



# MINUTES

## SAFE CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 9 March 2021 at 2.00pm on Microsoft Teams

### Present:

Cr Lara Carli	Councillor
Cr Sophie Ramsey	Councillor
Cr Julie Shannon	Councillor
Nicole Misurelli	Melton City Council
Kristie Lawson	Melton City Council
Jayde McBurnie	Melton City Council
Essan Dileri	Melton City Council
Elizabeth Johnston	Melton City Council
Katriona Gauci	Melton City Council
Tom Lay	Melton City Council
Zorka Dunstan	Victoria Police
Joanne Mutsaerts	Victoria Police
Emile Caggiati	Victoria Police
Alan Nguyen	Fit 2 Drive Foundation
Amanda Venda	Department of Transport
Benjamin Taylor	Djerriwarrh Health Services
Sarah Edwards	Department of Justice & Community Safety
Bernadette Marantelli	Centre for Multicultural Youth

**Guests:** Nil.

**Quorum:** A quorum for the Committee will require attendance of one (1) Councillor, and at least four (4) persons from the community representatives and external stakeholder members.

**Chairperson:** Cr Lara Carli, Councillor

**Minute Taker:** Elizabeth Johnston, Melton City Council

### 1. Welcome

Interim Chair Cr Carli opened the meeting at 2.07pm. Cr Carli welcomed the committee, Committee members introduced themselves, and then Cr Carli proceeded with the Acknowledgment of Country. *'Melton City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the people of the Kulin Nations, and pays respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.'*

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**2. Apologies**

Cr Ashleigh Vandenberg	Councillor
Cr Bob Turner	Councillor
Cr Steven Abboushi	Councillor
Amanda Watkinson	Department of Justice & Community Safety
Christopher Stuhldreier	Victoria Police
Kim Leech	Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services

**3. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**

Nil.

**4. Business Arising****4.1 Chair of the Committee**

Nominations opened for a Chair of the committee for 2021. Cr Ramsey nominated Cr Carli, Committee members unanimously agreed.

**Recommendation**

Cr Carli elected as Chair for 2021.

Moved by Cr Ramsey. Seconded by Z Dunstan.

**4.2 Safe City Advisory Committee terms of reference**

J McBurnie provided an overview of the terms of reference for the Committee which was circulated to members prior to the meeting. Key points highlighted included membership composition, process for nominating a chair and how many members are required to achieve a quorum. J McBurnie highlighted that Council will begin an expression of interest process for community representatives from each ward. Cr Ramsey enquired as to what Council would do if no interest comes from one of the wards, J McBurnie responded that the position would remain open until a representative can be found.

**Action**

Members to advise J McBurnie if they have any feedback on the terms of reference prior to next meeting.

E Johnston to proceed with expression of interest process for community representatives.

**4.3 Format of 2021 meetings**

J McBurnie highlighted that Council had received feedback that online meetings are more convenient for some members. The Committee agreed to continue to meet online with the exception of one face-to-face meeting per year.

**Recommendation**

Committee will have three meetings online and one meeting face-to-face (assuming restrictions allow) annually.

Moved by Cr Ramsey. Seconded by Cr Shannon.



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### 5. General Business

#### 5.1 Resolutions of Council

##### **712 – Roundtable forum regarding anti-social behaviour**

K Lawson presented an overview of the proposed objectives and main considerations for the upcoming roundtable forum. E Dileri and A Nguyen suggested additional stakeholders including students, CMY CSG, MiCare, Djerriwarrh and other organisations working with emerging communities. Cr Shannon suggested an exercise on definitions of anti-social behaviour. The importance of annual, placed based initiatives like this were discussed by Z Dunstan and Cr Ramsey. The preferred format was agreed to be face-to-face, Cr Ramsey highlighted this was the intention of the Notice of Motion. E Dileri asked whether it would be an external facilitator, and K Lawson advised that this is proposed. The Committee agreed this was the best option.

There was general agreement that this proposal was suitable with the suggestions incorporated, and that the forum will take place in April-May 2021.

*At 2.44pm Cr Carli had to leave the meeting. Cr Ramsey was nominated as interim Chair for remainder of the meeting.*

##### **720 – Community consultation at Arnolds Creek**

J Mutsaerts stated the intention to run a series of six community information sessions around the City of Melton, including Arnolds Creek. The focus to be on communities in developing areas, encouraging them to join conversation through structured groups as opposed to community made social media pages. The intent is to enable proactive conversations about home security, and avoid responses to inflammatory conversations. The sessions are currently on hold due to COVID-19, as the preference is to deliver these sessions in person. Cr Ramsey agreed that the intended sessions would be sufficient to satisfy Resolution 720.

