

### ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL

**MONDAY, 11 MAY 2020** 

7:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING accessed via www.hume.vic.gov.au

### **OUR VISION:**

Hume City Council will be recognised as a leader in achieving social, environmental and economic outcomes with a common goal of connecting our proud community and celebrating the diversity of Hume.

An audio recording of this meeting of the Hume City Council will be recorded and published in accordance with Council's Audio Recordings of Council Meetings Policy. The live stream of this meeting will not be recorded or published.

### **HUME CITY COUNCIL**

Notice of an

### ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL

to be held on Monday, 11 May 2020

at 7:00 PM

online via Hume City Council's website: www.hume.vic.gov.au

To: a: Council Cr Carly Moore Mayor

Cr Jack Medcraft Deputy Mayor
Cr Karen Sherry Deputy Mayor

Cr Joseph Haweil Cr Jodi Jackson

Cr Drew Jessop, OAM Cr Leigh Johnson Cr Naim Kurt Cr Geoff Porter Cr Ann Potter Cr Jana Taylor

Mr Hector Gaston Director Community Services

Mr Michael Sharp Director Planning and Development

Ms Roslyn Wai Director Communications, Engagement and

Advocacy

Mr Peter Waite Director Sustainable Infrastructure and Services

Mr Daryl Whitfort Director Corporate Services

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND

"I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Gunung-Willam-Balluk land. The Gunung-Willam-Balluk of the Wurundjeri are the first and original people of this land. I would like to pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today."

### 2. PRAYER

Hume City's religious diversity strengthens and enriches community life and supports the well-being of the citizens of Hume City. Hume City Council acknowledges the importance of spiritual life and the leadership offered by the Hume City Inter Faith Leaders Network. In recognition of the religious diversity of residents in Hume City, Council has invited the Inter Faith Leaders Network to take responsibility for the opening prayer at Council meetings. This evening's prayer has been provided in advance of the meeting, and is led by Ms Jillian Gray on behalf of the Hume Interfaith Network.

### 3. APOLOGIES

### 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillors' attention is drawn to the provisions of the *Local Government Act* 1989 in relation to the disclosure of conflicts of interests. Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest immediately before consideration or discussion of the relevant item. Councillors are then required to leave the meeting during discussion and not vote on the relevant item.

### 5. CONDOLENCE MOTIONS

### 6. ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCIL

In accordance with section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act* 1989, Council is required to report, as soon as practicable, to an Ordinary Meeting of Council, a record of any assemblies of Councillors held.

There are no records of assemblies to report on this section of the Agenda.

### 7. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 14 April 2020 and the Ordinary Council (Town Planning) Meeting of 27 April 2020, including Confidential Minutes.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 14 April 2020 and the Ordinary Council (Town Planning) Meeting of 27 April 2020, including Confidential Minutes, be confirmed.

### 8. RECEIPT OF COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL TO BE ADOPTED

### 8.1 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting of the Foresters Hall Westmeadows Committee of Management held on 20 February 2020

### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Foresters Hall Westmeadows Committee of Management (the Committee) held an Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday 20 February 2020, commencing at 1.35pm.
- 1.2 Following the AGM, the Committee held a General Meeting to discuss Committee business, commencing at 1.54pm.

### 2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS:

- 2.1 The Committee held their Annual General Meeting on 20 February 2020 as required by their Instrument of Delegation.
- 2.2 At the meeting the Committee was required to:
  - (a) Appoint office bearers for endorsement by Council;
  - (b) Recommend fees for adoption by Council;
  - (c) Recommend fees for service;
  - (d) Set meeting dates to be advertised by Council.

- 2.3 The Acting Chair declared Committee positions vacant and called for nominations to fill the vacant positions. The results were as follows:
  - (a) Mr E Hoctor: Chair;
  - (b) Mrs E Sanderson: Honorary Secretary, Treasurer;
  - (c) Mr G Hodgson: Assistant Secretary;
  - (d) Mrs P Chalkley: Community Representative;
  - (e) Ms H Dobrautz: Community Representative;
  - (f) Mr B Koch: Community Representative;
  - (g) Mrs D White: Community Representative;
  - (h) Mrs M Scott: Community Representative.
- 2.4 The Committee did not recommend any Office Bearer remuneration fees for consideration by Council. It is recommended that the fee for service is increased from \$1,533 (which is the fee being paid in this current financial year) to \$1,579 for the 2020/21 financial year, which is an increase that is consistent with Council's Budget parameter guidelines.
- 2.5 In addition to the fee for service, a monthly \$20 telephone allowance and \$20 internet allowance is also paid to nominated Office Bearers.
- 2.6 The committee has not proposed any user fees for 2020/21. In accordance with Council's fee setting process user fees have been recommended by Council officers and these were included in the 2020/21 draft budget that was approved by Council to be placed on public exhibition. The Committee will now has an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed 2020/21 fees through this public consultation process.
- 2.7 The Committee declared the next Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday 18 February 2021, commencing at 1.30pm.

### 3. GENERAL MEETING COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

- 3.1 The Committee confirmed meeting dates for 2020, commencing at 1.30pm, being:
  - (a) Thursday 16 July 2020
  - (b) Thursday 15 October 2020

### 4. **RECOMMENDATION:**

- 4.1 THAT the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting of the Foresters Hall Westmeadows Committee of Management held on 20 February 2020 be noted.
- 4.2 THAT Council notes the other members of the Foresters Hall Westmeadows Committee of Management as being:
  - (a) Mr E Hoctor Chair;
  - (b) Mrs E Sanderson Honorary Secretary, Treasurer;
  - (c) Mr G Hodgson Assistant Secretary.
- 4.3 THAT Council notes the following positions held by other members of the Foresters Hall Westmeadows Committee of Management:
  - (a) Mrs P Chalkley: Community Representative;
  - (b) Ms H Dobrautz: Community Representative;

- (c) Mr B Koch: Community Representative;
- (d) Mrs D White: Community Representative;
- (e) Mrs M Scott: Community Representative.
- 4.4 THAT the Officer Bearer fees payable to the Secretary and Treasurer (combined) for the 2020/2021 financial year is set at:
  - (a) \$1,579 per annum;
  - (b) \$20 per month telephone allowance;
  - (c) \$20 per month towards internet fees.
- 4.5 THAT Council notes and advertises the following meeting dates for the Foresters Hall Westmeadows Committee of Management to be held at Foresters Hall Westmeadows, commencing at 1.30pm:
  - (a) Thursday 16 July 2020;
  - (b) Thursday 15 October 2020;
  - (c) Thursday 18 February 2021 (Annual General Meeting).
- 8.2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management held on 18 February 2020

### 1. SUMMARY

1.1 The Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management (the Committee) held an Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 18 February 2020, commencing at 7.30pm.

