

**12.5 SAFE CITY, PROUD COMMUNITIES PLAN 2020-2024****Author: Jayde McBurnie - Team Leader Health Promotion and Planning****Presenter: Maurie Heaney - General Manager Community Services****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To present the Safe City, Proud Communities Plan (2020/2024) to Council for endorsement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Safe City, Proud Communities Plan 2020-2024 as attached at **Appendix 1**, and
2. Endorse the discontinuation of the Road2Zero Steering Committee and Community Safety Advisory Committee and the establishment of a Safe City Advisory Committee.

**Motion**

Crs Ramsey/Kesic.

That the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

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**REPORT****1. Executive Summary**

The purpose of the plan is to set Council's direction for strengthening road and community safety over the next four years. It outlines a whole-of-organisation collaborative approach to road and community safety. Included in the document is the four year action plan with specific strategies and actions to be delivered.

This report is presented to Council for consideration and endorsement.

**2. Background/Issues**

The development of the Safe City, Proud Communities Plan was informed by community conversations, key stakeholders and a strong evidence-base for safe and connected communities. A Discussion Paper outlining data and information providing background for the Plan is attached for Councils information at **Appendix 2**.

**Learnings from evidence review:**

Review of current best practice, road and community safety data, and community feedback led to the following key principles for Council action:

- initiatives should be planned at the individual, environmental and societal levels in order to address the many determinants of safety
- a place-based approach is essential as experience of safety differs across the municipality and in specific settings

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- initiatives should target the most vulnerable cohorts
- a community development approach should be taken as a positive sense of safety is strongly correlated with strong, connected and active communities.

In recognition of bringing together the road and community safety portfolios into one holistic plan, it is proposed that the current Road2Zero and Community Safety Advisory Committees are discontinued and a Safe City Advisory Committee is established. There is duplication of membership in both current committees and similar content is often raised. This proposal has been discussed and supported by members of both existing committees, and a Terms of Reference for the new committee will be presented for Council consideration at a future meeting. A recommendation to formally dissolve of the current Road2Zero and Community Safety Advisory Committees and to establish a Safe City Advisory Committee is made in this report, with delegation from Council to be determined during the next term of Council coinciding with timing of planned Committee reviews.

**The Safe City, Proud Communities Plan identifies the four pillars for action:**

- People and behaviours: Addressing individual behaviours to improve road and community safety.
- Community and connection: Promoting social capital, community cohesion and connection to foster safe communities.
- Environments for safety: Building and maintaining physical environments and social conditions that promote safety.
- Collaboration and coordination: Taking a whole-of-organisational approach to road and community safety.

A four-year action plan outlines specific strategies to be implemented under each pillar.

### 3. Council and Wellbeing Plan Reference and Policy Reference

The Melton City Council 2017-2021 Council and Wellbeing Plan references:

1. A proud, inclusive and safe community: A City of people leading happy and healthy lives
  - 1.2 *A safe and equitable community.*

### 4. Financial Considerations

This project is funded in Council recurrent budget in Community Planning.

### 5. Consultation/Public Submissions

Over 150 community members were engaged through 'community conversations' held at three locations in October and November 2019:

- CS Square Shopping Centre, Caroline Springs - 55 community members
- Hannah Watts Park, Melton – 49 community members
- Ageing Well Network – 48 community members

These conversations built on existing community consultation data from the Annual Household Satisfaction Survey (2019) and the Council Plan and Community Vision consultation Survey.

Using these methods, over 1000 residents were able to provide their insights regarding road and community safety. Community safety and traffic management were consistent priorities for City of Melton residents, alongside a strong need for strengthening the sense of belonging for residents in the municipality.

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Members of the Road2Zero Steering Group and Community Safety Advisory Group were briefed on the plans progress and provided opportunity to review the draft Plan.

**6. Risk Analysis**

There are no identified risks related to the endorsement of the Plan.

**7. Options**

Council has the following options:

1. Endorse the Plan and endorse the discontinuation of current associated advisory committees and establishment of new Safe City Advisory Committee.
2. Endorse the Plan and retain current advisory committees.
3. Not endorse the Plan, and retain current advisory committees.

**LIST OF APPENDICES**

1. Safe City, Proud Communities Plan 2020-2024
2. Road and Community Safety Discussion Paper - dated June 2020