

Privacy acknowledgement: * I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

Name: * Simon Haussegger

Email address: *

Phone number *

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: * Agenda Item 6.2 – Ministerial Planning Referral: TPM-2023-3 (899-913 Collins Street, Docklands)

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Unable to attach due to size.
Submissions will not be accepted after 10am. Will email to the address below.

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: * Yes

If yes, please indicate if you would like to make your submission in person, or via a virtual link (Zoom) to the meeting. Please note, physical attendance will be limited in accordance with City of Melbourne security protocols and COVID-safe plans and be allocated on a first registered, first served basis. * I wish to make my submission in person

21 November 2023

899-913 Collins St Victoria Harbour Y7

Simon Haussegger
Cox Architecture



The Site

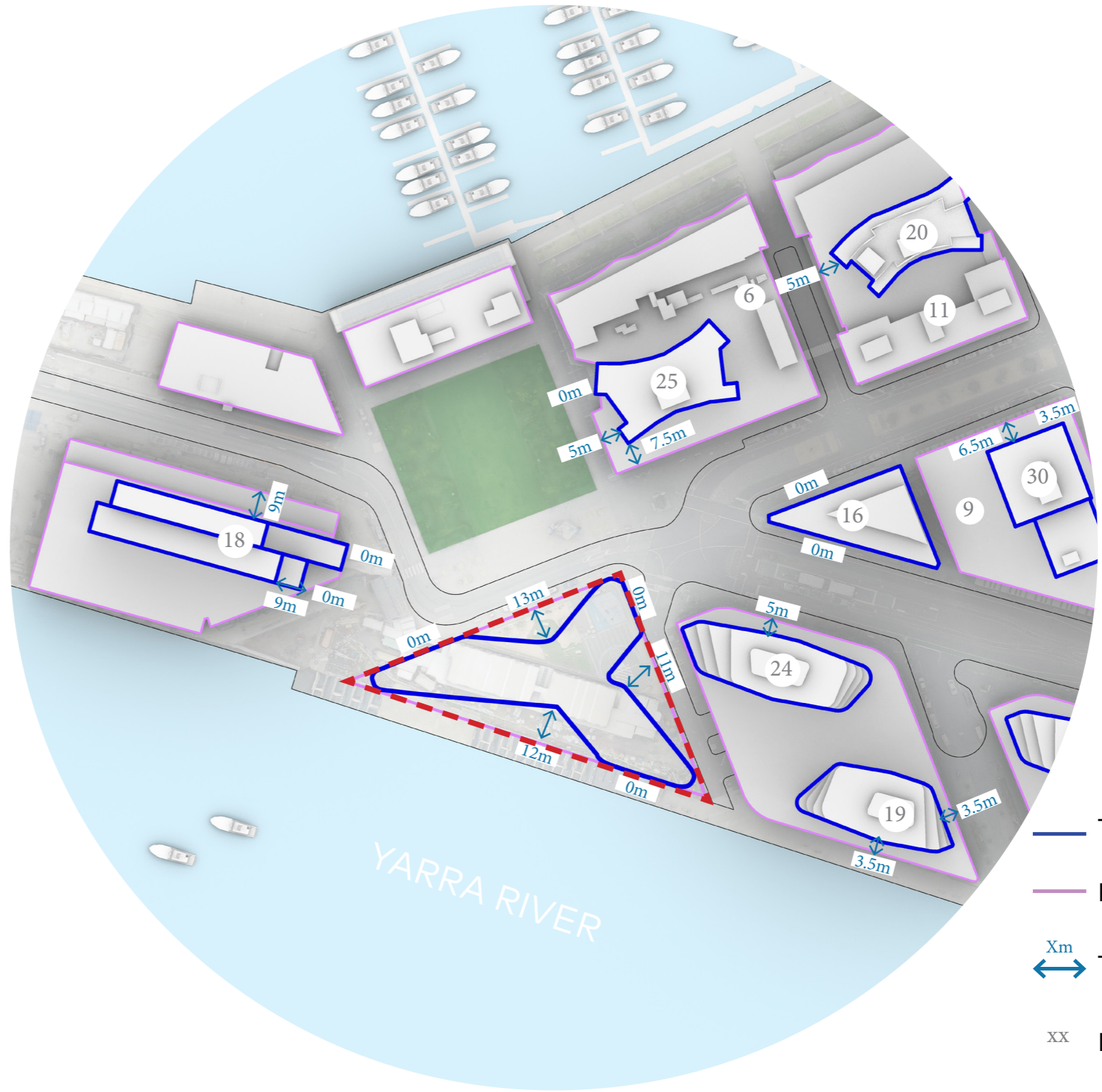
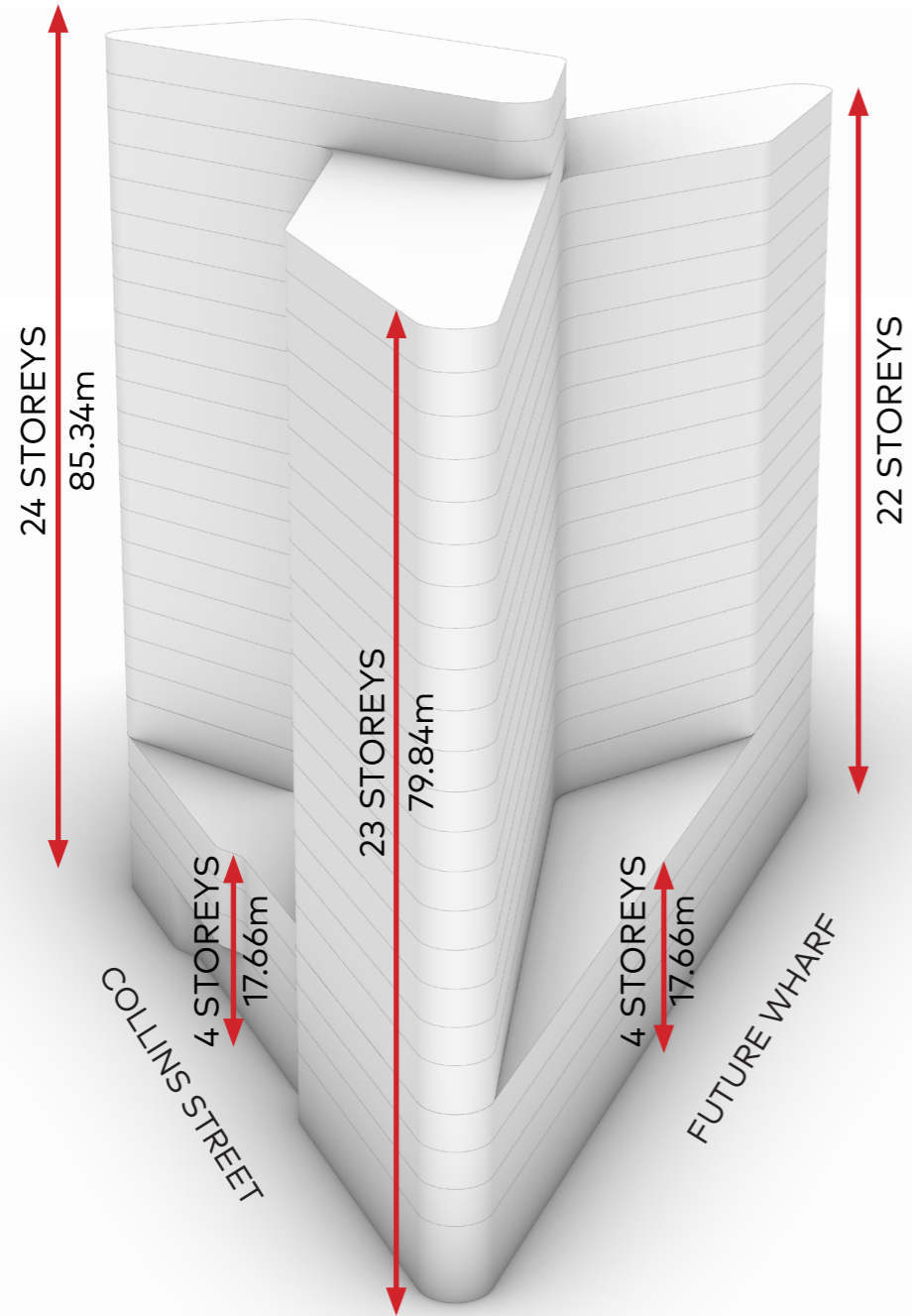


