



- 8.4** **PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURES OF FERRARS STREET, GLADSTONE STREET AND RAILWAY PLACE IN SOUTH MELBOURNE**
- WARD:** **GATEWAY**
- GENERAL MANAGER:** **CHRIS CARROLL, ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE**
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- TRIM FILE NO:** **66/18/33-02**
- ATTACHMENTS:**
- 1. Attachment 1 - Summary of Feedback and Officer Responses**
  - 2. Attachment 2 - Streetscape Transport Design**

#### **PURPOSE**

Council, at its Ordinary Meeting on 15 November 2017, heard and received submissions in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* on the proposed road closures of Ferrars Street, Gladstone Street and Railway Place in South Melbourne.

The purpose of this report is to present key information for Council's consideration of the proposed road closures of Ferrars Street, Gladstone Street and Railway Place in South Melbourne.

#### **I. RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1.1** Notes and thanks the community for the feedback that was submitted and / or presented to Council on 15 November 2017.
- 1.2** Having considered all written and verbal submissions received, resolves to adopt the permanent road closures of:
  - a)** Ferrars Street, between Gladstone and Douglas Streets;
  - b)** Gladstone Street, between Kerr and Ferrars Streets;
  - c)** Railway Place, between Douglas Street and the southern boundary of the South Melbourne Ferrars Street Primary School;



in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* under the provisions of Section 207 (Powers of Councils over traffic), Schedule 11, Clause 9 (Power to place obstructions or barriers on a road permanently).

- 1.3 Publishes a notice of adoption in an appropriate newspaper and notify all submitters.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The proposed road closures of Ferrars Street, between Gladstone and Douglas Streets, and Gladstone Street, between Kerr and Ferrars Streets, aim to maximize size of the Montague Community Park as endorsed by Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 5 April 2017.
- 2.2 Council, at its Ordinary Meeting on 5 April 2017, also endorsed the Streetscape Works which included traffic treatments and on-street parking changes for Kerr, Buckhurst, Ferrars, Douglas and Meaden Streets.
- 2.3 The proposed road closure of Railway Place, between Douglas Street and the southern boundary of the South Melbourne Ferrars Street Primary School, aim to provide a safe pedestrian environment between the school and tram stop. This is consistent with Council's resolution on 13 September 2016 to commence the statutory road closure process for Railway Place.
- 2.4 Council, at its Ordinary Meeting on 19 September 2017, resolved to commence the statutory process under the *Local Government Act 1989* for the proposed road closures of Ferrars Street, Gladstone Street and Railway Place in South Melbourne.

## **3. KEY INFORMATION**

### **Consultation process**

- 3.1 A community consultation was conducted between 26 September and 23 October 2017 via letter mail-out, online engagement, newspaper advertisement and noticeboards.
- 3.2 Council, at its Ordinary Meeting on 15 November 2017, received 19 written submissions and heard from one community member who spoke to their submission.
- 3.3 At the same meeting, Council officers also responded to questions from the speaker and Councillors including:
  - a) Bicycle routes will be improved over the coming years through the streamlining of the Buckhurst Street spine and the new tram / bike intersection at Tram Stop 125a.
  - b) The intent of the proposed road closures is to improve pedestrian safety throughout the area and to support the Fishermans Bend Vision for 80 per cent of trips to be via public and active transport by 2050.
- 3.4 Attachment 1 presents Council officer response to key themes raised by the community including on-street parking, traffic flow and road safety.

### **Vehicle access**

- 3.5 Vehicle access to existing off-street carparks on Ferrars and Gladstone Streets will be maintained.
- 3.6 Vehicle access to existing local properties on Railway Place will be provided via a



reconfigured southern section of Railway Place, between the new school and City Road. The reconfigured section of Railway Place will include a turnaround area and allow two-way vehicle access via City Road.

**Options discussion**

- 3.7 Council officers have considered the community feedback and recommend that Council proceed with the proposed road closures of:
- a) Ferrars Street, between Gladstone and Douglas Streets.
  - b) Gladstone Street, between Kerr and Ferrars Streets.
  - c) Railway Place, between Douglas Street and the southern boundary of the South Melbourne Ferrars Street Primary School.
- 3.8 The proposed road closures will facilitate delivery of the Montague Community Park and Streetscape Works (as previously endorsed by Council) and will support the new school by providing safe access and pedestrian friendly environment.
- 3.9 The feedback received is consistent with previous considerations and community feedback to develop the scope of the park.



## FURTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 4. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

- Direction 4 – We are growing and keeping our character
- Outcome 4.1 – Liveability in a high density City
- Outcome B – Designing, activating and managing public spaces that are safe and inviting places for people to enjoy
- Outcome C – Extending, connecting and diversifying our open space network to cater for increased demand
- Priority dot point 1 – Partner with the Victorian Government to ensure the Fishermans Bend Framework and precinct plans maximise outcomes for current and future Port Phillip residents, including employment, housing choice, quality public space and community facilities, and early delivery of fast, frequent public transport
- Priority dot point 2 – Deliver open space and streetscape works in Fishermans Bend, particularly in the Montague Precinct and at the Ferrars Street Education and Community Precinct.

### 5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 The community consultation was conducted over a 28-day period from 26 September to 23 October 2017 in accordance with Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- 5.2 In addition to the local community, relevant stakeholders were consulted including statutory bodies, government departments and emergency services.

### 6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The statutory process for the proposed road closures was conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, under the provisions of Section 207 (Power of Council over traffic), Schedule 11, Clause 9 (Power to place obstructions or barriers on a road permanently).
- 6.2 Should Council reject the proposed road closures, there will be negative impacts to the design, funding and delivery of the Montague Community Park and Streetscape Works.

### 7. SUSTAINABILITY – Triple Bottom Line

#### 7.1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1.1 The proposed road closures of Ferrars and Gladstone Streets will maximise size of the Montague Community Park.

#### 7.2 SOCIAL & CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.2.1 The proposed road closure of Railway Place will provide safer pedestrian access between the new school, community facilities, future residents and tram stop.



**7.3 ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

7.3.1 The proposed permanent road closures will result in loss of parking revenue associated with the removal of on-street car spaces on Ferrars and Gladstone Streets.

**7.4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.4.1 The proposed permanent road closures will be funded as part of the Montague Community Park and Streetscape Works that will be delivered by the City of Port Phillip.

**8. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

**8.1 TIMELINE**

8.1.1 Should Council adopt the proposed road closures, it is intended to close the roads prior to the new school opening in January 2018.

- a) Appropriate site fencing and traffic management devices will be deployed around the Montague Community Park to prevent vehicle from accessing the closed sections of Ferrars and Gladstone Streets and to enable the open space construction works.
- b) Exact timing of the Railway Place closure, between Douglas Street and the new school southern boundary, is currently unknown and will depend on a number of requisite works to be delivered along the other section of Railway Place, between the new school and City Road.

**8.2 COMMUNICATION**

8.2.1 All submitters will be advised of Council's decision in writing.

8.2.2 Should Council adopt the proposed road closures, a notice of adoption will also be published in an appropriate newspaper.

8.2.3 Council's Have Your Say page and web page will be updated with the details of Council's decision and a link to the minutes of this Council Meeting.

8.2.4 Council officers will continue to update the local community and stakeholders on key issues and progress in the Ferrars Street Education and Community Precinct via email updates, website information and other communication materials.

**9. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

9.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.