

5.4 Sustainable Environment

5.4.1 Green Wedge Management Plan (2011-2021) Reporting

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Attachments

1. Green Wedge areas in City of Whittlesea [5.4.1.1 - 1 page]
2. 2021 Green Wedge Management Plan Progress Table [5.4.1.2 - 5 pages]

Purpose

This report presents the 2021 reporting on the implementation of Whittlesea's *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021*.

The *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021* was adopted by Council in July 2011. It sets out 84 actions prioritised over ten years to achieve the strategic objectives and community's vision for the sustainable management, enhancement and protection of the Green Wedge and non-urban areas of the municipality. This represents the 10th and final progress report on the current GWMP Action Plan.

Brief Overview

This report summarises the initiatives undertaken by the City of Whittlesea to implement the *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021* (GWMP) which was adopted by Council in July 2011. Regular reporting against the GWMP Action Plan is a requirement of the adopted GWMP's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. This represents the 10th and final progress report on the current GWMP Action Plan.

The GWMP comprised 84 actions that relate to the themes of Land, Biodiversity, Water and People. The Action Plan includes 30 short-term actions, 23 medium-term actions, 1 long-term action and 30 ongoing actions. Various departments and teams across Council have contributed to the implementation of the actions to achieve the GWMP's strategic objectives and the community's vision for the Green Wedge and non-urban areas of the municipality.

The report outlines progress against the 84 actions of the plan, highlighting the key achievements and next steps for the management of the Green Wedge. In summary, the 2021 reporting shows a great achievement with all 84 actions commenced. Of the 54 short, medium, long-term actions, 49 have been completed while the remaining 5 actions are all underway but are yet to be completed. All 30 ongoing actions are operational and continue to be supported across Council as part of day-to-day business operations.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the outcomes and final 10-year progress update against the *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021* Action Plan.
2. Note that a new *Green Wedge Management Plan* is currently under development to replace the old plan.
3. Write to the Minister for Planning and the Minister for Environment to provide an update on the outcomes and progress in implementing the *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021*, and the status of the new plan.
4. Provide a copy of the update on the *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021* to the local State Members of Parliament.

Key Information

Background

Melbourne 2030, the previous State Government metropolitan strategy, identified 12 Green Wedge areas in 17 local government areas across Melbourne, and put in place policies to protect these valued non-urban areas. This included the establishment of an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). The term Green Wedge refers to the non-urban areas of metropolitan Melbourne that lie outside the UGB.

Green Wedge land is of key importance to the liveability, economic strength, and environmental health of Melbourne. They fulfil a range of roles including agricultural production, conservation and biodiversity, natural ecosystem services and provide opportunities for diverse tourism and recreation. In the City of Whittlesea, Green Wedge areas represent approximately 61% of the municipality (refer to Attachment 1).

Whittlesea's GWMP was adopted by Council in July 2011 in line with State Government requirements. It was the first plan of its type prepared by Council. It identifies the vision, objectives and actions for Council to protect and monitor the sustainable use and development of the Green Wedge.

The GWMP Action Plan comprises 84 actions relating to the themes of Land, Biodiversity, Water and People. In summary, the Action Plan includes:

- 30 short-term actions to commence by Year 3 (2013/2014);
- 23 medium-term actions to commence by Year 7 (2017/2018);
- 1 long-term action to commence after Year 7 (2018); and
- 30 ongoing actions to be monitored to 2021.

Monitoring and reporting requirements of the GWMP include:

- annual (internal) progress updates – this report represents the 2021 and final reporting;
- two key milestone reports - the Year 3 Progress Report completed in 2013 and the Year 7 Progress Report completed in 2018;
- a Five-Year Review – this was a State Government requirement, completed and adopted by Council in June 2016.

In 2021, the current GWMP is in its 10th and final year of the ten-year plan. This represents the final progress report on the current GWMP Action Plan.

Planning Context

Whittlesea's GWMP was initially developed to meet the requirements of the metropolitan strategy, *Melbourne 2030*.

The importance of managing Melbourne's Green Wedge areas continues to be reinforced in state planning policy, with the State Government currently undertaking a *Planning for Melbourne's Green Wedge and Agricultural Land* (GWAL) review project to strengthen the protection of the Green Wedges and peri urban areas. Council endorsed a submission to the GWAL review at the Council meeting on 2 February 2021.

The State Government has indicated that an announcement will soon be made regarding the GWAL consultation outcomes and next steps for the protection of the Green Wedge.

Community Consultation and Engagement

Extensive community engagement was undertaken in the preparation and development of the GWMP before it was adopted in 2011. Further targeted engagement has also been undertaken on some of the individual actions implemented over the past 10 years.

Further communications will be undertaken to highlight the achievements in implementing the GWMP 2011-2021 to the broader community.

Community engagement is also being undertaken to inform development of the new GWMP. Stage 1 engagement on the Discussion Paper occurred in May/July 2021 and Stage 2 engagement on the Draft GWMP will occur mid 2022.

Alignment to Community Plan, Policies or Strategies

Alignment to Whittlesea 2040 and Community Plan 2021-2025:

Strong local economy

Our City is a smart choice for innovation, business growth and industry as well as supporting local businesses to be successful, enabling opportunities for local work and education

Sustainable environment

We prioritise our environment and take action to reduce waste, preserve local biodiversity, protect waterways and green space and address climate change

Implementation of the Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021 meets the objectives of Whittlesea 2040 and the Council Plan. Specifically, the GWMP actions have sought to preserve biodiversity, protect waterways, support, and encourage agricultural innovation and agribusiness opportunities.

Considerations

GWMP 2021 Reporting

Reporting on the GWMP actions provides a means to monitor and evaluate Council's progress in implementing the GWMP to achieve its vision and objectives. Each responsible Council department has provided an update on the status of their GWMP actions, demonstrating that implementing the GWMP is a whole of Council effort.

The 2021 reporting shows a great achievement in implementing most of the GWMP actions to support Council in its management of the Green Wedge. All 84 actions, including 54 short, medium, long-term actions and 30 ongoing actions have commenced. Of the 54 short, medium, long-term actions, 49 have been completed (91%) while the remaining 5 actions are all underway but are yet to be completed (9%).

Table 1: Progress Against GWMP Actions

	Completed		In progress	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
Short-Term (commence by 2013/14)	70%	90%	30%	10%
Medium-Term (commence by 2017/18)	57%	91%	43%	9%
Long-Term (commence after 2018)	100%	100%		
Ongoing			100%	100%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed: Actions that have been completed. • In progress: Actions that have commenced or are on-going. 				

Table 1 shows the overall progress made in implementing the actions, with a further 14 actions completed in 2021.

Short-term actions – 90% complete

- Of the 30 short-term actions, 27 are complete (90%) and 3 are still 'in progress' (10%).
- Comparatively, in 2020, 21 actions were complete; with a further 6 short-term actions completed this year.
- The 3 remaining short-term actions still underway are actions B02, L22 and W05, which are discussed later in the report.

Medium-term actions – 91% complete

- Of the 23 medium-term actions, 21 are complete (91%) and 2 are still ‘in progress’ (9%).
- Comparatively, in 2020, 13 actions were marked complete; with a further 8 medium-term actions completed this year.
- The 2 remaining medium-term actions still underway are actions B09 and L26, which are discussed later in the report.

Long-term actions – 100% complete

- The 1 long-term action of the GWMP was completed in 2020.

Ongoing actions

- All 30 ongoing actions are operational and continue to be supported across Council as part of day-to-day business operations. Many of these actions are now considered business as usual.

It is worth noting that there were two actions which were marked as ‘complete’ that were not undertaken due to changing circumstances which meant they were no longer relevant or appropriate. This is to be expected over the life of a 10-year plan. In each circumstance the action was investigated prior to a decision being made to not progress further and to mark the action as complete. These actions are discussed below.

Action L24 sought to *“Investigate partnership arrangements with key groups for the sponsorship of two new annual events: Best Environmentally Sustainable Rural Design for the promotion architectural excellence in a rural setting; and Best Rural Management for the promotion of best whole farm design and management.”*

- This action was investigated by Council officers in 2020 and raised with the Agribusiness Community Reference Group on 31 March 2021, where it was agreed that at this stage there is little value in offering these awards. Instead, it was agreed that Council officers would investigate other opportunities that would provide better value for Council and residents and that such initiatives should be focused on education and increasing awareness more broadly, rather than just providing awards to those that are already aware of the objectives of the awards. Council officers have identified some potential opportunities for partnering with other groups / farmers to run events or activities to raise awareness and educate the broader community about agriculture in the municipality. These options will be further explored in 2022.

Action L25 sought to *“Further develop community appreciation of the rural landscape through the creation of a ‘Celebrate the Landscape’ event aimed at showcasing and promoting ‘ownership’ of a range of green wedge values.”*

- This action was investigated however, Council no longer runs activities of this type. These activities have been superseded by Council's direct support for the Landcare Network. Landcare runs local events that promote the role of biodiversity in the productive landscape. These initiatives, combined with other Council programmes such as Rural News, the South Morang Farmers Market, and the Agribusiness Programme means that the intent of the action has been achieved. This action was marked complete in 2019.

Attachment 2 provides a complete summary of the status of all the actions at the end of the 2021 reporting period, the 10th and final progress report on the current GWMP.

Notable GWMP Achievements in 2021

In this the final year of the ten-year GWMP, excellent progress was made with 13 actions completed, including 6 short-term and 7 medium-term actions.

Some of the key achievements in 2021 include:

- The Whittlesea Community Farm and Food Collective has been set up as a pilot program pending planning permit approval (lodged 27/10/21). The Collective received \$2.4m in funding for the development of the community farm (\$1.5m from the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning, \$300k each from Yarra Valley Water, City of Whittlesea and Melbourne Polytechnic). The community farm originally intended to demonstrate innovative sustainable farming practices, increase food security through provision of food and provide an opportunity for residents to learn about local, sustainable food production. Detailed feasibility assessments have now led to an expansion of activity to also include demonstration of sustainable land management and cultural land conservation practices (Actions L07 and L28).
- To better support farming in the Whittlesea Green Wedge, Council made a submission to the State Government's *Planning for Melbourne's Green Wedges and Agricultural Land review* project on 3 Feb 2021. The submission supported proposals to strengthen the legislative and policy framework for Green Wedges to better support farming, including agribusiness and the 'right to farm' where zoning supports agricultural uses as a primary purpose. The State Government is anticipated to release their consultation findings and next steps shortly (Action L11).
- The City of Whittlesea has successfully advocated to State Government for commitment to a business case on the potential development of the Melbourne Food and Innovation Export Hub (MFIH) (formerly identified as Epping Food Hub), which has been identified as an economic development opportunity arising from the relocation of the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market to Epping. MFIH would provide a strategic nexus for collaboration and innovation across the Victorian food industry ecosystem. The MFIH hub could support the use of agricultural land in

the municipality and potentially improve the operations of food industry businesses throughout the food supply chain, increasing efficiencies and providing a meaningful contribution to Victoria's economic growth. The City of Whittlesea will continue to advocate for its development and has been engaged by State Government as part of completion of the business case (Action L08).

- Council has continued to support the viability and development of Whittlesea Township businesses that service the Green Wedge through the availability of mentoring, campaigns such as Dinner on Us, Shop Local, Choose Your Own Adventure, Christmas on Church, Winter Weekends event and other actions under the Tourism Strategy 2014-2019. Council also continues to provide support to and sponsor the Whittlesea Agricultural Show and helped the Friends of Toorourrong develop and implement the inaugural Table of Plenty event (Action P08).
- To promote the value and significance of ecosystems on Council owned land, Council has developed a four year works plan for the roll out of site based, wayfinding and interpretive signage for all of Council's 60 conservation reserves. The Tier 1 conservation reserves with the highest biodiversity values and opportunities for engagement are proposed to have interpretive materials and an online 'Story Maps' platform. Delivery of this initiative is under consideration as part of Council's New Works Program for 2022/2023 (Action B14).
- To better understand community perceptions of local parks and user needs a consultant was engaged to undertake 400 user satisfaction surveys across 31 Neighbourhood Parks. This research highlighted community views of Council's maintenance being below regional and Melbourne average standards, with community concerns and perceptions of safety in public open space high for night-time use of parks. This has informed the Service Review for the Parks and City Forest area, and improvements to maintenance standards. It has also informed funding priorities for further maintenance, signage and lighting (Action P18).
- Council formed a partnership with the Wurundjeri and Taungurung Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP) to undertake an *Aboriginal Heritage Study*. Scoping of the AHS was complete in 2021 with Stage 1 to commence in February 2022. The AHS is a cultural values and cultural landscapes study that will inform a broad range of work within Council on the identification and protection of tangible and intangible Aboriginal Cultural Heritage at a local government level. It will contribute to a greater awareness, understanding and appreciation of the relationship between cultural heritage, Traditional Owner knowledge and Aboriginal community health and wellbeing. This is a complex multi-year project (Action P24).

Notable Achievements over the 10-year life of the GWMP

Over the course of 10 years, there have been many key achievements of the GWMP. The most notable achievements are outlined below.

- Appointment of an Agribusiness Officer in February 2014 initially for a 3-year fixed term. This position, which has been critical in leading the delivery of many GWMP actions, provides sound business advice and support to farmers on the management of agricultural enterprises, promotion of networking events while demonstrating Council leadership and best practice. This position has since been made permanent (Action L02).
- Appointment of an Environmental Protection Officer in 2012. This position is responsible for ensuring compliance with Whittlesea's Pest Plant local law and planning permit conditions relating to vegetation and land management, which supports the strategic objectives of the GWMP and various actions (Action L15).
- Development of rural education programs such as the Landcare series which continue to be supported by Council to encourage diversification of sustainable farming methods (Action L12).
- Completion of a report in 2018 on the status of extractive industry operations and the Extractive Industry Interest Areas (EIIA) identified in the City of Whittlesea. This report has informed Council requesting that the Department of Jobs, Precincts & Regions (DJPR) review the EIIA as it relates to the City of Whittlesea. In December 2021, DJPR released its *Strategic Extractive Resources Roadmap* (Roadmap). The Roadmap sets their strategic direction and forward work program including a review of the EIIA in Victoria. (Actions L31 and L33).
- Development of new local policy content in relation to habitat corridors, waterways and native vegetation retention which was included as part of Whittlesea Planning Scheme Amendment C197 (gazetted in May 2017). As part of this Amendment, new policy content from the GWMP was also included in the Whittlesea Planning Scheme (Action B07).
- Appointment of a Heritage Coordinator in January 2015 with the key objective of providing holistic management of heritage across Council. This appointment has also advanced the development of the *Cultural Heritage Strategy 2015-2018* which was adopted by Council in October 2015. A new *Cultural Heritage Strategy 2019-2025* has since been adopted in November 2020. The strategy highlights the principles that will manage, identify and protect heritage places across the municipality including Council owned places within the Green Wedge areas (Actions P25, P27).
- The adoption of the City of Whittlesea *Biodiversity Strategy 2019-2029* in June 2019 represented a significant milestone for Council which has supported the commencement and/or completion of a number GWMP actions over (Actions B01, B02 and B09).
- The South Morang Farmers and Makers Market commenced in July 2019, with a focus on providing an opportunity for local producers to connect with the community and sell their produce locally. As a result of the COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021 the Farmers Market was unable to be run; however, it is intended to recommence in 2022 with the first one scheduled for 19 March 2022 (Action L10).

- Council formed a partnership with Deakin University to undertake a Land Capability Assessment (LCA) in 2019 and completed the report in 2020. The LCA report analysed the land capability across the green wedge and the potential for new and existing agricultural production across a range of crop/horticultural/pasture options. This research has provided updated land capability information and will support both new/innovative and traditional rural enterprises by providing a high-level overview of potential options for crops/horticulture/pasture (Action L09).
- In a further partnership with Deakin University, research was undertaken into *Climate Resilient Agriculture* to explore the difference between regenerative agriculture practices and conventional farming practices, to assist farmers in adapting to a changing climate. The *Climate Resilient Agriculture* project is ongoing; however, the literature review completed evaluates the benefits of regenerative agriculture as an alternative land treatment in peri-urban landscapes. These benefits include a greater, long-term resilience to climate change when utilising regenerative agriculture practices vs. traditional farming practices (Actions L27 and L28).
- Following the research into *Climate Resilient Agriculture*, a series of case studies on farmers applying regenerative agriculture practices were developed and disseminated to the wider community to support and promote the value and opportunities for regenerative agriculture in the municipality (Action L04).
- Council continues to develop community knowledge of rural land stewardship and the Green Wedge by regularly supporting and distributing information to rural landholders through the Rural News newsletter and the Whittlesea Landcare group. Landcare membership continues to grow, and a regular electronic newsletter is distributed. Council also provides support for two other rural based groups: Eden Park Blackberry Action Group and Whittlesea and Surrounds Blackberry Action Group, as part of business-as-usual activities (Actions B04, L18 and P01).
- Council works collaboratively with Traditional Owners to build awareness of the unique Aboriginal Cultural Heritage of the area. Council also maintains strong links with the Wurundjeri Land Council and Aboriginal Victoria. There is ongoing consultation with Aboriginal-led organisations and community regarding sites of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and sensitivities and consideration given to Traditional and RAP legislative obligations (Action P24).
- An examination of current Green Wedge, settlement and bushfire planning policies affecting the rural communities of Eden Park, Humevale, Kinglake West and Yan Yean concluded that further residential development of these rural communities should be avoided. This is further reinforced by the *Eden Park Bushfire Erosion Mitigation Plan* which outlines environmental constraints of the erosive soils. The application of existing planning controls is appropriate (including the Eden Park Restructure Overlay) and should continue to be used to manage the anomalous nature of the use of these lots (Action P11).

- The Northern Regional Trail Network Strategy was adopted in 2016 which provides a vision and plan for future off-road recreational trail networks across Melbourne’s north. It was developed in conjunction with the seven northern municipalities to ensure a fully integrated network. To implement the strategy, Council is advocating for funding for regional trails such as the Whittlesea Rail Trail from Mernda Station to connect to Whittlesea township; working with Parks Victoria, Nillumbik Council and other agencies to assist in the implementation of the Plenty River Trail from the M80 Ring Road to Bridge Inn Road by June 2023 to ensure connectivity to the Trail; and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the Quarry Hills Parkland Master Plan (Action P17).

Actions not Complete

Of the 54 short, medium and long-term actions, 49 actions have been completed to date (91%). The remaining 5 actions (9%) have all been commenced to some degree but are yet to be complete, including 3 short-term actions and 2 medium-term actions. These actions are actively being worked on by Council however due to several factors were unable to be completed by 2021.

For example, several actions are linked to the development and implementation of the *Biodiversity Strategy* and the *Whittlesea Water for All Strategy*. These strategies were only adopted by Council in 2019 and 2020 respectively, which delayed commencement of the affected actions. These strategies provide the strategic direction for work in this space, identifying a pathway forward and timeline for gathering the evidence base and strategic justification for implementing the remaining GWMP actions. Since their adoption, many of the remaining GWMP actions have been commenced and are actively underway, which is discussed further below.

Table 2: Incomplete GWMP Actions

Action Number & Description	Priority	Status
B02 Investigate the relationship between significant ecosystems and type of land ownership (parkland, reserve, private land), and assess best methods of protection for areas of high conservation significance	Short	This action has commenced and will be further implemented as part of Council’s <i>Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</i> . Under Objective 1 Biodiversity Asset Mapping (BAM) is being undertaken to collect baseline data. This is due for completion by June 2022. Once the BAM is complete, the next step will be to look at the best method of protection and undertake work to support a planning scheme amendment. This will be completed as part of

Action Number & Description	Priority	Status
		Objective 2 to undertake an amendment to apply appropriate zones/overlays.
B09 Strengthen planning provisions targeted at the identification, protection and enhancement of biodiversity and environmental values of the Whittlesea Green Wedge	Medium	As above, this action has commenced and will be further implemented as part of Council's <i>Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</i> .
L22 Amend planning provisions to address environmental hazards within the City of Whittlesea in relation to the: Application of a Salinity Management Overlay (SMO) to areas of dryland salinity; Application of the Erosion Management Overlay (EMO) to areas of stream, gully and sheet erosion; Reassess the boundaries of the existing Wildfire Management Overlay in response to the implementation of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission	Short	Part 1 & 2 of this action has been identified in Council's <i>Whittlesea Water For All Strategy</i> and will require the gathering of further evidence base/strategic justification to support a planning scheme amendment to apply the SMO and EMO. Erosion has emerged as a broader regional issue though the Regional Catchment Strategy. To this end Council officers have flagged with the Port Phillip Catchment Management Authority, the need for this to be addressed via a 'joint sodic soils project' between Whittlesea, Hume and Mitchell.
L26 Amend planning provisions targeted at protection of significant landscapes and significant vistas via the Significant Landscape Overlay for all visually sensitive areas within the Whittlesea Green Wedge; Develop local policies to guide development adjacent to visually sensitive hilltops and policy for road setbacks for visually significant roadside corridors; Implement changes to ensure the design, siting and form of new dwellings and other buildings within Green Wedge are sensitively integrated within rural and natural environments	Medium	Part of this action (local policy for visually sensitive hilltops and roadside corridors) has already been implemented via Amendment C197 MSS update, which was gazetted in May 2017. Part of the action for design and siting guidelines for new dwellings in Green Wedge areas will potentially be addressed as part of the State Governments GWAL project which is to be released shortly. The remaining part of this action to apply the Significant Landscape Overlay to significant landscapes will be informed and implemented as part of the <i>Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan</i> .
W05 Strengthen planning provisions targeted at the protection and improvement of the environmental health of waterways to: Add new Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) schedules to protect major	Short	Part 1 & 2 of this action have been identified in and will be actioned via the implementation of Council's <i>Whittlesea Water For All Strategy</i> and the <i>Upper Merri Creek Integrated Water Management Plan</i> (Northern Growth Corridor). They will require the gathering of further evidence base/strategic justification to support

Action Number & Description	Priority	Status
waterbodies; Revise the extent of the mapping associated with the existing ESO schedule 3 to include unprotected waterways; Investigate the rezoning of the municipality's two water storage catchments from Public Use Zone to Public Conservation and Resource Zone		<p>a planning scheme amendment to apply an ESO.</p> <p>Part 3 of this action was completed in 2019 following an investigation into the potential rezoning of the two water storage catchments from Public Use Zone 1 to Public Conservation and Resource Zone. The investigation recommended not proceeding with a rezoning on the basis that the reservoirs are not likely to be decommissioned but are still needed in their current capacity.</p>

These incomplete actions will continue to be progressed as part of the implementation of the *Biodiversity Strategy* and *Whittlesea Water For All Strategy*. These actions will also be considered in the context of the new GWMP.