### 2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS:

- 2.1 The Committee held their Annual General Meeting on 18 February 2020 as required by their Instrument of Delegation.
- 2.2 At the meeting the Committee was required to:
  - (a) Appoint office bearers for endorsement by Council;
  - (b) Recommend fees for adoption by Council;
  - (c) Recommend fees for service;
  - (d) Set meeting dates to be advertised by Council.
- 2.3 The Chair declared Committee positions vacant and called for nominations to fill the vacant positions. The results were as follows:
  - (a) Ms Carolynne Venn Chairperson
  - (b) Secretary position remains vacant
  - (c) John Timbs Treasurer / Bookings / Acting Secretary
  - (d) Margaret Monello Maintenance Officer
  - (e) Pat Townsend Community Representative
  - (f) Daniel Atioo Harvest Time Church Representative
  - (g) Carol Hilderbrandt GP Badminton Representative
  - (h) Peter Lazarus Hume U3A Representative
- 2.4 The Committee resolved a fee to recommend to Council for Office Bearer's Remuneration in a closed section of the meeting. A copy of these confidential minutes has been provided on the Councillor's Portal.

- 2.5 The Committee meeting dates for the next 12 months, with all meetings starting at 7:30pm and the venue being the Gladstone Park Community Centre, are:
  - (a) Tuesday 19 May 2020
  - (b) Tuesday 21 July 2020
  - (c) Tuesday 20 October 2020
  - (d) Tuesday 16 February 2021 (AGM)
- 2.6 The committee has not proposed any user fees for 2020/21. In accordance with Council's fee setting process user fees have been recommended by Council officers and these were included in the 2020/21 draft budget that was approved by Council to be placed on public exhibition. The Committee will now has an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed 2020/21 fees through this public consultation process.
- 2.7 The Committee resolved that the Treasurer write to Council seeking permission to exceed its financial delegation to enable the Committee to purchase 45 chairs from a user group.

### 3. OFFICERS COMMENTS:

### Committee Recommendations for Office Bearer Remuneration

- 3.1 Whilst the Committee resolved their recommendation regarding Officer Bearer remuneration as a confidential matter, it is Council's practice to resolve Office Bearer remuneration in the open section of a Council meeting. Recommendations are therefore made to Council in this report regarding Office Bearer's remuneration.
- 3.2 The current 2019/20 financial year's remuneration for Officer Bearers, being the Secretary, Treasurer and Booking Officer, is \$1,533. It is recommended that Council approves the Committee's request to increase the amount of remuneration to \$1,600 for the 2020/21 financial year, which is slightly higher than an increase which is consistent with Council's Budget parameter guidelines, but which reflects the workload of the individual who is currently performing these three combined roles.

### **Request from Committee to Purchase Chairs**

- 3.3 The Committee has advised that in 2019 a user group named the VINSARA Institute of Education purchased new chairs for their own use which they were happy for other user groups to share, but that they had not obtained prior approval from the Committee to do this. The Committee is concerned about Public Liability for all user groups with regards to these chairs and they met with the user group that purchased the chairs to discuss this.
- 3.4 The Committee would like to purchase these chairs from VINSARA so that they assume public liability in line with Council's requirements, and so that all user groups can use the chairs.
- 3.5 There are 45 chairs, and the cost to purchase them is \$3,420. The Committee's Instrument of Delegation stipulates that they cannot make a single purchase that exceeds \$1000 so they are seeking Council's permission to make this purchase.
- 3.6 The Committee has the funds to make this purchase and they would like to purchase the chairs so that they can be made available for use to all user groups. No Committee member has any personal connection to VINSARA. It is recommended that Council approves the Committee's purchase of these chairs.

### 4. RECOMMENDATION:

- 4.1 THAT the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management held on 18 February 2020 be noted.
- 4.2 THAT Council endorses the appointment of the following individuals as office bearers of the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management:
  - (a) Ms Carolynne Venn Chair;
  - (b) John Timbs Treasurer / Bookings / Acting Secretary.
- 4.3 THAT Council notes the other members of the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management Committee as being:
  - (a) Margaret Monello Maintenance Officer;
  - (b) Pat Townsend Community Representative;
  - (c) Daniel Atioo Harvest Time Church Representative;
  - (d) Carol Hilderbrandt GP Badminton Representative;
  - (e) Peter Lazarus Hume U3A Representative.
- 4.4 THAT Council notes that the position of Secretary for the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management remains vacant.
- 4.5 THAT the Officer Bearer fees payable to the Secretary, Treasurer and Booking Officer (combined) for the 2020/2021 financial year is set at:
  - (a) \$1,600 per annum;
  - (b) \$20 per month telephone allowance;
  - (c) \$20 per month towards internet fees.
- 4.6 THAT Council notes and advertises the following meeting dates for the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management to be held at the Gladstone Park Community Centre, commencing at 7.30pm:
  - (a) Tuesday 19 May 2020;
  - (b) Tuesday 21 July 2020;
  - (c) Tuesday 20 October 2020;
  - (d) Tuesday 16 February 2021 (Annual General Meeting).
- 4.7 THAT Council approves the purchase of 45 chairs by the Gladstone Park Community Centre Committee of Management from VINSARA Institute of Education at a cost of \$3,420.
- 9. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Nil

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

13.

14.

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16.

17.

**GENERAL BUSINESS** 

### 11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

### 12. OFFICER'S REPORTS

The Mayor will ask the Councillors and gallery at the commencement of this section, which reports they wish to speak to. These reports will then be discussed in the order they appear on the notice paper. Reports not called will be dealt with in a block resolution at the end.

<u>Item No</u> <u>Title</u>				
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT				
ED038	Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grants9			
CULTURE AND COMMUNITY				
CC038	COVID-19 Community Grants Program and the COVID-19 Community Support Fund			
GOVERNANCE AND ENGAGEMENT				
GE429	Hume City Locality (Suburb) Boundary Review Project - Progress Update and Recommended Further Actions15			
GE430	Working for Victoria Fund39			
PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS				
DEPUTATIONS				
Nil				
URGENT BUSINESS				
DELEGATES REPORTS				

### 18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

The Meeting may be closed to members of the public to consider confidential matters.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act* 2020 to consider the following items, which were confidential for the purposes of section 77 of the *Local Government Act* 1989:

Report No.	Title	Reason considered confidential under section 77 of the <i>Local Government Act</i> 1989
COSU153	Contract - Hume Tennis Community Centre - Playspace and Landscape Works	(d) contractual matters
COSU154	Contract - Collection and Disposal of Non-solid Waste from Hume City Council Facilities	(d) contractual matters
COCC037	Contract - Design, Supply and Construct of Greenvale Equestrian Centre	(d) contractual matters
COGE279	Assembly of Councillors - April 2020	(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person

### 19 CLOSURE OF MEETING

DOMENIC ISOLA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

6/05/2020

REPORT NO: ED038

**REPORT TITLE:** Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grants

**SOURCE:** George Osborne, Manager Economic Development

**DIVISION:** Planning and Development

FILE NO: HCC12/460

POLICY: -

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:** 1.2 Create conditions which support business growth and

create local jobs for Hume residents.

