable housing in the suburbs. Housing supply and housing affordability is critical work for Council, but week after week, month after month, it is radio silence from this LORD MAYOR. Housing is a human right. It is the foundation of a decent society. Labor is the party of housing, and a Labor administration would make this a priority for Council.

Deputy Chair: LORD MAYOR, your misrepresentation.

LORD MAYOR: Yes. Councillor CASSIDY incorrectly claimed there was some kind of secret plan for an intersection upgrade. Look, the reality is there’s a fundamental failure to understand—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: One moment, LORD MAYOR.

Councillor COLLIER, I’ve already told you, you are to listen quietly, please. You had your chance to speak.

LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: —to understand basic road rules in Queensland because—

*Councillor interjecting.*

LORD MAYOR: Well, the point is—

Deputy Chair: If you stop interrupting, we will hear it.

LORD MAYOR: The road rules say—

*Councillor interjecting.*

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

LORD MAYOR: The road rules say a driver must not stop or park their vehicle within 20 metres of a signalised intersection unless otherwise signed, and for most intersections, it’s actually much longer than 20 metres.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

LORD MAYOR: This is a basic road rule that everyone should know.

Deputy Chair: Councillor CASSIDY.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair. Point of order, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, LORD MAYOR.

Any further business?

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Deputy Chair: Councillor OWEN.

Councillor CASSIDY: Point of order, Chair.

Deputy Chair: One moment, Councillor OWEN.

Councillor CASSIDY: That was clearly an act of disorder. That was not a point of misrepresentation that was entering debate, and I ask for your ruling on that.

Deputy Chair: My ruling is that the LORD MAYOR was explaining the misrepresentation.

Councillor OWEN.

Councillor OWEN: I’m just waiting for it to reset. Thank you, Madam Deputy Chair. Madam Deputy Chair, I rise tonight to speak on some local community events and community organisations. Can I start by acknowledging the Divya Jyoti Jagrati Sansthan that’s commonly referred to as DJJS out my way? It was wonderful to attend Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Gyan Yagya.

This is a very important event in their calendar. It’s very much a religious event and it’s also an event of blessings so the focus is clearly on making sure that they give back to the community and consider those less fortunate, so it’s a very important aspect of their calendar and it’s one in which, in this city, we ensure that many multicultural groups can celebrate these events in a very safe, peaceful and harmonious way.

I’d also like to acknowledge the wonderful students of Stretton State College. Friday night was their musical and this year it was *The Addams Family*, and can I say the work that those students have done—not only to put on the performance, but to put together such an amazing set. There was a lot of effort and dedication that went into that entire musical and they did a fantastic job, so I would just like to formally commend them on the effort that they went into for that.

To the Kairali Association of Queensland—the Onam celebrations over the weekend that Councillor STRUNK and I attended were, as usual, a very high end event, and to all of the people behind the scenes who put together about 900 meals, it is a phenomenal effort to coordinate all of that in a very short period of time. They did an amazing, amazing job doing that.

To the outgoing committee of the Lions Club of Brisbane Chinese, thank you for your efforts in the community and I look forward to supporting them going forward, and I know that the LORD MAYOR and Councillor MARX were also at their changeover the other night. It is very important that we do acknowledge these community organisations that do so much work.

A special congratulations to St Stephen’s School on 20 years. Wonderful to see our local Catholic primary school having a wonderful event and the Wild Encounters with their lovely snakes and reptiles as well as the petting zoo were a great hit with the kids this year. To Kannada Sangha for their chess tournament—great to see young people exercising their minds in different ways. Also, I do want to acknowledge Pallara State School and St Stephen’s because they have received acknowledgements under the EcoMarines programs that are certainly, through you, to Councillor DAVIS, they’re certainly very focused on protecting our local environment.

To our wonderful gold stars and little stars—I know many of the Councillors are getting around to these presentations, but certainly I’ve had an opportunity during Book Week to also go to my Goodstart Early Learning Centre, and also C&K and do some reading with the kids, and it’s wonderful to be part of those programs as well.

Can I just acknowledge Constance and Stanley who were at the 100+ Club the other day? Wonderful to meet with them, and Constance’s father actually built the Ithaca Pool for Council, and Stanley’s wife was a curator of the art gallery here at Brisbane City Hall when the art gallery was down in the basement level. Wonderful to be in the same room as 18 centenarians. They’re lovely people and we can learn so much from their life experience.

Can I just also say to the IndOz Conference organising committee, well done? It was a privilege to represent the LORD MAYOR at the conference dinner the other night and they continually exceed the high level of standards that they set year on year. I just would like to say to all of the community groups across the city, they’re doing an amazing job, and we value your contribution. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further business?

Councillor MASSEY.

