

# RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

## COUNCIL MEETING 18 JUNE 2025



### Public Question Time

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#### Question from Katrina Mathers:

I am here today as a representative for 106 Art Studios and Gallery. A planning permit has been approved to redevelop the building that we're in into apartments so we're going to have to move. We are preparing a proposal document that we want to present to Council, as I understand you accepting the budget at the next meeting. Is there anything else we could do to convince you to support us in our phase 2 existence, substantially, financially and in terms of infrastructure support to find a new location?

**Response:** *Council officers have met with the team at 106 Art to gain an understanding of the collective and what would be needed for a new premise. At this meeting with yourselves and Council officers, the 106 Art committee noted that they would put together a pitching document for Council, which will be shared with our internal property team to consider any available options.*

*Officers are also establishing a directory where creative businesses can list themselves, which could then be shared and promoted with real estate agents and property owners in key areas. Should any opportunities arise while the above work is taking place, Council will inform 106 Art as a priority.*

### Item 7.1 Woodgate Street and Boundary Street Lighting

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#### Question from Councillor Makin:

We've highlighted that we're going to be undertaking a municipal wide assessment of the public lighting network through the next financial year. It would be useful to talk through the methodology around the assessment. Will part of the prioritisation include proximity to public transport, proximity to likelihood of urban renewal of those precincts in order to see an increase in pedestrian traffic in these areas?

**Response:** *The public lighting network consists of:*

- *Unmetered electricity network authority-owned (i.e. CitiPower or United Energy) poles and lights largely installed within streets.*
- *Metered Council-owned poles and lights largely installed in parks and public spaces; and*
- *Building mounted lighting on largely Council buildings but also on some buildings owned by others.*

*Council have approximately \$50k budgeted for FY 2025/26 to undertake a lighting assessment. Based on the majority of complaints, requests, and feedback from the community and the volume of the asset register, Council will be initially focused on the unmetered electricity network authority-owned poles that exist within most streets. The metered and building mounted network will be deferred until following years. The proposed methodology for this assessment is in development, but will consider the following:*

1. *Desktop assessment using electricity network authority asset registers*
  - *GPS locations of poles / lights*
  - *Known lighting categories (e.g. light types and outputs)*
  - *Assume standard heights and mounting of lights from pole*

*\*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.*

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- *Infer a light spill from each light*
- *Overlay / identify tree locations and estimated tree canopy conflicts*

**Note:** *Field assessments with light sensors and a carrier (vehicle/drone) can be challenging due to variable conditions (e.g. Cloud cover/moonlight, weather conditions, tree canopy or other obstructions, other light sources).*

2. *Use of VicRoads road classifications as per the Road Management Act 2004 (Vic) to designate required lighting service standards in accordance with Australian Standards.*
3. *Identify deficiencies between installed assets and lighting service standards (VicRoads classifications) that need to be addressed.*
4. *Workshop findings with internal stakeholders (City Design, Transport Safety, Open Spaces, Parks and Trees, Sustainability etc) to determine any additional servicing needs with a view to:*
  - a. *Identify alternative / improved road classifications and required lighting service standards to support Council's strategic and servicing outcomes*
    - i. *Urban renewal needs (e.g. Fishermans Bend)*
    - ii. *Public transport or community precinct pedestrian corridors*
    - iii. *Tree Planting / Public Lighting Standards and/or Specifications.*
5. *Identify deficiencies between installed assets and improved servicing requirements (Council's strategic and servicing outcomes).*
6. *Undertake design / specification for lighting deficiencies.*
7. *Develop delivery strategy for lighting uplift in areas with deficiencies Council officers will seek a briefing time to discuss the assessment and proposed methodology with Councillors over the coming months.*

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