



Special Meeting of Council
26 April 2017

Notice Paper

For a Special Meeting of

Bayside City Council

Wednesday 26 April 2017

at 6.30pm

**Council Chamber
Civic Centre, Boxshall Street
Brighton**

To: Mayor and Councillors

In accordance with Section 84 of the Local Government Act 1989, a **Special Meeting of Bayside City Council** will be held at the Council Chamber, Boxshall Street, Brighton, on **Wednesday 26 April at 6.30pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

BUSINESS OF MEETING

Apologies

Declaration of Interests

- 1. Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 and Strategic Resource Plan**
- 2. Proposed 2017/18 Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Plan**
- 3. Elsternwick Park (North) Masterplan**

Adrian Robb
Chief Executive Officer

19 April 2017

1. DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 AND STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN

CEO – Strategy and Performance
DOC/17/64818 - File No: PSF/17/68

Executive summary

Purpose and Background

To seek Council's approval in principle of the Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 including the Strategic Resource Plan, and give public notice of Council's intention to advertise the Draft Council Plan for public comment.

In accordance with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council must prepare and approve a Council Plan by 30 June 2017.

The Council Plan must include:

- The strategic objectives of the Council;
- Strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next 4 years;
- Strategic indicators for monitoring the achievements of the objectives; and
- A Strategic Resource Plan containing the matters specified in Section 126 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Discussion

The Draft Council 2017-21 (attached) is a key document that outlines Council's strategic direction for the coming four years.

The structure of the Council Plan is based on the 'domains of liveability' supported by the community in the Bayside Community Plan 2025. These domains are drawn from the World Health Organisation's Age Friendly Cities Framework, the Community Indicators Victoria Data Framework and the University of Melbourne's Place, Health and Liveability Research Program. The seven domains of liveability are:

- Infrastructure
- Transport
- Housing and neighbourhoods
- Open space
- Environment
- Local economy and activity centres
- Community health and participation

In addition to setting goals for each of the domains of liveability, the Council Plan adds an eighth goal, 'Governance', to reflect the community's and Council's desire to improve community engagement to inform decision making and deliver financially responsible services and facilities that meet community needs.

This Council Plan fits within Council's Better Place Strategic Planning Framework. It provides a clear line of sight between the long-term aspirations of the community, reflected in the Community Plan 2025, and the four-year priorities for the elected Council proposed in this document. These priorities will drive Council's major strategies and policies that enable Council to deliver against its vision and commitments. Following the adoption of the Council Plan 2017-2021, the major Council strategies will be reviewed to ensure alignment with the new goals and priorities of Council.

Council will report on the progress against the annual actions contained in the four-year Council Plan on a quarterly basis, with a detailed report summarising the year's activities in the Annual Report. In addition, the Annual Report will provide details of the performance against the strategic indicators outlined in the Council Plan and the state-wide performance measures established as part of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.

The Council Plan will be reviewed annually to ensure Council is able to adapt to changing community needs and other internal and external factors.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopts in principle the Draft Council Plan 2017-21, incorporating the Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021;
2. Gives public notice of the Draft Council Plan 2017-2021, incorporating the Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021 and makes available copies of the Draft Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan for public inspection purposes including the Council website; and
3. Establishes a Special Committee of Council in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 consisting of all Councillors with a quorum of four (4) councillors to hear submissions in relation the Draft Council Plan 2017-2021, incorporating the Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021 on Thursday 8 June 2017 at 6.30pm at the Council chambers, Civic Centre, Brighton.

Attachment

Draft Council Plan 2017-2021

Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021

Consideration and implications

Liveable community

Social

The Council Plan 2017-21 identifies a number of strategies to enhance Bayside's social environment through improved community infrastructure and services which impact health, participation and wellbeing.

Natural Environment

The Council Plan 2017-21 identifies a number of strategies to protect and enhance the natural environment, while balancing community use with the need to protect natural assets for future generations.

