

Contribution ID	Please provide your comments on the draft Budget 2019/20 and Year 3 of the Council Plan	Name / Suburb	Email Address	Submitted Date	Notes
Emailed to Assist	<p><b>Subject:</b> Draft Budget 2019/20 - Submission No 1 - Introduction.</p> <p>I have looked at the Service Profile leaflets for direction 1 to 6 and I attended the forum at the former Port Melbourne Town Hall building in 04 May 19 with about 50 other people were present.</p> <p>General.</p> <p>In 1983 when I bought my house my former South Melbourne Council rates were about \$500 PA but in 2018 they were over \$5,500 PA. Many ratepayers an South Melbourne and Port Melbourne did not want to amalgamate with St Kilda either. These rates are not realistic when most ratepayers only use basic core function like rubbish collection, parks maintenance, street cleaning and road, footpath and drain repairs. Ratepayers must come first not other residents and visitors. Council staff are there to do a job not get a job. Staff number are to high and should be reduced by 30% over 3 years through natural attrition (10% of staff leave by choice every year). Its not just about staff wages and salaries but superannuation, sick and annual leave too. All council in Victoria are currently paying for a expensive and mismanaged public servant pension scheme that is left over from many decades ago.</p> <p>Port Phillip City Council should determent which we MUST HAVE, SHOULD HAVE and last COULD HAVE (an Australian Army principle). Some departments should be rationalised or discontinued and reduced in size and the tasks allocated. For example why do we need a media cell when few look at the council website, as is evident by the minimal replies to Have You Say, and the media ignoring of media releases as most local newspapers are on their last legs and no longer "local" for the most part.</p>	Adrian Jackson  Middle Park	[REDACTED]	12 May 2019	

I am appalled what is wasted on things that don't matter or are not ratepayers responsibility like festivals (St Kilda), state owned (Palais) or private buildings (Pride Centre). I understand that councils emergency cash reserves were nearly cleaned out for the Pride Centre funding. What will happen to the Pride Centre a decade after it is built when the separate gay fashion wears off or is not used much after the initial enthusiasm by the proponents, which I suspect what will happen.

Generally tens of million of dollars have been squandered on people what mostly do not or cant afford to live in Port Phillip. The creative (arts) budget soaks up 10% of the rate revenue. The extensive council art collection should be thinned out by selling some of the art. This is a council not an art gallery. 5 libraries in a small municipality like ours is far to many and some libraries, other than St Kilda, from my observation over 39 years living here, are not well attended either.

Rates should not be used to mind other resident children that is a parents responsibility. If council feel we need more revenue get the government to introduce a "poll tax" on non ratepayer residents. We should not duplicate state function either like housing. Tenants of council owned buildings and land should pay market rent and the token \$2 a fortnight rent should be discontinued on the buildings concerned.

Direction 1.

Affordable housing is not possible as land is both scarce and costly to buy so why have this "policy" and the staff associated with it.

Social engineering by the council is not needed nor practical and the rates and staff associated with it should cease or be reduced.

Direction 2.

Public transport is a government or private company (buses) responsibility so staff associated with it need to be reduced. Incidentally, Port Phillip is well serviced with trams and buses.

When many of us walk out of our house we will trip over a tram track within 500 metres of home or pass a bus stop.

We like (sorry LOVE) our cars and both on street and off street parking. We should maximise 90 degree parking on ALL wide roads where it is safe to do so (not where there are tram lines). More free and maximised parking in residential streets can see the number of council staff and contractors (parking inspector) deduced or discontinued.

Direction 3.  
 I am very environmentally conscious. We can save money and staff numbers by reducing bin collection to one per fortnight. Collection a half empty bin is inefficient and if households are filling the bin every week they are buying too much crap and packaging. During the recent recycling plant closure I did not put my recycle bin out for 3 or 4 weeks but burnt some paper and cardboard in my lounge fire place. I will continue to do this over winter too. We used to burn the leaves in the street but council stopped that practical solution to the Autumn plain tree leaf drops. I got my council compost bin over 25 years ago. Every house, and perhaps blocks of flats, should be compelled to have a compost bin.