SITE

Victoria Harbour Masterplan

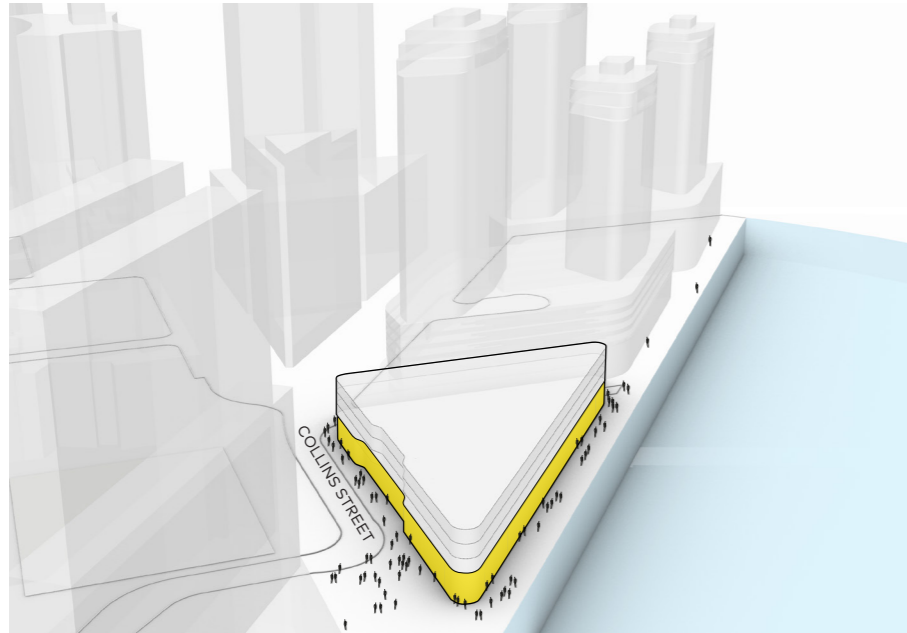


Responsive Form

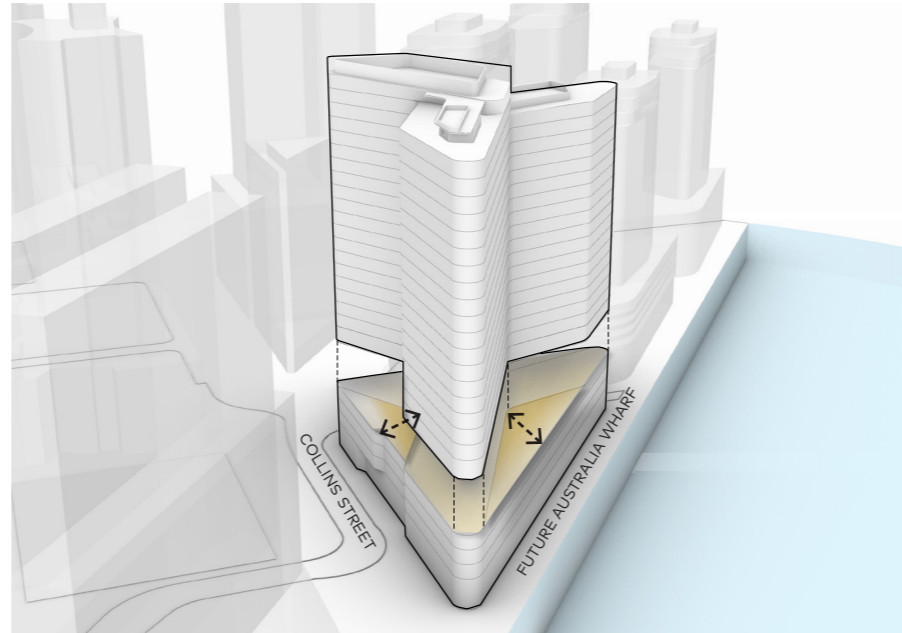


- Tower Footprint
- Podium
- Xm Tower Setbacks*
- xx Levels

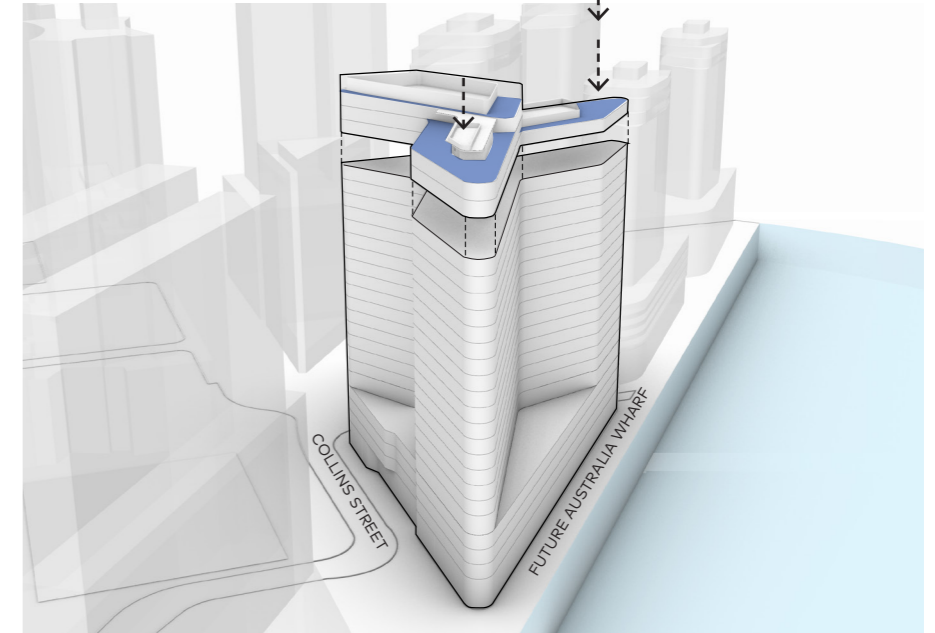
Ground Activation