Ongoing Actions

As indicated, the current GWMP was the first plan of its type prepared by Council for the non-urban Green Wedge areas of the municipality. This was reflected by the identification of 30 ongoing actions which targeted various ways in which Council and the community could support the sustainable use and development of the Green Wedge.

All the ongoing actions are operational and continue to be supported across Council as part of day-to-day business operations, with many considered business-as-usual. For example, some of these business-as-usual activities include:

- Increase networking links with the local indigenous community to ensure understanding and respect for sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity within the municipality.
- Distribute information on community organisations and services to encourage networking and increase community capacity, particularly within the rural community.
- Advocate on behalf of the community to the Victorian Government for funding to support those services and facilities deemed most necessary in the rural areas and in particular Whittlesea Township.
- Provide business support and advice to keep farmers on the land. This includes continued networking, promotion and business development opportunities for owners and managers of our agricultural enterprises.
- Advocate on behalf of the farming community and maintain input into agricultural research and strategies that seek to support farming ventures, including highlighting the true cost of maintaining a rural property.

- Maintain data exchange agreements between Council and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Advocate for, and contribute to, discussions regarding the creation of a 1,200 hectare Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve within Whittlesea's Green Wedge.
- Work with State Government and all relevant agencies to use forward strategic planning to reduce conflict and balance the ecological needs of the kangaroo population with the social, environmental and ecological needs of local residents, particularly the working agricultural community.
- Build upon the role of existing local committees and community groups such as the Merri Creek Management Committee, Darebin Creek Management Committee, Landcare and the Victorian Farmers' Federation as they champion the cause of the Whittlesea Green Wedge.
- Build upon existing community involvement in waterway health through promotion and support for programs such as WaterWatch and riparian revegetation activities.
- Development of rural education programs such as the Landcare series which continue to be supported by Council to encourage diversification of sustainable farming methods
- Develop community knowledge of rural land stewardship and the Green Wedge by regularly supporting and distributing information to rural landholders through the Rural News newsletter and the Whittlesea Landcare group. Council also provides support for two other rural based groups: Eden Park Blackberry Action Group and Whittlesea and Surrounds Blackberry Action Group.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications

Link to Strategic Risk

Not linked to the risks within the Strategic Risk Register

Implementation Strategy

Communication

Council's website will be updated to reflect the progress made in implementing the GWMP. Further, the community will be further informed of the progress made as part of the Stage 2 community engagement on the new Draft GWMP which will occur by 30 June 2022.

Critical Dates

This report represents the 2021 reporting on the GWMP Action Plan, in line with the GWMP's Monitoring and Implementation Plan.

Community engagement on the new Draft GWMP which is currently being developed, will occur by 30 June 2022. This is discussed below.

Next Steps

The incomplete actions will continue to be progressed as part of the implementation of the *Biodiversity Strategy* and *Whittlesea Water For All Strategy*, as discussed above. These actions will also be considered in the context of the new GWMP.

Development of the new *GWMP 2022 – 2032* is currently underway. Stage 1 community engagement on the Discussion Paper occurred in May/July 2021 which has informed a Draft GWMP. The Stage 2 community engagement on the Draft GWMP will occur by 30 June 2022.

While development of the new GWMP is still underway, we are continuing with the implementation of all ongoing actions, and continuing to progress the incomplete actions referred to above.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Under Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Rule 47 of the Governance Rules 2021, officers providing advice to Council are required to disclose any conflict of interest they have in a matter and explain the nature of the conflict.

The Responsible Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Conclusion

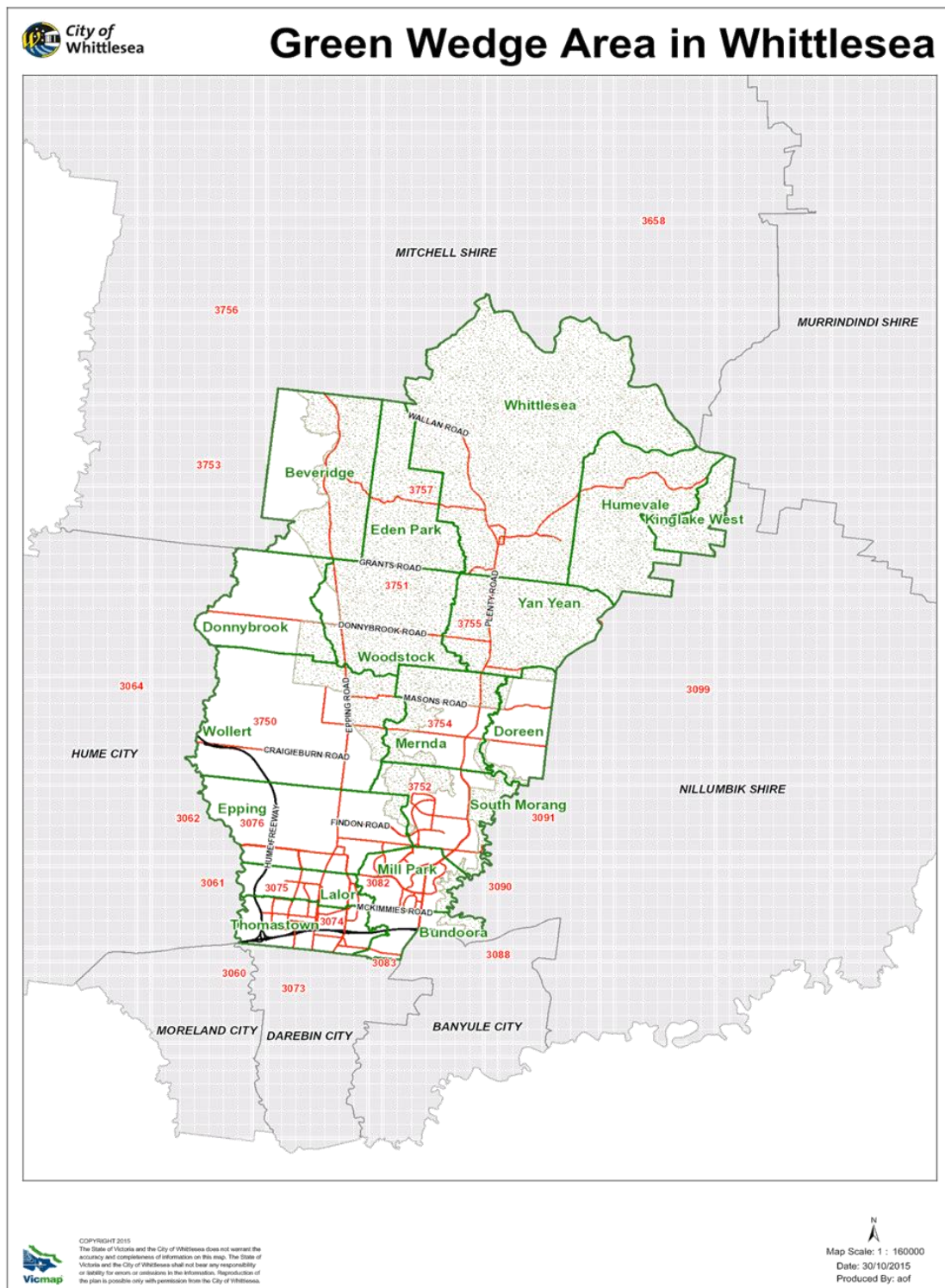
The *Green Wedge Management Plan 2011-2021* was adopted by Council in July 2011. It sets out 84 actions prioritised over ten years to achieve the strategic objectives and community's vision for the sustainable management, enhancement and protection of the Green Wedge and non-urban areas of the municipality.

This represents the 10th and final year reporting against the Action Plan. It demonstrates a great achievement with all 84 actions commenced, including 54 short, medium, long-term actions and 30 ongoing actions. Only 5 actions are underway but are yet to be completed. These incomplete actions will continue to be progressed as part of the implementation of the *Biodiversity Strategy* and *Water For All Strategy* and will also be considered in the context of the new GWMP.

The successful implementation of the *Green Wedge Management Plan* reflects the collaborative and committed approach across various Council Departments in implementing the Plan.

A new *Green Wedge Management Plan* is in the process of being developed in consultation with the community. Further consultation on the Draft *Green Wedge Management Plan* 2022 – 2032 will occur in mid-2022.

Attachment 1: Green Wedge area in Whittlesea



ACTION		Progress Update 2021			LEGEND	
No	Description (as adopted at 2016 review)	Priority	Department	Status		
B01	Determine the most cost and time effective means of collating and managing flora and fauna data for Council. Ensure that data exchange agreements are maintained between the Department of Sustainability and Environment and Council.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing		Completed
B02	Investigate the relationship between significant ecosystems and type of land ownership (e.g. parkland, reserve or private landholding). Assess best methods of protection for areas of high conservation significance.	S	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	In progress		In Progress
B03	Continue to advocate for, and contribute to, discussions regarding the creation of a 1,200 hectare Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve within Whittlesea's Green Wedge.	O	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	Ongoing	Complete	Completed in 2021
B04	Distribute educational material to landholders primarily through Council publications and local media regarding the following biodiversity topics: Ecological burns - develop community understanding of the necessity of fire to maintain ecosystem health; Significant ecosystems - highlight the variety and uniqueness of ecological communities, flora and fauna throughout the rural areas. Clearly define Commonwealth and State legislation that prohibits the removal or destruction of significant habitats; Fencing and grazing management - increase knowledge of the environmental and economic benefits of fencing remnant trees, creating shelter belts and leaving ungrazed areas for habitat purposes on rural properties; Pest plants - develop landholder knowledge of what constitutes pest plants. Offer a range of options and methods for removal; Pest Animals - Develop landholder knowledge regarding the management of pest animals.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete		
B05	In partnership with fire agencies and relevant State Government departments, continue to distribute educational material on ecological burns via local media and direct mail outs to landholders.	O	Parks and Urban Design	Ongoing		
B06	Continue to contribute to discussions with key stakeholders including the State Government and local wildlife groups about habitat corridors, particularly in an urban-rural interface context. This should also be considered at the framework planning stage for future urban land.	O	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	Ongoing		
B07	Develop a local planning policy that provides guidance on the benefits of planning for habitat corridors particularly within areas being developed for urban purposes.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete		
B08	Continue to work with State Government and all relevant agencies to use forward strategic planning to reduce conflict and balance the ecological needs of the kangaroo population with the social, environmental and ecological needs of local residents, particularly the working agricultural community.	O	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	Ongoing		
B09	Strengthen planning provisions targeted at the identification, protection and enhancement of biodiversity and environmental values of the Whittlesea Green Wedge as follows: Protect all vegetation communities of national, state, regional and local significance with appropriate planning provisions; Support strengthening planning controls for areas of remnant native vegetation and fauna habitat, in particular, support the inclusion of sites of biodiversity significance, strategic habitat links and buffer areas through the application of the Environmental Significance Overlay; and Consider applying the Road Closure Overlay to disused rural roads to provide habitat linkages between rural landholdings.	M	Strategic Futures/Sustainable Environment	In progress		
B10	Develop local planning policy to provide guidance and direction on native vegetation retention and net gain offsets.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete		
B11	Identify preferred strategic locations for native vegetation offsets within the municipality taking into account ecological significance, land ownership, adjoining land uses, potential for creating habitat corridors and property size.	S	Parks and Urban Design	Complete		

B12	Increase opportunities for community interaction with significant ecosystems such as revegetation activities and value-added activities such as 'breakfast with the birds' or 'frogs on wheels' and seed collection/plant propagation.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
B13	Foster coordination between Local and State Government with regard to the development and implementation of state wide management plans and priorities for pest plant and animal control on public private land. Advocate for increased funding to implement strategic priorities relevant to the Whittlesea area.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
B14	Expand existing programs that promote the value and significance of ecosystems on Council-owned land through education and interpretive signage.	M	Parks and Urban Design	Complete
L01	Continue to provide business support and advice to keep farmers on the land. This includes continued networking, promotion and business development opportunities for owners and managers of our agricultural enterprises.	O	Economic Development	Ongoing
L02	Employ an Agribusiness Officer, who would demonstrate Council leadership and best practice through the provision of sound business advice (subject to funding).	S	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	Complete
L03	Advocate on behalf of the farming community and maintain input into agricultural research and strategies that seek to support farming ventures, including highlighting the true cost of maintaining a rural property.	O	Economic Development	Ongoing
L04	Explore options for financial support and partnerships to develop a publicity campaign aimed at demonstrating the value of farming communities to the social, economic and environmental health of the municipality and Melbourne as a whole.	S	Economic Development	Complete
L05	Investigate further options to alter Council's farm rate to better support agribusiness on the urban fringe.	O	Economic Development	Ongoing
L06	Continue to advocate through the Interface Councils Working Group for reforms to the way rural land is rated within interface areas.	O	Economic Development	Ongoing
L07	Set up a pilot programme to support the production of local food and consideration of food links through innovative sustainable land use practices, to increase food security within the municipality.	S	Economic Development	Complete
L08	Investigate any economic development linkages between the relocation of the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market to Epping and the usage of agricultural land in the municipality.	S	Economic Development	Complete
L09	Update land capability information in support of both new/innovative and traditional rural enterprises.	S	Economic Development	Complete
L10	Establish a local marketing program to promote successful alternative agribusiness operating in the rural areas of the municipality such as olive groves, organic farming, farmhouse cheese, berry farming and Chinese herbs for the complementary herbal medicine market.	S	Economic Development	Complete
L11	Monitor the State Government initiatives in better supporting farming and review local planning provisions to support agribusiness and the right to farm in rural area, as required.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
L12	Further develop existing rural education programs to encourage the diversification of sustainable farming methods.	M	Strategic Futures	Complete
L13	Work in partnership with government departments and agencies to promote and facilitate the uptake of environmental market mechanisms, such as ecoMarkets, to rural residents.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
L14	Review current sustainable land management programs to better support small rural properties, promote land stewardship practices including the management of pest plants and support property owners required to prepare a Land Management Plan in accordance with the Whittlesea Planning Scheme.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L15	Commit to permanent funding for an Environmental Protection Officer to ensure ongoing compliance with: The Whittlesea Planning Scheme; Whittlesea's Pest plant Local Law; Planning permit conditions; Land management plan directives	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L16	Develop guidelines on the Land Management Plan process as it relates to planning assessment processes.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete

L17	Further develop a monitoring system that flags Land Management Plans associated with planning permits issued for rural properties. Showcase success stories and follow-up non-complying properties with the offer of assistance and expertise as required.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L18	Further develop community knowledge and perception of rural land stewardship through encouragement and support for neighbourhood teams that share knowledge between new and existing landholders.	M	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L19	Continue to offer a holistic service that facilitates a coordinated response across Council departments to land use planning applications for the rural areas.	O	Building and Planning	Ongoing
L20	Develop further mechanisms to discourage and regulate soil dumping, filling of land and native vegetation removal through education, policy development and enforcement and compliance processes.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L21	Develop a quarterly rural newsletter that focuses on good rural land stewardship practices and showcases success stories.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L22	Amend planning provisions to address environmental hazards within the City of Whittlesea as follows: (22.1) Application of a new overlay, the Salinity Management Overlay, to areas of dryland salinity (22.2) Application of a new overlay, the Erosion Management Overlay, to areas of stream, gully and sheet erosion; and (22.3) Reassess the boundaries of the existing Wildfire Management Overlay in response to the Government's implementation of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.	S	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	In progress
L23	Further develop community appreciation of the rural landscape through a variety of landscape exploration events.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
L24	Investigate partnership arrangements with key groups for the sponsorship of two new annual events: -Best Environmental Sustainable Rural Design for the promotion architectural excellence in a rural setting; and -Best Rural Management for the promotion of best whole farm design and management.	M	Economic Development	Complete
L25	Further develop community appreciation of the rural landscape through the creation of a 'Celebrate the Landscape' event aimed at showcasing and promoting 'ownership' of a range of green wedge values.	M	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L26	Amend planning provisions targeted at protection of significant landscapes and significant vistas as follows: Ensure the Significant Landscape Overlay is correctly applied to all visually sensitive areas within the Whittlesea Green Wedge; Develop local policies as part of the Planning Scheme review process to guide development adjacent to visually sensitive hilltops; As part of the Planning Scheme review process develop a road setback policy for visually significant roadside corridors and include in the Local Planning Policy Framework; and Implement changes to the LPPF to insure that the design, siting and form of new dwellings and other buildings within green wedge areas are appropriately and sensitively integrated within rural and natural environments.	M	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	In progress
L27	Investigate innovative land use options which support sustainable land use and management, particularly at the urban rural interface.	O	Economic Development / Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
L28	Based on research undertaken on interface land uses, pilot and evaluate alternate land treatments at the peri-urban interface.	M	Economic Development	Complete
L29	Undertake a review of the Whittlesea Township Local Structure Plan with an emphasis on defining the township boundary and interface issues between urban and rural areas.	S	Strategic Futures / Sustainable Environment	Complete
L30	Protect significant habitat areas adjoining any Urban Growth Boundary by encouraging and facilitating conservation trusts/covenants, market-based instruments such as ecoMarkets, carbon and/or native vegetation offsets through focussing on programs that provide income for 'farming nature'.	M	Sustainable Environment	Complete
L31	Review and report on the status of all current extractive industry operations	M	Strategic Futures	Complete
L32	Strengthen communication between interactive industry operators and Council, Government Departments and local stakeholders in order to create an environment that allows the open discussion of issues and opportunities such as land management, buffers and threat mitigation.	O	Strategic Futures	Ongoing

L33	Advocate to the State Government to review the Extractive Industry Interest Area (EIIA) as it relates to the City Of Whittlesea having regard to recent Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) changes and defined Green Wedge values including native vegetation.	O	Sustainable Environment / Strategic Futures	Ongoing
L34	Assess the practicalities of leaving disused quarries unfilled at the expiry of their licence in order to create a wetland environment.	M	Parks and Urban Design	Complete
P01	Build upon the role of existing local committees and community groups to champion the cause of the Whittlesea Green Wedge. Establish an education program targeted at local committees and community groups.	S	Sustainable Environment	Complete
P02	Build upon the role of existing local committees and community groups such as MCMC, DCMC, Land Care and the Victorian Farmers' Federation as they champion the cause of the Whittlesea Green Wedge.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
P03	Create networking opportunities that raise awareness of the issues faced by both rural and urban residents, to promote the value of farmers and farming practices.	S	Economic Development	Complete
P04	Continue to distribute information on community organisations and services to encourage networking and increase community capacity, particularly within the rural community.	O	Community Services	Ongoing
P05	Develop 'Rural Information Packs' that can be distributed to potential property purchasers that includes pre-purchase information such as planning checklists, siting and design guidelines, environmental values and land management tips.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
P06	Disseminate information to the community on a timely basis regarding Local and State Government plans for the Whittlesea Green Wedge, and create opportunities for community input.	O	Strategic Futures	Ongoing
P07	Provide diverse housing opportunities, including aged care housing, in areas of existing residential land in the Whittlesea Township, where services and facilities are located.	O	Strategic Futures / Building and Planning	Ongoing
P08	Ensure Whittlesea Township can continue to accommodate local enterprises, businesses and other facilities which support the Whittlesea Green Wedge.	M	Economic Development	Complete
P09	Continue to advocate on behalf of the community to the Victorian Government for funding to support those services and facilities deemed most necessary in the rural areas and in particular Whittlesea Township.	O	Community Services	Ongoing
P10	Develop guidelines for the design and construction of infrastructure that is appropriate for rural areas, such as street lighting and road construction.	M	City Design and Transport	Complete
P11	Utilise planning provisions to increase the liveability of the Whittlesea Green Wedge as follows: Investigate the best zoning for rural communities such as Eden Park to better reflect current land patterns; and Rezone any isolated parcels of Green Wedge land to reflect the zoning of surrounding land.	M	Strategic Futures	Complete
P12	Update Council's Tourism Strategy to highlight tourism and recreation opportunities in the green wedge.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
P13	Develop a 'Welcome to Whittlesea Pack' that highlights tourism opportunities such as boutique agribusinesses, emerging and established tourist destinations.	M	Strategic Futures	Complete
P14	Research opportunities for geotourism or 'whole of place' tourism. Focusing on local character rather than generic aspects, this form of tourism incorporates historic structures, living and traditional cultures, landscape, cuisine and arts, as well as local flora and fauna.	M	Economic Development	Complete
P15	In partnership with land owners/managers, (P15.1) investigate partnership opportunities that extend our network of multiuse trails, (P15.2) including opportunities for heritage interpretation. Linking People and Places – Government Strategy for Trail Networks in the Metropolitan Area and The Victorian Trail Strategy will inform the potential location of multi-use trails. Attention should be paid to the disused Mernda-Whittlesea rail track as it provides linkages between rural and urban areas.	M	City Design and Transport	Complete
P16	Continue to develop Council's Whittlesea Recreational Strategy in consultation with the community and implement proposed actions.	O	Leisure and Community Facilities	Ongoing
P17	Develop a trail network strategy for the Green Wedge area to cater for walkers, bike and horse riders, linking to key destinations including the Whittlesea Township.	M	City Design and Transport	Complete