Direction 4.  
 Ban most takeaway containers within Port Phillip to reduce litter and help with recycling. Public drunkenness and other vices should be dealt with harshly including removal from Port Phillip (exile, eviction, deportation) permanently. We have suburbs like every other municipality not neighbourhoods. Council has no control over who moves into Port Phillip as a resident or ratepayer. The council as well as the 8% of the land being parks we are also advantaged by being near Albert Park Reserve and 9 kms of beaches in addition to council parks and sporting facilities so no need to spend rates on more of them.

Direction 5.  
 The arts should be mostly a government or private function not the council. Local businesses are affected by market forces not some policy of the council which often sees wasteful spending.

For example my small but successful traditional B&B since 1996 has been undermined by Airbnb in recent years and there is nothing the council nor I can do about it. Even the governments is impotent concerning overseas control of accommodation, car hire and the like. Tourists and visitors to Port Phillip beaches, parks and cafes will happen on sunny days regardless of councils "policies" and the spending associated with it. Despite large sums spent and a few updates Fitzroy St is still a shit hole. Fitzroy St should be declares a residential development zone with 90% of new building being modern medium rise apartment.

Direction 6.

The best asset management is to get rid of unnecessary buildings and land. We have three very old Town hall building so get rid of two of them. These and other high maintenance old buildings, like Linden Galley cost ratepayers a fortune to maintain. Port Phillip should amalgamate with other councils similar to the successful Greater Brisbane Council. This should help reduce ratepayer costs too.

Conclusion.

This is my first submissions but others may follow as you know I am right and right is might and might is right.

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	<p data-bbox="235 156 734 220">Draft Budget 2019/20 - Submission No 2 - Further to my Submission No 1.</p> <p data-bbox="235 263 1160 470">Staff costs are massive in Port Phillip and I understand that by way of comparison Port Phillip has 875 staff while another beachside council Bayside has only 432 staff. This is despite Bayside covering 37 Sq Km compared with 21 Sq km for Port Phillip. The greater the area the greater the spending on core services like roads as there are more of them so why can Bayside do this at less staff cost?</p> <p data-bbox="235 513 1149 689">Solar panels sound fine on St Kilda Town Hall (notice that spending is always in St Kilda for most things) but what are the recurring maintenance and replacement costs and where does the money go for the electricity created? If its not the ratepayers, via the council, what is the point of it other than a feel good initiative of the environment lobby.</p> <p data-bbox="235 732 1160 908">At the federal election the people nationally rejected Shorten socialist money grab from people who are self funding by having a home, investment property and superannuation. We are all born the same so we are not going to prop up losers and bludgers with social housing, arts funding and grants from council funds either.</p> <p data-bbox="235 951 1149 1190">Voters have rejected Comrade Shorten's electric car replacement plan too. Why is money to be spent on a charging station? This should be a private commercial decision not councils. We have fewer petrol stations but instead of a mechanic on hand, there are lollies and drinks sold instead. Canterbury Rd in 1980 had 4 petrol stations now there is one which is adequate for refueling and the old site have been cleaned up and developed into apartments as land is scarce in Port Phillip.</p> <p data-bbox="235 1233 1160 1441">Council should encourage other land owners to clean up unused or surplus sites, abandoned houses and factories. Also no house or flat should be vacant for more that 3 months to help ease the accommodation demand so councillors encourage these ratepayers to do something useful with their property if it is not earning income. Abandoned property is a magnet for squatters, crime and graffiti too.</p>	<p data-bbox="1184 156 1285 220">Adrian Jackson</p> <p data-bbox="1184 263 1337 287">Middle Park</p>		<p data-bbox="1715 156 1877 180">19 May 2019</p>	

The US State of Alabama has just banned abortions, and while I don't agree with that, we need to take action against men who breed unwanted children and abandon them and the mother thus creating demand for public housing and welfare dependency. Instead of supervised injection room, which is failing nearby ratepayers, in Richmond, we need a sterilisation room in Port Phillip to deal with stupid men who cant control their sexual urges or men unfit to breed children (druggies, boozers, criminals and paedophiles etc).

People who work, own property and other asset create societies wealth and employment while renters create nothing in society and sometimes depend on ratepayer funds to maintain their lifestyle. Many of them are so called "struggling young artists". There are to many of them and some are not very good at art either. This must stop councillors.

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