ATTACHMENT: Nil

### 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

On 23 March 2020, Council endorsed the creation of a \$1m Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grant fund to Hume businesses affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19. This supports the *Council Plan 2017-2021* (2019/20 Actions) to create conditions which support business growth and create local jobs for Hume residents. Applications have closed and are progressing through a review and panel assessment process. This report seeks to provide Council an update of the grants process.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the progress of the Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grants program for eligible Hume businesses affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

The provision of local Business Grants is within Council's power under the *Local Government Act* 1989.

### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 As part of Council's support package for local businesses, the \$1m Small to Medium Business Quick Response Support Grant Fund was endorsed on 23 March 2020. The is to provide financial assistance to eligible small to medium businesses affected by COVID-19.
- 4.2 Grants for eligible businesses include:
  - 4.2.1 Up to \$5,000 for businesses with up to 5 employees.
  - 4.2.2 Up to \$10,000 for businesses with 6 to 10 employees.
  - 4.2.3 Up to \$20,000 for businesses with 11 to 20 employees.
- 4.3 The grants are to be provided to businesses who met the application criteria successfully, show financial hardship and were able to demonstrate how the grant will assist them to retain current employees or support business sustainability.

### 5. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

This report reflects Council's goals to support our communities' aspirations for tolerance, dignity and quality of life, and acknowledges the following right whilst exercising its responsibilities: The right to work.

### **REPORT NO: ED038 (cont.)**

### 6. BACKGROUND:

- 6.1 The Small to Medium Business Quick Response Support Grant Fund complements the stimulus support packages being offered by the State and Federal governments. These include:
  - 6.1.1 State Government Business Support Fund, a \$10,000 grant towards operational costs and to help keep people in work and available now, which will help small businesses (but not medium) highly impacted by shutdown restrictions.
  - 6.1.2 Federal Government JobKeeper Package of \$1,500 to be paid to each employee, available in May and backdated to April, noting that by 30 April, eligible business are to have already paid employees \$1,500 for each fortnight to claim JobKeeper payments in arrears for April. 31 May is the final date to enroll to claim for JobKeeper fortnights in April and May. Each month businesses are required to reconfirm eligibility.
- 6.2 The Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grant may be used for costs associated with e-commerce platforms, website development, digital marketing and promotion, product development, staff training and utility bills. (Costs associated with rent, business loans and bond were not considered).
- 6.3 To be eligible for a Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grant businesses must:
  - 6.3.1 Operate from commercial or industrial zoned premises within Hume City.
  - 6.3.2 Have a valid Australian Business Number (ABN).
  - 6.3.3 Have 20 or fewer permanent FTE employees.
  - 6.3.4 Demonstrate how the grant will support the business in response to the impact of COVID-19.
  - 6.3.5 Hold all appropriate permit and licences that are required for the business to be legal.
- 6.4 The Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Response Support Grant is designed to assist sustainable SMEs through the COVID-19 to position them to continue to operate and employ now, as well as when the pandemic eases and ends.

### 7. DISCUSSION:

- 7.1 The Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Response Support Grant was opened on Thursday 9 April 2020, online via SmartyGrants. The promotion of the Grant Fund was undertaken widely, using all Council social media channels along with the Together in Business web page, emails through the Economic Development e-newsletter. The promotion reached over 10,000 businesses. The applications closed at 9.00pm Friday 17 April 2020.
- 7.2 Council had an overwhelming response to the Small and Medium Business Quick Response Support Grant. Over 350 applications have been received from businesses in a range of industries including manufacturing, retail, food, hospitality, freight, professional and business services.
- 7.3 The applications were put through an initial review process to check eligibility. This resulted in 92 applications being put forward directly for formal assessment. For various reasons, other applicants were deemed either incomplete or ineligible.
- 7.4 With regards to 'incomplete' and 'ineligible' applications, a further review process will be undertaken with the possibility that some will progress to the assessment panel however there will be applications that cannot be assessed for example the business is not a Hume business, business applying for rent relief and the business not providing evidence of a 30% downturn in turnover.

### **REPORT NO: ED038 (cont.)**

- 7.5 The businesses whose applications were unsuccessful have been contacted and encouraged to look into the State and Federal government support packages.
- 7.6 The 92 applications eligible for funding are currently being assessed by the Assessment Panel who will make recommendations on the amount of funding to be received. These recommendations will then be reviewed by a Councillor from each ward and the Director Planning and Development to confirm the granting of funds to the approved applicants.
- 7.7 The successful businesses will be notified once the approvals are finalised and then undergo the required agreement process with Council for the distribution of funds.

### 8. CONCLUSION:

The Hume Small and Medium Business Quick Support Grant fund aims to support Hume businesses affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19. Applications for the grant have closed with Council receiving over 350 applications. Applications are now being reviewed and when awarded will support businesses to continue to operate and employ now, as well as when the pandemic ends. They represent a strong and tangible expression of Council's support and commitment to the Hume community.

**REPORT NO: ED038 (cont.)** 

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REPORT NO: CC038

**REPORT TITLE:** COVID-19 Community Grants Program and the COVID-

19 Community Support Fund

**SOURCE:** Narda Shanley, Community Development Officer

Julie Andrews, Community Capacity Building Coordinator

**DIVISION:** Community Services

FILE NO: HCC20/315

**POLICY:** Community Grant Policy POL/282

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:** 3.1 Foster socially connected and supported

communities.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

### 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

On 14 April 2020 Council endorsed the creation of:

- The COVID-19 Community Grants Program, a \$450,000 one off grant program which
  provides immediate community capacity building in relation to the emerging issues related
  to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The COVID-19 Community Support Fund, a \$250,000 fund to support community agencies to provide emergency relief (i.e. food packages) to the Hume community.

This report provides an update on these two funding programs.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the update on the status of the COVID-19 Community Grants program and the COVID-19 Community Support Fund.