P18	Research community perceptions of local parks and user needs in order to prioritise funding opportunities for facilities, including signage.	M	Parks and Urban Design	Complete
P19	Advocate on behalf of the community to Parks Victoria regarding increased funding for state managed parks and the potential for creation of new parklands (such as Quarry Hills and around the Merri Creek).	O	Parks and Urban Design	Ongoing
P20	Investigate the provision of alternative transportation options for attendees of showcase events, such as the Whittlesea Agricultural Show and the Whittlesea Country Music Festival.	M	City Design and Transport	Complete
P21	Explore options to promote Council's full range of cultural heritage opportunities at festivals and events.	O	Arts Culture & Events	Ongoing
P22	Enhance community perception of heritage places and cultures through continued promotion of Council's Cultural Heritage Program.	O	Aboriginal & Cultural Diversity	Ongoing
P23	Explore options for developing interpretive signage at significance heritage places and areas of cultural significance within the municipality.	M	Community Cultural Development	Complete
P24	Increase networking links with the local indigenous community to ensure understanding and respect for sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity within the municipality.	O	Aboriginal & Cultural Diversity	Ongoing
P25	(25.1) Explore opportunities to employ a Heritage Officer in order to (25.2) develop a Heritage Strategy for the holistic management of heritage across Council.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
P26	Following the heritage study undertaken during 2009/10, implement findings and apply a Heritage Overlay to all significant places not protected. Any proposed amendment to the Whittlesea Planning Scheme will provide additional opportunity for public submission.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
P27	Demonstrate Council leadership and best practice by investigating the feasibility of developing a Management Plan for all heritage places on Council-owned land.	M	Strategic Futures	Complete
P28	Advocate on behalf of heritage management to the Victorian Government regarding treatment of cultural heritage on Crown land. Support Heritage Victoria in its role of caring for our public heritage places.	O	Strategic Futures	Ongoing
W01	Ensure local provisions are consistent with State legislation through the Planning Scheme Review project.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
W02	Reinforce consistency between State and Local Government legislation.	S	Strategic Futures	Complete
W03	Research current signage at waterways and investigate funding opportunities to install identification signage for all waterways, particularly at the intersection of major roadways and paths. At a minimum, catchment signage should also be installed alongside the Plenty River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek in prominent positions.	S	Parks and Urban Design	Complete
W04	Build upon existing community involvement in waterway health through promotion and support for programs such as WaterWatch and riparian revegetation activities.	O	Sustainable Environment	Ongoing
W05	Strengthen planning provisions targeted at the protection and improvement of the environmental health of waterways as follows: Add new schedules to the Environmental Significance Overlay to protect all major waterbodies; Revise the extent of the mapping associated with the existing Environmental Significance Overlay schedule 3 to include unprotected waterways; and Investigate the rezoning of the municipality's two water storage catchments from Public Use Zone to Public Conservation and Resource Zone.	S	Strategic Futures	In progress
W06	Conduct a feasibility study on a 'Top of the Catchment' event that focuses on the municipality's waterways and catchments.	L	Sustainable Environment	Complete
W07	Continue to encourage good water sensitive urban design from new developments abutting reserves and waterways in order to protect aquatic and biodiversity values.	O	Building and Planning / Strategic Futures	Ongoing
W08	Investigate opportunities to contribute to catchment projects and support partnerships that research the effects of surface and sub-surface water use, particularly due to increased numbers and declining water quality and quantity of local farm dams and bores.	M	Sustainable Environment	Complete

5.5 High Performing Organisation

5.5.1 Debt Collection Services 2021-57 - Contract Evaluation Report

Responsible Officer Acting Director Corporate & Shared Services

Author Acting Chief Financial Officer

Attachments

1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Tender 2021-57 Debt Collection Services Evaluation Summary [5.5.1.1 - 5 pages]

This attachment has been designated as confidential by the Director Corporate & Shared Services, under delegation from the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with Rule 53 of the Governance Rules 2021 and sections 66(5) and 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* on the grounds that it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—

- (i) relates to trade secrets; or
- (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

In particular the attachment contains information regarding pricing for debt collection services.

Purpose

It is proposed that following a public tender process, contract number 2021-57 for Debt Collection Services is awarded to Recoveries and Reconstruction (Aust) Pty Ltd as the successful tenderer.

Brief Overview

The tender evaluation panel advises that:

- Seven tenders were considered.
- The recommended tender was the highest ranked.
- Consideration was given to collaboration with other councils and public bodies or utilising collaborative procurement arrangements.
- This was a collaborative tender conducted by Procurement Australasia on behalf of 26 Victorian local government councils.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Accept the tender submitted by Recoveries and Reconstruction (Aust) Pty Ltd for the following contract:**
Number: 2021-57
Title: Debt Collection Services
Cost: The accepted schedule of rates is detailed in the confidential attachment. Total expenditure is limited to a maximum \$1,522,270 (excluding GST) unless otherwise approved by Council.
Term: 22 February 2022 to 31 October 2023
Options: Term extensions up to 31 October 2025.
Subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Tenderer to provide proof of currency of insurance cover as required in the tender documents.**
 - b) Price variations to be in accordance with the provisions as set out in the tender documents.**
- 2. Approve the funding arrangements detailed in the confidential attachment.**
- 3. Note the intention to only use the service under this contract for the purposes of debt recovery action involving legal process.**
- 4. Note the change in customer service approach towards managing ratepayer enquiries in accordance with Council's Financial Hardship Policy.**

Key Information

The purpose of this contract is to use the expertise of a debt collection company with experience in the local government sector to assist in the recovery of overdue monies where the decision that legal action is required is made. The services can be summarised as:

- Recovery of overdue rates and charges from ratepayers through legal means and under instruction from Council.
- Providing advice on collection policies, approaches to settling debts, legal responsibilities and ways of mitigating the occurrence of legal action taking place.
- Providing online access to debtor status, reporting and monies outstanding.

A key change to the proposed level of service under this contract has been included. In the past Council have used its debt recovery agent to assist in services including communicating with ratepayers, managing payment plans and evaluating financial hardship of ratepayers. Moving forward such services will be managed in-house by Council through customer experience and the Financial Hardship Officer position. The use of Council's debt collection

agent under this contract will be scaled back to dealing strictly with legal matters. It is intended that this change will come into effect from 1 July 2022.

Tenders for the contract closed on 30 June 2021. The tendered prices for this schedule of rates contract and a summary of the evaluation, are detailed in the confidential attachment.

No member of the Tender Evaluation Panel declared any conflict of interest in relation to this tender evaluation.

A Tender Probity and Evaluation Plan was designed specifically for this tender process and it was authorised by the Procurement Unit prior to this tender being evaluated. All tenders were evaluated in accordance with that plan. The evaluation involved scoring of conforming and competitive tenders according to these pre-determined criteria and weightings:

- Price 25 %
- Expertise advice in dealing with debt collection matters in local government 25 %
- Timeliness and flexibility in responding to Council needs 25 %
- Accessibility through a web system to debt collection progress notes etc 25 %

The weightings reflect the relative importance of each element to this particular contract. They were determined as being most appropriate after considering numerous factors including (but not restricted to) the time, quality, risk and contract management requirements which were likely to have the most impact on the achievement of best value.

The Price criterion was weighted relatively low because the majority of costs associated with this contract are based on fees set by the Magistrates' Court of Victoria.

All seven tenders on the Procurement Australasia panel were conforming and competitive and were fully scored. The evaluation outcome was as follows:

Tenderer	Conforming	Competitive	Score	Rank
Tenderer A - Recoveries and Reconstruction (Aust) Pty Ltd	Yes	Yes	85.00	1
Tenderer B	Yes	Yes	67.78	5
Tenderer C	Yes	Yes	71.20	3
Tenderer D	Yes	Yes	76.50	2
Tenderer E	Yes	Yes	66.20	6
Tenderer F	Yes	Yes	68.33	4
Tenderer G	Yes	Yes	53.34	7

Refer to the confidential attachment for further details of the evaluation of all tenders.

Community Consultation and Engagement

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, consideration was given as to whether there were any opportunities to collaborate with other councils and public bodies or to use any existing collaborative procurement arrangements.

In accordance with collaboration requirements under Council's Procurement Policy, Procurement Australasia conducted a national collaborative tender on behalf of its Members, Local Government, Water Authorities, Libraries, Statutory Authorities, Not for Profit Organisations, Private Organisations and Tertiary Educational Institutions:

- On 22 April 2021, Council wrote to Procurement Australasia to confirm its appointment in leading a collaborative tender process for debt collection services
- Procurement Australasia then undertook the following:
 - Advertised an industry briefing in the Sydney Morning Herald on 20 April 2021 and the Herald Sun on 21 April 2021.
 - Delivered a webinar briefing on 12 May 2021.
 - Advertised a request for tender in the Sydney Morning Herald on 8 June 2021 and the Herald Sun on 9 June 2021 with a closing date of 30 June 2021.
 - Selected seven out of the 15 tenders received, as recommended service providers.

Community consultation and engagement was not required in relation to the subject matter of this report as it relates to commercial arrangements and contractual obligations that are confidential.

Alignment to Community Plan, Policies or Strategies

Alignment to Whittlesea 2040 and Community Plan 2021-2025:

High performing organisation

We engage effectively with the community, deliver efficient and effective services and initiatives, make decision in the best interest of our community and deliver value to our community.

Considerations

Environmental

Environmental impacts were considered by Procurement Australia when selecting the panel members and all were scored highly in demonstrating very strong social responsibility.

Social, Cultural and Health

Council adopted a new Financial Hardship Policy at its Council meeting held on 5 July 2021. This new Policy seeks to consider and acknowledge the social, cultural and health impacts that come with financial hardship, and in turn how Council considers such factors in the approach towards debt collection activities.

Economic

Debt collection services are necessary to support Council in collecting all budgeted revenue in a timely manner, ensuring the necessary funding exists to deliver services to our growing community.

Financial Implications

Sufficient funding for this contract is available as there is a recurrent budget for debt collection service. In 2021/2022 the approved budget is \$765,000.

Expenditure on debt collection services is legally recoverable from those ratepayers on whom Council has initiated debt recovery action. Council's recoverability of such expenditure will need to be considered moving forward in conjunction with Council's Financial Hardship policy which does provide for the waiving of legal and interest costs.

Link to Strategic Risk

Strategic Risk *Contractor Management - Failure to manage contractors to deliver agreed outcomes*

The level of debt collection activity is determined by Council and the level of service to be delivered by the successful tenderer is based on agreed standards with them.

Implementation Strategy

Communication

Procurement Australasia will be advised in writing of Council's preferred panel tenderer. Council will also write to the preferred tenderer to commence the contractual relationship.

Critical Dates

The initial contract term will commence on 22 February 2022 and end on 31 October 2023. The previous contract 2017-181 Debt collection services expired on 31 October 2021.

Options exist to extend the contract up to 31 October 2025. A separate report requesting Council approval will be presented before the exercise of any optional extension.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Under Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Rule 47 of the Governance Rules 2021, officers providing advice to Council are required to disclose any conflict of interest they have in a matter and explain the nature of the conflict.

The Responsible Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Conclusion

The tender from Recoveries and Reconstruction (Aust) Pty Ltd was determined to be best value for Council, and it is considered that this tenderer can perform the contract to the required standards.

5.5.2 Quarterly Corporate Performance Report (Quarter Ended 31 December 2021)

Responsible Officer Acting Director Corporate Services
Author Unit Manager Financial Strategy

Attachments

1. Quarterly Corporate Performance Report [5.5.2.1 - 19 pages]
2. 2021-2025 Community Plan Performance Snapshot Q 2 2021-2025 [5.5.2.2 - 1 page]
3. Project Progress Report [5.5.2.3 - 6 pages]
4. Grants Status Update Report [5.5.2.4 - 1 page]
5. Proposed Budget Adjustments Quarter 2 [5.5.2.5 - 1 page]
6. Capital Works Program 2022-23 [5.5.2.6 - 1 page]
7. Reserve Details [5.5.2.7 - 2 pages]

Purpose

That Council notes the Quarterly Corporate Performance Report for the period ended 31 December 2021 (Attachment 1).

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Notes the Quarterly Corporate Performance report for December 2021 (Attachment 1).**
2. **Notes the outcome of the 2021-22 Quarter 2 Forecast review.**
3. **Notes the progress made against the key initiatives and actions included in the Community Plan 2021-2025 and Action Plan 2021-2022 (Attachment 2).**
4. **Notes the Capital Works Program Performance for the period ended 31 December 2021 and progress of projects as outlined in Project Progress Report (Attachment 3).**
5. **Notes the status of the infrastructure grants as at the end of December 2021 as outlined in Grants Status Update (Attachment 4).**
6. **Approves the proposed capital budget adjustments as listed in the Proposed Capital Budget Adjustments (Q2) (Attachment 5).**
7. **Notes that it is expected that the delivery of the 2021-22 Capital Works Program will be impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. In addition to the expected carry forward and “at risk” position identified, further detail on such impacts will continue to be assessed and reported to Council when they become known.**
8. **Notes the Financial Performance for the period ended 31 December 2021.**

Brief Overview

Community Plan

- The Community Plan 2021-2025 including the Community Plan 2021-2022 Action Plan was adopted at an additional Council meeting held on 25 October 2021.

- The Community Plan 2021-2025 includes 61 key initiatives. 116 related key actions are included in the Community Plan Action Plan for delivery in the 2021-2022 financial year.
- Of the 54 key initiatives scheduled to commence this financial year,
 - 51 are reported “On track”
 - 3 are reported “Monitor”.

Capital Works

- As at 31 December 2021, year to date Capital Works expenditure of \$27.69 million was \$15.67 million behind budget. The proposed revised budget (pending approval of proposed adjustments in this report) for the year ending 30 June 2022 will be \$86.83 million. This will be \$0.85 million more than the Annual Capital Budget following proposed adjustments for external grant funded projects and carry forwards.
- It is anticipated that the COVID-19 pandemic will impact the ability of Council to deliver on projects throughout the year. This has resulted in an expected carry forward of \$11.74 million, with a further \$10.8 million identified as being “at risk” of carry forward (combined total \$22.54 million). This will continue to be monitored and further update provided in future reports to Council as further information becomes available.

Financial Performance

- For the six months ended 31 December 2021, Council recorded an operating surplus of \$97.55 million, which is (\$14.73 million) unfavourable to the year-to-date budget.
- This surplus is reported based on the Australian Accounting Standards and includes all revenue recognised in the financial period, including gifted subdivisional assets (non-monetary), developer contributions and grants towards capital works projects. It is important to note that the operating surplus is not a cash surplus; therefore, it does not convert to immediately available cash for Council. Significant amounts of the surplus are restricted by legislation and must be used for future infrastructure investment.
- The outcome of the Quarter 2 Forecast review is that Council is anticipating a full year operating surplus of \$144.72 million, which is (\$1.73 million) unfavourable to the Adopted Budget.

The unfavourable variance is explained by an anticipated increase in depreciation costs of (\$2.1 million) as a result of revaluations and significant gifted assets being recognised after the budget was adopted, and therefore not factored into the depreciation budget. Further, there is an expected reduction in user fees of (\$1.69 million) due to a reduction in fees for leisure and community facilities. This is the result of COVID-19 closures and food safety registrations renewals being reduced by 50% as per Council resolution. This

unfavourable variance is partially offset by unbudgeted capital grant income of \$2.63 million and operating grant income of \$0.97 million.

- For the six months ended 31 December 2021, Council incurred direct COVID-19 related expenditure of \$0.43 million. In addition, Council recorded reduced revenue of \$0.95 million, due largely to forced facility closures during the State Government imposed COVID-19 lockdown restrictions. The combined impact of additional expenditure and reduced revenue totalled (\$1.38 million) for the six months ended December 2021.

Rationale for Recommendation

The recommendation is in accordance with the requirement of Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, that as soon as practicable after the end of each quarter of the financial year, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a quarterly financial report is presented to the Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

Impacts of Recommendation

Council has been presented with a Quarterly Corporate Performance Report in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* that shows Council's Operating and Capital performance against the Annual Budget 2021-2022 and an update on Community Plan progress.

What measures will be put in place to manage impacts

Financial performance against Budget and Community Plan progress is monitored closely and presented to the Executive Leadership Team and Council on a regular basis.

Key Information

Introduction

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) to prepare a Council Plan containing the strategic objectives of Council, strategies for achieving those objectives, and indicators to monitor the achievement of those objectives. The City of Whittlesea's Council Plan is incorporated in the Community Plan 2021-2025 alongside the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, the Disability Action Plan and pandemic recovery actions. This Plan was adopted at a special Council meeting held on 25 October 2021.

The attached report (Attachment 1) includes a comprehensive summary of:

- Progress of Community Plan key initiatives and actions to 31 December 2021
- Progress of 2021-22 Capital Works Program to 31 December 2021
- Council's financial performance to 31 December 2021.

To comply with the Act, the report includes the following comparisons for the six months ended 31 December 2021:

- Actual and budgeted operating revenues and expenses
- Actual and budgeted capital revenues and expenses
- Actual movements in the balance sheet
- Actual movements in the cash flow statement.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Council’s services and financial circumstances are expected to continue. This has been the subject of several previous Council reports.

Community Plan

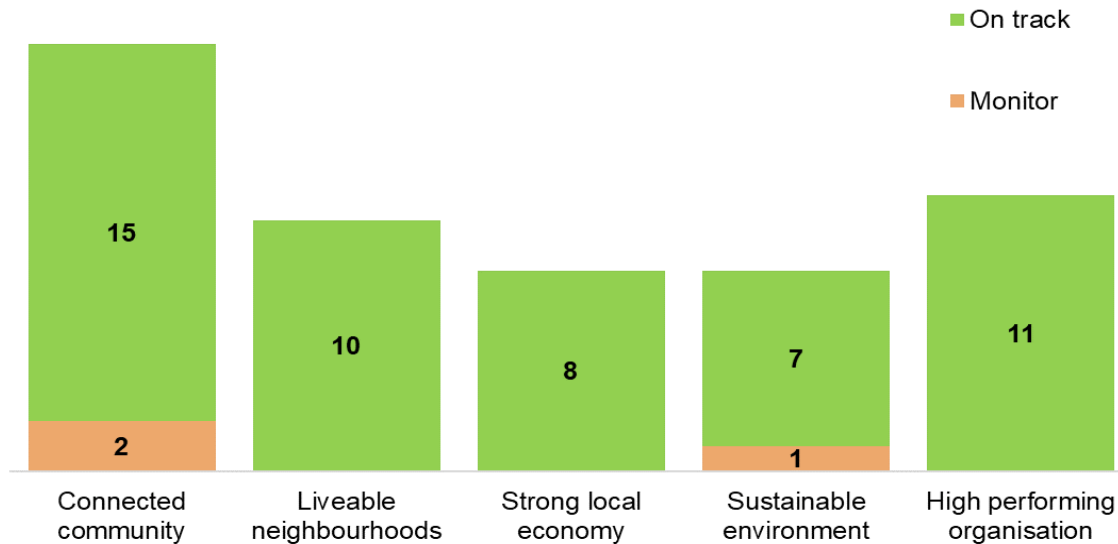
Council adopted the Community Plan 2021-2025, including the Community Plan Action Plan 2021-2022 on 25 October 2021. The Community Plan is the key strategic document providing direction over the Council term. It covers the key initiatives Council works towards across the four years. Annual Action Plans are developed as an accompaniment to the Community Plan which include key actions to be achieved each year.

Of the 54 key initiatives scheduled to commence this financial year:

- 51 are reported “On track”
- 3 are reported “Monitor”.