Built Environment

The Council Plan 2017-21 identifies a number of strategies to improve infrastructure, whilst protecting and enhancing neighbourhood character and liveability.

Customer Service and Community Engagement

The development of the Council Plan was informed by the aspirations of the Bayside Community Plan 2025 that was developed through extensive consultation.

As part of the statutory consultation process in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council is required to give public notice of its intention to advertise the Draft Council Plan inviting submissions from the community. The following table summarises the consultation process to finalise the Council Plan 2017-21:

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Public Notice in The Age newspaper and on Council's website | Thursday 27 April 2017 |
| Public Notice in the Bayside Leader | Monday 1 May 2017 |
| Community Briefing | Thursday 18 May at 6.30pm |
| Submission close at 5.00pm (30 days) | Friday 26 May 2017 at 5.00pm |
| Special Committee of Council to hear submissions | Thursday 8 June at 6.30pm |
| Ordinary Meeting of Council to adopt the Council Plan | Tuesday 27 June 2017 at 7.00pm |

Human Rights

The implications of this report have been assessed and are not considered likely to breach or infringe upon, the human rights contained in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

Legal

A Council Plan is required under section 125 of the *Local Government Act* 1989, and must be prepared every four years following Local Government Elections. The new Council Plan should be developed and approved by 30 June, with a copy submitted to the Minister for Local Government.

Finance

In accordance with section 125 of the *Local Government Act* 1989 the Strategic Resource Plan will be prepared and aligned to the Council Plan 2017-21, describing the financial and non-financial resources required to achieve the strategic objectives.

Links to Council policy and strategy

The Better Place Strategic Planning Framework provides line of sight between the four-year priorities of the elected Council in the Council Plan and the major strategies and policies that enable Council to deliver against their vision. It will also help to give all Council staff an understanding of how their roles and service areas contribute to making Bayside a better place.

2. PROPOSED 2017/2018 ANNUAL BUDGET AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Corporate Services – Finance
DOC/17/64818 - File No: PSF/17/68

Executive summary

Purpose and background

To present the 2017/18 Proposed Budget and the Long Term Financial Plan 2017/18 – 2026/27 for in-principle approval prior to public notice advising of Council's intention to adopt a budget for 2017/18.

Key issues

Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) has been the basis for the preparation of the Strategic Resource Plan and the Annual Budget 2017/2018. The LTFP is the key ten-year financial planning document of Council and is governed by a series of financial strategies and accompanying performance indicators.

Long Term Financial Plan 2017/18 – 2026/27

The key strategies embedded in the LTFP to ensure financial sustainability include:

- Rate increases are set in accordance with the fair go rates framework
- Continue to review four services each year to ensure services provided to the community provide value and are sustainably funded
- Identify efficiency gains in the operating budget in order to ensure a financially sustainable operating surplus in a rate cap environment
- Ensure that service users are making a reasonable contribution to the cost of those services through appropriate fees and charges by maintaining an annual 5% increase in non-statutory fees and charges.
- Identify alternative revenue streams and funding opportunities to take pressure off rate increases
- Explore greater financial and community returns from Council's property portfolio
- Increase funding for capital renewal and new/upgrade works
- Reduce the level of debt held by Council and ensure that any new debt is based on a sound business case and demonstrated community benefit.
- Continue to manage the extreme nature of Defined benefits superannuation shortfalls by quarantining funds in a reserve with an annual increase of \$500k.
- Ensure that any new programs or projects generate specific community value and are funded in a sustainable way.