### 3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

3.1 The provision of community grants is within Council's power under the Local Government Act, 1989.

### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 There are no additional financial implications related to this report.
- 4.2 The COVID-19 Community Grant Program (\$450,000) and the COVID-19 Community Support Fund (\$250,000) were funded via Council resolution on 14 April 2020.

### 5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

- 5.1 There are no additional environmental sustainability considerations relating to this report.
- 5.2 Programs dedicated to environmental sustainability will continue to be a target of the Community Grants program. Assessors will be informed of Council policies and frameworks related to environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation, to support sustainability goals and outcomes through the grants program.

### 6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

- 6.1 There are no additional climate change adaptation considerations relating to this report.
- 6.2 Programs that address climate change adaptation will be included within the broader approach of encouraging programs that contribute to environmental sustainability outcomes.

### **REPORT NO: CC038 (cont.)**

### 7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

- 7.1 The Community Grants Program is underpinned by Council's *Social Justice Charter* 2014, which ensures that a human rights-based approach is applied to Council's decision-making process.
- 7.2 The Social Justice Charter recognises that every citizen has the right to a quality of life that allows them to freely realise their potential.
- 7.3 The Social Justice Charter seeks to advance a fair and just society and to promote respect for every citizen, encourage community participation, strengthen community wellbeing and reduce the causes of disadvantage.

### 8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

- 8.1 The Hume community have been informed about the COVID-19 Community Grants program and the COVID-19 Community Support Fund via the following mechanisms:
  - Direct emails and hard copy mailouts to stakeholder contact lists
  - Promotion via local media
  - Promotion via Facebook and other social media platforms

### 9. DISCUSSION:

### 9.1 COVID-19 Community Grants program

- 9.1.1 The COVID-19 Community Grants Program opened for applications on 17 April 2020. Since this time:
  - 128 program inquiries have been received.
  - Over 300 applications have commenced (as of 4 May 2020).
  - 118 applications have been submitted across the four program categories.
- 9.1.2 The category with the highest level of inquiries and applications is the Technology, Access and Support Category which accounts for 90% of submitted and unsubmitted applications.
- 9.1.3 Eligibility checks have been completed on the first round of applicants with 43 applications (as of 1 May 2020) currently progressing through the panel assessment process. Following this, successful applicants will be contacted to commence the grant contracting process.

### 9.2 COVID-19 Community Support Fund

- 9.2.1 The COVID-19 Community Support Fund opened for expressions of interest on Friday 24 April 2020 and will close on Monday 11 May 2020.
- 9.2.2 As of 4 May 2020, 2 expressions of interest have been received, with a further 1 in development in the SmartyGrants system.
- 9.2.3 Following the closing date, all expressions of interest will be reviewed to identify which agencies will be successful in gaining up to \$25,000 in support funding.

### 10. CONCLUSION:

The COVID-19 Community Grants program and the COVID-19 Community Support Fund provide a targeted package of support to those in the Hume community that are most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The support provides capacity building and resilience initiatives that benefit the entire Hume community, both now and intro the future.

REPORT NO: GE429

REPORT TITLE: Hume City Locality (Suburb) Boundary Review Project -

Progress Update and Recommended Further Actions

**SOURCE:** Gavan O'Keefe, Manager Governance

Peter Faull, Coordinator Governance & Corporate

Support

**DIVISION:** Corporate Services

FILE NO: HCC15/755

POLICY: Place Names Policy

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:** 5.3 Provide responsible and transparent governance,

services and infrastructure which responds to and

supports community needs.

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. Proposal 1: East Craigieburn

2. Proposal 2: North Mickleham

3. Proposal 3: East Sunbury

4. Proposal 4: Sunbury - Bulla Intersection Point

5. Proposal 5: Mickleham - Amended

6. Proposal 6: Oaklands Junction - Amended

Proposal 7: Somerton - Amended
 Proposal 8: Yuroke - Amended

### 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 24 June 2019, Council approved the commencement of a community consultation process to seek community and key stakeholder feedback on what changes, if any, should be made to Hume City's locality (suburb) boundaries. Council at this meeting also noted an estimated timeline.
- 1.2 A process of general community consultation commenced on Monday 8 July 2019 and closed on Wednesday 7 August 2019.
- 1.3 This report:
  - (a) provides Council with a progress update on actions taken since the conclusion of the community consultation period;
  - (b) recommends future actions on how to proceed with this review.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 That Council advise the community of the outcome of the community consultation that occurred in 2019.
- 2.2 That Council formally consider any locality (suburb) boundary amendments at a Council meeting to be held in early 2021.
  - 2.2.1 Formal consideration will include adoption of preferred locality amendments and approval to commence a public consultation process that meets the requirements of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria Statutory Requirements for Naming Roads, Features and Localities 2016 which will:
    - (i) Seek public feedback on the suburb boundary amendments endorsed by Council, by asking members of the immediate and extended communities if they agree or disagree with these proposed amendments.

- (ii) Give members of the immediate and extended communities the opportunity to object to the suburb boundary amendments endorsed by Council.
- 2.3 THAT Council notes and accepts in principle the following locality (suburb) boundary amendments which have been approved as compliant by Geographic Names Victoria:
  - (a) Proposal 1: the creation of a new suburb to the north east of the Hume Freeway utilising land that is currently located in the eastern area of Craigieburn, including a boundary amendment to land that is currently located in the northern area of Somerton which shares its border with Craigieburn (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 1 (East Craigieburn Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 1 of this report;
  - (b) Proposal 2: the creation of a new suburb north of Donnybrook Road utilising land that is currently located in the northern area of Mickleham (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 2 (North Mickleham Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 2 of this report;
  - (c) Proposal 3: the creation of a new suburb between Sunbury and Wildwood, utilising land that is currently located in the eastern area of Sunbury (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 3 (East Sunbury Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 3 of this report;
  - (d) Proposal 4: the creation of a new suburb at the intersecting point of Sunbury and Bulla, utilising land that is currently located in both Sunbury and Bulla (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 4 (Sunbury Bulla Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 4 of this report;
  - (e) Proposal 5: proposed amendments to current Mickleham locality boundaries (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 1 (Mickleham Amended Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 5 of this report;
  - (f) Proposal 6: proposed amendments to current Oaklands Junction locality boundaries (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 6 (Oaklands Junction Amended Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 6 of this report;
  - (g) Proposal 7: proposed amendments to current Somerton locality boundaries (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 7 (Somerton Amended Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 7 of this report:
  - (h) Proposal 8: proposed amendments to current Yuroke locality boundaries (as per the map labelled 'Proposal 8 (Yuroke Amended Proposed Boundary Amendments') which is provided in Attachment 8 of this report.
- 2.4 THAT Council advises the community of the names that were proposed by the Locality Name Advisory Committees for new localities that are under consideration following the community consultation and the feedback from Geographic Names Victoria on these names.
- 2.5 THAT Council writes to the Registrar of Geographic Names requesting an exception to Principle (I) of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria Statutory Requirements for Naming Roads, Features and Localities 2016 to allow Council to include the name of Merrifield in the public voting process, in the circumstances that the name of Merrifield is appropriate to include in a public vote for the name of a new suburb.