Community Plan 2021-2025 Key Initiative Status

(by Whittlesea 2040 Goal in numbers, as at 31 December 2021)



The below table provides further detail on those items reported as “Monitor” as at 31 December 2021.

Key initiative	Status	Comment
Goal 1: Connected community		
#06 Deliver a Connected Communities Strategy that will enhance social inclusion, civic participation, health, wellbeing and safety and reflect and celebrate the diversity of religions, cultures, heritages, abilities, ages, gender and sexual orientation which make City of Whittlesea a place for all	Monitor	We are progressing the development of the Connected Community Strategy and are managing the impacts of the pandemic on programs such as the accessibility upgrades.
#14 Build additional outdoor netball courts in a number of neighbourhoods including Epping, Doreen, Mill Park, Whittlesea, South Morang, Mernda	Monitor	We are advocating for sports infrastructure in our 2022/2023 Federal pre-budget submission and are progressing master-planning for the Regional Sports and Aquatic Facility at Mernda this financial year to inform further advocacy activities.
Goal 4: Sustainable environment		
#46 Use less energy by investing in energy efficiency programs including energy efficient street lighting	Monitor	We have replaced an additional 2,300 streetlights with energy efficient LED lights. A new solar PV/battery contract will generate an additional 155 kW of solar energy and store 200 kWh.

Please refer to Attachment 2 for a summarising Community Plan Performance Snapshot.

Capital Program

Council adopted the 2021-22 Capital Works Program on 1 June 2021 with a budget of \$68.39 million plus \$17.59 carry forward, providing a total Annual Budget of \$85.98 million.

The financial expenditure performance of the Capital Works Program to 31 December 2021 is detailed below.

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Property	7,030	10,278	3,248	23,281	24,344	20,270
Plant and equipment	677	1,136	459	2,515	2,515	2,427
Infrastructure	19,985	31,951	11,965	50,622	59,126	52,396
	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093
Represented by:						
New assets	11,131	14,191	3,060	25,146	29,823	25,533
Asset renewal	12,990	21,300	8,310	34,215	35,947	33,420
Asset expansion	94	310	216	550	550	550

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Asset upgrade	3,476	7,563	4,087	16,507	19,664	15,590
Total Capital Works	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093

COVID-19 Impact Analysis

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on several projects because of disruptions in the normal planning, tendering and construction activities. The two weeks construction industry lockdown and ongoing supply chain issues are continuing to influence the deliverability of this year's program.

It is anticipated that projects to the value of \$11.74 million will be carried forward to the 2022-23 financial year. Further, an additional amount of \$10.8 million has been identified as "at risk" of not being delivered in 2021-22, which will likely result in additional projects being carried forward to the 2022-23 year. The combined impact is an expected carry forward of \$22.54 million. A further update to project impacts will be provided as part of the third quarter report as further information comes to hand.

Project Budget Adjustments

Several minor changes to the Capital Works Program are proposed in the second quarter. These adjustments are a result of several projects not proceeding and additional funds required to enable the completion of projects where progress has been impacted by site conditions and increased costs of materials and services.

The proposed project adjustments result in a reduction to the previously approved Revised Budget of \$2.72 million, giving a revised total Capital Works Program budget following the second quarter of \$86.83 million. The proposed budget adjustments are listed in (Attachment 5).

Infrastructure Grants

A summary of recent infrastructure grants outcomes is included in the Grants Status Report (Attachment 4). Grant programs in the first half of the financial year have been limited, however the annual program of grant opportunities will increase in the second half of the financial year. A total of \$4.1 million in applications have been successful so far this financial year, including \$3.5 million in Growing Suburbs Funding. Applications to the value of \$1.83 million are still awaiting outcomes/announcements.

Financial Performance

The Financial Performance Report for the period ended 31 December 2021 includes the following financial statements included in Quarterly Corporate Performance Report (Attachment 1):

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Capital Works
- Summary of Reserves

Operating performance

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Operating					
Income	214,335	226,302	(11,967)	375,786	379,418
Expenditure	116,784	114,020	(2,764)	229,335	234,695
Surplus (deficit)	97,551	112,282	(14,731)	146,451	144,723
Capital and other revenue					
Share of other comprehensive income of associate	-	-	-	-	-
Capital non-recurrent grants	(2,826)	(12,867)	10,041	(16,260)	(18,888)
Developer contributions	(7,231)	(8,298)	1,067	(121,418)	(120,942)
Adjusted underlying surplus	87,494	91,117	(3,624)	8,773	4,893

For the quarter ended 31 December 2021, Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$97.55 million, which is (\$14.73 million) unfavourable to the year-to-date budget.

Council is forecasting a \$144.72 million full year operating surplus, which is (\$1.73 million) unfavourable to the Adopted Budget.

Further detail and analysis on key financial variances is included in Attachment 1 to this report.

This surplus is reported based on the Australian Accounting Standards and includes all revenue recognised in the financial period, including gifted subdivisional assets (non-monetary), developer contributions and grants towards capital works projects. It is important to note that the operating surplus is not a cash surplus; therefore, it does not convert to immediately available cash for Council. Significant amounts of the surplus are restricted by legislation and must be used for future infrastructure investment.

The operating result is a key figure to assess Council's financial performance. Although Council is a not-for-profit organisation, it should still generate a surplus to ensure future financial sustainability.

COVID-19 Impact Analysis

A comprehensive review of Council's budgeted revenue and expenditure for the remainder of the financial year has been undertaken to quantify the impacts of the pandemic on service delivery and financial performance.

As at the end of December 2021, the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to date is as follows:

- Direct COVID-19 expenditure to the end of December 2021 is (\$0.43 million)
- Income impact of (\$0.95 million), which relates to community and leisure facilities from forced facility closures during state government lockdown restrictions. Further analysis on the impact of COVID-19 on this income will continue to be undertaken.

Community Consultation and Engagement

Reported information has been sourced and discussed with line management and project managers across the organisation. Consultation has also been undertaken with the Executive Leadership Team.

Alignment to Community Plan, Policies or Strategies

Alignment to Whittlesea 2040 and Community Plan 2021-2025:

High performing organisation

We engage effectively with the community, deliver efficient and effective services and initiatives, make decision in the best interest of our community, and deliver value to our community

Considerations

Environmental

No implications

Social, Cultural and Health

No implications

Economic

No implications

Financial Implications

All matters raised in this report, which have a financial implication, have been reflected in the Quarterly Corporate Performance Report for the quarter ended 31 December 2021 (Attachment 1).

Link to Strategic Risk

Strategic Risk *Financial Sustainability - Inability to meet current and future expenditure*

This report provides Council with an oversight of the City of Whittlesea's key financial information and performance obligations to enable monitoring and to ensure City of Whittlesea's financial position is sustainable.

Strategic Risk *Governance - Ineffective governance of Council's operations and activities resulting in either a legislative or policy breach*

Performance reporting is an effective existing treatment enhancing governance of Council's operations.

Implementation Strategy

Critical Dates

This report is intended to go to:

- A Council meeting on 21 February 2022
- An Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 24 February 2022.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Under Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Rule 47 of the Governance Rules 2021, officers providing advice to Council are required to disclose any conflict of interest they have in a matter and explain the nature of the conflict.

The Responsible Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Conclusion

For the quarter ended 31 December 2021, Council's operating surplus showed an unfavourable year to date variance of (\$14.73 million) against budget. Council's Capital Works program was \$15.67 million behind budget.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on Council operations, 51 of the 54 Community Plan key initiatives commenced are reported on track. Council is closely monitoring progress and investigating mitigating actions where necessary to ensure timely progress.



Quarterly Corporate Performance Report

for the period ended 31 December 2021

A place for all



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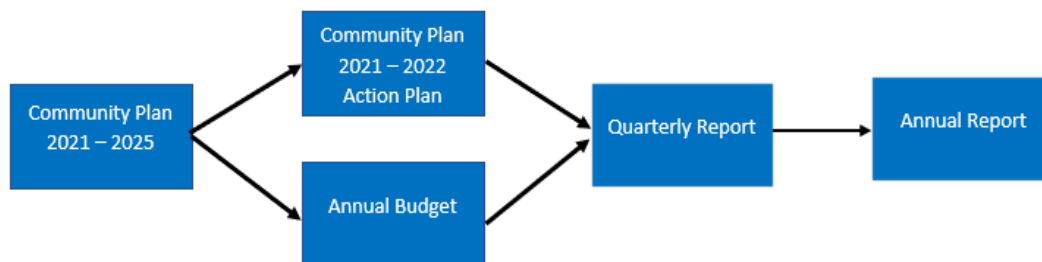


Introduction and Key Highlights

Community Plan

The Community Plan Action Plan 2021-2022 and Annual Budget are two of Council’s key accountability documents to the community and represent Council’s annual response to the four-year Community Plan.

On a quarterly basis Council reports progress on the achievement of Community Plan 2021-2022 Action Plan items, as well as financial and capital performance against the Annual Budget. At the conclusion of the financial year Council reports the final outcomes of Action Plan initiatives and its financial performance through the Annual Report.



The 2021-22 financial year marks the first year of Council’s new four-year Community Plan. Council’s Community Plan 2021-2025 was adopted at a special meeting of Council held on 25 October 2021.

- As at 31 December 2021, 51 of the 54 key initiatives commenced are reported “On track” and 3 are reported “Monitor”.

Capital Performance

- Capital spend at 31 December 2021 was \$27.69 million, which was \$15.67 million behind the year to date budget.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on a number of projects as a result of disruptions in the normal planning, tendering and construction activities. The two week construction industry lockdown and ongoing supply chain issues are continuing to have an effect on the deliverability of this year’s program.
- An amount of \$11.74 million is expected to be carried forward into next financial year. An additional \$10.8 million has been identified as "at risk" of not being delivered in current financial year. This will likely result in total amount of \$22.54 million to be carried forward into 2022-23 financial year.



	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Property	7,030	10,278	3,248	23,281	24,344	20,270
Plant and equipment	677	1,136	459	2,515	2,515	2,427
Infrastructure	19,985	31,951	11,965	50,622	59,126	52,396
	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093
Represented by:						
New assets	11,131	14,191	3,060	25,146	29,823	25,533
Asset renewal	12,990	21,300	8,310	34,215	35,947	33,420
Asset expansion	94	310	216	550	550	550
Asset upgrade	3,476	7,563	4,087	16,507	19,664	15,590
Total Capital works	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093

Financial Performance

- Council's operating financial performance was (\$14.73 million) unfavourable to budget for the six months ended 31 December 2021.

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Operating						
Income	214,335	226,302	(11,967)	375,786	377,443	379,418
Expenditure	116,784	114,020	(2,764)	229,335	228,829	234,695
Surplus (deficit)	97,551	112,282	(14,731)	146,451	148,613	144,723
Capital and other revenue						
Share of other comprehensive income of associate accounted for using the equity method	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital non-recurrent grants	(2,826)	(12,867)	10,041	(16,260)	(18,163)	(18,888)
Developer contributions	(7,231)	(8,298)	1,067	(121,418)	(120,651)	(120,942)
Adjusted underlying surplus	87,494	91,117	(3,623)	8,773	9,799	4,893

- Direct COVID-19 related expenditure incurred by Council to 31 December 2021 was \$0.43 million, with an additional \$0.95 million in revenue losses stemming from forced facility closures during state government lockdown restrictions. Total cost to Council of \$1.38 million for the six months ended 31 December 2021.

Community Plan Performance

The Community Plan 2021-2025 is the key strategic document providing direction over the Council term. Community Plan Action Plans are developed annually as an accompaniment to the Community Plan. They include the key actions to be achieved each year.



As at 31 December 2021, 51 of the 54 key initiatives commenced are reported “On track” and 3 are reported “Monitor”.

Community Plan 2021-2025 Key Initiative Status
 (by Whittlesea 2040 Goal in numbers, as at 31 December 2021)



Please refer to the Community Plan 2021-2025 Performance Report Quarter 2 2021-2022 (Attachment 2) and the Community Plan 2021-2025 Performance Snapshot Quarter 2 2021-2022 (Attachment 3) for further details.

Capital Performance

Financial Update

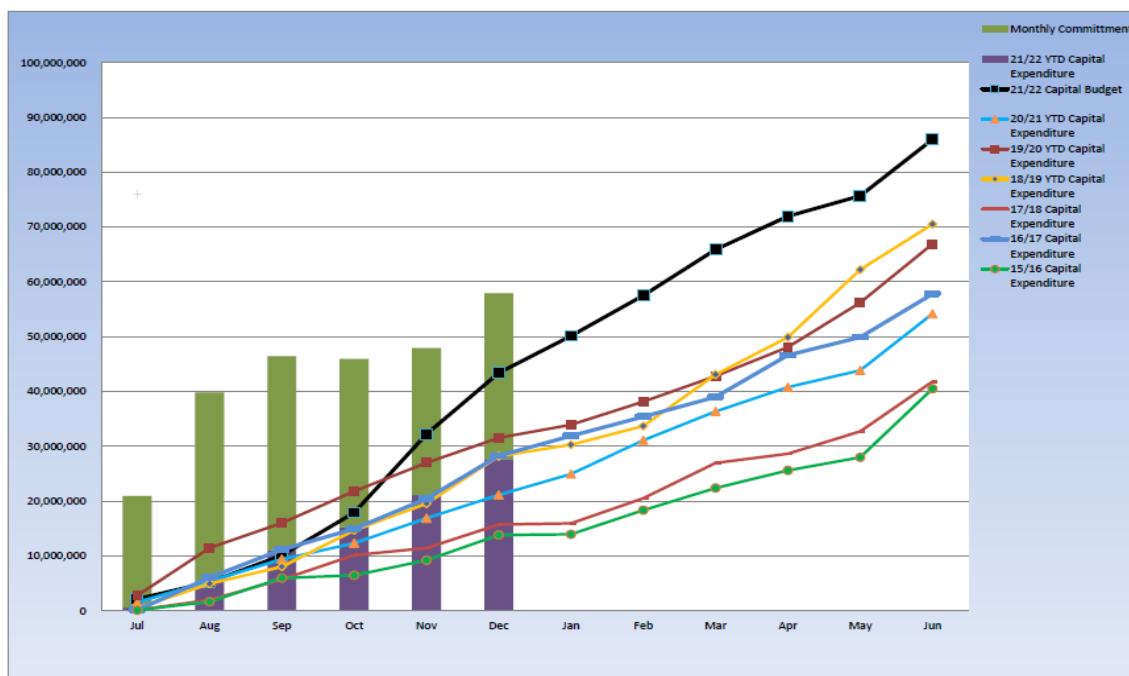
At 31 December 2021 Capital expenditure of \$27.69 million was \$15.67 million behind budget.



	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Property	7,030	10,278	3,248	23,281	24,344	20,270
Plant and equipment	677	1,136	459	2,515	2,515	2,427
Infrastructure	19,985	31,951	11,965	50,622	59,126	52,396
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Represented by:						
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Asset expansion	94	310	216	550	550	550
Asset upgrade	3,476	7,563	4,087	16,507	19,664	15,590
Total Capital works	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093

In addition to year to date spend there was a further \$31.16 million of commitments by way of issued contracts and purchase orders. Commitments are not reflected in the reported capital expenditure and indicate that many projects are well progressed. The forecast for the year ending 30 June 2022 is expected to be \$75.09 million, which is \$10.89 million less than the Annual Budget. Further detail on the progress of individual projects is reported in the Project Progress Report (Attachment 4).

The below Financial Summary Graph outlines 2021-22 year to date capital performance against historical comparisons.



The chart above provides a financial summary on the status of the Capital Works Program as at the end of December 2021. The value of work completed to the end of December is \$27.69 million (purple



column) with contracts and purchase orders committing another \$31.16 million (green column). The black line indicates the accumulative original approved budget for 2021-22 including the carry forward (The lines below show previous years' expenditure).

COVID-19 Impact Analysis

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on a number of projects as a result of disruptions in the normal planning, tendering and construction activities. The two week construction industry lockdown and ongoing supply chain issues are continuing to have an effect on the deliverability of this year's program.

It is anticipated that projects to the value of \$11.74 million will be carried forward to the 2022-23 financial year. Further, an additional amount of \$10.8 million has been identified as "at risk" of not being delivered in 2021-22, which will likely result in additional projects being carried forward to the 2022-23 year. The combined impact is an expected carry forward of \$22.54 million. A further update to project impacts will be provided as part of the third quarter report when more is known.

Key Project Update

A number of minor changes to the Capital Works Program are proposed in the second quarter. These adjustments are a direct result of project scopes being reviewed and uncertainty of land acquisitions.

The proposed project adjustments result in a decrease to the annual expenditure budget of \$2.72 million giving a revised total Capital Works budget following the second quarter of \$86.83 million.

Infrastructure Grants Update

A summary of recent infrastructure grants outcomes is included in the Grants Status Report. Grant programs in the second quarter of the financial year have been limited however the annual Program of Grant opportunities will increase in the second half of the financial year. A total of \$4.1 million in applications have been successful this financial year; including \$3.5 million in Growing Suburbs Funding. Applications to the value of \$1.83 million are still awaiting outcomes / announcements.



Financial Performance

Operating Performance

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Operating						
Income	214,335	226,302	(11,967)	375,786	377,443	379,418
Expenditure	116,784	114,020	(2,764)	229,335	228,829	234,695
Surplus (deficit)	97,551	112,282	(14,731)	146,451	148,613	144,723
Capital and other revenue						
Share of other comprehensive income of associate accounted for using the equity method	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital non-recurrent grants	(2,826)	(12,867)	10,041	(16,260)	(18,163)	(18,888)
Developer contributions	(7,231)	(8,298)	1,067	(121,418)	(120,651)	(120,942)
Adjusted underlying surplus	87,494	91,117	(3,623)	8,773	9,799	4,893

For the six months ended 31 December 2021, Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$97.55 million, which is (\$14.73 million) unfavourable to the year to date budget.

Council is forecasting a \$144.72 million full year operating surplus, which is (\$1.73 million) unfavourable to the Adopted Budget.

This surplus is reported based on the Australian Accounting Standards and includes all revenue recognised in the financial period, including gifted subdivisional assets (non-monetary), developer contributions and grants towards capital works projects. It is important to note that the operating surplus is not a cash surplus; therefore, it does not convert to immediately available cash for Council. Significant amounts of the surplus are restricted by legislation and must be used for future infrastructure investment.

After eliminating non-recurrent capital grants and other items, the adjusted underlying surplus is \$87.49 million, which is (\$3.62 million) behind budget. An underlying surplus is the net surplus for the year adjusted for non-recurrent capital grants and contributions. It is an accepted measure of financial sustainability as it is not impacted by non-recurring or once-off items of revenue and expenses that can often mask the operating results.



Financial position

	YTD Actual \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Audited 2021 \$'000
Financial assets	212,352	207,200	216,818
Restricted funds	142,350	139,900	143,930
Unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	70,003	67,300	72,888
Intended allocations	83,515	35,886	95,030
Net Available cash	(13,512)	31,414	(22,142)

The financial position as at 31 December 2021 shows a cash and investment balance of \$212.35 million compared with \$216.82 million as at 30 June 2021.

The cash and investment balance was sufficient to meet restricted cash of \$142.35 million at the end of December 2021.

Restricted cash is the amount of cash holdings Council requires to meet external restrictions such as trust funds and statutory reserves. Cash for intended allocations includes cash held to fund future capital works and project works.



Financial Statements

Comprehensive Income Statement

Comprehensive Income Statement for the period ended 31 December 2021

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Income					
Rates and charges	177,435	176,180	1,255	178,288	178,288
Statutory fees and fines	10,696	11,257	(561)	18,473	19,006
User fees	1,878	2,980	(1,102)	7,261	5,574
Grants - operating	10,895	10,271	625	27,820	28,794
Grants - capital	2,826	14,017	(11,191)	17,410	20,038
Contributions - monetary	7,231	8,298	(1,067)	17,338	16,862
Contributions - non-monetary assets	-	-	-	104,080	104,080
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	214	-	214	-	-
Other income	3,160	3,301	(140)	5,116	6,776
Total income	214,335	226,302	(11,967)	375,786	379,418
Expenditure					
Employee benefits	49,083	48,604	(478)	98,108	99,739
Materials and services	39,154	37,190	(1,965)	76,393	77,726
Depreciation	20,671	19,540	(1,131)	39,081	41,181
Amortisation - intangible assets	-	51	51	102	102
Amortisation - right of use assets	72	60	(12)	120	120
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	-	418	418
Borrowing costs	85	79	(6)	158	215
Finance costs - leases	-	15	15	30	30
Other expenses	7,718	8,481	763	14,925	15,164
Total expenditure	116,784	114,020	(2,764)	229,335	234,695
Total comprehensive result	97,551	112,282	(14,731)	146,451	144,723
Share of other comprehensive income of associate accounted for using the equity method	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive result	97,551	112,282	(14,731)	146,451	144,723
Less					
Capital grants - non recurrent	(2,826)	(12,867)	10,041	(16,260)	(18,888)
Capital contributions	(7,231)	(8,298)	1,067	(121,418)	(120,942)
Underlying surplus/(deficit)	87,494	91,117	(3,623)	8,773	4,893



For the period ended 31 December 2021 Council's Operating result was (\$14.73 million) unfavourable to Adopted Budget. Key variances contributing to this unfavourable variance to budget include:

- Capital grants (\$11.19 million) unfavourable to budget due to recognition of grants income being in line with year to date capital works expenditure, which is lower than anticipated
- Materials and Services (\$1.97 million) unfavourable to budget primarily due to contract works expenditure for facilities maintenance as a result of increased number of condition audit assessments and expenditure relating to the Platform Estate Development. City of Whittlesea is the lead collection agent for this Developer Contribution Plan and is required to make payments to both Mitchell and Hume Council's for their share of the contributions received. These payments are fully funded through contributions collected from the developer. This is partially offset by savings relating mainly to consultancy costs across the organisation.
- Depreciation (\$1.13 million) unfavourable variance to budget as a result of revaluations and significant gifted assets being recognised after the budget was adopted, and therefore not factored into the budget
- User fees (\$1.1 million) unfavourable to budget primarily due to leisure and community facilities being closed as a result of COVID-19 closures and food safety registrations renewals reduced by 50% as per Council resolution, which are expected to be issued later than anticipated
- Monetary contributions (\$1.07 million) unfavourable to budget due to development contributions being behind budget as a result of delay in completing building developments
- Statutory fees and fines (\$0.56 million) unfavourable to budget mainly due a reduction in Home and Support services for aged care support during the pandemic and parking enforcement not issuing infringements till late October as a result of COVID-19
- Employee costs were (\$0.48 million) unfavourable to budget due to additional staff resources added during the year. City of Whittlesea continues to be experiencing significant and rapid population growth, with additional resourcing required to continue to maintain service delivery levels for the community.

