

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Monash community, like others across Australia and the world is being asked to respond to the effects of a global economic downturn. In these challenging times it is essential for the Council to stay focussed on ensuring services meet community needs and that our infrastructure and environment is maintained and improved so we can continue to strive to achieve our vision of a thriving community.

Listening to our community

Building a thriving community now and into the future requires ongoing planning, which is informed by residents of the City. Council continues to involve the community regularly in discussing issues and ideas to take us forward including the development of this Council Plan. Council is also currently doing a study into the needs and attitudes of the City's Baby Boomer population that will shape a Positive Ageing Strategy; and is working with residents in Clayton to develop a vision for the area, which will help define how Council can better serve that community.

Our infrastructure and facilities

One of our City's great strengths is the range and number of high quality facilities that are so important to community life – from sports grounds and pavilions to recreation centres, swimming pools, halls, community hubs and health centres. Over the coming years, Council will continue to invest in and deliver building projects such as the Clayton Community Centre that is now a model of integrated services for other municipalities. Projects such as the Oakleigh Pool redevelopment, Batesford Reserve Youth and Community Hub and the multi-purpose venue at Electra Reserve Community facility will provide more community members with centralised health, recreation and learning facilities. The MARC outdoor pool and the Princes Highway Pavilion will also be upgraded in the coming 12 months.

Our environment

Council is aware that the issue of climate change and our environment in the community is increasingly significant, whether we play sport, enjoy gardening or want to make a conscious effort to save energy and water. For some time, Council has been taking action to reduce our carbon footprint. As a member of the ECO-Buy and the Cities for Climate Protection programs and our World Environment Day Awards, we are working hard to model sustainable practices and encourage our community and businesses to do the same. This will remain a focus over the coming four years as we do our part to respond to climate change.

Our local economy

Astute financial management is and will continue to be a high priority for Council as it will determine how effectively we can support this community now and into the future. As part of this, we are currently reviewing the Monash rating system to ensure fair and equitable distribution of rates in the city.

By supporting local businesses and industry in Monash, processing planning applications in a timely manner and promoting our retail centres we will strive to provide the best conditions for job creation.

A thriving community

I appreciate the spirit and unity that the Monash community has shown and know it will continue as we work together to achieve the objectives of this Council Plan over the next four years. I look forward to working with the community, staff and my Councillor colleagues to achieve our shared vision of a thriving community, which will bring this plan to life.



*Paul Klisaris
Mayor*

CITY OF MONASH – WARDS AND COUNCILLORS



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Council is responsible and accountable to the community in meeting the growing demand for facilities, infrastructure, services and enhancement of the environment.



Joy Banerji
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The delivery of high quality services to help develop and strengthen our community is important to the continued growth and development of Monash.



Greg Male JP
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Promotion of Monash as a safe vibrant and inclusive city that continues to advocate for high quality transport, traffic management and economic development opportunities to help grow our city.

- Mount Waverley Ward
- Oakleigh Ward
- Mulgrave Ward
- Glen Waverley Ward



Tom Morrissey JP
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Providing our community with high quality children, youth and family services, is integral to our success as a healthy and vibrant place to live, work and play.



Geoff Lake
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The City of Monash has lower rates than any other council in metropolitan Melbourne and everyone in the organisation - from councillors to our staff on the front desk - work hard to keep it that way.



Stephen Dimopoulos
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Council is committed to engage with and listen to our community to provide leadership on important issues as a key focus of the Council.



Paul Klisaris
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Consultation contributes to creating a sense of community through open communication and addressing a range of issues important to our community.



Denise McGill OAM
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Continued development and maintenance of our unique parklands, reserves, linear parks, walking and bicycle paths for use by the community and future generations.



Stefanie Perri
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Development of an inclusive and sustainable approach to community engagement empowers residents and ensures the many voices of our diverse community are heard.



Micaela Driberg
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The provision of accessible services and facilities that continue to promote healthy and safe environments.



Charlotte Baines
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Meeting the needs of our diverse and ageing community is integral to the continued promotion of community wellbeing and development.

THE COUNCIL PLAN AT A GLANCE

Strategic Objective

Strategies

1. Our Community

A Monash community, where people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities, are embraced and supported and can access the Council services they need.

A Monash community that is connected and involved in shaping decisions that affect them.

- 1.1 Assisting Monash residents to access the Council support and services they need to help live healthy and fulfilling lives.
- 1.2 Valuing the social and cultural diversity of the City of Monash and recognising the contribution of communities in planning and decision-making.
- 1.3 Responding to the needs of an ageing population in the city.
- 1.4 Working together to create a place where people feel safe and connected to their community and are encouraged to participate in community life.

2. Our local economy

A local economy, in which businesses and industries are recognised for their contribution and encouraged to grow.

A local economy that continues to attract investment and employment to the city.

- 2.1 Promoting the city's businesses and industry to take advantage of new opportunities and to maximise economic growth.
- 2.2 Forming partnerships with local business and industry to enhance the local economy.

3. Our built environment

A city that is planned to meet the current and future needs of a diverse and growing population, while maintaining its leafy character.

A city where roads, public spaces, community facilities, parks, gardens and other essential infrastructure is fit for purpose, well maintained and contributes to the well-being of the community.

- 3.1 Working to improve local road and transport networks to manage movement within and across the city.
- 3.2 Providing clear direction to ensure appropriate and high quality development and accessible safe public spaces.
- 3.3 Maintaining and improving the condition of assets to ensure essential services are provided and the community has access to quality public buildings, parks and gardens.

4. Our natural environment

A city that is working together to protect and enhance its natural environment.

- 4.1 Leading the community through Council's management of resources to reduce its impact on the environment.
- 4.2 Providing services and advice to encourage the community to reduce its impact on our natural environment.
- 4.3 Protecting our natural assets through short and long-term planning and environmental programs.

5. Our people and organisation

An organisation that is responsive to the evolving needs of the community.

An organisation that is responsibly governed with a strong emphasis on astute financial management.

An organisation that values and supports the development of its people, and strives to be an employer of choice.

- 5.1 Ensuring Council is governed and its finances are managed responsibly.
- 5.2 Continuously developing the organisation and its people to provide our community, our businesses and our visitors with the best possible services.