### 3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

- 3.1 Under the *Geographic Place Names Act* 1998 (the Act), local councils are responsible for determining suburb, town and rural district names and boundaries within their municipality.
- 3.2 The Naming Rules for Places in Victoria Statutory Requirements for Naming Roads, Features and Localities 2016 (the Naming Rules) provides information on changing and naming the boundaries of localities in Victoria. The Naming Rules are the statutory requirements allowed for under the Act.

### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Costs associated with future community consultations would be funded from Council's operational budget.

### 5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

Environmental Sustainability has been considered and the recommendations of this report give no rise to any matters.

### 6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

Climate Change Adaption has been considered and the recommendations of this report give no rise to any matters.

### 7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

The rights protected in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 were considered as part of this report. The community consultation recommendations of this report support the Human Rights and Responsibilities for freedom of expression (Section 15) by providing community members with the opportunity to receive information and share ideas on proposals which are likely to have an impact on their lives.

### 8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

- 8.1 Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Caretaker Period restrictions on consultation and the October 2020 Council elections it is suggested that community consultation would not be appropriate in 2020. Any formal decision to commence community consultation should commence in 2021.
- 8.2 Members of the community will be provided with a progress update on actions taken in the suburb boundary review to date through Council's usual communication channels, and those members of the community who have previously registered to receive updates on the review will be contacted directly to be provided with a progress update.

### 9. DISCUSSION:

### Background

- 9.1 The general consultation process approved by Council which commenced on 8 July 2019 sought community and key stakeholder feedback on what changes, if any, should be made to Hume City's suburb boundaries. The feedback received from this consultation was to assist in informing the subsequent stages of the review.
- 9.2 Some locality boundaries were identified as being a focus of this first stage of public consultation. These were chosen based on the following criteria:
  - (a) Current population and future planned residential growth within the municipality;
  - (b) Future planned land use within the municipality, in particular industrial and employment land use;
  - (c) Future planned infrastructure development within the municipality.
- 9.3 The locality boundaries that met the above criteria and which were identified as a focus for the first stage of public consultation were:

(a) Craigieburn including North Somerton:

Craigieburn includes both residential and industrial growth fronts. The existing size and projected future growth in Craigieburn would benefit from several proposed boundary amendments, including the creation of a new suburb to the north east of the Hume Freeway utilising land that is currently located in the eastern area of Craigieburn, to ensure that Craigieburn is not so large that it is confusing to members of the public, and so that boundaries assist in the delivery of emergency and postal services.

### (b) Mickleham:

Mickleham includes several residential and employment development fronts along Donnybrook and Mt Ridley Road. It also includes low density residential properties in the 'inter-urban break' and Green Wedge properties west of Mickleham Road. There are multiple developments and extensive change occurring in Mickleham both currently and in the future. As Mickleham continues to develop, the existing boundaries will not adequately define the area. It is arguable that the existing boundary is already inadequate, and that several proposed boundary amendments, including the creation of a new suburb north of Donnybrook Road utilising land that is currently located in the northern area of Mickleham, would address the current inadequacies in Mickleham's boundary design.

### (c) Sunbury and Bulla:

Sunbury, as a locality, has never been broken into smaller localities. Major developments such as the Goonawarra and Rolling Meadows estates were not created as standalone localities and they remain part of Sunbury. There is a need to consider future boundaries changes, particularly at the intersecting point of Bulla and Sunbury, because this boundary intersection is located a significant distance away from the township of Bulla. It is proposed that a new locality could be created at the intersection point of Sunbury and Bulla utilizing land that is currently in both suburbs. The creation of a new suburb between Sunbury and Wildwood, utilising land that is currently located in the eastern area of Sunbury, is also proposed.

(d) Yuroke, Kalkallo and Oaklands Junction:

In order to accommodate proposed changes to surrounding suburbs such as Mickleham, the boundaries of Yuroke, Kalkallo and Oaklands Junction could also be impacted. In particular, it is proposed that the boundary of Yuroke is extended north to take in a significant part of what is currently west Mickleham.

### General Community Consultation - 8 July to 7 August 2019

- 9.4 As well as approving the commencement of a community consultation process seeking community and key stakeholder feedback on what changes, if any, should be made to Hume City's suburb boundaries, Council at its meeting of 24 June 2019 also approved:
  - 9.4.1 placing 'Existing and Hypothetical After' locality maps on public exhibition, with feedback being sought on the 'After' maps;
  - 9.4.2 that community submissions could be submitted with names for new localities that Council may consider or endorse in any subsequent stage of public consultation:
  - 9.4.3 the establishment of Locality Name Advisory Committees, as required, for each Ward where a new locality may be proposed as part of a review into locality boundaries within the Hume municipality;
  - 9.4.4 seeking applications for membership of Locality Name Advisory Committees during the community consultation process;

- 9.4.5 that the Locality Name Advisory Committee established for each Ward where a new locality may be proposed recommends names for proposed new localities to Council consideration for including in a subsequent stage of public consultation.
- 9.5 At this meeting Council also noted an estimated timeline to complete a review of the locality boundaries within the Hume municipality.
- 9.6 The community consultation process which commenced on Monday 8 July 2019 and closed on Wednesday 7 August 2019 was very successful, and there was a high level of engagement and feedback from members of the community. The first stage of consultation allowed members of the community to make suggestions on any locality boundary amendments within the Hume municipality that they would like Council to consider, as well as highlighting the possible redesign of some locality boundaries, as per the five new hypothetical suburbs placed on public exhibition, as a focus of the review.
- 9.7 All feedback received from members of the community was directed through Social Pinpoint, which is an online engagement tool that was available on Council's website which allowed people to submit comments, suggestions and to design their own hypothetical suburb boundaries. There were 8,001 total visits to Social Pinpoint from 2,710 unique users who made 419 comments and completed 235 survey responses. Some other feedback was also received outside of Social Pinpoint.
- 9.8 As part of the consultation process Council officers also met with and received feedback from representatives of Geographic Names Victoria (GNV), Ambulance Victoria the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) and Australia Post.