These unfavourable variances to budget were partially offset by the following favourable variances:

- Net gain income \$0.21 million favourable to budget due to disposal of council fleet vehicles, which were not budgeted
- Operating grant income \$0.63 million favourable to budget, mostly due to additional grants being received for Vic Roads maintenance program and COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery
- Other expenses \$0.76 million favourable to budget predominantly due to lower than anticipated utility costs as a result of lower than usual usage of council assets during the State Government COVID-19 imposed restrictions
- Rates income \$1.26 million favourable due to supplementary rate income being higher than anticipated.



Council's forecast full year operating surplus of \$144.72 million is expected to be (\$1.73 million) unfavourable to the Adopted Budget. Key variances contributing to this unfavourable variance to budget include:

- Depreciation (\$2.1 million) unfavourable to forecast as a result of revaluations and significant gifted assets being recognised after the budget was adopted, and therefore not factored into depreciation budget
- User fees (\$1.69 million) unfavourable to budget primarily due to a reduction in fees for leisure and community facilities as a result of COVID-19 closures and food safety registrations renewals reduced by 50% as per Council resolution
- Employee costs (\$1.63 million) unfavourable to budget largely due to additional staff resources added during the year to ensure service delivery is keeping pace with growth across the municipality. Further, Council has resolved to bring management of the Epping Animal Welfare Facility back in-house. Whilst this decision resulted in additional staff resourcing being required, this cost was more than offset by savings in contract management expenses
- Material and Services (\$1.33 million) unfavourable to budget primarily due to additional costs for software licenses and maintenance cost and unbudgeted contract payment relating to Growling Frog Golf Course. This is partially offset by anticipated savings across the organisation relating to consultancy costs.

These unfavourable variances are partially offset by the following favourable variances:

- Statutory fees and fines \$0.53 million favourable to budget primarily due to animal infringements anticipated to be higher than budget and an increase in income within Building and Planning relating to permit fees
- Operating grant income \$0.97 million favourable to forecast primarily due to additional grants being received from Vic Roads for road maintenance and Jobs Victoria advocates program
- Other income \$1.66 million favourable to forecast primarily due to unbudgeted workcover and insurance reimbursements and unbudgeted profit share relating Growling Frog Golf Course as per agreement in place
- Capital grants \$2.63 million favourable to forecast primarily due to additional and unbudgeted grant received for Whittlesea Public Garden Master Plan, Quarry Hills Priority Links, Shared Path constructions and Mill Park Library outdoor community space.



Financial Position

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	YTD Actual \$'000	2020-21 Actual \$'000	Net Movement \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	97,109	136,818	(39,709)
Trade and other receivables	147,947	30,175	117,772
Other financial assets	115,244	80,000	35,244
Inventories	366	327	39
Other assets	203	1,238	(1,035)
Total current assets	360,869	248,558	112,311
Non-current assets			
Investment in associate	2,911	2,911	0
Other financial assets	22	22	0
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	4,013,468	4,034,260	(20,792)
Intangible assets	770	770	0
Right of use assets	758	830	(72)
Total non-current assets	4,017,930	4,038,793	(20,792)
Total assets	4,378,798	4,287,351	91,519
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	55,112	42,707	12,405
Trust funds and deposits	13,744	16,005	(2,261)
Provisions	20,687	21,622	(935)
Lease liabilities	148	148	(0)
Interest-bearing liabilities	1,528	788	740
Total current liabilities	91,218	81,270	9,948
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	1,715	1,715	(0)
Lease liabilities	687	1,753	(1,066)
Interest-bearing liabilities	13,627	687	12,940
Total non-current liabilities	16,028	4,155	11,873
Total liabilities	107,247	85,425	21,822
Net assets	4,271,552	4,201,926	69,626
Equity			
Accumulated surplus	2,790,599	2,721,657	68,942
Reserves	1,480,953	1,480,269	684
Total equity	4,271,552	4,201,926	69,626



Cash balance

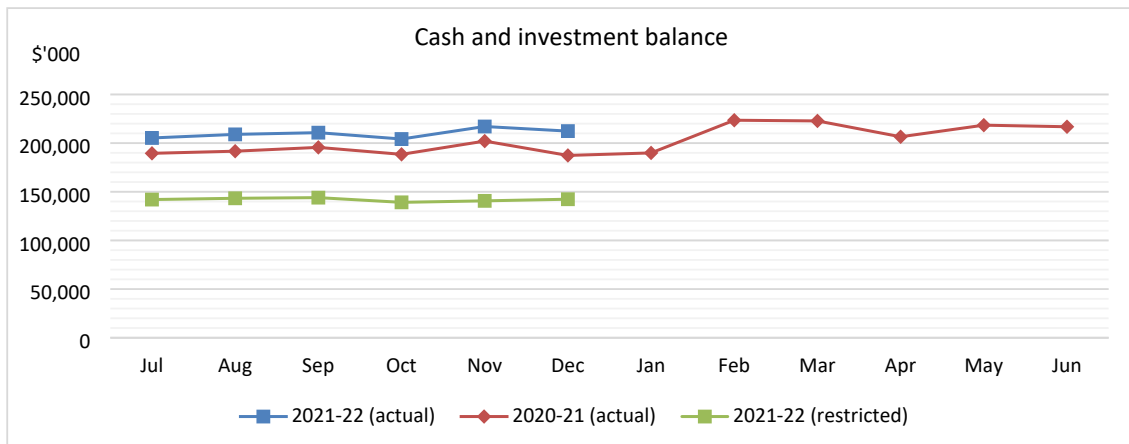
The chart below shows Council’s cash balance year to date for 2021-22 against the cash balance from the 2020-21 and restricted cash. The chart portrays:

- Actual 2021-22 cash balance
- Actual 2020-21 cash balance
- Restricted cash.

Restricted cash includes:

- Trust funds and deposits
- Non-discretionary reserves including developer contributions and subdivision levy (parkland contributions)

The cash and investments balance is currently \$5.15 million favourable to the budgeted year end position. Every opportunity is taken to invest surplus cash to maximise investment returns.



Note: Cash and investments include term deposits with a maturity date exceeding 90 days which are classified as other financial assets in the Balance Sheet.

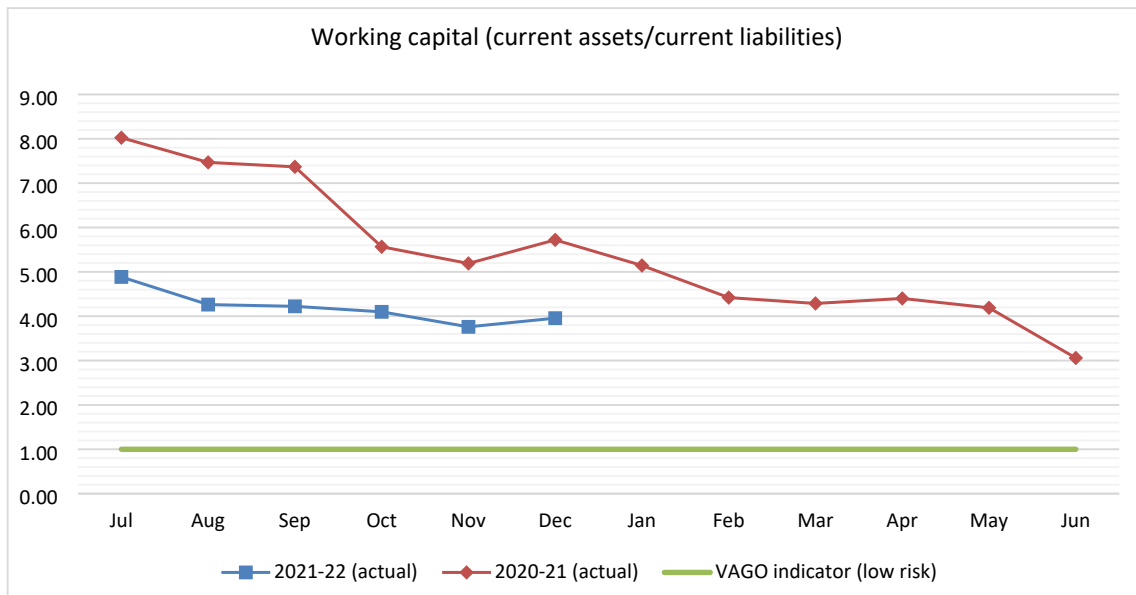


Working capital

The chart portrays:

- Actual 2021-22 working capital
- Actual 2020-21 working capital

Council’s working capital is forecast to remain well above the Victorian Auditor-General’s Office (VAGO) liquidity indicator as shown below.

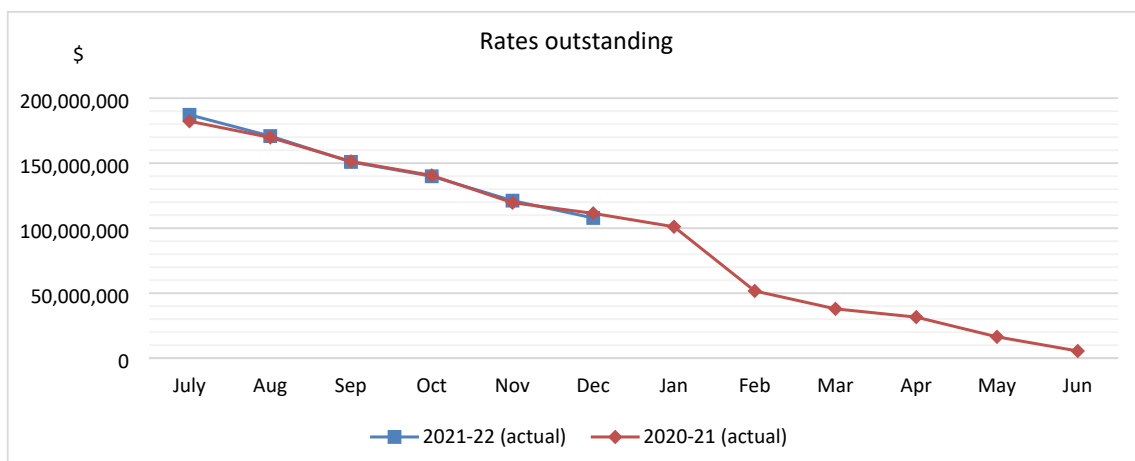
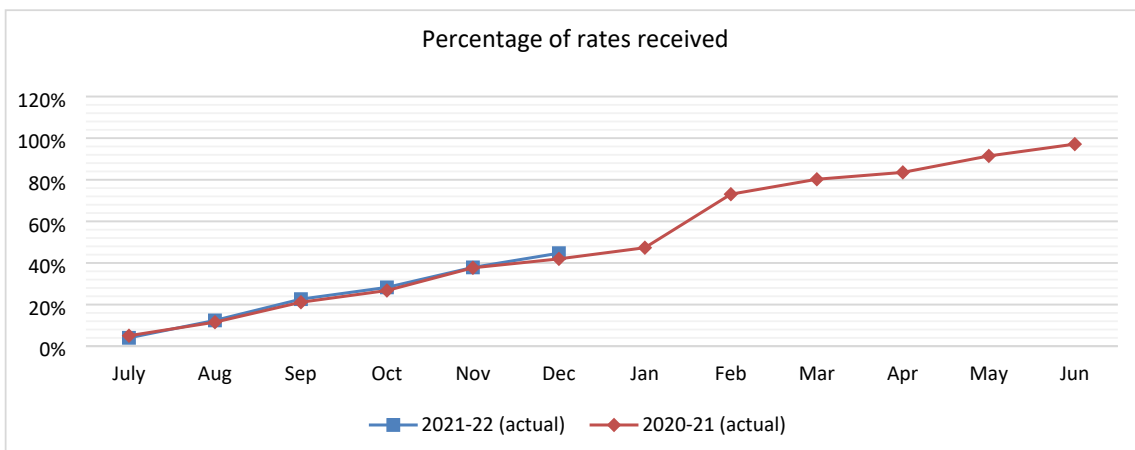




Rates debtors

As at 31 December 2021, \$195.08 million was raised in rates and charges including supplementary valuations that have been generated by changes to Council’s property base. At 31 December 2021, 44.71% of the rates raised have been collected compared to the same period of the 2020–21 financial year of 41.97%.

The following graphs show that current collection trends are slightly below the 2020–21 collection trend.





Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows for the period ended 31 December 2021

	2021-22 Inflows / (Outflows) YTD Actual \$'000	2020-21 Inflows / (Outflows) Actual \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Rates	62,511	165,630
Statutory fees and fines	10,073	15,554
User fees	(903)	1,145
Grants - operating	10,895	33,520
Grants - capital	2,826	11,377
Contributions - Monetary	7,231	19,332
Trust funds and deposits taken	18,500	7,455
Other receipts	3,803	5,403
Interest received	392	1,150
Net GST refund	556	811
Payments to employees	(50,018)	(99,518)
Payments to suppliers	(44,414)	(65,113)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments	(232)	(679)
Trust funds and deposits repaid	(2,904)	(7,554)
Other payments	(7,718)	(15,372)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10,598	73,141
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	(27,805)	(54,334)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	214	759
Payments for investments	(35,244)	50,000
Loans and advances made	-	-
Redemption of deposits	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(62,836)	(3,575)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Finance costs	(85)	(220)
Proceeds from borrowings	13,000	-
Repayment of borrowings	(386)	(6,546)
Interest paid - lease liability	-	(16)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(0)	(255)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	12,528	(7,037)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(39,709)	62,529
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	136,818	74,289
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	97,109	136,818



Capital Works

Statement of Capital Works for the period ended 31 December 2021

	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget	Annual Budget \$'000	Quarter 2 Forecast \$'000
Property						
Land	-	-	-	1,200	1,200	-
Building	5,130	6,670	1,540	14,247	14,531	11,758
Building improvements	1,900	3,608	1,709	7,834	8,614	8,512
Total Property	7,030	10,278	3,248	23,281	24,344	20,270
Plant and equipment						
Plant, machinery & equipment	677	960	283	1,950	1,950	1,862
Fixtures, fittings & furniture	-	76	76	251	251	251
Computers & telecommunications	-	100	100	314	314	314
Total plant and equipment	677	1,136	459	2,515	2,515	2,427
Infrastructure						
Roads	12,421	18,447	6,026	23,777	26,030	24,789
Bridges	-	-	-	100	150	150
Footpaths & cycleways	1,073	1,155	82	2,400	3,034	3,787
Drainage	277	264	(13)	675	704	527
Recreation, leisure & community facilities	1,383	2,407	1,024	4,110	6,207	5,179
Parks, open space & streetscapes	3,921	7,211	3,291	14,080	17,299	13,011
Carparks	413	878	465	1,325	1,368	1,434
Other infrastructure	498	1,589	1,091	4,155	4,334	3,519
Total infrastructure	19,985	31,951	11,965	50,622	59,126	52,396
Total capital works	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093
Represented by:						
New assets	11,131	14,191	3,060	25,146	29,823	25,533
Asset renewal	12,990	21,300	8,310	34,215	35,947	33,420
Asset expansion	94	310	216	550	550	550
Asset upgrade	3,476	7,563	4,087	16,507	19,664	15,590
Total capital works	27,691	43,364	15,673	76,418	85,985	75,093



Reserves

Summary of Reserves as at 31 December 2021

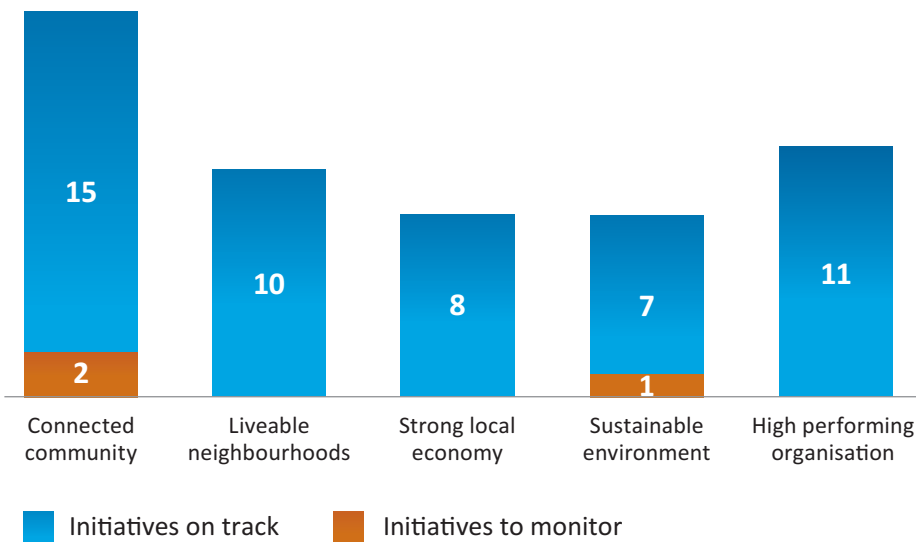
	2020-21 Actual \$'000	Net transfers \$'000	2021-22 YTD Actual \$'000
Discretionary reserves			
LASF defined benefit plan liability	3,739	-	3,739
Native vegetation offset site maintenance (<i>App. 5</i>)	1,241	(47)	1,193
Strategic investment reserve (<i>App. 1</i>)	32,414	-	32,414
Strategic properties reserve (<i>App. 6</i>)	4,878	-	4,878
Synthetic turf replacement reserve	1,880	-	1,880
Technology improvement fund reserve (<i>App. 3</i>)	5,678	-	5,678
Transport Infrastructure reserve	28	-	28
Waste reserve (<i>App. 2</i>)	4,864	-	4,864
	54,723	(47)	54,675
Non-discretionary reserves			
Community Infrastructure Levy	8,445	642	9,086
Developers contributions	92,617	(665)	91,952
Donnybrook Woodstock ICP	3,331	2,569	5,899
Epping Plaza DC	983	2	985
Net gain compensation	3,273	7	3,280
Non standard street lighting contribution	3,528	-	3,528
Parklands contributions (open space)	7,486	(1,908)	5,579
Planning permits drainage (<i>App. 4</i>)	10,024	81	10,105
Plenty Road duplication	67	-	67
Purchase of Lutheran Church and Cemetery	380	-	380
Street tree contributions reserve	458	-	458
Traffic lights construction	783	-	783
	131,376	727	132,103
Total Reserves	186,099	680	186,780
Reconciliation to balance sheet			
Asset revaluation reserve	1,294,173	-	1,294,173
	1,294,173	-	1,294,172
	1,480,269	680	1,480,952

Community Plan 2021–2025

Quarter 2 Performance Snapshot October to December 2021

Key Initiative Status

(as at 31 December 2021)



Highlights

- We provided supplies and support to 2,312 COVID-19 positive residents
- More than 203,094 COVID-19 vaccinations have been administered by Northern Health at the Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre
- More than 200 people attended City of Whittlesea Christmas Carols in December
- Headspace, an early intervention mental health service, is now supporting young people at Westfield Plenty Valley
- More than 50 people attended our Community Leadership Program
- More than 2,300 streetlights have been changed to energy efficient LED lights
- Renewal works at Riverside Reserve Park and Playground are progressing well towards reopening by March 2022
- State Government are funding a business case to duplicate Craigieburn Road East in Wollert to ease traffic
- We launched the Investment Attraction Plan, website, business directory and 'Support local' campaign
- McLeans Road Kindergarten upgraded for reopening in January 2022
- Redeveloped Mill Park Leisure is now fully operational following lockdowns
- Planning applications can now be submitted online
- Community Plan, Budget, Financial Plan and Complaints Policy completed
- We have progressed planning to install another five local recycling drop off points by June 2022