Key highlights of the 4 year Strategic Resource Plan include:

- Rate increases will be capped at CPI in accordance with the rate capping framework set by State Government. Rate dependency currently at 69% will remain high over the LTFP.
- Productivity and efficiency savings of \$2 million in the operating budget are required over the next three years to maintain sustainable operating surpluses into the future.
- An average operating surplus of \$19 million per year over the next 4 years
- Infrastructure renewal requirements identified in asset management plans are fully funded with the delivery of \$162.2 million of capital works over the next four years.
- An accelerated debt reduction strategy will see Council's debt of \$2.1 million repaid in full by 2018.
- Council will utilise cash reserves over the next 4 years to fund strategic capital projects and the debt reduction strategy while maintaining benchmark liquidity ratios.
- Continue to set aside \$0.5 million per annum to smooth out the extreme nature of the Defined Benefits Superannuation Shortfall calls.
- Achievement of key financial sustainability ratios over the LTFP.

Proposed Budget 2017/18

The 2017/18 Proposed Budget reflects a financially sustainable position while achieving Council's operational objectives. These include the delivery of ongoing services and commitment to new priority and capital projects to meet the existing and growing needs of our community in relation to health, safety, sustainability and infrastructure.

Key highlights of the Budget include:

- Average rates to increase by 2% complying with the rate capping framework set by State Government.
- An increase in the waste charge of 4.5%
- A strong operating surplus of \$23.1 million for 2017/18.
- Productivity and efficiency savings of \$1.3 million identified in the operating budget
- An increase to the net cost of services of 2.4% to \$55.9 million
- New initiatives of \$1.4 million.
- Capital budget of \$45.7 million in 2017/18
- Continue to apply the accelerated debt reduction strategy, with debt reducing by \$2.1 million in 2017/18 which will result in Council being debt free.
- Maintenance of a sound cash position with cash and investments

Please refer to attached Long Term Financial Plan 2017/18 – 2026/27 and Proposed Budget 2017/18 attached for full analysis.

Recommendation

PART A

That Council includes into the 2017/18 Proposed Budget for the purpose of Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989 the following item:

- New Initiative – Car Park Feasibility Study \$50,000
To undertake further study of (at grade) car parking for the Black Street and Well Street carparks.

PART B

That Council:

1. formally prepares the 2017/2018 Proposed Budget (including the Schedule of Discretionary Fees and Charges) for the purpose of Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989;
2. adopts in principle the Long Term Financial Plan 2017/18 – 2026/27;
3. gives public notice of the preparation of the 2017/2018 Proposed Budget and the Long Term Financial Plan (2017/18 – 2026/27) and makes available copies of the proposed budget and Long Term Financial Plan for public inspection purposes; and
4. in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, establishes a Special Committee of Council consisting of all Councillors with a quorum of four (4) Councillors to hear submissions in relation to the 2017/2018 Proposed Budget on Thursday 8 June 2017 at 7:30pm at the Council Chambers, Civic, Centre, Brighton.

Considerations and implications of recommendation

Liveable community

Social

There are no social impacts associated with this report.

Natural Environment

There are no natural environmental impacts associated with this report.

Built Environment

There are no built environmental impacts associated with this report.

Customer Service and Community Engagement

A community budget briefing has been scheduled on Thursday 18 May 2017 to inform the community about the 2017/18 Budget. The public has the opportunity to make a submission on any proposal contained in the Budget within 28 days of publication of the public notice on 28 April 2017.

The following table summarises the consultation process to finalise the Draft Budget:

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Public Notice in The Age newspaper and on Council's website | Thursday 27 April 2017 |
| Public Notice in the Bayside Leader | Monday 1 May 2017 |
| Community Briefing | Thursday 18 May at 6.30pm |
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| Special Committee of Council to hear submissions | Thursday 8 June at 7.30pm |
| Ordinary Meeting of Council to adopt the 2017/18 Budget | Tuesday 27 June 2017 at 7.00pm |

Human Rights

The implications of this report have been assessed and are not considered likely to breach or infringe upon, the human rights contained in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Legal

This Proposed Budget and LTFP complies with the principles of sound financial management as detailed in section 136 of the Local Government Act 1989 which includes

- Prudently manage financial risks relating to debt, assets and liabilities;
- Provide reasonable stability in the level of rate burden;
- Consider the financial effects of Council decisions on future generations; and
- Provide full, accurate and timely disclosure of financial information.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 section 127, Council must prepare a budget each financial year and must include budget information containing: financial statements, the funding of major initiatives, services and capital works, rating information and any "special order" for rate cap variation.