### **Locality Name Advisory Committees**

9.9 Following the conclusion of the consultation process, Council established two Locality Name Advisory Committees, being the Jacksons Creek Ward Locality Name Advisory Committee and the Aitken Ward Locality Name Advisory Committee. Both committees met and made recommendations on names for Council to consider including in a public voting process for new suburbs that Council may endorse as part of this review, after those names were first assessed for compliance by Geographic Names Victoria.

### In-Principle Support Sought from the Registrar of Geographic Names for Possible Future Recommendations to Council

- 9.10 Step 1 of the estimated timeline for this review was to seek in-principle support from Geographic Names Victoria for proposed locality boundary amendments and proposed names for new localities. The intent of this step is to seek Geographic Names Victoria support for any proposals that officers may wish to present to Council for their consideration, because any proposals that did not have Geographic Names Victoria support would not be worth pursuing. As part of their review process, Geographic Names Victoria also sought feedback from Australia Post and ESTA on the proposals submitted to them by Council officers.
- 9.11 Following analysis of the feedback received from members of the community, and receipt of recommended names from the two Locality Name Advisory Committees that Council had established, Council officers submitted proposals for possible suburb boundary amendments and names for potential new suburbs to Geographic Names Victoria.
- 9.12 After conducting their own investigations and consulting with their interstate equivalents, Geographic Names Victoria provided Council officers with feedback on the names that had been submitted to them for their consideration. Their feedback was that a number of the names submitted were considered to be non-compliant, and Geographic Names Victoria could not provide their in-principle support for those names.

- 9.13 In late 2019 Geographic Names Victoria provided their initial feedback on the proposed suburb boundary amendments that had been submitted to them, and they requested that Council officers make amendments to some of these proposals. At that time, Australia Post and ESTA advised Geographic Names Victoria that they would require additional time to consider the proposals. As a result of both of the above, final inprinciple support from Geographic Names Victoria (which included support from Australia Post and ESTA) was not received until late February 2020.
- 9.14 During the Geographic Names Victoria's review of the proposed suburb boundary changes the Geographic Names Victoria advised that the current boundaries of Oakland Junction did not comply with their guidelines and have included corrections to the boundary in their feedback.
- 9.15 The time taken to complete this stage of the review was much longer than anticipated.

### **Recommendations for Future Action**

- 9.16 Because Geographic Names Victoria took longer than anticipated to provide feedback to Council, it is not recommended that Council at this time progresses to the next step in Stage 2A of the estimated timeline, which is to formally resolve changes to the locality boundaries and consult with the community on proposed suburb boundary amendments as per the requirements of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria Statutory Requirements for Naming Roads, Features and Localities 2016 (the Naming Rules).
- 9.17 The reason why this consultation is not recommended is because of the current issues with COVID-19 and the possibility that the consultation period would overlap with the caretaker period before local government elections in October 2020. It is therefore recommended that all further community consultations associated with this review, being Stages 2A and if required Stage 2B, are deferred to commence no earlier than 2021.
- 9.18 Whilst it is recommended that formal consideration of any locality boundary changes and community consultation is deferred until 2021, it is also recommended that Council at this time accepts in principle the proposed suburb boundary amendments provided in Attachments 1 to 8 of this report as those boundaries that the community will be consulted on in 2021. Geographic Names Victoria has advised these boundaries are compliant. These boundary changes are in keeping with the outcome of the community consultation and will give transparency to Council's progress to date with this review.
- 9.19 Attachments 1 to 8 include:
  - (a) a map of the existing suburb boundary of the suburb that the attachment is referring to;
  - (b) a map of the possible boundary amendment/s for that suburb;
  - (c) a written description of the proposed suburb boundary amendment/s for that suburb.
- 9.20 If these proposed boundary amendments are accepted in principle, they would be included in the report that is presented to Council in 2021 that will formally seek Council's permission to begin community consultation as per the requirements of the Naming Rules. This report would also include a new estimated timeline for the completion of the entire suburb boundary review project.
- 9.21 It is also recommended that any further consideration of potential names for proposed new suburbs is deferred until Council formally considers any locality boundary changes

### **USE OF MERRIFIELD AS A POTENTIAL SUBURB NAME**

9.22 During the period of general community consultation which commenced on Monday 8 July 2019, 64 submissions were received asking that the suburb name of Mickleham be changed to Merrifield if Council were to endorse a boundary amendment that

amended part of the current suburb of Mickleham using an East-West boundary, therefore creating a new suburb in what is now north Mickleham. This was one option included in the maps that were put on public display in the 2019 general consultation period, and which is now recommended as Proposal 2 (Attachment 2) of this report.

- 9.23 Principle (I) of the Naming Rules, which is *Using Commercial and Business Names*, states that:
  - (a) names of estates should not be applied to roads, features or localities to avoid possible future issues related to addressing;
  - (b) names with historical connections to places are preferred;
  - (c) exceptions may apply if the business or organisation had an association with the area over a substantial period of time and is held in high regard by the community, and that in these circumstances, the naming authority must apply in writing to the Registrar of Geographic Names to seek exemption from this principle, including but not limited to evidence of the business' or organisation's association with the area and any known community views. This exemption request must be sought prior to commencing any public consultation or reaching a decision on the final naming proposal.
- 9.24 It is recommended that because of the high level of public support for the name of Merrifield, that Council submits a request to the Registrar of Geographic Names asking for permission to include this name in a future suburb name public voting process, if Council was to endorse an amendment to the boundaries of the current suburb of Mickleham which creates a new suburb that would include the land where the estate of Merrifield is located. Council's request would need to address the criteria for exemptions as set out in Principle (I) of the Naming Rules.
- 9.25 In summary, the recommended future actions for Council's review of the suburb boundaries within the Hume municipality are:
  - (a) That Council advises the community of the outcome of the community consultation undertaken in 2019.
  - (b) That in order for an effective community consultation to be undertaken on any proposed suburb boundary changes that formal adoption of any preferred locality boundary changes be conducted in 2021.
  - (c) That Council notes and accepts in principle the suburb boundary amendments as proposed in Attachments 1 to 8 of this report which have been approved as compliant by GNV.;
  - (d) That Council writes to the Registrar of Geographic Names requesting an exception to Principle (I) of the Naming Rules to allow Council to include the name of Merrifield in any public voting process for the name of a new suburb.