##### **737 – Report to Council assessing police numbers and crime rates**

Council staff, with support of Victoria Police and peak bodies are collating police statistics however noted it may not be possible to obtain data from before the last three years. Members agreed that the report would include comparisons of data points only from the last three years, as well as two forecasted data points to project numbers required to meet future needs.

Z Dunstan shared that Victoria Police are also looking into police numbers and aim to be as efficient and publicly visible with the existing numbers. Members expressed concerns about burnout for police officers, and keeping up with population growth.

#### **Action**

K Lawson's presentation on Resolution 712 to be circulated with minutes. Committee feedback to be incorporated into proposal which will be presented to Youth Advisory Committee.

E Johnston to continue discussions with Z Dunstan to inform report being developed by Council staff in response to Resolution 737.

#### **Recommendation**

Resolution 720 is resolved through the intention of Victoria Police to run community information sessions.

#### 5.2 Building Safer Communities Funding and Forum

N Misurelli gave an update on the allocation of funding under Stream three of the State Governments 'Building Safer Communities Program', the funding is allocated to the City of Melton but not directly to Council. The aim of the funding is for State

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Government to support community driven projects that improve community safety over the next three years.

The first phase is an online community forum taking place on 25 March. The forum is aligned with the Safe City, Proud Communities plan, promoting discussion regarding social cohesion.

**Action**

Council staff to update the Committee at the next meeting.

**5.3 MacPherson Park**

T Lay provided an overview of how Council is responding to hoon behaviour at Macpherson Park, including a road treatment and potential modification to environmental design. E Caggiati outlined Victoria Police response in the area, and J Mutsaerts identified possibility of undertaking a CPTED assessment. Other options discussed included installation of a gate and increasing passive surveillance. Cr Ramsey and Cr Shannon expressed interest in the introduction of a new by-law at the City of Brimbank.

**Action**

E Caggiati to send information regarding the implementation of the by-law to Cr Ramsey and Cr Shannon.

**5.4 Community Road Safety Forum**

E Johnston advised that stakeholder feedback was that an online format would not be effective. Forum has therefore been re-scheduled to be face to face, coinciding with National Road Safety Week in May. Members expressed their agreement with prioritizing an in person event. E Johnston will advise once a new date and venue have been confirmed.

**Action**

E Johnston to advise members and relevant stakeholders of the new date and venue for the Community Road Safety Forum once confirmed.

**5.5 Member updates*****VicRoads – A Venda***

A Venda provided an overview of the VicRoads Road Safety Grants which is now open. Guidelines will be circulated to members and stakeholders. A Venda noted members can get in touch with any questions and highlighted new program on Fleet Safe Driver Policy. Stakeholders with fleet vehicles are encouraged to apply for the funding. The new State Road Safety Strategy has recently been released, and will be circulated to members.

***Djerriwarrh Health Services – B Taylor***

At request, T Lay provided a progress update on the Sundowner Caravan Park Rockbank, regarding concerns for its access point via the Western Highway. Council have consulted with VicRoads and the Caravan Park owners to relocate the entrance to the back of the property. Council continues to advocate for the need, and Department of Transport have committed to undertake a study.

***Fit2Drive – A Nguyen***



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A Nguyen advised that Fit2Drive have adapted a program to deliver online called Steer Right. This was delivered to four local schools and received a good feedback. A Nguyen advised that face-to-face workshops have now resumed. Further workshops are booked, and the next workshop is with the Catholic Regional College on 13 May. Members were invited to attend if they would like to see what workshops are like.

### ***Department of Justice and Community Safety – S Edwards***

S Edwards advised that Justice Service Centers) remain closed to general public, however are operating from behind closed doors. Youth Justice and Community Corrections staff are still seeing high risk clients, and undertaking case management online. Victims Assistance Program workers (delivered by Co Health) are no longer co-locating at Police Stations – they continue to work remotely.

### ***Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) – B Marantelli***

B Marantelli advised that CMY have been operating case management over the phone and online during COVID-19, now resuming with greater normalcy. Community support groups are returning to the site at about 50 per cent capacity.

### ***Melton City Council***

J McBurnie advised that the Kurunjang Community Strengthening Project is continuing after receiving funding through the Community Safety Infrastructure Fund in 2020. \$200,000 has been received for infrastructure and community led activation initiatives.

### **Action/Recommendation**

E Johnston to circulate Road Safety Grant Guidelines and Road Safety Strategy.

T Lay to circulate information regarding State Government commitment to undertake a study of Sundowner Caravan park entry.

### **6. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 June 2021 from 10am on Microsoft Teams.

### **7. Close of Business**

The meeting closed at 3.42pm.