

**AGENDA
JOINT SITTING OF PORT PHILLIP AND
MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 2004**

STATEMENT No. 2



Joint Sitting of Port Phillip and Melbourne City Councils

SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY PLAN – SHARED FACILITIES

Background

The City of Melbourne and the City of Port Phillip worked closely in developing the Southbank Community Plan. During development of the Southbank Community Plan a need for community facilities was identified as a key issue.

The Southbank Community Plan adopted by the City of Melbourne in February 2004 outlines short and long term proposals to address the identified community facilities and support needs. These include:

- Funding and support for accessible and affordable community meeting spaces in the short term. In the longer term it is proposed to develop community meeting spaces as part of neighbourhood hubs linked to complimentary commercial functions.
- Improved access to community information such as community noticeboards in key areas; resident information at Federation Square Information Centre; contacts with real estate agents to distribute resident information packs; improved user friendliness of the City of Melbourne website and a dedicated web page for Southbank allowing space for community information. Longer term goals are to improve relationships with body corporates and building managers for exchange of information and liaise with the City of Port Phillip for a joint information/contact point for the community of Southbank and South Melbourne as a whole.
- Support social diversity and improve access to age related services such as child care and aged care. In the short term, Council will encourage partnerships with existing child care providers for community access, circulate quarterly Aged Services Newsletter to all Southbank residents following up 50+ recipients, encourage Community Grant applications for subsidised community activity spaces and group activities and foster connections between Hanover/Other Services and local people for support to homeless and disadvantaged people. In the Longer Term, Council will source a possible auspice group for development of additional child care spaces for the community.

The above issues and responses provide a number of opportunities for a joint approach between the City of Melbourne and the City of Port Phillip. Proposals for community information, co operation with real estate agents, body corporates and building managers, and responding to age related service provision are issues where a joint approach would strengthen the impact of the initiatives across a larger area and would be of mutual benefit to both Municipalities. A particular opportunity identified in the Southbank Community Plan, is to investigate a joint community information/contact point with Port Phillip.

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Recommendation to Joint Sitting

That the Joint Sitting resolve that the CoM and CoPP work collaboratively to further develop mutually beneficial arrangements to provide a community meeting space in the Southbank and St Kilda Road area and that the Joint Officer Working Party be instructed to pursue implementation of this and other mutually beneficial aspects of the Southbank Community Plan.