### 10. CONCLUSION:

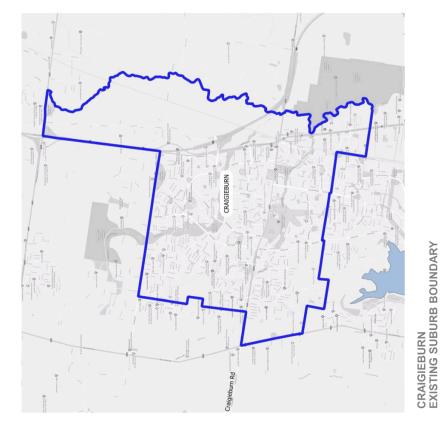
- 10.1 This report provides Council with a progress update on actions taken to date on its review of the suburb boundaries within the Hume municipality, and recommends future actions on how to proceed with this review.
- 10.2 It is recommended that Council informs the community on the outcome of the 2019 community consultation and the progress to date on the (suburb) locality review.
- 10.3 That any formal consideration of suburb boundary amendments be deferred until 2021

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### PROPOSAL 1 (EAST CRAIGIEBURN) – PROPOSED BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS

## PROPOSAL 1 (EAST CRAIGIEBURN)

- **Description of Change:** New locality suburb created within the north-eastern portion of existing Craigieburn locality suburb boundary.
- The south-western boundary alignment of Proposal 1 (East Craigieburn) to follow Craigieburn Bypass/Hume Freeway.



SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

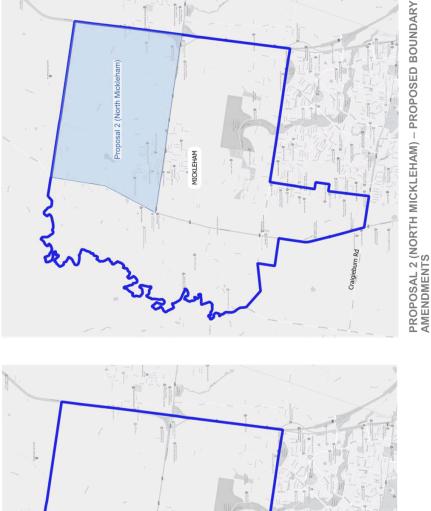
Attachment 1 - Proposal 1: East Craigieburn

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### PROPOSAL 2 (NORTH MICKLEHAM)

### Description of Change:

- The western and eastern boundary alignment of the Proposal 2 (North Mickleham) to follow existing road network Old Sydney Road and - New locality suburb created within the north-eastern portion of the existing Mickleham locality suburb boundary. Donnybrook Road respectively.



MICKLEHAM EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY

MICKLEHAM

SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

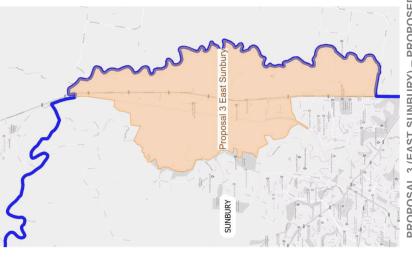
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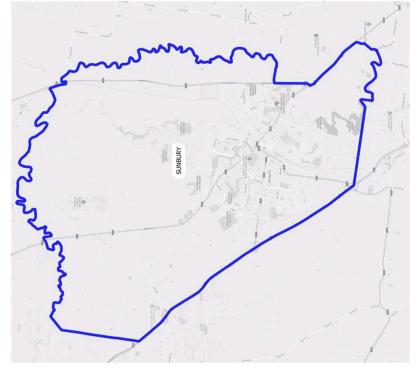
### Attachment 3 - Proposal 3: East Sunbury

**PROPOSAL 3 (EAST SUNBURY)** 

### PROPOSAL 3 (EAST SUNBURY) – PROPOSED BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS

# **Description of Change:**- New locality suburb created within the eastern portion of existing Sunbury locality suburb boundary. - The western boundary alignment of the Proposal 3 (East Sunbury) to follow existing road network (Jacksons road) as well as Jacksons Creek.





SUNBURY EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY

SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

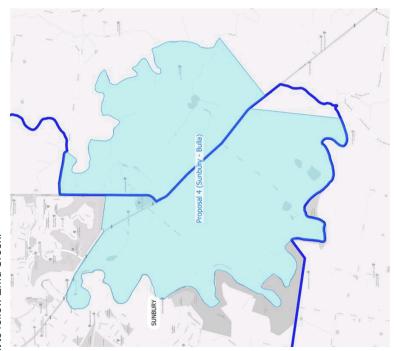
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Attachment 4 - Proposal 4: Sunbury - Bulla Intersection Point

### PROPOSAL 4 (SUNBURY - BULLA)

### Description of Change:

- New locality suburb created within the south-eastern portion of the existing Sunbury locality suburb boundary including a portion of the existing Bulla locality suburb boundary.
  - The southern and western boundary alignment of the Proposal 4 (Sunbury Bulla) to follow Jacksons Creek. The northern boundary alignment to follow existing road network. The eastern boundary alignment to follow Emu Creek.



PROPOSAL 4 (SUNBURY - BULLA) – PROPOSED BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS

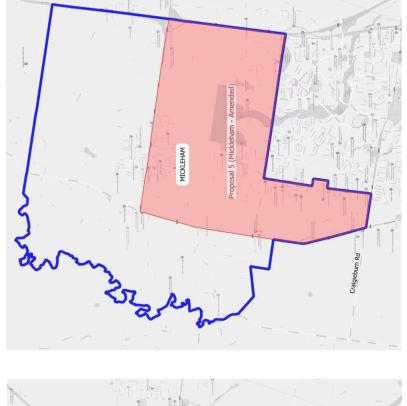
SUNBURY EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY

SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

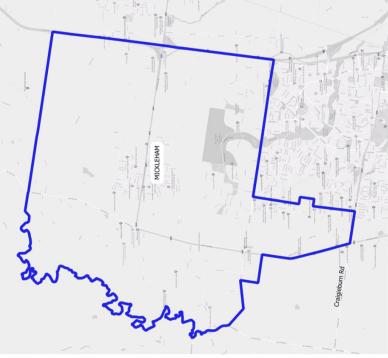
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# PROPOSAL 5 (MICKLEHAM AMENDED)

- **Description of Change:** Amended Mickleham locality suburb created.
- The western and northern boundary alignment of the Proposal 5 (Mickleham Amended) to follow existing road network Mickleham Road and Donnybrook Road respectively.