Finance

In accordance with the legislation, an Annual Budget has been prepared, which details the financial resources required to achieve the Council Plan 2017-2020.

Links to Council policy and strategy

The proposed Budget 2017/18 and Long Term Financial Plan 2017/18 to 2026/27 are identified within Goal 8 Governance in the Council Plan 2017-2020. We want an organisation that is financially sustainable and with decision making that is open, transparent and informed by the community.

3. ELSTERNWICK PARK (NORTH) MASTERPLAN

Environment, Recreation and Infrastructure Services – Open Space, Recreation and Wellbeing
DOC/17/64818 - File No: PSF/17/68

Executive summary

Purpose and background

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the outcomes of the Deliberative Panel process, highlight the pros and cons of each option proposed by the Deliberative Panel and recommend a preferred option on which to develop the Elsternwick Park (North) Masterplan.

At the 15 December 2015 Council meeting, Council considered a report regarding development of a golf driving range on the site of the existing Elsternwick Park Golf Course by Leisure Management Services (LMS), the current lessee of the golf course and the proponent of the driving range proposal. At which Council resolved:

That Council having considered the LMS proposal:

1. Resolves not to proceed with a Golf Driving Range at Elsternwick Golf Course;
2. Undertakes additional consultation with residents and VAFA to better inform the Elsternwick Master Plan. The additional consultation to include the following options:
 - a) Retention of the Golf Course;
 - b) Turning the Golf course into open space with a provision to allow the relocation of Oval 2
 - c) Turning the Golf Course into a 6 hole course with a provision to allow the relocation of Oval 2 to the south-west of the site; and
 - d) Any other viable options such as an eco-precinct.
3. The consideration of all options shall include the implications for water management and flooding mitigation implications;
4. Receives a preliminary report at the April 2016 Ordinary Meeting of Council on the results of the consultation with all stakeholders; and
5. Council notes that the extent of change possible at Elsternwick Park depends upon the LMS tenant's exercise of lease options.

In accordance with the above motion, a preliminary report was presented to Council at its 26 April 2016 meeting, at this meeting Council resolved the following:

That Council notes the community feedback from the early phase of the community engagement and the further planned staged approach to developing options for the Elsternwick Park Masterplan.

The staged approach to developing options included the establishment of a Deliberative Panel. For the purpose of developing a masterplan for Elsternwick Park (North), the Elsternwick Park Tennis Club, Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA) and Oval No. 1 and the Elsternwick Park Sports Club (lawn bowls) have been excised and do not form part of the discussion. Refer to Attachment 1 for existing site uses within the scope of the masterplan.

Key issues

Since the 26 April 2016 Council meeting, the community consultation process has progressed, including a Deliberative Panel conducted at the Council Chambers on 5 and 13 November 2016. The Deliberative Panel was presented with three master plan options that had been developed based on earlier consultation, including about 100 stakeholders attending a forum at Trevor Barker Oval on 18 May 2016. The Deliberative Panel also heard evidence relevant to each of the conceptual options from Council staff and stakeholder groups.

The outcome of the Deliberative Panel was three options for the future use of Elsternwick Park (North) to be presented to a future Council meeting for consideration. Whilst the panel did not reach consensus about one future option for Elsternwick Park North, there was majority support for Option 1A (58%).

The community consultation and engagement processes were successful in allowing the various community views to be ascertained and for groups with differing views to be able to hear the views of each other.