Councillor MASSEY: Thank you, Chair. I stand to speak on School Strikes 4—sorry—Climate Strike—School Strike 4 Climate. Who here remembers the 2019 School Strike 4 Climate change which had 30,000 people? Who was there at the protest? Okay. That was unexpected because there were 30,000 people there. On 15 September, the Queensland School Strike 4 Climate will be, again, striking. Interestingly, the theme for this year is 2050 is too late.

They will be calling for no new coal and gas, 100% renewable energy and exports by 2030, and they want to fund transition and job creation for fossil fuel, industry workers and communities. I’m so excited about it. They’ve taken a long break. It’s really amazing, dedicated volunteers that are from high schools—high schools across the city, and I’m so excited to be joining them as an ally because this is about the school students and what they fear for climate change. So, I’d just like to give a shoutout and tell everyone that it is on 15 September, and I will maybe see some of you there. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Any further business?

Councillor HUTTON.

Councillor HUTTON: Thank you, Madam Chair. I just want to rise very briefly. I’ve just found out that one of our wonderful officers, Sean Kelly, who works in the Aquatics team, is actually leaving us. He has done a fabulous, fabulous job and I have worked with him very closely, particularly at Jindalee and Carole Park State School. We’re very sad to see him leaving, but we did also—historically, you may not realise that Sean actually used to work at Amazons, so he, from a very young age, had a real passion for the pools and the aquatic space, so we wish him all the very best on his future endeavours. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Thank you, Councillor HUTTON.

Any further business?

Councillor STRUNK.

Councillor STRUNK: Yes. Thank you, Deputy Chair. I just rise tonight to speak on one event that actually happened over the weekend. That was a massive festival that was held at the Forest Lake riverstage, called the Forest Lake Festival. I can’t speak highly enough of the organising committee, headed by Kylie, and the five other community members who are all volunteers. They receive no money. They work basically for six months to pull this festival together. They’ve been doing it now for three years. They’ve now incorporated, which is really good, which helps for sponsorship and the like.

But I can say that this year was just—exceeded the results of the last two years by a huge margin. It was almost like a mini Ekka. We had rides, we had showbags—we had all the fun stuff, and a sideshow alley, we had about 100 stalls, and of course, we had two performing stages that were going on, which were far enough apart that they didn’t interfere with one another. Gosh—we even had the Boris the Black Knight, Eric Summons, from—*Wombat* thing on the telly. He’s a retired—well, he’s not so retired. I don’t think entertainers every really retire, but he lives locally in Forest Lake, did a terrific job in keeping the program going on the lake stage.

Number-wise, I don’t want to speculate because it’s really hard because there’s no gate that people actually go through, but I would suggest it was probably 10,000 to 12,000 people and that was from two o’clock through to eight o’clock when we had the fireworks on a little barge on the lake, which, of course, everyone stuck around for. Then it was a little bit of chaos once the fireworks finished—everyone wanting to go home about the same time.

But I just want to also give a big shoutout to my team members who worked very, very hard from 2—well, they actually set up about 12.30, and of course, they were there for bumpout as well. They went through an enormous amount of—we make little balloon animals and things like that and, really, right up till eight o’clock, the kids were still coming up for them. But I just want to have a big shoutout to them and the team of volunteers that helped on my stall as well. A lot of those were just from the community—not necessarily party members or anything like that, but just volunteers that just want to come along and have a bit of fun, which is really helpful.

A big shoutout, also, to the Heritage Community Bank, who funded the majority of the funds that were needed to put on the festival. Also, One Agency, which is a real estate company that’s been doing business in the area for 20 years. They were a big sponsor as well. I just want to take a big shoutout to them because they—a lot of our real estate agencies actually do help with community events nowadays, and it’s really good to see that corporate help when needed. Anyways, I just want to, again, just finish off by saying thank you very much to the organising committee led by Kylie, and we look forward to an even bigger and better Forest Lake Festival next year. Thank you.

Deputy Chair: Thank you.

Any further business?

As there is no further business, I declare the meeting closed.

## QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

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

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (received on 24 August 2023)**

1. During the Council meeting on 22/08/2023, Councillor Vicki Howard advised that Council had funded or carried out works on 12 new female change facilities at sports clubs in the last 12 months. Please provide a list of the 12 new female change facilities in the last 12 months, including the name of the sports club, the address of the facility, the cost of the works, the completion dates, and any other relevant details.
2. Please provide a breakdown of all advertising to promote BrisBetter in the 2022‑2023 financial year.
3. Please provide a detailed breakdown of how much Brisbane City Council spent on advertising in the 2022-2023 financial year in total, broken down by the various categories of advertising (eg television & BVOD, billboards, radio, social/digital, influencers, print etc).
4. Please provide the actual figure spent on Living In Brisbane for the full financial years of 2021-2022 and 2022-23, as well as 2023-2024 YTD, broken down by print costs and distribution costs.
5. How much has been spent on television (inc. BVOD) advertising by Brisbane City Council in the 2022‑2023 and 2023-2024 (to date) financial years?
6. How much has been spent to date on advertising for the Brisbane App, broken down as below table?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Channel** | **Amount** | | |
|  | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 YTD |
| TV Advertising |  |  |  |
| Online Advertising |  |  |  |
| Payments to Social Media Influencers |  |  |  |
| Print Advertising |  |  |  |
| Radio |  |  |  |
| Outdoor Advertising |  |  |  |
| Cinema |  |  |  |
| BVOD |  |  |  |

