

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
26 MAY 2008**

SUPPLEMENTARY

A1	ST KILDA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE/ST KILDA TOWN HALL PRECINCT PLAN/LIARDET ST FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	1. CNR CHAPEL ST AND CARLISLE STREET, ST KILDA 2. 85 LIARDET STREET, PORT MELBOURNE
RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:	DAVID YEOUART EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY ASSETS AND SERVICES
AUTHOR:	GREG WOOD MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES
FILE NO.:	
ATTACHMENTS:	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. Two meetings have been held with state and federal local members of parliament, community representatives and Council since the original report was considered by the strategy and policy review committee.
- 1.2. The federal budget has been handed down with some additional information on the federal government's commitment to new childcare centres
- 1.3. Council is being asked to consider a revised recommendation, which clarifies the context in which the two new family and children's centres are being proposed, and Council's intent on the processes to be followed in establishing the new centres.

2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 2.1. On 5 May 2008, Council's Strategy and Policy Review Committee deferred consideration of the original report until the Council meeting of the 26 May 2008.
- 2.2. Some members of the community have assumed that concept plans and feasibility costings presented in the original report were final and not subject to further consultation.
- 2.3. On 9 May and 22 May 2008, the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer met with local federal and state local members of parliament and community members from Childcare Access and St Kilda Playgroup.

- 2.4. The federal budget was announced on 18 May 2008 with some additional information on federal government funding for childcare.

3. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

- 3.1. At the meetings on 9 and 22 May Council asserted it's commitment to working constructively with the federal and state governments and the community to meet the needs of families and children in the City of Port Phillip.
- 3.2. The federal budget announced \$114.5M over the next four years to establish 38 childcare centres, including 6 autism specific centres. Of this amount \$96.8M is for general childcare and \$17.8 for the autism specific centres.
- 3.3. The additional funding is both capital and recurrent expenditure. \$44.9M of the \$96.8M is earmarked for 2008/09.
- 3.4. The City of Port Phillip was short listed, and invited to present in support of its submission to the state government, for municipal wide infrastructure development funding on 21 May 2008.
- 3.5. Michael Danby has indicated that submissions for federal government funding need to be finalised by 30 May 2008.
- 3.6. The City of Port Phillip has, through a competitive process, identified a suitable software system for the implementation of a centralised waiting list for the municipality. This software will be put into a test environment in the week commencing 26 May and then progressively rolled out to council and community managed centres over the next six months.
- 3.7. The waiting list will provide more detailed and reliable information on the specific needs for childcare in the City of Port Phillip.
- 3.8. Council officers considered a number of sites in the St Kilda/East St Kilda area for a new family and children's centre, and whilst some of them may be suitable longer term, the site of the St Kilda Children's Centre was the only one suitable and available almost immediately.
- 3.9. Alternative sites considered were**
- 3.9.1. Alma Rd Community Centre – rejected as being too small to establish new services and replace existing services.
- 3.9.2. Alma Park – this proposal would involve using part of the existing park and replacing the space lost by covering over the existing railway line – this proposal was rejected as being long term and requiring significant expense.
- 3.9.3. Private land – St Kilda location, suitable size – rejected because of land purchase cost, estimated to be \$5M plus.
- 3.9.4. Army Barracks, Chapel St – Department of Defence controlled – rejected as a short term solution because of complexity of transferring federally controlled land to state and then local government – not known if land was actually available.