Option 1A

This option (Attachment 2) was the most supported through the Deliberative Panel process (58%) and includes the creation of an urban forest, expanded wetland area and the retention of an upgraded Oval 2 (including pavilion and lighting) in its existing location. This option maximises environmental outcomes and creates a nature-based park. In this option the golf course is not retained which results in an income loss for Council. The cost for comparison purposes of this option is estimated at \$7,944,000 in capital and \$300,000 per annum in ongoing costs.

This option improves the natural/environmental elements of the park, maintains the existing oval based sports (suitable for juniors) and removes golf from the site. The wetland area can be increased under this option.

Option 2A

This Option (Attachment 3) was the Deliberative Panel's next most supported option (25%) after Option 1A. In this option Oval 2 (including pavilion and lighting) is relocated to the north east of the park to accommodate an increase in its size. This option includes; up to 4 netball courts and associated car parking, creation of an urban forest and expanded wetland area and maximises opportunities for organised sport (cricket, football and netball). In this option the golf course is not retained which results in an income loss for Council. The cost for comparison purposes of this option is \$9,981,000 in capital and \$306,000 per annum in ongoing costs.

This option improves the natural/environmental elements of the park, improves facilities for oval based sports (suitable for seniors), provide for the addition of netball courts and removes golf from the site. The wetland area can be increased under this option. Tree removal is required to accommodate the oval which is situated close to New Street residents.

Option 5

This option (Attachment 4) although developed through the deliberative Panel process, was least supported through the Deliberative Panel (17%). In this option the golf course is retained and improved, the wetlands are extended though not to the extent of Options 1A and 2A. The current practice fairway south of Oval 1 is replaced with additional tree planting increasing the urban forest feel. Oval 2 including pavilion and lighting) is upgraded in its existing location. The cost for comparison purposes of this option is \$4,815,000 in capital and \$30,000 per annum in ongoing costs.

This option retains the existing elements of the park, which is the current oval, golf course and wetland are retained largely as they are today.

Having considered the pros and cons of each option and the preferences of the Deliberative Panel, Option 1A is assessed as achieving the best balance between the desire for additional passive recreation and environmental (expanded wetland and urban forest) spaces, improved storm water management and opportunities for active/organised sport facilities, noting that Oval 2 is retained in its existing location. The cost to Council, particularly the ongoing increase in operational cost must however be considered in the context of the current financial climate (rate capping) and Council's other capital works priorities.

The estimated cost to implement Option 1A is \$7,960,000 plus a recurrent operational budget increase of approximately \$306,000 per annum in net cost to Council. The draft four year capital budget includes \$6.2 million toward changes on this site to be determined by this masterplan.

It is recognised that Options 1A and 2A cannot progress until the lease of the golf course ends. The current lease holder has two five year options at its discretion with notification to Council of its intentions required no later than March 31 2018. Under these lease conditions Council is not required to make any further significant investment in the site, but should Council wish to do so, changes including the financial arrangements and implications for the tenant and Council would require negotiation with the tenant.

Further details of each option are outlined in Attachment 5.

Storm Water Management

Elster Creek runs through Elsternwick Park North and both Elsternwick Park North and South have a role to play in mitigating the impacts of storm water flooding and quality in the Elster Creek catchment. Elsternwick Park is one of the few open space areas in the creek's catchment and the last open space area between St Kilda Street and the foreshore of Port Phillip. The Elster Creek catchment is largely built out and there are limited upstream opportunities to divert water into open space to reduce or minimise down stream flows. The Elster Creek catchment is by area approximately 8% in Bayside, 8% in Kingston, 7% in Port Phillip and 77% in Glen Eira.

In high rainfall events, Elsternwick Park and the catchment below it in the City of Port Phillip may flood; this can be exacerbated by storm surge and high tide in the Bay. Melbourne Water is the responsible authority for the management of Elster Creek and has designed and implemented previous works in Elsternwick Park to mitigate downstream flooding. Melbourne Water has advised Council that some benefit could be gained by mounding around the existing Oval No. 2, however retention of the oval in its existing location does not allow sufficient space to accommodate mounding.