2021-22 Capital Works Program
Project Progress Report - Second Quarter

PHYSICAL PROGRESS LEGEND		
Traffic Light Definitions		
Favourable		Completed
Favourable		Ahead of Schedule
Favourable		On Track
Neutral		Not Yet Commenced
Neutral		Behind Schedule
Unfavourable		Project Not Proceeding
Unfavourable		On-Hold

Carry forward projects from 2020/21

Project Code	Project Name	Actual YTD Expenditure	Budget YTD Expenditure	Variance Expenditure	Annual Budget	Revised Budget Q2	Forecast	Progress	Comments
Bridges									
CW-10274	Boardwalk/ bridges refurbishment	0	0	0	49,930	49,930	49,930		Replacement decking of boardwalks and viewing platforms around Mernda Village Wetlands. Anticipated commencement on site second quarter 2022 pending availability of timber decking material.
CW-10893	21-22 Boardwalk / bridges refurbishment	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	100,000		Replacement decking of boardwalks and viewing platforms around Mernda Village Wetlands. Anticipated commencement on site second quarter 2022 pending availability of timber decking material.
Total Bridges		0	0	0	149,930	149,930	149,930		
Drainage									
CW-10382	Construct Wash Bay - Rural Works Depot, Whittlesea	34,628	13,660	-20,968	354,400	354,400	177,200		Tender for construction has been advertised and scheduled to be awarded in late February 2022. Construction scheduled to commence in early March 2022 and be completed by mid 2022.
CW-10683	WSUD (Water Sensitive Urban Design) Asset Renewal	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	100,000		Consultant to be engaged to undertake a WSUD asset audit
CW-10817	21-22 Drainage improvement works - Various Locations	242,498	250,000	7,502	250,000	250,000	250,000		Works have been completed in various locations in Whittlesea, Eden Park, Lalor, Doreen and South Morang.
Total Drainage		277,125	263,660	-13,465	704,400	704,400	527,200		
Footpaths and Cycleways									
CW-10026	Improve disability access (DDA) to public transport	22,700	69,300	46,600	69,300	69,300	69,300		Hard stand construction has been completed in 3 location on Yea Road, Whittlesea.
CW-10049	Construct shared path - Bruce's Creek reserve - Kinglake Views to Yea Road	618	200,000	199,382	200,000	200,000	200,000		Bruce's Creek Stage 1B shared path construction from Oakbank Boulevard through the Kinglake Views in Whittlesea including furniture, fencing and tree planting. Tender has been awarded with works to commence on site in February 2022
CW-10105	Safe Routes to Schools	-48,300	0	48,300	0	0	0		Works completed.
CW-10165	Construct shared path - McDonalds Road (north side) - Darebin Creek to Civic Dr	0	25,000	25,000	100,000	100,000	10,000		Engineering survey has been received and is currently being reviewed. This years budget is for design only.
CW-10185	Construct shared path - Hendersons Road Drain - Childs Road to Findon Road	159,609	18,000	-141,609	415,197	1,415,197	707,599		Stages 1 & 2 are complete and open for public use. Tenders have been received for Stages 3 & 4. Works are likely to start in February for completion at the end of May 2022
CW-10186	Construct shared path - Park Street - High Street to Darebin Creek	0	0	0	110,000	0	0		Shared path has been completed at south side of Park Street from Dalton Road to High Street.
CW-10187	Construct Shared Paths - Findon Road to Gordons Road South Morang	0	18,000	18,000	387,500	387,500	387,500		Design near completion for construction to commence in March 2022
CW-10237	Construct shared path - High Street - Childs Road to Keon Parade	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000		Design in progress. Public consultation to be carried out in early 2022 as part of wider Thomastown trails package.
CW-10316	Pathways to Stations	23,500	66,828	43,328	66,828	66,828	66,828		Design of High Street Shared Path between Keon Parade and Station Street in progress
CW-10358	Lighting of Shared-User Paths	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	100,000		Consultation with Metro trains regarding a land use agreement for lighting is underway.
CW-10375	Huskisson Reserve Shared Path	386,703	295,123	-91,580	295,123	365,853	365,853		Project completed. Overexpenditure is due to site conditions issues, requiring additional materials to complete the project.
CW-10429	Construct shared path - Edgars Creek Trail - Main Street to Kingsway Drive	0	12,500	12,500	80,000	80,000	40,000		Concept design complete and has been through internal consultation. Will commence community consultation in early 2022 along with High Street shared path.
CW-10454	Construct shared path - Yan Yean Pipe Track - Childs Road to Bush Boulevard	1,000	50,000	49,000	50,000	50,000	0		Design is being finalised. A final round of community consultation on the design will be carried out in February 2022
CW-10455	Construct shared path - Yan Yean Pipe Track - Darebin Creek Trail to Childs Road	203,675	0	-203,675	0	1,000,000	500,000		Road crossings under contraction. Trail links to be constructed in April/May 2022.
CW-10771	Footpath Reconstruction / Renewal	0	0	0	500,000	500,000	500,000		Works are scheduled to commence second half of this Financial Year.
CW-10772	Quarry Hills Priority Links	0	0	0	0	0	0		Tender for design services of the Quarry Hills Trails, rest stops and looks out will be tendered in January 2022. Project delivery will commence in 2022/23
CW-10774	Edgars Creek Trail between Main Street and Thomas Street Reserve	165,929	0	-165,929	0	180,000	180,000		Civil works complete. Landscape seating to be installed in early 2022 and plantings to occur in March 2022.
CW-10797	21-22 Improve disability access (DDA) to public transport	0	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000		Design works are in progress
CW-10822	21-22 Bicycle facilities - provide new on-road & off-road paths	118,715	115,000	-3,715	115,000	115,000	115,000		Henderson creek shared path realignment (Axa Way and Xavier Way) Works are 95% completed.
CW-10833	21-22 Kerb Ramp DDA Upgrades - Kerb Alignment	4,553	0	-4,553	100,000	100,000	100,000		Programming and planning of works has been completed for the construction of DDA kerb ramps with construction expected to commence in the first quarter of 2022.
CW-10858	21-22 Safe Routes to Schools	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000		Construction of footpath link and pedestrian crossing to new school at De Rossi Blvd, Wollert being tendered.
CW-10882	21-22 Missing Footpath Links Program - Various locations	34,456	150,000	115,544	250,000	250,000	250,000		Works have been completed at Bromwich Court to Morang Drive, Mill Park Works awarded for the following locations: Horne Street, Thomastown (Chaffey St - Edgars Rd) Miller Street, Epping (Rufus St - Houston St) Walnut Street, Whittlesea (Arnold St - Forest St) Designs and consultation are in progress for: Stockdale Park, Lalor Laurel Street, Whittlesea Duffy Street Reserve, Epping.
Total Footpaths and Cycleways		1,073,156	1,154,751	81,595	3,033,948	5,174,678	3,787,080		
Off street car parks									
CW-10017	Car Park rehabilitation - various	258,808	192,863	-65,945	192,863	258,807	258,807		Stage 1 works have been completed at Wollert Community Centre.
CW-10516	Construct shared car parking - Edgars Creek (for CAC, ovals and pavilion)	700	5,000	4,300	100,000	100,000	100,000		Project scoping is underway
CW-10699	Mill Park Library Car Park Upgrade (Stage 4)	497	330,000	329,503	725,000	725,000	725,000		Construction contract awarded. Construction works are programmed for April-June 2022.
CW-10767	All Abilities Play Space - Overflow Car Park	152,571	350,000	197,429	350,000	350,000	350,000		Works completed. Long term overflow parking is being investigated
Total Off street car parks		412,575	877,863	465,288	1,367,863	1,433,807	1,433,807		
Other Infrastructure									

2021-22 New Works Program
Project Progress Report - Second Quarter

PHYSICAL PROGRESS LEGEND		
Traffic Light Definitions		
Favourable		Completed
Favourable		Ahead of Schedule
Favourable		On Track
Neutral		Not Yet Commenced
Neutral		Behind Schedule
Unfavourable		Project Not Proceeding
Unfavourable		On-Hold

Carry forward projects from 2020/21

Project Code	Project Name	Actual YTD Expenditure	Budget YTD Expenditure	Variance Expenditure	Annual Budget	Revised Budget Q2	Forecast	Progress	Comments
CW-10230	SIP - Street Light bulk replacement program	33,143	860,000	826,857	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000		An additional 2,300 street lights have been changed to energy efficient LED in the latest round of the street light upgrade program, resulting in substantial savings to Council in electricity consumption and therefore the cos of electricity cost and also the annual AusNet charges for the operation, maintenance and replacement of the street lights.
CW-10317	Traffic Management Around Schools	160,332	178,991	18,659	178,991	178,991	178,991		Works completed.
CW-10325	Review of security measures at Council sites	29,031	40,000	10,969	202,107	202,107	101,054		Minor electrical upgrades were completed to replace existing exterior building lights with energy efficient LED lights. Works have been placed on hold as the risk to interruption to PRACC (COVID-19 Vaccination Centre) was assessed as too high as works involved excavation near existing electrical and communications cables for PRACC.
CW-10471	Aboriginal Gathering Place	93,587	110,000	16,413	250,000	250,000	250,000		Feasibility study complete. Tender for Design Consultant for proposed new works to be engaged Jan-Feb 2022.
CW-10669	Mernda Sports Hub Utility Provision	0	100,000	100,000	500,000	500,000	100,000		Business Case being developed.
CW-10676	Heritage Bus Shelter Replacement Program	0	50,000	50,000	100,000	0	0		Project scoping has identified similarities with CW-10812 Bus Shelter Replacement Program - it is proposed to discontinue the Heritage Bus Shelter Replacement Program
CW-10689	Public Lighting in Local Streets	29,230	80,000	50,770	100,000	100,000	100,000		Church St/Lime Street (pedestrian crossing) lighting works are complete.
CW-10708	Epping Depot Rainwater Harvesting Project	17,425	35,000	17,575	250,000	250,000	250,000		Works include installation of rainwater tanks at the workshop and administration building to harvest roof runoff and reuse harvested water for truck wash-down, nursery irrigation and toilet flushing at the administration building. Detailed design plans have completed. The expected commencement of works is early March 2022.
CW-10709	Install Smart City Water Devices	10,514	0	-10,514	60,000	60,000	60,000		Sensor hardware components have been delivered. Arrangements are being made with Whittlesea Tech School to construct 7 water quality sensors in January 2022 in preparation for deployment in the field in February 2022
CW-10867	21-22 Planning and Feasibility Studies for Future Projects	107,814	175,000	67,186	750,000	750,000	750,000		Investigations and site assessment works such as building condition audits, feature and level surveys, geotechnical assessments, site assessment and concept planning work underway.
CW-10898	21-22 Traffic Management Around Schools	13,000	0	-13,000	395,000	395,000	50,000		Detailed design for Arthur Phillip Way and Pindari Avenue roundabout is in progress. Expecting to commence construction in March 2022
CW-10906	21-22 Water Efficiency Program	6,600	0	-6,600	250,000	250,000	250,000		Design for Whittlesea Depot rainwater harvesting and reuse system is complete and construction tender has been advertised. Construction scheduled to commence in early March 2022.
CW-10998	Duffy Street Works Storage Depot	25,930	0	-25,930	0	30,000	30,000		Site investigation is underway and a design consultant being engaged.
Total Other infrastructure		526,606	1,628,991	1,102,385	4,536,098	4,466,098	3,620,045		

Parks, open space and streetscapes

CW-10005	Renewal of playgrounds and general landscape improvements	471,218	280,000	-191,218	456,841	456,841	456,841		Construction of Darebin Creek Parklands Playground in Epping is complete and open to the public.
CW-10020	Whittlesea Public Gardens Master Plan	49,754	1,500,000	1,450,246	3,791,906	3,791,906	1,895,953		Commencement of Construction works has been impacted by the COVID restrictions in October. Town Planning application for Downs Road has been submitted for planning consideration. CHMP evaluation by the RAP required additional amendments by the consultant and was approved by the RAP in late December. Site Induction is being arranged with the RAP and works Contractor. Toilet block design has been updated. On site construction works were to commence late December but have been re-scheduled to after the Christmas/new year shutdown period.
CW-10021	Granite Hills Major Community Park Implementation	24,452	260,000	235,548	2,306,094	2,306,094	306,094		A concept design was developed for a major community park and playspace at Granite Hills Park, located within Quarry Hills Parklands. This concept was exhibited to the community over August- September for feedback. The community consultation period has closed and feedback has been evaluated. The design will now be updated with the feedback from the community. It is anticipated that the project will commence construction late 2022.
CW-10182	Epping Recreation Reserve Master Plan	26,546	20,000	-6,546	899,010	899,010	899,010		Stage 1 of the car park has been issued for public tender. Construction contract to be awarded January 2022 with works scheduled to commence March 2022.
CW-10207	Streetscape improvements program - Lalor High Street Shops	611,997	736,714	124,717	1,011,757	1,011,757	1,011,757		Stage 2 and Stage 3 works are now completed.
CW-10211	Streetscape improvements program - Thomastown High Street Shops	547,071	641,946	94,875	794,713	794,713	794,713		Stage 1 and Stage 2 works are now completed.
CW-10235	Huskisson Reserve - Master Plan - Tennis Facility	0	0	0	400,000	400,000	0		Planning and feasibility underway including Business Case preparation
CW-10246	Redleap Reserve Master Plan Development and Implementation	54,018	50,000	-4,018	245,740	245,740	245,740		The design for a new municipal level playspace and picnic area at Redleap Recreation Reserve are complete and construction works have been tendered. Works are to be awarded at Council meeting in January 2022 and are scheduled to commence in February.
CW-10318	Jardier Park playground, South Morang	49,894	55,000	5,106	55,000	55,000	55,000		Construction complete. Park and playground are open to the public
CW-10349	Mernda Village Adventure Playground Upgrade	174,011	550,000	375,989	879,116	1,029,116	823,293		Redevelopment and revitalisation of play space (including surrounding infrastructure) and construction of public amenity building at Mernda Adventure Park. Contract has been awarded for design and construction of play space revitalisation. Works are to commence on site on the 17th January to maintain access to the park over the Christmas break. Anticipated completion of works in play space is May 2022. Public amenity building works are complete and were opened to public mid-December. Landscape works to surrounds of toilet block are to be undertaken in early 2022.
CW-10359	Norris Bank Reserve - West Park Precinct	4,580	30,000	25,420	553,372	553,372	276,686		A design for the upgrade of the western precinct at Norris Bank Reserve is currently being undertaken. This upgrade will create a space which caters to youth and will include an upgraded basketball court, social gathering spaces, informal stage and performance area, events spaces and opportunities for art projects.
CW-10368	Riverside Reserve Park and Playground Renewal	369,677	720,000	350,323	729,046	729,046	729,046		A major upgrade to Riverside Reserve is currently being undertaken. The upgrade includes a new playspace with flying fox, secondary picnic shelter and BBQ, upgraded basketball half court and outdoor fitness equipment. Construction is programmed to complete by the end of March 2022.

2021-22 New Works Program
Project Progress Report - Second Quarter

PHYSICAL PROGRESS LEGEND		
Traffic Light Definitions		
Favourable		Completed
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Carry forward projects from 2020/21

Project Code	Project Name	Actual YTD Expenditure	Budget YTD Expenditure	Variance Expenditure	Annual Budget	Revised Budget Q2	Forecast	Progress	Comments
CW-10371	Bellavista Park Upgrade, Wollert	77,845	91,935	14,090	91,935	91,935	91,935		Works completed. Park and playground open to the public.
CW-10380	CAP - Rochdale Square, Town Centre Improvement	429,762	577,932	148,170	577,932	577,932	577,932		Rochdale Square and Park are now complete and open to the public.
CW-10400	Upgrade open space - Implement WA Smith and Sycamore Reserve Masterplan	13,850	60,000	46,150	80,000	80,000	64,000		Delays are expected due to COVID-19 and resourcing limitations affecting active projects, with a cascading effect on projects yet to commence.
CW-10458	Streetscape Improvements - Gorge Road Shopping Precinct	1,326	0	-1,326	80,000	80,000	80,000		Early stages of project is underway with background information gathering and project planning.
CW-10690	Laurimar Reserve West Oval Upgrade	375,438	830,000	454,562	900,000	1,255,916	1,255,916		Works have been delayed since commencing on 6 Oct 2021 due to heavy rains and wet site conditions. Works are now progressing well, turf installation scheduled for 3rd week of Jan 2022 which is approx. 4 weeks later than planned.
CW-10698	CAP - Streets for people - Study and Implementation of LATM areas 26 and 32 in Mill Park and LATM 09 in Thomastown	12,100	60,000	47,900	500,000	500,000	350,000		Traffic Calming Devices in Prince Of Wales Ave, Romeo Way, Manning Clarke Rd, The Fred Hollows Way. Design works are currently underway and are expected to be completed early March 2022.
CW-10702	Whittlesea Park Master Plan, Whittlesea Township	18,150	19,000	850	50,000	50,000	50,000		A master plan is being prepared to address the issue of aged infrastructure and the suitability for a regional level playspace. Initial site analysis and stakeholder meetings are underway and a landscape architectural consultant has been engaged.
CW-10703	Rochdale Square and Stockade Park Public Lighting, Lalor	39,050	38,000	-1,050	38,000	138,000	138,000		In ground service and light pole installations have been completed. Landscape works to be completed in January.
CW-10706	Asset Expansion - Laurimar Recreation Reserve	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	30,000		Project scope is being reviewed.
CW-10707	Peter Hopper Lake renewal and upgrade	13,655	40,000	26,345	200,000	200,000	100,000		Specialist consultancy services to be engaged to not only advise on water quality improvement, but also on amenity and ecological impacts any of the feasible rectification options may be associated with. Tender and engagement in early 2022, with the expectation to arrive at three (3) feasible intervention options to decide on design advancement by EOFY.
CW-10711	Raingarden Upgrades in Epping North	22,844	32,535	9,691	32,535	32,535	32,535		Project complete.
CW-10726	Asset Renewal Carlingford Wetlands	816	10,000	9,184	50,000	50,000	50,000		Safety fencing installed around sedimentation ponds. There is still significant litter within the waterbodies at the park. The litter will be cleaned up as soon as COVID restrictions ease. A Request for Quotation is in progress so that a contractor can be engaged to prepared a detailed design for Carlingford Park water assets. The RFQ will close in January 2022.
CW-10728	Kelynack Reserve Master Plan Implementation	4,690	50,000	45,310	150,000	150,000	150,000		A consultant Landscape Architect has been engaged to prepare the detailed design for the playground and gathering space redevelopment within the reserve.
CW-10756	Epping North Conservation Reserve - historic wall reconstruction	0	35,708	35,708	35,708	35,708	35,708		Project involves the reconstruction of an historic stone wall. Works scheduled for March 2022.
CW-10758	Landscape and Street Tree Planting Works at Woodcrest Estate, Wollert	444,274	0	-444,274	0	0	0		Works in progress and nearing completion
CW-10759	Landscape and Street Tree Planting Works at College Crest and Glencrest Estate, Doreen	47,987	0	-47,987	0	0	0		Works for College Crest Estate and Glencrest Estate have been completed.
CW-10768	Main Roads and High Profile Streetscapes Planting Program	18,135	0	-18,135	300,000	300,000	300,000		This project will focus on renewal and infill planting opportunities along major roads and high profile streets. Some projects have been identified in the 10 year planting priorities plan. Other projects aim to partner with road renewal projects.
CW-10769	Parks Tree and Major Facilities Planting Program	0	0	0	350,000	350,000	350,000		10 year planting priorities plan finalised which will inform priority sites for future projects. Delivery expected during Q3 - Q4.
CW-10770	Conservation Reserves Tree Planting Program	4,520	40,000	35,480	100,000	100,000	100,000		Planting works scheduled to commence in Autumn/Winter 2022.
CW-10792	21-22 Renewal of playgrounds and general landscape improvements	9,341	500,000	490,659	1,450,000	1,450,000	1,450,000		Narina Way Park - In detail design phase Winamurra Park - In concept design Symon Park - to be tendered in January 2022 Fir Street - Tender evaluation underway Chantal Park - In concept design
CW-10812	21-22 Installation bus shelters - Various Locations	9,600	23,000	13,400	23,000	23,000	23,000		3 shelters have been refurbished and reinstalled. A shelter condition assessment is currently being undertaken.
CW-10877	21-22 Vehicle Exclusion Fencing	13,015	0	-13,015	100,000	100,000	100,000		Works completed at Rockbank Court/Quarry Hills interface to prevent unauthorised trail bike access into Conservation reserve. Internal Fencing to be upgraded in Epping recreation reserve in line with endorsed master plan and recommendations. Upgrade of perimeter vehicle exclusion fencing at Red Oak park to be scoped and tendered in early 2022
CW-10925	CAP - 21-22 Residential Street Tree Renewal Planting Program	8,685	12,000	3,315	450,000	450,000	450,000		Street tree selection survey has closed with results finalised. Letter to be issued to residents mid-January 2022 to advise of outcome. Street trees have been procured. Street tree removals will commence March 2022 with installations planned for April/May 2022
CW-10935	Irrigation Network Improvements - Main Street Recreation Reserve	7,150	40,000	32,850	120,000	120,000	120,000		Works will involve an upgrade to existing water supply assets at Main St Reserve, excluding irrigation assets on the sports fields. Investigations complete, detailed design and tender documentation in progress. Works to be undertaken Feb to Apr 2022.
Total Parks, open space and streetscapes		3,955,453	7,303,770	3,348,317	17,831,705	18,437,621	13,393,159		
Recreational, leisure and community facilities									
CW-10000	Implement Sportsfield Strategy - Sportsfield Upgrades	369,676	1,100,000	730,324	1,767,382	1,557,382	1,557,382		Synthetic pitch redevelopment works at HR Uren Recreation ongoing. Earthworks and demolition complete, capping installation has commenced and will be completed before end of December. Synthetic Grass material, shock pad and rubber infill will arrive in port in late January/early February for delivery to site. Anticipated project completion including testing and certification is April 2022. Design works for sandy loam ground redevelopment at Redleap Recreation Reserve (including new sports lighting infrastructure) to be undertaken in early 2022 for tender in April/May 2022 (award anticipated at August 2022 council meeting).
CW-10076	Cricket Practice Net Upgrade (various locations)	194,989	190,000	-4,989	293,424	293,424	293,424		Cricket net upgrades at Epping Recreation Reserve are completed.
CW-10078	Redevelop Mill Park Leisure Centre	157,713	100,000	-57,713	525,576	525,576	525,576		The Project is complete.