- 3.9.5. Near the proposed St Kilda Skate Park, Parks Victoria controlled – advantage of being close to St Kilda Park Primary School – likely to be controversial with local community with loss of green space.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1. That council notes that the Draft Carlisle St Structure Plan, which will be presented to council in the July 2008 meeting cycle, incorporates a St Kilda Town Hall Community and Civic Precinct.
- 4.2. That the Council recognises that the St Kilda Town Hall Community and Civic Precinct provides a range of social, cultural and civic functions for St Kilda and the broader City of Port Philip community.
- 4.3. That council supports the enhancement and redevelopment of the following social and cultural components of the precinct:
 - 4.3.1. A new St Kilda Family and Children's Centre located on the existing children's centre site at 171 Chapel St, St Kilda.
 - 4.3.2. The St Kilda Parish Mission site on the corner of Chapel St and Carlisle St, St Kilda
 - 4.3.3. St Kilda Library
 - 4.3.4. St Kilda Primary School
- 4.4. Council re-affirms its responsibility to plan and coordinate the provision of family and children's services, including long day childcare, within the municipality. This responsibility includes ensuring an appropriate match between supply and demand and that appropriate location and planning criteria are met.
- 4.5. Council notes that the State government is fully committed to the integration of Family and Children's services for the early years and that the Federal Government is rapidly moving in the same direction. The move by these two levels of government is consistent with the City of Port Phillip's Municipal Early Years Plan and Council's Childcare Review.
- 4.6. Council commits to working in partnership with the other two levels of government and the community to establish new integrated family and children's centres in St Kilda and Port Melbourne.
- 4.7. That Council supports the development of a new family and children's centre on the existing children's centre site at 171 Chapel Street, St Kilda. Council notes that this proposal has been subject to a feasibility design, costed at \$7 million, but that the final design, including the configuration of services, will be determined by Council following advice from the St Kilda Family and Children's Centre Steering Committee established below.
- 4.8. That Council supports the future development of the St Kilda Parish Mission site, consistent with the objectives of the precinct plan including facilitating the co-location of community services, as defined by the Carlisle St Structure Plan.
- 4.9. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the purchase of land owned by the Uniting Church and currently used by the St Kilda Children's Centre.
- 4.10. That, as part of negotiations with the Uniting Church, Council considers its capacity to make available a number of car parking spaces to support development of the Mission site.

- 4.11. That Council notes that there is \$100,000 proposed in the 2008/2009 capital works budget to support a project to analyse the future needs of the St Kilda Library. This project also includes an assessment of how best to treat the forecourt area on Carlisle St, in order to both physically and strategically link the library with the newly redeveloped St Kilda Town Hall.
- 4.12. Council resolves to establish the St Kilda Family and Children's Centre steering committee, which would advise council on detailed design and configuration of the proposed centre. The steering committee will include representation from:
- 4.12.1. Users of St Kilda Children's Centre and Maternal and Child Health
 - 4.12.2. St Kilda Playgroup Inc
 - 4.12.3. City of Port Phillip Family and Children's Services
 - 4.12.4. State and federal government officers, as appropriate
- 4.13. That the Council notes and re-affirms the following parts of its decision of 23 October 2007 on the Albert Park College Precinct Master Plan, where council resolved
- "... to adopt, in principle the following elements of a Albert Park College Precinct Master Plan*
- 4.13.1. *Albert Park College Childcare Centre would be relocated to 83 – 85 Liardet St Port Melbourne.*
 - 4.13.2. *A re-located and enhanced Albert Park College Childcare Centre should be planned to complement the existing Lady Forster Kindergarten, which adjoins the Liardet St site. Possible enhancements would consider Maternal and Child Health and Playgroup requirements.*
 - 4.13.3. *Department of Education and Early Childhood Development funding, which would otherwise be used for childcare at the APC site, would be used for the development of the new Family and Children's Centre at Liardet St."*
- 4.14. That Council supports the development of a new family and children's centre at 85 Liardet St, Port Melbourne. Council commits to continuing ongoing consultation with all the relevant stakeholders in developing a proposal for the new centre.
- 4.15. Council notes that the two proposals outlined will increase the number of long day childcare places in the City of Port Phillip beyond that already outlined in council's 5 year plan for childcare capital works.
- 4.16. Council resolves to explore the need for, and location of, additional children's services places and other family and children's services within the City of Port Phillip.
- 4.17. Council notes that the new childcare waiting list, currently under test, will provide valuable information to assist in the evaluation of the need for additional childcare places, in the City of Port Phillip. Council therefore requests that the Chief Executive Officer gives the highest priority to bringing forward the implementation of the new waiting list software.