In the development of the three options described above, each option gives consideration to improving the park's stormwater retention capacity. Further work with Melbourne Water is required to identify suitable opportunities subject to Council's decision on the future of Elsternwick Park (North). Options 1A and 2A offer the most scope to improve water retention. None of the Deliberative Panel options negatively impact the current situation regarding storm water management. Future storm water management options should include investigation of possibilities in Elsternwick Park South in addition to Elsternwick Park North.

Importantly it is recognised that the complex issues of flooding in the Elster Creek catchment have many factors and the full range of variables will need consideration. Ongoing work between the four catchment councils and Melbourne Water is expected to better explore mitigation and response opportunities. A technical working party has commenced comprising the CEO's of the respective organisations initiated by Melbourne Water. This will be subject to a future Council report. Elsternwick Park, Importantly cannot be a single solution to this complex matter.

Discussion

The future use of Elsternwick Park (North) and the complexities surrounding it have attracted significant community interest. The community engagement process, including the Deliberative Panel, and subsequent comments and feedback through Council's Have Your Say web page highlight the various aspirations of the Bayside and broader community. Broadly there are three areas of demand: golf, oval based sport and nature/environment. There are also a contingent within the community who are not supportive of any change of use in the park.

Proponents of each option have passionately engaged with staff and Councillors to promote the benefits of their preferred option. Each option developed by the Deliberative Panel seeks to a greater or lesser extent to address concerns of all interested parties. An open and transparent approach has been applied to this challenging project and any Council decision on this matter evidently will not fully satisfy all interested parties.

Each option has significant financial implications in terms of capital investment and two options significantly increase Council's ongoing operational requirements due to the need to maintain additional open space and loss of income (the currently leased Elsternwick Park Golf Course). Some of these operating expenses may be minimised through the development and implementation of a community and corporate volunteer program, such as exists at Westgate Park, Port Melbourne which is managed by Parks Victoria. However it is important that Council is aware of the full cost implications as volunteering cannot be expected to offset the significant cost increase.

It should be noted that option 1A received majority support of the Deliberative Panel participants and Option 2A received the next highest level of support. Option 5 received the least support and largely maintains the status quo in the park. Importantly, If option 5 was to be adopted, it would provide an ability to revert to an arrangement similar to Option 1A in the future if the golf course lease was to be surrendered by the lessee due to falling viability.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. endorses Elsternwick Park (North) Option 1A including; the creation of an urban forest, expanded wetland area and the retention of an upgraded Oval 2 in its existing location. This option maximises environmental outcomes and creates a nature-based park; and
2. proceeds with the development of a draft detailed masterplan for Elsternwick Park (North) and presents this to a future Council meeting.

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 – Elsternwick Park (North) Existing Conditions
2. Attachment 2 – Option 1A Deliberative Panel Concept Elsternwick Park (North)
3. Attachment 3 – Option 2A Deliberative Panel Concept Elsternwick Park (North)
4. Attachment 4 – Option 5 Deliberative Panel Concept Elsternwick Park (North)
5. Attachment 5 – Details of amendments to Deliberative Panel options
6. Attachment 6 – Elsternwick Park (North) Future Use Comparative Costs

Considerations and implications of proposition**Liveable community****Social**

Elsternwick Park is a significant open space on Bayside's northern boundary with the Cities of Port Phillip and Glen Eira. In its entirety the park caters to a wide range of activities including passive recreation and organised sport.

Elsternwick Park (North) currently caters almost exclusively to organised sport and tenants/users include; Elsternwick Park Golf Course, VAFA, Elsternwick Park Sports Club, Elsternwick Park Tennis Club, Elsternwick Cricket Club, Elsternwick Football Club and East Brighton Junior Football Club.

Elsternwick Park provides an important platform for social inclusion and connectedness for a variety of ages and abilities in both an organised and informal leisure and recreation.