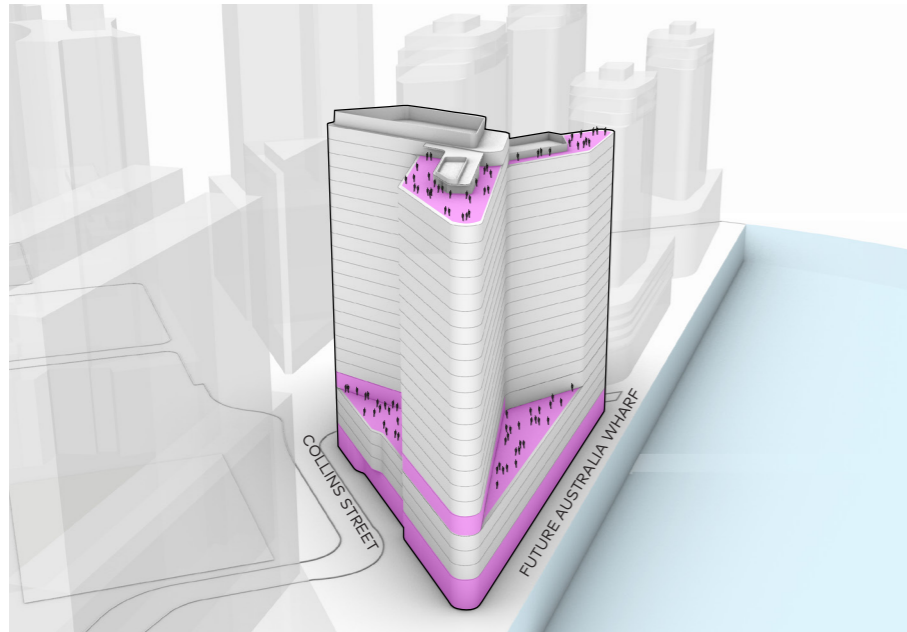
Vertical Articulation



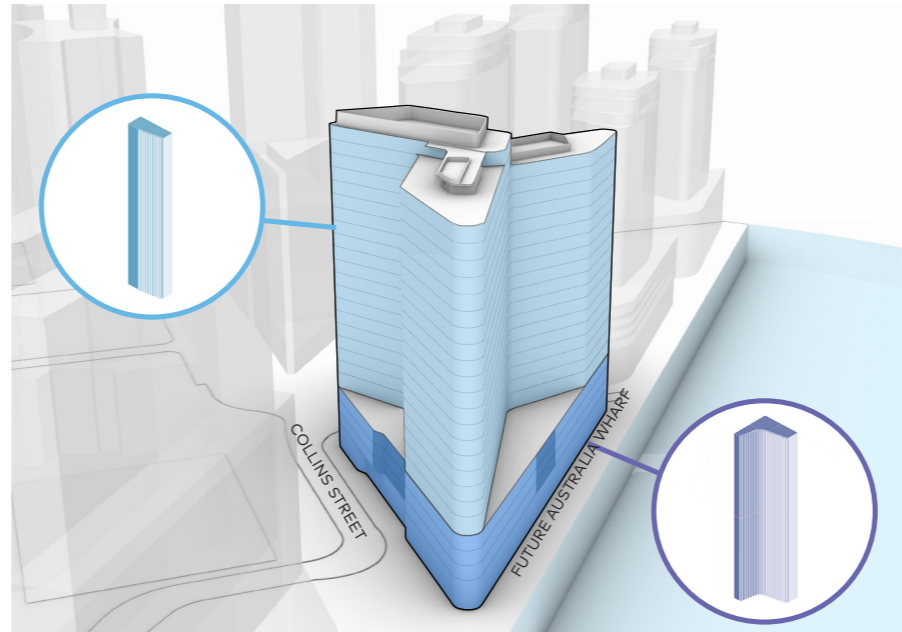
Tower Terracing



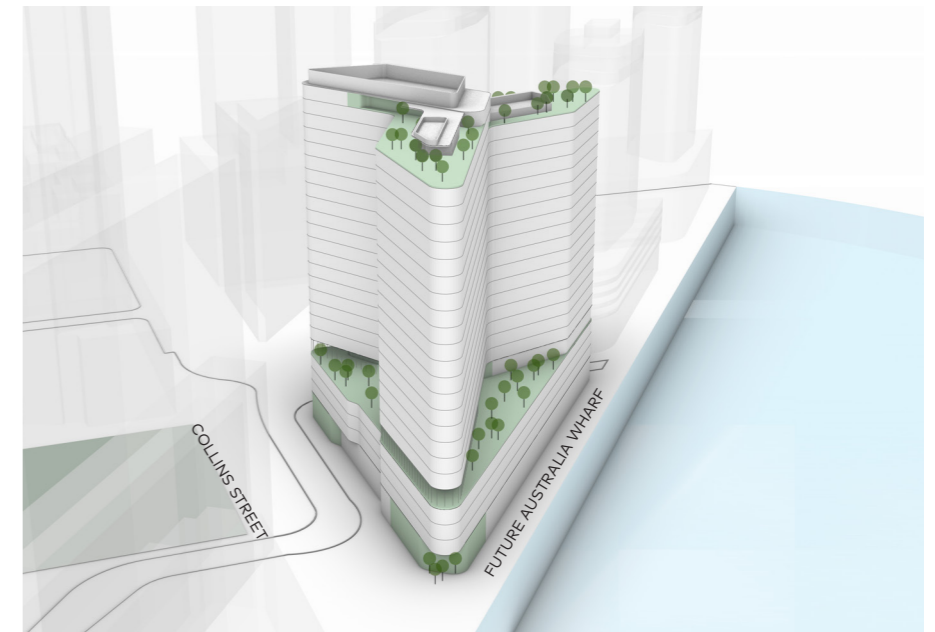
Amenity Spaces



Façade Diversity



Vertical Gardens



Build to Rent - Targeting 2024 Construction