1. How many enquires have been received by the Brisbane City Council Contact Centre in relation to footpaths reconstruction from May 2023 - August 2023? Please provide breakdown by suburb.
2. How many enquires have been received by the Brisbane City Council Contact Centre in relation to potholes repairs from February 2023 - August 2023? Please provide breakdown by suburb.
3. Please provide the total number of visitors to the Brisbane Metro Visitors Centre broken down by month for April 2023 to August 2023.
4. How many total subscribers are currently enrolled to Council’s Brisbane Severe Weather Alert Service?
5. Please advise by suburb how many rates accounts were established across Brisbane in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 YTD financial years, broken down by each rating category (1 – 36).
6. Since August 2 2023 to date, how many households have ordered new green‑top bins?
7. Please provide monthly downloads of the Brisbane Bin and Recycling App since its inception
8. Please detail the total lease fees paid by Council on leasing non-Council owned assets for the 2022/2023 financial year and a list of those assets.
9. Please list all the number of permanent employees that have left Brisbane City Council in the last 12 months, broken down by each BCC department eg. Public Space Operations, Transport Operations, Customer Services, People and Culture, etc.
10. What is the cost estimate for the completion of all open footpath maintenance works (identified but not yet completed)?
11. Please provide a list of all new footpaths constructed in the 2022 - 2023 financial year, including the cost for each footpath, how many metres were constructed and the specific service under which these were funded.
12. Please provide a list of all publications issued in the 2022-2023 financial year featuring the Lord Mayor’s photograph on the front page, and the cost of each publication.
13. Please provide a list of all correspondence sent to any Brisbane residents directly from the Office of the Lord Mayor and/or on official Lord Mayor letterhead, eg. the North-West Transport Corridor Letter distributed in 2023.
14. Please provide a list of all active jobs currently sitting with construction including the dates in which they were marked and added to the list and whether they are currently sitting with Asphalt and Aggregate.

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

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

**Submitted by Councillor Steve Griffiths (from meeting on 22 August 2023)**

**Q1.** What was the cost to Council for each of the live sites set up at King George Square and the Riverstage for the FIFA Women’s World Cup semi-final between Australia v England held on 16 August 2023?

***A1.*** *The cost to Council for the Riverstage has not yet been finalised. The cost for King George Square will be approximately $44,000 and will be confirmed once all invoices are finalised.*

**Q2.** How many community groups are on the wait list for leases of Council-owned spaces?

***A2.*** *71.*

**Q3.** How many calls and emails were received by Council in relation to the recent LGIP / LTIP letters?

***A3.*** *In total, 773 calls and emails have been received as of 21 August. This number includes customers who have made multiple calls and/ or emails on the subject.*

**Q4.** List the current membership of all Brisbane City Council Boards (including any remuneration paid to those members) for 2022/23 and 2023/24 year to date.

***A4.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Better Suburbs Initiative Board*** | | ***2022-23*** | ***2023-24 YTD*** |
|  | *Ross Elliot* | *$120,000.00* | *$10,000.00* |
|  | *Gary Hardgrave* | *$27,756.00* | *$2,313.00* |
|  | *Charlotte Fitzgerald* | *$27,756.00* | *NIL to DATE* |
|  | *Christopher Mountford* | *$27,756.00* | *$2,313.00* |
|  | *Manager, City Planning and Economic Development* | *NIL* | *NIL* |
| ***Transport and Infrastructure Futures Board*** | |  | |
|  | *Carolyn Barker* | *$30,397.36* | *$3,800.00* |
|  | *Julie Byth* | *$13,666.67* | *$1,708.33* |
|  | *Michael Caltabiano* | *$13,666.67* | *NIL to DATE* |
|  | *Dr Dia Adhikiri Smith* | *$13,666.67* | *$1,708.33* |
|  | *John Cotter* | *$13,666.67* | *$1,708.33* |
|  | *Graham Nell* | *$8,541.65* | *NIL to DATE* |
| ***City Standards Board*** | |  | |
|  | *Gary Hardgrave* | *$56,222.10* | *$56,222.10* |
| *Lisa France* | *$15,660.00* | *NIL to DATE* |

**RISING OF COUNCIL: 5.09pm.**

**PRESENTED: and CONFIRMED**

**CHAIR**

**Council officers in attendance:**

Victor Tan (Council and Committee Coordinator)

Dorian Maruda (A/Senior Council and Committee Officer)

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