Natural Environment

Elsternwick Park (north) includes Elster Creek (Bayside's only remaining waterway), constructed wetlands and many trees located across the site, particularly on the golf course. The area is used by a large array of native and introduced fauna.

Built Environment

The site has existing buildings and structures that support club and leased activities including; Tennis Club facilities, VAFA administration offices and club rooms, Elsternwick Sports Club facilities and golf infrastructure. The buildings at Elsternwick Park (North) have evolved over time, are in various states of condition and there is no consistent architectural quality across the site.

The built environment within the scope of this masterplan investigation includes the existing change room facility for Oval No. 2 which is no longer fit for purpose and the golf course pro shop.

Customer Service and Community Engagement

Community engagement opportunities for the Elsternwick Park (North) Masterplan since December 2015 has been extensive and well attended and supported by the community consultation has involved the following:

Stage 1

- Meetings with existing key stakeholders of the site
 - Sporting groups: Oval No. 2 users, VAFA, Elsternwick Sports Club and Elsternwick Mens and Womens Golf Clubs;
 - Elsternwick Park Coalition;
 - Elsternwick Flood Action Group, 2 Catchments 4 Communities and City of Port Phillip; and
 - Melbourne Water
- Three public drop in sessions (7, 9 and 14 April 2016). 152 people attended, representing residents from Bayside, Port Phillip and Glen Eira.

Stage 2

- Community workshop (18 May 2016) 95 people attended and refined the outcomes of consultation to date into 3 concepts to be considered by the Deliberative Panel.

Stage 3

- Deliberative Panel (5 and 13 November, 2016) 25 community members met through a facilitated process to determine what would be presented to Council.

The panel chose to refine the three options from the community workshop and present these options to Council.

Across Stages 1, 2 and 3, 1025 participants engaged through the 'Have your Say' portal and a further 3300 visited the site for information.

Stage 1 and Stage 2 engagement opportunities were promoted through the following methods:

- Direct mail - 25,000 households were letter box dropped (16,000 Bayside, 9,000 Port Phillip/Glen Eira)
- Advertisements - were placed in the Leader over two consecutive weeks in the lead up to the engagement activities. This newspaper is distributed to Bayside, Port Phillip and Glen Eira residents
- Onsite Signage - 25 Signs were erected at Elsternwick Park inclusive of Gardenvale and Elsternwick stations and Ormond Road, Elwood
- Online - the project was advertised through Council's website, Have Your Say portal and Facebook page
- Online - the project was advertised through community run Facebook channel Save Elsternwick Park
- Direct email - the project was promoted to the 650 subscribers to the project

Invitations to participate in the Deliberative Panel were sent directly to 4,000 residents of Bayside (participant recruitment and Deliberative Panel facilitation were managed by a third party). Invitations were selected at random, 50% were sent to people living within 1km of the park, 25% were sent to people living within 5km of the park and the remaining 25% were sent to the wider Bayside municipality.

The make-up of the panel was representative of Bayside's population demographics. Twenty panel members were selected randomly and five members were selected based on a special interest i.e. organised sport, environment, or being a local resident who lives in the vicinity of the park.

The community consultation and engagement activities were successful in providing balanced and transparent community input. It is noted however that the cost implications for Council were not a focus of the community's input to this issue and the special interest groups remain opposed to one or more options.

Human Rights

The implications of this report have been assessed and are not considered likely to breach or infringe upon, the human rights contained within the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Legal

Council has a current lease in place for the Elsternwick Park Golf Course with Leisure Management Services. The current term of the lease expires 30 June 2018. There are two subsequent five year options available at the discretion of the lessee.

