

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

COUNCIL MEETING 4 SEPTEMBER 2024



Public Question Time

Question from Beti Jay:

There was a Zebra Crossing promised to be done in 2022 on St Vincent Place. Where is that crossing leading from one side of the street to the park?

Response: *The zebra crossings were investigated in 2020/21 however did not progress due to the following:*

- *Significant heritage overlay and permits required from Heritage Victoria. Further investigation is required to confirm if Heritage Victoria would approve any infrastructure upgrades.*
- *High cost associated with works.*
- *Lighting upgrades required to achieve required lighting level to make zebra crossings compliant may negatively impact adjacent properties.*
- *Lack of drainage in the area which may impede the design from achieving required DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliance.*

Officers will undertake a new investigation into the merits for this project noting the significant time that has elapsed since the most recent review. This assessment will include a review of the following:

- *Pedestrian volumes.*
- *Vehicle volumes and speeds.*
- *Review of crash history.*
- *Deliverability*
- *Cost of improvements*
- *Alignment with Council's endorsed strategies*

Once this information is understood, a determination on whether this project should proceed for consideration as part of the budget process will be made. We will provide an update on this project once the next steps have been determined.

Question from Beti Jay:

A business on Carlisle Street has reached out to request if lighting can be installed in Dianella Lane, Balaclava, to improve safety. Why won't the rubbish truck go down Dianella Lane Balaclava to avoid residents and businesses having to walk the bin to the corner of Woodstock which can be dangerous and causes a mess on Woodstock Street. Also, the business owners street trader permit has gone up by 25%. Why is this?

Response: *Council's waste contractor, Citywide have advised Council that access to the lane is too restrictive for their trucks to safely access. Accessing this lane was not a requirement under the Contract. Should the trader have further concerns we encourage them to contact Council's ASSIST team to log their enquiry.*

Permit fees are set as part of the annual budget process. It is difficult to assess why an increase has taken place without knowing if there have been changes to the space utilised. Please direct the trader to contact our Business Concierge who will assist them with any follow up. They can also raise their request around lighting businesses@portphillip.vic.gov.au

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Public Question Time (cont'd)

Question from Beti Jay:

There is an abandoned building in Palmerston Crescent, South Melbourne. Some drug users are camping out at a building and there is a bicycle garage forming with at least s bikes being collected to date. This is obviously a complicated issue. What will the Council do to help both the rough sleepers, the residents to feel safe and possibly the owners of the bikes?

Response: *Since the 4 September meeting Council's Local laws team conducted an investigation, contacted the owner and the building has since been vacated. The Rapid Response waste team has collected abandoned items from the street, and should anyone return to the site, the owner understands to call Council and Police and a joint patrol will be carried out to make sure any trespassers are removed.*

Council will continue to work with local partners, including local homelessness and support services and the police to ensure community safety while supporting those that require assistance.

Councillor Question Time

Question from Councillor Clark:

There are multiple potholes on Mitford Street between Barkly and Milton Streets. Does the Council have any plans to fix this stretch of road?

Response: *These road segments were originally scheduled for renewal in the 2024-25 road resurface program. The works have been deferred to the 2025-26 program due to development works currently being carried out in the parcel of land (4 Mitford Street). Council's road maintenance contractor carried out pothole repairs on Mitford Street Elwood on 11 September 2024. We will continue to inspect and repair the surface whilst construction of this site continues.*

Item 7.2 Joint Letter: Objection to the proposed lane reduction on Park Street

Question from Councillor Cunsolo:

Would the works commence on Park Street, closer to Kings Way or at the intersection of Park Street that we are considering?

Response: *Council officers have since reviewed staging with the Contractor. The initial works are being undertaken on the southern side of Park Street starting at the St Kilda Road end, followed by the northern side starting at Kings Way. The northern-eastern section of Park Street requires works to be coordinated with upgrades to gas services by the service provider. Staging is subject to change dependent on timing of works by external parties.*

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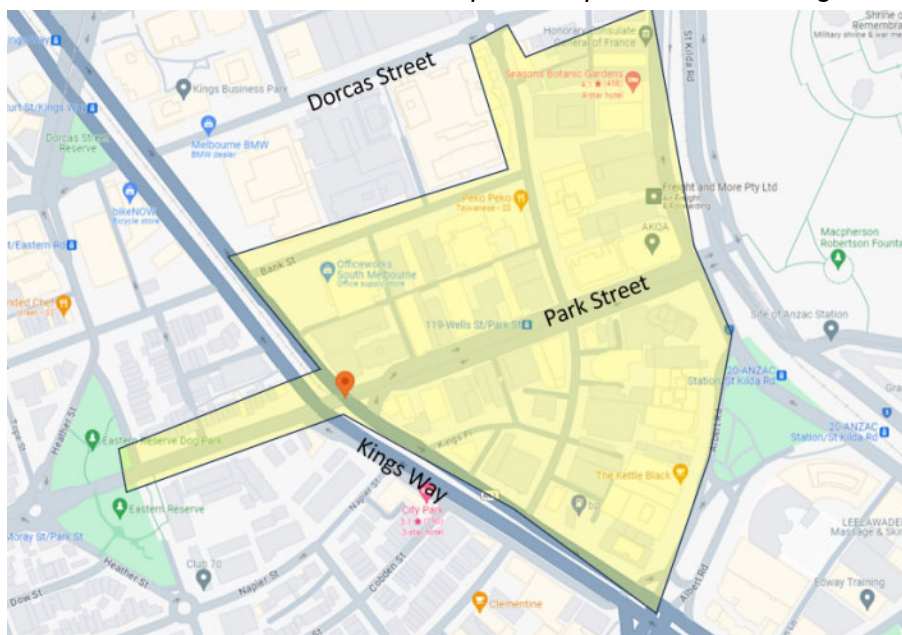


Item 7.2 Joint Letter: Objection to the proposed lane reduction on Park Street (cont'd)

Question from Councillor Sirakoff:

How many inform letters were sent to surrounding residents on Park Street and possible neighbouring streets. What was the extent of the area covered?

Response: Council officers can confirm that were 4,365 letters sent to community members. The area included in the letter drop are as per the below image:



Item 11.2 Stormwater Harvesting and Elster Creek

Question from Councillor Pearl:

Of the total amount of pollution that that the municipality is dispelling in our waterways. What percentage roughly will this project reduce pollution by?

Response: In 2023, we undertook water quality modelling for the municipality. Based on this modelling, we estimate for the municipality that the Elwood Park Expansion Stormwater Harvesting Scheme would reduce total nitrogen, total phosphorus and total suspended solids by 0.8%, 0.6% and 0.9%, respectively.

It is important to note that our recently endorsed Act and Adapt Environmental Sustainability Strategy has target reductions by 2027/28 of 16%, 15% and 18% for total nitrogen, total phosphorus and total suspended solids, respectively.

Construction of the Elwood Park Expansion Project, combined with our Water Sensitive Urban Design program and stormwater quality uplift in the private realm (planning scheme requirements), we expect to have a 15%, 15% and 17% reduction in total nitrogen, total phosphorus and total suspended solids, respectively, by 2027/28.

*Please note: Responses to any questions during Public Question Time and Councillor Question Time which were responded to during the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.