

**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
11 MAY 2009**

ITEM 2	DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2009-2013 (INCLUDING STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN)
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	N/A
RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:	SALLY CALDER, DIRECTOR, ORGANISATION SYSTEMS & SUPPORT
AUTHOR:	CHRIS PIKE, MANAGER, CORPORATE PLANNING & PERFORMANCE DAVID FILMALTER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ROWENA MCLEAN, SENIOR CORPORATE PLANNING CONSULTANT
FILE NO.:	160286
ATTACHMENTS:	1. DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2009-2013 2. DRAFT STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN 3. DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. Council needs to approve the release of its draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) to the community and provide interested persons with an opportunity to make submissions prior to the Budget being formally adopted on 29 June 2009. The Council Plan details Council's four-year strategic objectives:
- Engaging and Governing the City
 - Taking Action on Climate Change
 - Strengthening Our Diverse and Inclusive Community
 - Enhancing Liveability.
- 1.2. The Strategic Resource Plan has five financial and non-financial objectives and strategies.
- 1.3. The next step in the process will be a Special Council Meeting on Thursday 11 June 2009 at which public submissions on the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and draft Budget will be heard and considered.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1. That the Council resolve to:

- endorse the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) for public notification
- authorise the public notice to advertise the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) calling for submissions from the public under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* ('the Act')
- hold a Special Council Meeting on Thursday 11 June 2009 to receive submissions from the public, prior to adopting the Council Plan (including Strategic Resource Plan) by 30 June 2009.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1. Statutory Requirements

The Council Plan (including the Strategic Resource Plan)

3.1.1. Section 125 (1) of the Act requires Council to prepare and approve a four year Council Plan by 30 June 2009. Pursuant to Section 125 (2) of the Act, the Council Plan must include:

- the strategic objectives of the Council (i.e. what Council wants to achieve)
- strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next four years (i.e. how Council will achieve its objectives)
- strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives (i.e. how Council will track progress)
- a Strategic Resource Plan (i.e. how Council will fund its strategic intent) that explains how Council will allocate its financial and non-financial resources to achieve the Council Plan objectives.

Public consultation

3.1.2. Council must give provision for persons to make submissions on the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) (Section 223).

3.1.3. Council must publish a public notice with details (i.e. closing date, request for presentation to Council on submission) in regard to the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan).

3.1.4. Recent amendments to the Act have extended the minimum consultation period from 14 days to 28 days.

3.1.5. Council must consider all submissions received, hear any submissions in person upon request at a Council or committee meeting and provide feedback on Council's decision and the reasons for that decision.

3.2. Content of the Plans

3.2.1. This draft Council Plan is the culmination of more than five months of strategic planning. The Plan (Attachment 1) includes:

- a message from the mayor
- a profile of the City
- an outline of Council's role
- an outline of the Council Planning and Reporting Framework

3.2.2. The majority of the plan details Council's four-year strategic objectives being:

- Engaging and Governing the City
- Taking Action on Climate Change
- Strengthening Our Diverse and Inclusive Community
- Enhancing Liveability.

3.2.3. To deliver on these objectives Council is proposing 56 strategies spread across 14 themes. One hundred and seventy-five (175) actions are proposed for the first two years of the plan (2009-2011). Possible strategic success indicators are identified for the 14 themes.

3.2.4. The Strategic Resource Plan (Attachment 2) has five financial and non-financial objectives and strategies. These are:

- City of Port Phillip will have an ongoing balanced budget and ideally a small surplus.
- The City of Port Phillip asset base will be maintained, enhanced and expanded.
- Liquidity will be maintained at levels that assure adequate working capital without the need to resort to borrowings or a bank overdraft.
- Capital works will address community needs without ignoring long-term financial impacts.
- City of Port Phillip will proactively lead, develop and build organisational culture based on the provision of same day service and a work-life balance.

3.3. Consultation

3.3.1. Council commenced the development of the draft Council Plan in January 2009. In the interest of effective community engagement Council elected to exceed the minimum statutory consultation requirement by having a two staged approach to consultation on the preparation of the draft Council Plan.

3.3.2. Stage 1 (non-statutory consultation) was held from 21 February to 7 March 2009 and included community conversations on Council's

proposed strategic directions. This consisted of six public meetings, three conversation tents (held at the South Melbourne, Gasworks and St Kilda Veg Out markets), and an online survey. Council received over 1000 comments on the proposed strategic directions. This feedback has informed Council in the preparation of the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and the draft 2009-10 Budget.

- 3.3.3. Stage 2 (28 day statutory consultation requirement) is to be conducted from Wednesday 13 May to Tuesday 9 June 2009 for consultation on the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and draft 2009-10 Budget:
- notice of the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and draft Budget and invitation for public submissions published in The Age, Emerald Hill Weekly and Port Phillip Leader (refer to Attachment 2 in Special Council Report – Draft 2009/10 Budget)
 - copies of the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and draft Budget made available at Council offices and libraries
 - summary information sheets on the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and draft Budget made available in English, Russian, Polish, Chinese and Greek
 - two public ‘expo’ style consultation sessions held on Wednesday 27 May 2009 (11.00 am – 7.00 pm) and Sunday 31 May 2009 (11.00 am – 4.00 pm). Details of the expo sessions to be promoted in the Emerald Hill Weekly and Port Phillip Leader
 - letters providing information and inviting submissions from key interest groups, key partners, community forum participants and those individuals who participated in the Stage 1 community consultation process (Council Plan only)
 - information and feedback on the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) and draft Budget made available online at the City of Port Phillip website and a pilot Twitter site.

3.4. Implementation

- 3.4.1. Before Council can adopt the draft Council Plan 2009-13 (including Strategic Resource Plan) it must:
- endorse the draft plans and pass a resolution to advertise these as required by the Local Government Act 1989
 - make available to the public copies of the draft plans the content of which is prescribed by the Local Government Act 1989
 - invite submissions from the public as required by Section 125(9) of the Local Government Act 1989

- receive, hear and review public submissions, and advise all submitters of the outcome of the hearing, in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Submission must be received by 9 June and will be considered by council at a special meeting on 11 June. This will allow 11 working days for any necessary amendments to be made before Council adopts the Council Plan, Strategic Resource Plan and Budget at a Special Council Meeting on 29 June.

- 3.4.2. Once these steps are completed Council must adopt the Council Plan (including the Strategic Resource Plan), provide a copy to the Minister for Local Government and make arrangements for its publication and launch.