

Future Melbourne Committee

**Meeting No 18
Tuesday 21 October 2025
5:30 pm**

**Town Hall Commons
Melbourne Town Hall Administration Building**

Unconfirmed Minutes



Present

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell
Councillor Dr Olivia Ball
Councillor Rafael Camillo
Councillor Davydd Griffiths
Councillor Owen Guest
Councillor Philip Le Liu
Councillor Gladys Liu
Councillor Kevin Louey
Councillor Andrew Rowse
Councillor Mark Scott

1 Commencement of meeting and apologies

The meeting commenced at 5:31 pm.

The Chair, Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, welcomed attendees to the meeting, acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land governed by the City of Melbourne, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong / Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin, and advised that the meeting was being streamed live, and a recording will be made available on the City of Melbourne website.

2 Disclosure of conflicts of interest

The Lord Mayor advised that conflicts of interest should be disclosed as they arise.

3 Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Moved: Cr Liu

That the minutes of meeting No 17 held on Tuesday 7 October 2025 be confirmed.

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

The motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Voted for Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Cr Dr Ball, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Dr Guest, Cr Griffiths, Cr Rowse, Cr Liu, Cr Le Liu, Cr Scott, Cr Louey and Cr Camillo

4 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5 Public Questions

There were four public questions.

Below is a summary of public questions and responses. The full question time can be heard in the live stream recording of the meeting on Council's website at <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/meeting/future-melbourne-committee-21-october-2025>

Queen Victoria Market Seasonality Marketing Strategy

Fahna Ammett asked whether Council will provide financial support for the Queen Victoria Market (QVM)'s new seasonality marketing strategy, aimed at revitalising trade and attracting visitors.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece thanked Fahna for the question and referred it to the Chief Executive Officer, Alison Leighton. Alison thanked Fahna for the question and advised that Council takes great pride in QVM and supports its operations through Queen Victoria Market Pty Ltd (QVM Pty Ltd) which manages the market's day-to-day activities. As the seasonal marketing campaign falls under QVM Pty Ltd's remit, Alison will contact them to explore partnership opportunities and further support for traders. Alison also noted that Council's communications team is collaborating with QVM Pty Ltd to help amplify their marketing efforts.

The Lord Mayor also referred the question to Cr Dr Guest, Finance, Governance and Risk Portfolio Lead, who advised that Council is strongly supportive of QVM and will continue discussions with management to find a positive outcome for all parties.

Melbourne International Jazz Festival

Chris Thrum asked which event Council would like to highlight at the Melbourne International Jazz Festival.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece thanked Chris for the question and referred it to Cr Le Liu, Creative and Arts Portfolio Lead. Cr Le Liu thanked Chris for the question and advised that Council's official highlights for the Melbourne International Jazz Festival is Inside Out: Jump Jive Jazz at ArtPlay (23-26 October). Cr Le Liu also raised some events he was personally excited for.

Green Space in West Melbourne

Gemma Gooding (via Zoom) asked a question relating to prioritising new green space in West Melbourne, proposing a Standley Street greening project similar to Roden Street and enquired whether Council will fund such projects in the current budget.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece thanked Gemma for the question and referred it to Cr Griffiths, Environment Portfolio Lead. Cr Griffiths thanked Gemma for the question and advised that Council recognises the need for more green space in West Melbourne and is progressing projects guided by the West Melbourne Open Space Strategy and the North and West Melbourne Urban Forest Precinct Plan, which identifies Stanley Street for future greening. Cr Griffiths noted the success of the Roden Street project and confirmed upcoming works along Hawke Street once West Gate Tunnel conditions will allow for them.

Car Park Permits on Spencer Street in Docklands

Robyn Galbally asked a question relating to car parking permits in Docklands, explaining that after living on Spencer Street for 10 years without a car space, they are still unable to obtain even a short-term permit for visitors or service providers and sought Council's assistance in resolving this issue.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Infrastructure Portfolio Lead, thanked Robyn for the question and advised that Spencer Street in Docklands is historically ineligible for residential parking permits due to limited kerbside parking in densely populated areas like the CBD and Docklands. Extending permits would further reduce available on-street spaces, though the area is well-served by public transport and cycling options as alternatives.

6 Reports from management

There were two reports from Management.

Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell assumed the role of Chair of the meeting in relation to reports where Council exercises its responsibilities under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

6.1 Planning Permit Referral - TPMR-2025-19 - 93-103 Clarendon Street, 25 - 29 Clarke Street and 27-59 Whiteman Street, Southbank

The report from management included the following executive summary:

1. The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), on behalf of the Minister for Planning (Minister), has referred to the Melbourne City Council (Council) Planning Permit Application PA2503735. The application seeks approval for the demolition of the existing building and construction of a fifty-two (52) storey residential building comprising 510 dwellings and pedestrian bridge at 93-103 Clarendon Street, 25 - 29 Clarke Street and 27-59 Whiteman Street, Southbank (refer to Attachment 1 – Locality Plan and Attachment 2 – Architectural Plans).
2. The applicant is LAS Property Management Pty Ltd c/o Contour Consultants Pty Ltd, the owner is 101 Clarendon Street Pty Ltd and Crown Melbourne and the architect is Fender Katsalidis Architects. The estimated cost of development is \$160 million.
3. The subject site is located within the Capital City Zone - Schedule 3, and is affected by the Design and Development Overlay, Schedules 1 and 10, Land Subject to inundation Overlay - Schedule 3 and Parking Overlay - Schedule 1.

4. The key matters for consideration in the assessment of this application relate to the proposed building height and form, the tower floor plate over multiple lots and the proposed pedestrian evacuation bridge.
5. The assessment as set out in the Planning Report (refer Attachment 3 – Planning Report) outlines that the provision of housing supply and diversity align with strategic policy and the zoning of the land. The scale of the development achieves an acceptable response to the built form outcomes and the proposal also includes a public benefit offering of affordable housing within the development.
6. The layout and design of the building is appropriate within its urban context and has been designed to ensure integration with its surrounds via an appropriate street wall height and compliant setbacks detailed in the Design and Development Overlay Schedule 10 (DDO10).

Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Governance Rules*. The Deputy Lord Mayor received a campaign donation in the 2024 election from a company related to the application. The Deputy Lord Mayor left the meeting at 5.57pm.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Governance Rules*. The Lord Mayor received a campaign donation in the 2024 election from a company related to the application. The Lord Mayor left the meeting at 5.57pm.

Cr Louey declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Governance Rules*. Cr Louey received a campaign donation in the 2024 election from a company related to the application. Cr Louey left the meeting at 5.57pm.

Cr Scott declared a material conflict of interest in this matter pursuant to section 128(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Governance Rules*. Cr Scott received a campaign donation in the 2024 election from a company related to the application. Cr Scott left the meeting at 5.57pm.

Cr Le Liu assumed the Chair as Deputy Lead of the Planning Portfolio.

The following person addressed the Committee:

- John Haysey, Contour

Moved: Cr Le Liu

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to:

- 1.1. Advise the Department of Transport and Planning that the Melbourne City Council does not object to the grant of a planning permit subject to conditions outlined in the planning report (refer to Attachment 3 – Planning Report).

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

The motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Voted for Cr Dr Ball, Cr Dr Guest, Cr Griffiths, Cr Rowse, Cr Liu, Cr Le Liu and Cr Camillo

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Louey and Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 6.20pm.

The Lord Mayor resumed the role of Chair at 6.20pm.

6.2 Council Strategic Planning Program (Vision and Council Plan)

The report from management included the following executive summary:

1. On 19 August 2025 the Future Melbourne Committee endorsed the draft M2050 Vision, draft Council Plan 2025–29 (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan), draft Financial Plan 2025–35 and draft Asset Plan 2025–35 for community engagement.
2. The community engagement has been conducted in accordance with the City of Melbourne's Community Engagement Policy. Feedback has been provided by ratepayers, residents, businesses, workers and visitors, as all are impacted by the services the City of Melbourne provides.
3. The draft plans were released for community engagement between 20 August 2025 and 21 September 2025. Feedback was received via a Participate Melbourne survey, free text submission uploads, and a mix of online and in-person events, including Councillor listening posts. Over 1,060 people provided a response or attended an event, yielding 711 submissions in total. A summary of the community engagement feedback is included in Attachment 1 and management comments regarding the feedback topics is included at attachment 2.
4. Pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2020*, these draft plans are due for adoption by 31 October 2025.

Items of correspondence were received from:

- Grant Cohen
- Shifrah Blustein, IMCL
- Naomi Bellingham on behalf of Louisa Gibbs, Federation of Community Legal Centres FCLC
- Erin Vincent, Wheeler Centre
- Fiona Duncan, Music Victoria
- Melissa Hardham, Westjustice
- Clementine Girard-Foley
- Robin Bowen
- Victor Perton
- Cormac Mills Ritchard
- Sally Clarke
- Roger Taylor, Transport for Melbourne
- Verena Tan, Fitzroy Legal Service
- Chris Thrum
- Kate Kennedy, Kensington Association
- Stephen Hallam, FC Birrarung (two submissions)
- Stefano Perfli
- Fluffi
- Luke Harris, Collins Street Precinct Group
- Anastasia Radievska, Australian Democracy Network
- Isabella Morand
- Danielle Hassall
- Pat Chiappalone, Homeless Persons Union

The following people addressed the Committee:

- Kate Kennedy, Kensington Association
- Pat Chippalone, Homeless Persons Union
- Kelly Whitworth, Homeless Persons Union
- Sophie L'Estrange, Homeless Persons Union
- Roberto Gerrard-Martinez, Homeless Persons Union
- Nick Elliot, Homeless Persons Union
- Erika McKenna, Homeless Persons Union
- Lily Cummings, Homeless Persons Union
- Edward Hargrave, Homeless Persons Union
- Aaron Ford, Homeless Persons Union
- Paige Santelli, Homeless Persons Union
- Verena Tan, Fitzroy Legal Service
- Shifrah Blustein, Inner Melbourne Community Legal
- Danielle Hassall
- Naomi Bellingham
- Fluffi
- Meg Mundell
- Anna Agostinelli
- Emily Chauvel, Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service
- Fiona Duncan, Music Victoria (Zoom)
- Victor Petron (Zoom)
- Chris Thrum
- Aaron Moon
- Roger Taylor, Transport Melbourne (Zoom)
- Anastasia Radievska, Australian Democracy Network (Zoom)
- Stefano Perfli
- Robin Bowen
- Cormac Mills Ritchard
- John Widmar
- Alec Ferguson
- Catherine Strong
- Inez Winters
- Damien Smith
- DJ
- Grace Auld
- Coco

The following people requested to address the Committee but were not present:

- Grant Cohen
- Erin Vincent, Wheeler Centre
- Robin Bowen
- Rose Hudson

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 6.59pm and returned at 7.01pm.

Cr Dr Guest left the meeting at 7.25pm and returned at 7.36pm.

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 7.33pm and returned at 7.56pm.

Cr Dr Ball left the meeting at 7.34pm and returned at 7.37pm.

Moved: Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

That the Future Melbourne Committee, having considered all community engagement feedback in response to the draft M2050 Vision, draft Council Plan 2025–2029 (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan), draft Financial Plan 2025–35 and draft Asset Plan 2025–35 and having heard from anyone wishing to be heard, refers the Vision and Plans to the 28 October 2025 Council meeting for consideration.

Seconded: Cr Dr Guest

The motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Voted for Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Cr Dr Ball, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Dr Guest, Cr Griffiths, Cr Rowse, Cr Liu, Cr Le Liu, Cr Scott, Cr Louey and Cr Camillo

7 General Business

There were two items of general business.

Cr Rowse, Cr Liu and Cr Scott left the meeting at 8.37pm.

7.1 Notice of Motion, Cr Dr Olivia Ball: Countering extremism in Melbourne

An item of correspondence was received from:

- Milo Parker

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Milo Parker

Cr Rowse returned to the meeting at 8.38pm.

Cr Liu returned to the meeting at 8.40pm.

Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 8.42pm.

Moved: Cr Dr Ball

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee, in the light of increasing extremist activity in Melbourne, culminating in violence on 31 August 2025, reiterates its condemnation on 2 September 2025 of all violence, intimidation and racism; and:

- 1.1. notes the findings of the 2022 parliamentary Inquiry into Extremism in Victoria;

- 1.2. asks management to recommend a program of evidence-based actions the City of Melbourne should take in response to the Inquiry, such as Recommendation 6, concerning initiatives to build social cohesion and trust in civic institutions, and Recommendation 7, concerning anti-racism education; and
- 1.3. asks the Lord Mayor and CEO to write to the Premier and Attorney-General, urging their Government to implement all the recommendations of the Inquiry as a matter of priority.

Seconded: Cr Le Liu

The motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Voted for Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Cr Dr Ball, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Dr Guest, Cr Griffiths, Cr Rowse, Cr Liu, Cr Le Liu, Cr Scott, Cr Louey and Cr Camillo

7.2 Notice of Motion, Cr Rafael Camillo: Proposed Victorian Government legislation to mandate working from home in Victoria

The following person addressed the Committee:

- Aaron Moon

Cr Le Liu left the meeting at 8.53pm and returned at 8.55pm.

Moved: Cr Camillo

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 1.1. Notes the proposal by the Victorian Government to introduce legislation to mandate the ability of public and private sector employees to work-from-home.
 - 1.2. Requests the Lord Mayor write to the Premier to ask that the Victorian Government not proceed with proposed legislation based on the following:
 - 1.2.1. A decision to mandate the ability to work-from-home has the potential to adversely impact Melbourne's Central Business District through a future increase in office vacancy rates, a decline in city activation and negative impact on small businesses who rely on foot traffic. A vibrant city relies on thriving cafes, restaurants, retailers and service providers.
 - 1.2.2. That flexibility in the workplace is best achieved by the negotiation between employers and employees and tailored to individual operations and needs. A one size fits all mandate will introduce another layer of red tape and bureaucracy and would disrupt existing successful flexible arrangements. It also does not recognise the diversity of Victorian businesses and operations.
 - 1.2.3. Victoria is currently in need of policies which seek to build confidence, attract investment and drive economic activity. A mandated arrangement would put Melbourne and Victoria at a competitive disadvantage when compared to other major cities in Australia and worldwide.