PROPOSAL 5 (MICKLEHAM AMENDED) – PROPOSED BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS



MICKLEHAM EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY

SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

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Attachment 6 - Proposal 6: Oaklands Junction - Amended

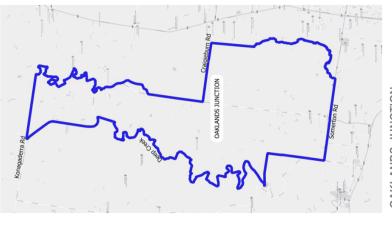
# PROPOSAL 6 (OAKLANDS JUNCTION – AMENDED)

### Description of Change:

- Amended Oaklands Junction locality suburb created.
- The northern alignment of the Proposal 6 (Oaklands Junction Amended) to follow existing cadastral parcel boundaries.
- The south-eastern boundary alignment of the Proposal 6 (Oaklands Junction Amended) to follow existing road network (Mickleham Road) and existing cadastral parcel boundaries.

PROPOSAL 6 (OAKLANDS JUNCTION – AMENDED) PROPOSED BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS OAKLANDS JUNCTION

OAKLANDS JUNCTION EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY



SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

**Hume City Council** 

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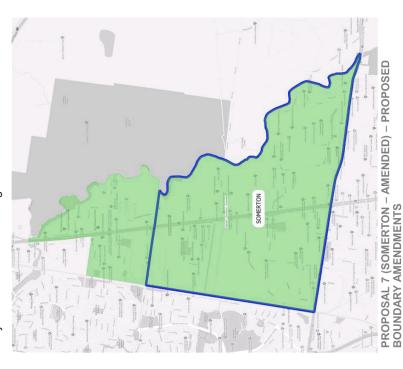
Attachment 7 - Proposal 7: Somerton - Amended

# PROPOSAL 7 (SOMERTON – AMENDED)

### Description of Change:

- Extension of Somerton locality boundary to the north.

reaching Hume Hwy. Follow Hume Hwy northwards until meeting the centerline of Aitken Creek, follow Aitken Creek eastwards crossing - Northern locality boundary alignment to follow extension of Craigieburn / Roxburgh Park suburb boundary (Cadastral Boundary) until Hume Hwy until reaching cadastral boundary. Follow cadastral parcel boundary southwards until meeting the centerline of Merri Creek.



SOMERTON EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY

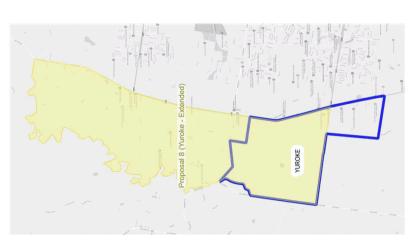
SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

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Attachment 8 - Proposal 8: Yuroke - Amended

## PROPOSAL 8 (YUROKE – AMENDED)

- **Description of Change:** Extension of Yuroke locality boundary to the north.
- Western and northern locality boundary alignment of the Proposal 8 (Yuroke Extended) to follow Deep Creek. The Eastern boundary alignment to follow Old Sydney Road/Mickleham Road.



PROPOSAL 8 (YUROKE EXTENDED) – PROPOSED BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS

### YUROKE

YUROKE EXISTING SUBURB BOUNDARY

SUBURB BOUNDARY REVIEW

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REPORT NO: GE430

**REPORT TITLE:** Working for Victoria Fund

SOURCE: Joel Kimber, Coordinator Grants and Projects

DIVISION: Communications, Engagement and Advocacy

FILE NO: HCC10/315

POLICY: -

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:** 5.3 Provide responsible and transparent governance,

services and infrastructure which responds to and

supports community needs.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

### 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

- 1.1 The \$500 million Working for Victoria Fund helps Victorians, including people who have lost their jobs due to the economic impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19), find new work opportunities.
- 1.2 Council has submitted a funding proposal to engage over 160 people who have lost their jobs or have been stood down as a result of COVID-19 for a six-month period to undertake a suite of projects across Hume City.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION:

### That Council:

Notes that funding is being sought from the Victorian Government to employ over 160 people for six-months to undertake a suite of projects that are beyond the capacity of Council's workforce under current COVID-19 restrictions.

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

As funding is being sought to employ people for projects that are above and beyond the capacity of Council's workforce under current COVID-19 restrictions, Council will not be making any financial contributions towards the employment of these people. All funding for this initiative is provided via the *Working for Victoria Fund*.

### 4. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

Many of the projects highlighted in this report are linked to Council's commitment to the Charter of Human Rights as outlined in the Social Justice Charter 2007.

### 5. DISCUSSION:

- 5.1 Working for Victoria Fund
  - 5.1.1 The \$500 million Working for Victoria Fund ('the Fund') helps Victorians, including people who have lost their jobs due to the economic impacts of COVID-19, find new work opportunities.
  - 5.1.2 Displaced workers are eligible to apply for different types of paid work that will contribute to Victoria's ability to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and support the community.
  - 5.1.3 Positions should be for at least three months; and must be paid at the award rate or equivalent wage rate of the existing workforce, whichever is higher.

- 5.1.4 As required by the Fund, positions must be above the existing capacity of an organisations current employed workforce so that they do not replace the workload of already employed staff.
- 5.1.5 Funding would be provided to organisations to cover the costs of employing people (including on-costs, superannuation and required additional expenses for materials, vehicles etc.)

### 5.2 Council's Proposal

- 5.2.1 Council officers have developed a proposal to employ over 160 people for six months to undertake work that is above the existing capacity of Council's workforce under current COVID-19 restrictions. This includes employing people to:
  - (a) collect rubbish on streets, along waterways and in parks and other open spaces (including reserves),
  - (b) clean and replace signage,
  - (c) paint house numbers on kerbs and bins
  - (d) support residents and community groups to apply for grants and assist them in their recovery from COVID-19,
  - (e) undertake regular blitz cleaning of shopping centre strips
  - (f) spread soil and seed, provide mulch for garden beds and undertake weeding and planting in garden beds,
  - (g) undertake weed control, revegetation, maintenance of bushland areas,
  - (h) install nest boxes, undertake fencing repairs and map land assets and threats and;
  - (i) scan over 800 Council books featuring agendas and minutes from Council meetings to make them digital.
- 5.3 As a result of the social distancing restrictions enforced due to COVID-19, Council has not been able to operate Leisure Centres, Global Learning Centres and other community facilities.
- 5.4 Staff at these centres will also be engaged to undertake similar works across the municipality if they cannot provide a service to the users at these facilities.
- 5.5 Development and implementation of a communications campaign
  - (a) As the projects proposed are beyond Council's current capacity, a detailed communications campaign will be implemented to ensure that the local community are aware of what is occurring and that the works have a limited time span.

### 6. CONCLUSION:

- 6.1 The Victorian Government is providing funding to organisations to employ people that have lost their jobs or been stood down as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 6.2 In response to this funding opportunity, Council has prepared a suite of projects that would gainfully employ over 160 people for a six-month period.