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PHYSICAL PROGRESS LEGEND		
Traffic Light Definitions		
Favourable		Completed
Favourable		Ahead of Schedule
Favourable		On Track
Neutral		Not Yet Commenced
Neutral		Behind Schedule
Unfavourable		Project Not Proceeding
Unfavourable		On-Hold

Carry forward projects from 2020/21

Project Code	Project Name	Actual YTD Expenditure	Budget YTD Expenditure	Variance Expenditure	Annual Budget	Revised Budget Q2	Forecast	Progress	Comments
CW-10084	Growing Frog Golf Course - course improvement works	0	0	0	20,000	20,000	20,000		Project scoping underway. Works to commence in March 2022
CW-10093	Establishment of additional dog off leash areas - Various Locations	387,821	0	-387,821	428,410	428,410	428,410		Upgrades to Creek Park in Mernda and Lyndarum Dog Park in Epping North are complete and open to the public. Upgrades included improvements to surface conditions, additional park furniture (including shelters, drink fountains and seating), additional garden beds and a quiet dog zone.
CW-10367	Mernda Recreation Reserve (Schotter's Road) site upgrades	35,238	200,000	164,762	200,000	200,000	200,000		Construction 99% complete. Ready for operation mid January.
CW-10370	Sporting Infrastructure Major improvement works - Sport Club Contribution Policy	0	37,000	37,000	62,000	62,000	62,000		Project proposals have been received are currently being evaluated.
CW-10386	Whittlesea Community Skate Park Activation	50,912	558,000	507,088	937,438	937,438	937,438		A design for Whittlesea Skate park had been developed with the feedback from the community consultation. The upgrade to the skate park include a new street style section and expanded transitional section, secondary shelter and asphalt pump track. The works have commenced but experienced further delays due to wet weather and the soil holding a high moisture content, making it unsuitable for compaction.
CW-10465	Construct Tennis Courts at Edgars Creek Community Reserve – Steen Ave Wollert	0	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000		Business case is in progress.
CW-10686	Harvest Home Road Recreation Reserve Upgrade	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	50,000		Project scoping underway with project sponsor and key stakeholders.
CW-10715	Hazel Glen College Outdoor Netball Courts	0	30,000	30,000	535,000	535,000	50,000		Detailed design in progress, inclusive of the roof structure and modified lighting.
CW-10716	Epping Recreation Reserve Outdoor Netball Courts	0	10,000	10,000	60,000	60,000	60,000		Project scope on hold., if progressing it will be design only in 2021/22.
CW-10717	Whittlesea Showgrounds Outdoor Netball Courts	0	10,000	10,000	60,000	60,000	60,000		Project scope on hold, if progressing it will be design only in 2021/22.
CW-10844	21-22 Upgrade Coaches Boxes - Various Locations	0	0	0	20,000	0	0		Boxes to be installed at Laurimar Reserve west oval as part of sports field upgrade. Works in progress
CW-10856	21-22 Establishment of additional dog off leash areas - Various Locations	21,596	0	-21,596	300,000	300,000	240,000		Whittlesea Public Gardens Dog off Leash area project initiation has commenced, with delays in preliminary concepts due to the recent COVID-19 restrictions and resourcing limitations affecting active projects, with a cascading effect on projects in early stages.
CW-10863	21-22 Cricket Wickets Upgrade (various locations)	46,548	65,000	18,452	65,000	72,600	72,600		Works comprise a new cricket wicket at Lalor Reserve, new wicket cover storage compounds at Lalor Reserve and AF Walker Reserve, and new wicket cover / spindle / storage rack at Laurimar Reserve west oval. All works complete and new cricket wicket at Lalor Reserve schedule for training use on 2/12/2021 followed by ongoing matches
CW-10888	21-22 Sports Ground Lighting Upgrade - Various Sites	3,510	50,000	46,490	250,000	250,000	250,000		Contract has been awarded for lighting upgrade works at Laurimar Recreation Reserve on the East Oval. Lighting will be upgraded to 100LUX LED lighting infrastructure with capacity to operate lights at 50LUX for training purposes. Commencement on site late 2021 for completion by April 2022
CW-10902	21-22 Public Toilet Amenity Plan Implementation	92,190	24,285	-67,905	500,000	290,000	290,000		Detailed design plans have been signed off. An application for a planning permit application has been lodged for demolition of the existing toilets and construction of a new two cubicle automated, self-cleaning accessible public toilet facility under a Heritage Overlay at Whittlesea Courthouse site (74 Church Street, Whittlesea).
Total Recreational, leisure and community facilities		1,360,192	2,374,285	1,014,093	6,174,230	5,741,830	5,146,830		
Roads									
CW-10054	CAP - SIP - Construct Findon Road extension - Williamsons Road to Danaher Drive	2,253,432	2,212,000	-41,432	3,296,511	3,296,511	3,296,511		Works are substantially complete with the exception of traffic signal works at the intersection of Findon Road and Williamsons Road. These works are expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022.
CW-10094	Construct road - Lehmans Road - Epping Road to E6 extension (Bindts Road)	0	0	0	500,000	500,000	500,000		Developer to construct this section of road. Timing of works to be confirmed. Council to provide a contribution to these works.
CW-10097	Signalise intersection - Plenty Rd and Everton Gardens (Mernda Sports)	8,586	25,000	16,415	202,213	202,213	8,586		Design completed for 3 leg intersection.
CW-10192	Signalise intersection - Ferres Blvd/Findon Rd	-84,764	0	84,764	0	0	0		Project complete.
CW-10194	Pedestrian Operated Signals - Civic Drive and Bush Boulevard	5,600	45,000	39,400	350,000	350,000	350,000		Bush Boulevard Pedestrian Operated Signals to be tendered in January 2022
CW-10195	Signalise intersection - Sackville Street and Bridge Inn Road Intersection	3,306	750,000	746,694	1,000,000	1,000,000	750,000		Commencement of works delayed to allow PTV to test run a new bus route. Construction works are scheduled to commence mid-January and be completed in March.
CW-10360	Station Road upgrade between car park and Plenty Road. Mernda	1,970	25,000	23,030	350,000	350,000	175,000		Civil design and construction tender completed. Awaiting lighting design approval from power authority. Expecting to commence construction in February 2022.
CW-10362	Edgars Road and Eaststone Avenue Traffic Signal Completion and Switch On	500	0	-500	0	0	0		Awaiting delivery of controller to site to enable activation.
CW-10384	Reconstruction of Arthurs Creek Road	266,058	1,800,000	1,533,942	2,067,982	2,067,982	2,067,982		The construction works 25% completed - from the bridge to Recreation Road. No construction activity during the festive season and road has been re-open. Construction will re-commence on 10 January 22. Expect completion by end of April.
CW-10645	SIP - Bridge Inn Road/ Cravens Road/ Galloway Drive traffic signal remodel	8,285	14,952	6,667	14,952	14,952	14,952		Works to the traffic signal phasing changes from a partially controlled right turn signal to a fully controlled right turn signal have been completed.
CW-10646	SIP - Findon Road Pedestrian Operated Signals west of Maserati Drive	232,204	243,285	11,081	243,285	243,285	243,285		Traffic signals have been installed, waiting on AGL to connect power, controller box to be supplied and installed by DoT. Resurfacing and line marking to be completed after power and traffic controller box is installed.
CW-10647	Lyndarum/Manor House/Greenfields roundabout upgrade	21,761	31,600	9,839	31,600	31,600	31,600		Project complete.
CW-10685	21-22 Kerb and Open Drainage Upgrade Program	0	0	0	250,000	250,000	250,000		Identified locations are being reviewed and scoped.
CW-10688	Intersection Signalisation - Rockfield Street and Edgars Road, Epping	51,084	675,000	623,916	675,000	675,000	675,000		Design complete. Works on track to commence in March 2022
CW-10697	Masons Road Traffic Management	231,678	300,000	68,322	450,000	450,000	450,000		Raised Pavements have been installed. Culvert works completed. Next stage of roadside hazard protection will be undertaken in February 2022.
CW-10701	Baltrum Drive Extension	0	100,000	100,000	300,000	0	0		Project has been postponed.
CW-10713	Koukoura Drive - construct slip lane	0	50,000	50,000	300,000	0	0		Project no longer proceeding

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PHYSICAL PROGRESS LEGEND		
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Carry forward projects from 2020/21

Project Code	Project Name	Actual YTD Expenditure	Budget YTD Expenditure	Variance Expenditure	Annual Budget	Revised Budget Q2	Forecast	Progress	Comments
CW-10730	Road safety treatments - Manor House Drive, Epping (between Lyndarum Dr & O'Herns Rd)	6,348	65,348	59,000	65,348	65,348	65,348		Works have been completed.
CW-10782	21-22 Local Road Resurfacing Works	8,006,817	6,750,000	-1,256,817	7,750,000	7,750,000	7,750,000		Resurfacing works are progressing well and the program of works for this year is on track for completion by 30 June 2022.
CW-10787	21-22 Local Road Reconstruction / Rehabilitation	1,350,873	5,200,000	3,849,127	7,128,000	7,128,000	7,128,000		Local road reconstruction/rehabilitation works are progressing well and the program of works for this year is on track for completion by 30 June 2022.
CW-10802	21-22 Traffic control devices - un-programmed works	9,877	100,000	90,123	240,000	240,000	240,000		Rosemary Drive, Epping - Design for raised pavements complete. Community consultation to be completed prior to construction.
CW-10807	21-22 Collector Road traffic management - Various locations	3,700	0	-3,700	165,000	165,000	165,000		Community consultation is progress for proposed Barry Road traffic calming devices
CW-10828	21-22 Upgrade disabled parking bays to DDA requirements - Various locations	0	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000		Detail design is in progress.
CW-10839	21-22 Roadside hazard protection	30,835	0	-30,835	100,000	100,000	100,000		Masons Road Stage 2 works completed. Summerhill Road near Merri Creek Bridge to be undertaken in March 2022
CW-10945	Black Spot - Redleap Avenue, Mill Park	1,000	0	-1,000	0	127,680	127,680		Concept Design completed and community consultation is in progress
Total Roads		12,409,149	18,387,185	5,978,036	25,529,891	25,057,571	24,438,944		
Computers and telecommunications									
CW-10941	IT - Hardware	0	100,000	100,000	213,500	213,500	213,500		Project scope and plan being developed including: - Asset Register Accuracy - Agreed lifecycle for all device types - Device Types include (laptop, Mobile, iPad, Tablets, Monitors, Docking Stations) Process to be defined and approved.
CW-10942	IT - A0 Plotters / Scanners and IM Scanner	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	100,000		Replacement plotter has not yet been sourced.
Total Computers and telecommunications		0	100,000	100,000	313,500	313,500	313,500		
Fixtures, fittings and furniture									
CW-10011	Acquisition of Visual Art - Civic Centre	0	1,000	1,000	10,000	10,000	10,000		Research is underway and some potential acquisitions have been identified in keeping with Council's visual art and civic history acquisitions guidelines.
CW-10018	Furniture and fittings for halls and CACs - Various Locations	83	50,000	49,917	180,000	180,000	180,000		Due to Covid restrictions, furniture purchases have been placed on hold while community centres have been closed and supply delays. Orders will be placed in the coming months for furniture items at Spring St Hall, Mill Park Community Centre, Epping Memorial Hall.
CW-10944	Design and Delivery of Public Art (Murals)	0	25,000	25,000	61,000	61,000	61,000		Two murals have been commissioned and are underway for installation at Mernda Villages Social Support Centre and at Carrington Children's Centre, Thomastown. Sites are being investigated for a "Paint the Town Mural Project" that will result in approximately six murals across the municipality to be delivered by the end of Feb 2022, provided State Government funding is approved for the project.
Total Fixtures, fittings and furniture		83	76,000	75,917	251,000	251,000	251,000		
Plant, machinery and equipment									
CW-10003	Replacement of Council Fleet - Ongoing Program	564,312	850,000	285,688	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000		Ongoing program for the replacement of existing fleet items.
CW-10004	Furniture and equipment purchases	0	10,000	10,000	50,000	50,000	50,000		Ongoing program for the purchase of furniture and equipment to address OHS requirements.
CW-10143	Implementation of Signage Management Plan - Various	112,341	100,000	-12,341	200,000	200,000	112,341		50% of this years program has been delivered. Balance to be fabricated and installed in the coming months.
Total Plant, machinery and equipment		676,652	960,000	283,348	1,950,000	1,950,000	1,862,341		
Building improvements									
CW-10117	Civic Precinct - HVAC and Refurbishment	-1,040	0	1,040	0	0	0		Reimbursement of electrical meter validation
CW-10137	Energy Efficiency Program - Various	216,113	240,000	23,887	810,000	810,000	810,000		The new solar PV / Battery contract to begin in the new year with an additional 155 kW of solar PV and 200 kWh of battery storage installed at 9 council facilities, substantially reducing the cost of electricity for the community groups using the facilities.
CW-10138	Refurbish building - Whittlesea Aquatic Facility	12,455	4,228	-8,227	4,228	4,228	4,228		Pool Hoist (balance of Stage 2 works) to be installed by June 2022, post current 2021-2022 season.
CW-10208	CAP - Upgrade building - McLeans Road Kindergarten	1,068,606	1,899,000	830,394	2,794,000	2,794,000	2,794,000		Building works complete and planned for opening end of January 2022.
CW-10283	Upgrade building - Stables Kindergarten	0	25,000	25,000	250,000	250,000	250,000		Project on hold while awaiting final approval of the Kindergarten Infrastructure Service Plan (KISP).
CW-10312	Vasey Park Preschool - additional room	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	100,000		Project on hold while awaiting final approval of the Kindergarten Infrastructure Service Plan (KISP).
CW-10333	Mill Park Library - New Outdoor Community Space Project (Stage 3)	485,156	613,203	128,047	703,203	703,203	703,203		Forecourt Upgrade Works complete and open to the public, outdoor Learning Area & Public Realm scheduled for completion by early January.
CW-10364	Refurbishment and recommissioning of Laurel St modular facility	0	42,000	42,000	500,000	500,000	500,000		Project on hold while awaiting final approval of the Kindergarten Infrastructure Service Plan (KISP).
CW-10365	Epping Soccer Stadium - Essential BCA upgrade	19,314	5,000	-14,314	200,000	200,000	200,000		Detailed Design complete. Construction is scheduled to commence in early March 2022.
CW-10872	21-22 Planned renewal - Minor works	21,030	500,000	478,970	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000		A program of work is currently being finalised following a condition assessment of all buildings.
CW-10910	21-22 Minor Improvements Program	19,525	100,000	80,475	300,000	300,000	300,000		A program of work is currently being finalised following a condition assessment of all buildings.
CW-10920	21-22 Disability Action Plan - Ongoing Program	20,317	99,999	79,682	300,000	300,000	300,000		The action plan package template is prepared for the facilities on the priority list. In order to continue the works on this project, site inspections are required to do detailed check measures and assessments and due to the current COVID situation, continuing the works is not feasible at this stage.
CW-10940	Office Refurbishment and Alterations	9,215	40,000	30,785	150,000	150,000	150,000		Ongoing program involving improvements to offices to provide greater flexibility and occupational functionality.
Total Building Improvement		1,870,691	3,568,430	1,697,740	8,411,431	8,411,431	8,411,431		
Buildings									
CW-10063	Mernda Sports Hub - Mernda Recreation and Leisure Centre	17,955	100,000	82,045	624,390	624,390	312,195		Business Case being developed.

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Traffic Light Definitions		
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Carry forward projects from 2020/21

Project Code	Project Name	Actual YTD Expenditure	Budget YTD Expenditure	Variance Expenditure	Annual Budget	Revised Budget Q2	Forecast	Progress	Comments
CW-10065	Construct Social Support Services Facility - Mernda Villages CAC (DPC)	276,206	957,547	681,341	2,292,122	2,502,123	2,502,123		Construction works are progressing well. Foundation works are 80% complete and are anticipated for completion early 2022. The project completion date of late August 2022 is on track.
CW-10067	Construct Community Centre (Wollert East) - west of Epping Road	3,656,828	3,700,000	43,172	4,292,893	4,292,893	4,292,893		Works complete and use of new facility (MCH, Kindergarten, Community Hall) to commence in January 2022 once all equipment/furniture installed and required licencing approval (kindergarten) received.
CW-10071	Construct AFL/Tennis/Cricket Pavilion - Edgars Creek	0	30,000	30,000	150,000	150,000	150,000		Business case is in progress.
CW-10135	Upgrade pavilion - HR Uren Reserve	37,137	81,953	44,816	1,920,014	1,920,014	500,000		The project is progressing well. The design phase is 100% complete. It is anticipated that the Tender and Award for construction will be completed by late January 2022.
CW-10308	CAP - Mill Park Basketball Stadium Redevelopment	855,729	1,060,000	204,271	3,026,724	3,026,724	2,724,052		Roof complete, brickwork underway. Internal walls complete, rough in of services. Project on track.
CW-10323	Mernda Town Centre - Community Facility	0	35,000	35,000	176,565	176,565	176,565		Planning has commenced for initial activation of Council services at Mernda Town Centre from 2024.
CW-10343	Construct Community Activity Centre - Patterson Drive, Donnybrook	15,203	100,000	84,798	648,000	648,000	100,000		Preliminary Design and site investigation is underway and Tender for Detail Design is scheduled to be advertised by Jan 2022.
CW-10571	Repairs to Epping Memorial Hall.	155,399	320,000	164,601	500,000	500,000	500,000		Structural Repair Works are complete and operation of rear hall scheduled to commence in early 2022.
CW-10649	Mernda Sports Hub - Indoor Sports Stadium	0	60,000	60,000	400,000	400,000	0		Business Case currently being developed
CW-10914	21-22 Detailed Design Preparedness	115,321	225,000	109,679	500,000	500,000	500,000		Designs underway for multiple new projects/sites for future funding.
Total Buildings		5,129,777	6,669,500	1,539,722	14,530,708	14,740,709	11,757,828		
Land									
CW-10385	Mernda Sports Hub- Acquire land Plenty Road/Everton Drive intersection	0	0	0	1,200,000	0	0		Preliminary design for the intersection has been completed to inform land acquisition requirements.
Total Land		0	0	0	1,200,000	0	0		
Total New Works Program		27,691,460	43,364,435	15,672,975	85,984,704	86,832,575	75,093,092		

2021-22 Capital Works Infrastructure Program Second Quarter Applications Status Update

Applications Submitted

Round / Year	Grant ID	Candidate Projects	Grant Name	Organisation / Department	Funding Type	Grant Status	Application Grant Amount	Council Contribution	Other Contribution	Total Project Cost	Application Status
2021-22	GCW-10158	Infrastructure Investment, Black Spot Programme 2022-23, Bridge Inn Road/ Wellington Street	Federal Blackspot Programm, 2021-22	VicRoads/DoT	Federal	Closed	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	Pending
2021-22	GCW-10157	Infrastructure Investment, Black Spot Programme 2022-23, Harvest Home Rd at Edgars Road and Redding Rise Intersections	Federal Blackspot Programm, 2021-22	VicRoads/DoT	Federal	Closed	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00	Pending
2021-22	GCW-10156	Infrastructure Investment, Black Spot Programme 2022-23, O'Herns Road/ Manor House Drive, Epping	Federal Blackspot Programm, 2021-22	VicRoads/DoT	Federal	Closed	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450,000.00	Pending
2021-22	GCW-10175	South Morang Pre-school, TH Hurrey Tennis Pavilion, Harry Jenkins Tennis Pavilion	Sustainability Victoria, Community Climate Change and Energy Action - Stream 2	Sustainability Victoria	State	Closed	\$ 40,450.00	\$ 40,450.00	\$ -	\$ 80,900.00	Pending
2021-22	GCW-10188	Patterson Drive Community Centre Spoke Library	2021-22 Living Libraries Infrastructure Program	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 650,000.00	\$ 337,200.00	\$ -	\$ 987,200.00	Pending
2021-22	GCW-10187	Harvest Home Recreation Reserve: Synthetic soccer pitch Redevelopment	SRV, The World Game Facilities Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 1,126,714.00	\$ -	\$ 1,626,714.00	Pending
							\$ 1,830,450.00				