Finance

The table below summarises the estimated capital and ongoing maintenance costs of each option. Refer to Attachment 4 for a detailed breakdown of estimated costs.

| Option 1A | Option 2A | Option 5 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sub total \$6,619,965 | Sub total \$8,317,465 | Sub total \$4,012,235 |
| Contingency 20% \$1,323,993 | Contingency 20% \$1,663,493 | Contingency 20% \$802,447 |
| Total capital cost \$7,943,958 | Total capital cost \$9,980,958 | Total capital cost \$4,814,682 |
| Ongoing maintenance \$300,000 | Ongoing maintenance \$306,000 | Ongoing maintenance \$30,000 |

Council's four year Capital Works Program 2017/18 – 2020/21 identifies a sum of \$6,220,131 inclusive of \$650,000 in external revenue for implementation of the masterplan. Note, the current consultation process and concept development for the masterplan has not informed the sum identified in the four year capital works program, nor Council's ongoing operating budget.

Links to Council policy and strategy

The Council Plan 2013 – 2017 contains the following goals and strategies which are relevant to this matter for involving the community in decision making regarding the future of Elsternwick Park.

Goal 1 – An engaged community and Council. In particular Strategic Objective 1.1 Ensuring decisions are informed by community input and clearly communicate what we decided and why and Strategy 1.1.2 Encouraging public participation in the decision-making process by facilitating inclusive processes to encourage participation from the following groups: life stage, interest, gender and ability.

Goal 3 A liveable city. In particular Strategic objective 3.1 Protecting and enhancing amenity, liveability and neighbourhood character and Strategy 3.1.4 Developing and implementing public realm projects to beautify Bayside's neighbourhood character and enrich our urban environment.

Goal 4 A sustainable natural environment. In particular Strategy 4.1.1 Working with the community and our partners to achieve positive environmental outcomes for the Bayside community. And Strategy 4.1.2 Protecting and enhancing foreshore, natural reserves and open spaces for the enjoyment of all our community.

Options considered

Option 1A

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Summary | This option includes the creation of an urban forest, expanded wetland area and the retention of an upgraded Oval 2 in its existing location. This option maximises environmental outcomes and creates a nature-based park. The golf course is not retained in this option. This option was the most supported by the Deliberative Panel (58%). |
| Benefits | Dedicates a significant area to a nature based park and habitat improvement, improved storm water management on the site including potential improvement to downstream flood impacts. Increases community access and use of this space |
| Issues | Golf is no longer catered for, the needs of football and cricket are partially catered for and the estimated cost is the second highest at \$7,944,000. |

Option 2A

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Summary | In this option Oval 2 is relocated to the north east corner of the park to accommodate an increase in its size for cricket and football. This option includes up to 4 netball courts and associated car parking. This option includes the creation of an urban forest and expanded wetland area but not to the extent of Option 1A and maximises opportunities for organised sport (cricket, football and netball). In this option the golf course is not retained. This option received the second most support by the deliberative panel (25%). |
| Benefits | Aims to meet the needs of cricket and football by relocating Oval No. 2 and increasing its size, includes netball, addresses environmental issues and improves community access and use of this space. |
| Issues | Golf is no longer catered for. The siting of Oval No. 2 near New Street may receive localised opposition from nearby residents. This option has the highest estimated cost at \$9,981,000. |

Option 5

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|-----------------|--|
| Summary | In this option the golf course is retained and improved, the wetlands are extended though not to the extent of Options 1A and 2A. The current practice fairway south of Oval 1 is replaced with additional tree planting increasing the urban forest feel. This option also includes an eco-café/pro shop and a wetlands viewing shelter for educational and community use. This will provide an opportunity for bird watching and habitat interpretation. This option received the least amount of support by the Deliberative Panel (17%). |
| Benefits | Golf course is retained, Oval No.2 is upgraded but retained in its current location, modest environmental improvements and inclusion of a viewing/educational shelter adjacent to the wetlands. This option maintains the status quo of current use. |
| Issues | Limited community access to the site, provides limited storm water improvement. This option has the least estimated cost at \$4,815,000. |