Seconded: Cr Le Liu

The motion was put and CARRIED

Voted for Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Dr Guest, Cr Rowse, Cr Liu, Cr Le Liu, Cr Scott, Cr Louey and Cr Camillo
Voted against Cr Dr Ball and Cr Griffiths

8 Urgent Business

There was one item of Urgent Business.

Procedural Motion:

Moved: Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

That the matter relating to 18-76 Robertson Street, Kensington (Public Land Acquisition) meets the criteria for consideration as an item of Urgent Business as it has arisen since the distribution of the agenda, and cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

The procedural motion was put and CARRIED

Voted for Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Cr Dr Ball, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Griffiths, Cr Rowse, Cr Scott, Cr Louey and Cr Camillo
Voted against Cr Dr Guest and Cr Le Liu

Cr Liu, being present but having abstained from voting, was taken to have voted against the motion.

Moved: Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 1.1. Note that Council's intention for part of the land at 18-76 Robertson Street, Kensington as future public open space are established by the Macaulay Structure Plan and Open Space Strategy.
 - 1.2. Request that the Minister for Planning apply an interim Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) for the purpose of public open space to part of the land at 18-76 Robertson Street, Kensington in accordance with the structure plan. Should the Minister for Planning approve the interim PAO, direct management to prepare a planning scheme amendment seeking a permanent PAO within 12 months of the Ministers decision.
 - 1.3. Requests that the Lord Mayor write to all relevant Minister/s – and update them on the city's intentions for a PAO as part of its broader plans for open space under the Macaulay Structure Plan.

Seconded: Cr Griffiths

The motion was put and CARRIED

Voted for Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Cr Dr Ball, Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell, Cr Griffiths, Cr Rowse, Cr Scott, Cr Louey and Cr Camillo
Voted against Cr Liu and Cr Le Liu

Cr Dr Guest, being present but having abstained from voting, was taken to have voted against the motion.

9 Public Questions

There were three public questions.

Below is a summary of public questions and responses. The full question time can be heard in the live stream recording of the meeting on Council's website at <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/meeting/future-melbourne-committee-21-october-2025>

Cr Scott left the meeting at 9.46pm.

Bins, Security Reviews and Make Room

Callum French asked questions relating to overflowing bins and cleaning, future security reviews and Council's role versus Unison's control at Make Room, 602 Little Bourke Street.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece thanked Callum for the questions and referred them to Cr Camillo, Safety and Cleaning Portfolio Lead. Cr Camillo thanked Callum for the questions and advised that Callum's concerns about overflowing bins are being addressed, with plans to improve collection efficiency. New bins will be introduced and there will be QR codes on the bins which can be used to report issues. Regarding security, Cr Camillo clarified that Community Safety Officers are being introduced to support the community, link people to services, report issues and confirmed that the program's effectiveness will be reviewed in the future.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece took the question relating to Make Room on notice and advised that a written response will be provided to Callum.

Cr Guest left the meeting at 9.49pm.

Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 9.51pm.

Moonee Ponds Creek and Macaulay Open Space restoration

On behalf of Luke Chamberlain, Dr Kate Kennedy, Kensington Association, asked a question relating to the community response to the Council Vision and Plan, specifically regarding concerns about open space and liveability, and what steps Council is taking to deliver the restoration of Moonee Ponds Creek and the award-winning rejuvenation design for Moonee Ponds Creek and Macaulay Open Space Terraces.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece thanked Kate for the question and referred it to Cr Griffiths, Environment Portfolio Lead. Cr Griffiths thanked Kate for the question and advised that there is strong support for more public open space in Kensington with projects including Moonee Ponds Creek, Macaulay Terraces, Robertson Street and Chelmsford Street parks, and Council will continue to provide updates to the residents.

Cr Guest returned to the meeting at 9.53pm.

Kensington drainage land acquisition and public open space access

Dr Kate Kennedy, Kensington Association, asked a question relating to the process for considering Kensington Association's submission and ensuring Robertson Street urgent business does not replace the community's request to acquire drainage land adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece advised that Kensington Association's submission will be fully considered, with councillors reviewing it in upcoming meetings and debating any related amendments when the Council Plan is tabled at the Council meeting the following week.

City of Melbourne Act

Aaron Moon asked if the Lord Mayor had written to the Minister for Local Government regarding a review of the *City of Melbourne Act 2001* as per the Council resolution from 30 June 2025, and queried if a response had been received.

Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece advised that the letter had been sent to the Minister for Local Government but no response has been received. Council will make the letter public and provide a copy to Aaron.

10 Closure of Meeting

The Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed to the public at 9:57 pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday, 11 November 2025.



Chair
Future Melbourne Committee