Unsuccessful Applications

Round / Year	Grant ID	Project Name	Grant Name	Organisation / Department	Funding Type	Grant Status	Grant Application Amount	Council Contribution	Other	Total Project Cost	Application Status
2021-22	GCW-10173	Yan Yean Pipe Track Shared Path Stage 6	2021 TAC Local Government Grant Program - Infrastructure	VicRoads/DoT	State	Closed	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 350,000.00		\$ 13,409,000.00	Unsuccessful
2021-22	GCW-10176	Bubup Wilam for Early Learning Facility Extensions	Aboriginal Community Infrastructure Program/DJPR 2021-22 (Round 5)	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 1,599,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,599,000.00	Unsuccessful
2021-22	GCW-10178	Aboriginal Gathering Place	Aboriginal Community Infrastructure Program/DJPR 2021-22 (Round 5)	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	Unsuccessful
2021-22	GCW-10180	Aboriginal Gathering Place, Mernda	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 7,310,000.00	\$ -	\$ 11,310,000.00	Unsuccessful
							\$ 5,749,000.00				

Successful Applications

Round / Year	Grant ID	Candidate Projects	Grant Name	Organisation / Department	Funding Type	Grant Status	Successful Grant Amount	Council Contribution	Other Contribution	Total Project Cost	Application Status
2021-22	GCW-10123	Bubup Wilam Aboriginal Child and Family Centre Refurbishment and Extension	Early Childhood Refurbishment and Minor Works (Major Grants Stream), Refurbishment and Minor Works - Major Grants Program	DET	State	Closed	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10186	Cricket Training Nets - Olivine	Community Cricket Program 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 112,960.00	\$ -	\$ 212,960.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10185	Community Energy Transition Program	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10179	Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre Customer Experience Upgrade	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 337,200.00	\$ -	\$ 987,200.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10184	Worcester Park Bushfire Regeneration	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 275,000.00	\$ -	\$ 550,000.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10182	South Morang Precinct Improvements	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 425,000.00	\$ 425,000.00	\$ -	\$ 850,000.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10183	Huskisson Reserve Pedestrian and Cycling Access	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 325,000.00	\$ -	\$ 650,000.00	Successful
2021-22	GCW-10181	Patterson Drive Community Centre, Donnybrook	Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22	DJPR	State	Closed	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 7,149,500.00	\$ 3,459,500.00	\$ 12,609,000.00	Successful
							\$ 4,100,000.00				

2021-22 Project Adjustments

Proposed Q2 Adjustments								
Report to Council	Project ID	Project Name	Income		Expenditure		Net	Comment
			Original Budget	Revised Budget	Original Budget	Revised Budget		
Projects to be removed from 2021/22 New Works Program								
Q2	CW-10186	Construct shared path - Park Street - High Street to Darebin Creek	0	0	110,000	0	(110,000)	Project budget no longer required. Originally planned to be delivered as a multi year project however full scope of works was delivered in 2020/21 due to cost savings in delivering as one package.
Q2	CW-10385	Mernda Sports Hub- Acquire land Plenty Road/Everton Drive intersection	0	0	1,200,000	0	(1,200,000)	Due to the completion of the land acquisition process being uncertain it is proposed to remove this project from the New Works Program.
Q2	CW-10676	Heritage Bus Shelter Replacement Program	0	0	100,000	0	(100,000)	A further assessment of this project scope has identified similarities with the Bus Shelter Replacement Program - it is proposed to discontinue the <i>Heritage Bus Shelter Replacement Program</i>
Q2	CW-10701	Baltrum Drive Extension	0	0	300,000	0	(300,000)	Project scope has been reviewed - project will not proceed.
Q2	CW-10713	Koukoura Drive - construct slip lane	0	0	300,000	0	(300,000)	Project scope has been reviewed - project will not proceed.
Q2	CW-10772	Quarry Hills Priority Links	0	0	0	0	0	A successful grant of \$1M was reported to the Q1 Council Meeting for inclusion in 2021/22 program. Due to tendering issues the project is unlikely to commence in 2021/22 and will be included in the 2022/23 New Works Program.
Project Adjustments								
Q2	CW-10017	Car Park Rehabilitation	0	0	192,863	258,807	65,944	During construction works at Wollert Community Centre Car Park a number of unforeseen items needed to be addressed including; soft spot treatments, access road widening, excess rock excavation. It is proposed to fund this over spend from surplus derived from CW-10186 <i>Construct Shared Path - Park Street</i>
Q2	CW-10375	Huskisson Reserve Shared Path	(240,000)	(240,000)	295,123	365,853	70,730	Due to waterlogged site conditions additional materials were required to complete the project in alignment with grant milestones.
Q2	CW-10998	Duffy Street Works Storage Depot	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	Immediate earthworks on the embankment at 51-59 Duffy St Epping are required and design of a retaining wall to divert storm water run off to abutting property.
Q2	CW-10065	Construct Social Support Services Facility - Mernda Villages CAC	(1,639,973)	(1,639,973)	2,292,123	2,502,123	210,000	As part of the Mernda Social Support project an Accessible Public Toilet is to be installed. This is to be funded from CW-10902 <i>Public Toilet Amenity Plan</i> .
Q2	CW-10902	21-22 Public Toilet Amenity Plan Implementation	0	0	500,000	290,000	(210,000)	An Accessible Public Toilet is to be installed at the Mernda Social Support Facility. \$210,000 is proposed to be redirected from the Public Toilet Amenity Plan to contribute to these works.
Q2	CW-10690	Laurimar Reserve West Oval Upgrade	0	0	900,000	1,255,916	355,916	Construction contract awarded at 6 September 2021 Council Meeting. Tenders received higher than original Opinion of Probable Costs and require a budget adjustment to reflect the contract value. It is proposed to offset \$210,000 from CW-10000 <i>Implement Sportsfield Strategy and \$20k from CW-10844 21-22 Upgrade Coaches Boxes</i> with the balance to be found in general savings within the New Works Program.
Q2	CW-10000	Implement Sportsfield Strategy - Sportsfield Upgrades	0	0	1,767,382	1,557,382	(210,000)	Savings in this project are to contribute to the additional funds required above on CW-10690 <i>Laurimar Reserve West Oval Upgrade</i>
Q2	CW-10844	21-22 Upgrade Coaches Boxes - Various Locations	0	0	20,000	-	(20,000)	The location for the Coaches Boxes this year is Laurimar Reserve - it is proposed to reallocate this funding to CW-10690 <i>Laurimar Reserve West Oval Upgrade</i> as the works will be delivered as part of the overall Laurimar Reserve contract.
Sum of Q2 adjustment				1,000,000		(2,717,410)	292,590	
Proposed Q2 Revised Budget				(24,248,811)		86,832,575	(1,717,410)	
Approved Q1 Adjustments - Council Meeting 8 November 2021								
Annual Budget			(21,683,531)		85,984,705			
Q1	CW-10772	Quarry Hills Priority Links	0	(1,000,000)	0	1,000,000	0	Successful application through DELWP - Suburban Parks Program. These works are fully funded by the grant.
Q1	CW-10703	Rochdale Square and Stockade Park Public Lighting, Lalor	0	(100,000)	38,000	138,000	0	Successful application through Neighbourhood Activity Centre Renewal Fund 2020-21.
Q1	CW-10455	Construct shared path - Yan Yean Pipe Track - Darebin Creek Trail to Childs Road	0	(1,000,000)	0	1,000,000	0	Successful application through DELWP Local Parks Program, Northern Metropolitan Trail Program. Project is fully funded by the grant and allows these works to be brought forward.
Q1	CW-10185	Construct shared path - Hendersons Road Drain - Childs Road to Findon Road	0	(1,000,000)	415,197	1,415,197	0	Successful application through DELWP Local Parks Program, Northern Metropolitan Trail Program. Project is partially funded by the grant and allows the next stage of works to be brought forward.
Q1	CW-10774	Edgars Creek Trail between Main Street and Thomas Street Reserve	0	(180,000)	0	180,000	0	Successful application through DELWP Local Parks Program, Northern Metropolitan Trail Program. Project is fully funded by the grant and allows these works to be brought forward.
Q1	CW-10349	Mernda Village Adventure Playground Upgrade	0	(150,000)	879,116	1,029,116	0	Successful application through 2020/21 Growing Suburbs Fund of \$150k towards Public Amenity at the Mernda Village Adventure Park.
Q1	CW-10945	Black Spot - Redleap Avenue, Mill Park	0	(127,680)	0	127,680	0	Successful application through 2021-22 Federal Blackspot Program. Project is fully funded by the grant and allows these works to be brought forward.
Q1	CW-10863	21-22 Cricket Wickets Upgrade (various locations)	0	(7,600)	65,000	72,600	0	Successful application through Cricket Australia - Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund 2020-2 towards Lalor Reserve Centre Cricket Wicket Upgrade
Sum of Q1 adjustment				(3,565,280)		3,565,280	0	
Approved Q1 Revised Budget				(25,248,811)		89,549,985		

2021-22 Capital Works Program - Carry Forward Forecast

Project Code	Project Name	Forecast carry forward	Comment
CW-10020	Whittlesea Public Gardens Master Plan	1,895,953	Commencement of construction was delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions, and a backlog of work that the contractor was required to complete before commencing construction.
CW-10021	Granite Hills Major Community Park Implementation	2,000,000	It is expected that this project will be delayed approximately seven months. This is due to consultation and engagement plan changes as a result of COVID-19 restrictions, which requires an extension of time and the integration of the Aboriginal Gathering Place joint use enhanced road and services. Additional investigations are being conducted as part of the Aboriginal Gathering Place project, which has an impact on the implementation of Granite Hills Park. The project is currently unable to progress to detailed design, pending additional design work required for the Aboriginal Gathering Place project.
CW-10063	Mernda Sports Hub - Mernda Recreation and Leisure Centre	312,195	Progression of this project is awaiting the completion of the Sports Hub business case before design can progress.
CW-10097	Signalise intersection - Plenty Rd and Everton Gardens (Mernda Sports)	193,628	This project is linked to the Sports Hub and required land acquisition. Further investigations and design options need to be explored for the intersection.
CW-10135	Upgrade pavilion - HR Uren Reserve	1,420,014	This project has been delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions impacting the availability of external consultants required to complete the work.
CW-10143	Implementation of Signage Management Plan - Various	87,659	Delays in awarding the next stage of contract.
CW-10165	Construct shared path - McDonalds Road (north side) - Darebin Creek to Civic Dr	90,000	This project has been delayed due to a delay in site investigation work required to inform the business case.
CW-10185	Construct shared path - Hendersons Road Drain - Childs Road to Findon Road	707,599	Successful grant funding towards this project has resulted in works being brought forward. Awaiting approval from service authority on the redesign of public lighting on McDonalds Road before the project can progress.
CW-10195	Signalise intersection - Sackville Street and Bridge Inn Road Intersection	250,000	Project commencement delayed by four months to accommodate a new bus route being established in this area by the transport authority.
CW-10235	Huskisson Reserve - Master Plan - Tennis Facility	400,000	Master Plan and business case are currently being developed with additional options being explored which is expected to delay progress.
CW-10308	CAP - Mill Park Basketball Stadium Redevelopment	302,672	Construction progress has been impacted by the two week construction industry lockdown.
CW-10325	Review of security measures at Council sites	101,054	Project has been placed on hold. Next phase of work involves excavation near existing electrical and communications cables that service Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre (PRACC). There is a high risk that this may disturb the power supply to PRACC / COVID-19 Vaccination Centre.
CW-10343	Construct Community Activity Centre - Patterson Drive, Donnybrook	548,000	Due to the increase in construction costs and site constraints the project scope and design are being reviewed, which has delayed the detailed design phase being tendered.
CW-10349	Mernda Village Adventure Playground Upgrade	205,823	Project delay is approximately three months due to the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns on consultation processes and tendering.
CW-10359	Norris Bank Reserve - West Park Precinct	276,686	Delay in site investigation works due to COVID-19 restrictions and construction industry lockdown.
CW-10360	Station Road upgrade between car park and Plenty Road. Mernda	175,000	Delay in obtaining street light plan approval from service authority.
CW-10382	Construct Wash Bay - Rural Works Depot, Whittlesea	177,200	Delay in site investigations due to COVID-19 restrictions and availability of consultants.
CW-10400	Upgrade open space - Implement WA Smith and Sycamore Reserve Masterplan	16,000	Impact of COVID-19 lockdown restrictions on the ability to undertake community consultation which has delayed upgrade works.
CW-10429	Construct shared path - Edgars Creek Trail - Main Street to Kingsway Drive	40,000	Delay in community consultation due to COVID-19 restrictions and will need to go back out to tender for design services.
CW-10454	Construct shared path - Yan Yean Pipe Track - Childs Road to Bush Boulevard	50,000	Project currently on hold until the Melbourne Water Shared Path Agreements are signed.
CW-10455	Construct shared path - Yan Yean Pipe Track - Darebin Creek Trail to Childs Road	500,000	Project currently on hold until the Melbourne Water Shared Path Agreements are signed.
CW-10649	Mernda Sports Hub - Indoor Sports Stadium	400,000	Awaiting completion of the Sports Hub business case before design can progress.
CW-10669	Mernda Sports Hub Utility Provision	400,000	Awaiting completion of the Sports Hub business case before design can progress.
CW-10686	Harvest Home Road Recreation Reserve Upgrade	50,000	Scope of work is currently under review which will delay completion of works.
CW-10698	CAP - Streets for people - Study and Implementation of LATM areas 26 and 32 in Mill Park and LATM 09 in Thomastown	150,000	Delay in community consultation, road safety and lighting audit investigations due to COVID-19 lockdown and restrictions.
CW-10707	Peter Hopper Lake renewal and upgrade	100,000	Scope of work is currently under review which will delay completion of works.
CW-10715	Hazel Glen College Outdoor Netball Courts	485,000	Delay due to ongoing negotiations with Hazel Glen College regarding the scope of the project and joint use agreement. A grant application has been submitted through Sport & Recreation Victoria. Construction expected to be delayed until 2022-23.
CW-10856	21-22 Establishment of additional dog off leash areas - Various Locations	60,000	Delay in site investigations due to COVID-19 restrictions. The project has been pushed to commence design/delivery in the second half of the year instead of the first half.
CW-10898	21-22 Traffic Management Around Schools	345,000	Delay in community engagement due to COVID-19 restrictions.
		11,739,483	

City of Whittlesea Financial Performance Report

APPENDIX 1 - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT RESERVE

YEAR	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS		CLOSING BALANCE	COMMENT
		CONTRIBUTION (IN)	ALLOCATION (OUT)		
2017-18	641,354	20,492,048 *	10,773,193	10,360,209	Transfer out funded early repayment of loan parcel
2018-19	10,360,209	8,899,410	3,000,000	16,259,619	Transfer from surplus (17/18) \$8,899,410 Funding for New Works \$2,827,475
2019-20	16,259,619	9,381,151	4,368,287	21,272,483	Transfer from surplus (18/19) \$9,381,151 Funding for Signalisation intersection Ferres Boulevard & Findon Road (PID 2039 \$1,000,000), Reconstruct courts - Dr Harry Jenkins Reserve (PID 0259 \$200,000), Construct Findon Road extension - Williamsons Road to Danaher Drive (PID 1218 \$920,913), Construct Community Activity Centre Edgars Creek (PID 1419 \$641,354), Plant Reserve \$1,606,020
2020-21	21,272,483	11,141,843	-	32,414,326	Transfer from surplus (19/20) \$11,141,843 Transfer from closure of discretionary reserves: Plant Replacement Reserve \$1,703,005, Tip Replacement Reserve \$4,806,229, Aged & Disability Minor Capital Reserve \$322,305
2021-22	32,414,326	-	-	32,414,326	Nil movement

* Reserve created with transfers from accumulated surplus \$9,292,048.28 and Tip Replacement Reserve \$6,600,000 and Plant Replacement Reserve \$4,600,000

APPENDIX 2 - WASTE RESERVE

YEAR	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS		CLOSING BALANCE	COMMENT
		CONTRIBUTION (IN)	ALLOCATION (OUT)		
2020-21	-	4,864,335 *	-	4,864,335	Transfer from Environmental Reserve
2021-22	4,864,335	-	-	4,864,335	Nil movement

* Transfer from Environmental reserve to form this reserve

APPENDIX 3 - TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT FUND RESERVE

YEAR	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS		CLOSING BALANCE	COMMENT
		CONTRIBUTION (IN)	ALLOCATION (OUT)		
2017-18	4,392,719	1,546,126 *	278,003	5,660,842	
2018-19	5,660,842	1,381,232	1,530,292	5,511,782	Transfer from accumulated surplus \$1,381,232 New Works funding for \$1,530,291
2019-20	5,511,782	950,527	1,598,660	4,863,649	Transfer from accumulated surplus (18/19) \$950,527 and balance of garden waste Funding for IT computer hardware (PID 225 \$232,247), Salesforce implementation (\$1,001,711), Smart Cities program (\$132,000), Enterprise Project Management Office implementation (\$120,702), Internet of Things implementation (\$100,000), Finance System (\$12,000)
2020-21	4,863,649	1,036,201	222,182	5,677,669	Transfer from accumulated surplus \$1,036,201 Enterprise Project Management Office implementation (\$92,968), PC Replacement (\$69,154) and Network Infrastructure (\$69,154)
2021-22	5,677,669	-	-	5,677,669	Nil movement

* Transfers from accumulated surplus (2016-17) \$1,500,000 and consolidation of Telemetry Conduit Reserve \$5,540 and Computer Equipment Reserve \$40,586.14.

APPENDIX 4 - PLANNING PERMIT DRAINAGE RESERVE

YEAR	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS		CLOSING BALANCE	COMMENT
		CONTRIBUTION	ALLOCATION		
2017-18	2,127,641	282,285	1,048,959	1,360,968	Funding for Queenscliff Rd drainage (PID 1884) \$1,012,235, Drainage Improvement works (PID 1064) \$36,724
2018-19	1,360,968	287,486	60,000	1,588,454	Funding for Drainage Improvement works (PID 1064) \$60,000
2019-20	1,588,454	202,222	60,000	1,730,676	Funding for Drainage Improvement works (PID 1064) \$60,000
2020-21	1,730,676	8,543,462	250,000	10,024,138	Funding for Drainage Improvement works \$250,000
2021-22	10,024,138	80,779	-	10,104,917	Planning Permit Levy contributions \$80,779

APPENDIX 5 - NATIVE VEGETATION OFFSET SITE MAINTENANCE

YEAR	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS		CLOSING BALANCE	COMMENT
		CONTRIBUTION	ALLOCATION		
2017-18	921,367	141,408	290,534	772,242	Funding for Various Native Vegetations \$290,534
2018-19	772,242	985,437	222,704	1,534,975	Funding for Various Native Vegetations \$290,534
2019-20	1,534,975	148,337	442,750	1,240,562	Funding for Various Native Vegetations \$173,199
2020-21	1,240,562	-	-	1,240,562	Nil movement
2021-22	1,240,562	-	47,439	1,193,123	Funding for Conservation Management Biodiversity Offset Projects \$47,439

APPENDIX 6 - STRATEGIC PROPERTIES RESERVE

YEAR	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS		CLOSING BALANCE	COMMENT
		CONTRIBUTION (IN)	ALLOCATION (OUT)		
2017-18	574,234	160,000	-	734,234	Sale of 182 & 214W Greenhills Rd, Bundoora
2018-19	734,234	3,544,149	-	4,278,384	Sale of 30 Brand Drive (net proceeds)
2019-20	4,278,384	513,820	-	4,792,204	Nil movement
2020-21	4,792,204	86,255	-	4,878,458	Bridge Inn Road and Epping Road (net proceeds)
2021/22	4,878,458	-	-	4,878,458	Nil movement

6 Notices of Motion

Nil Notices of Motion

7 Urgent Business

Nil Urgent Business

8 Reports from Council Representatives and CEO Update

9 Confidential Business

Under section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 a meeting considering confidential information may be closed to the public. Pursuant to sections 3(1) and 66(5) of the Local Government Act 2020

Recommendation

THAT the Chair of Council recommends that the meeting be closed to the public for the purpose of considering details relating to the following confidential matters in accordance with Section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as detailed.

9.1 Confidential Connected Communities

Nil reports

9.2 Confidential Liveable Neighbourhoods

Nil reports

9.3 Confidential Strong Local Economy

Nil reports

9.4 Confidential Sustainable Environment

Nil reports

9.5 Confidential High Performing Organisation

Nil reports

9.6 Confidential Notices of Motion

Nil reports

12 Closure