AMENITY-L22

Outdoor Lawn

AMENITY-L23

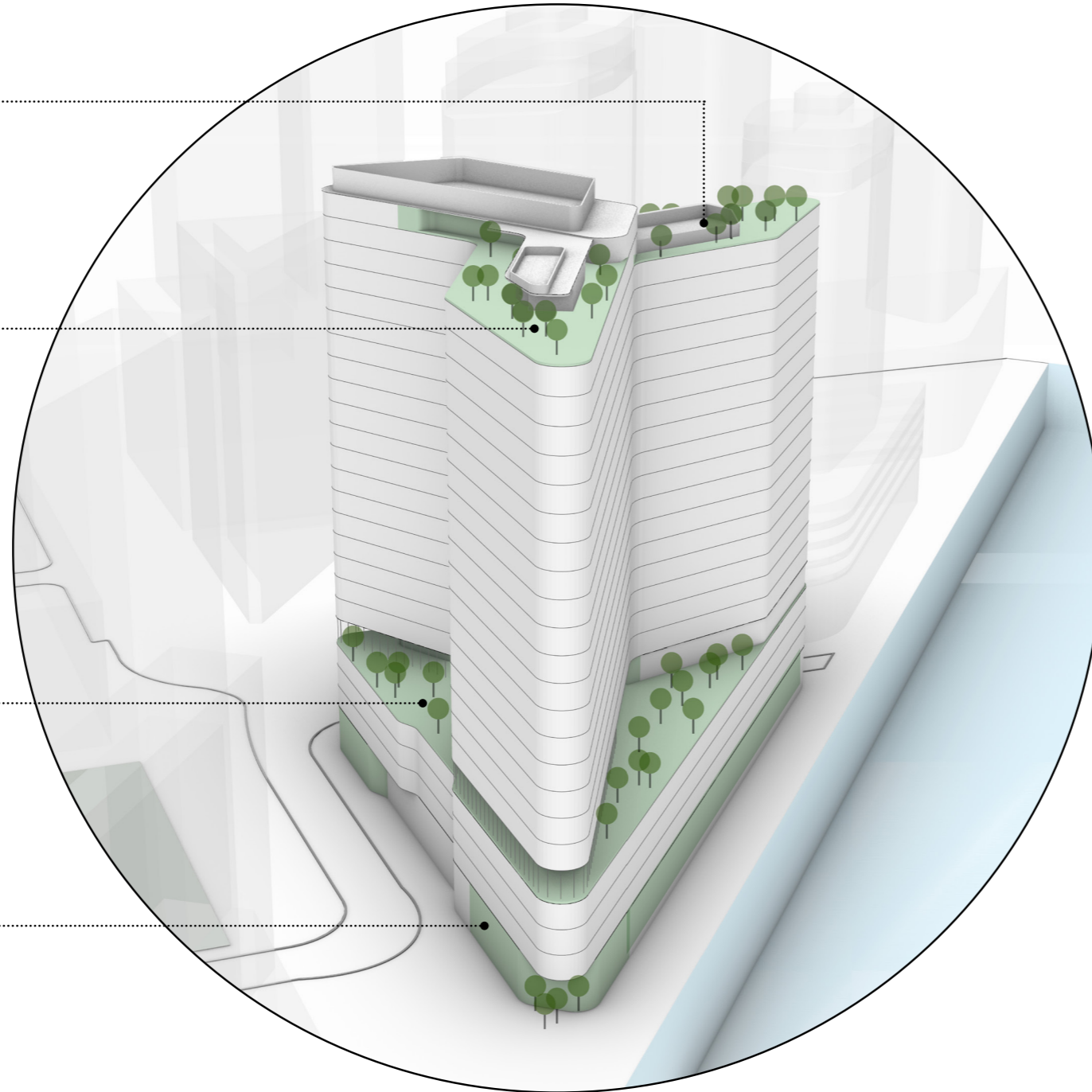
Resident's lounge /
Private dining / outdoor dining

PODIUM TOP-L4

Health / well-being

GROUND FLOOR

Fun & social / Business lounge



Apartment Numbers:

499 Total

Apartment Mix:

Studio	56	(11%)
1 Bedroom	198	(40%)
2 Bedroom	224	(45%)
3 Bedroom	21	(4%)

Carparking Provision:

103 Total

Bicycle Parking Provision:

412 secure resident bike parks

Rise in Storeys:

24 storeys (including Ground)

Building Height:

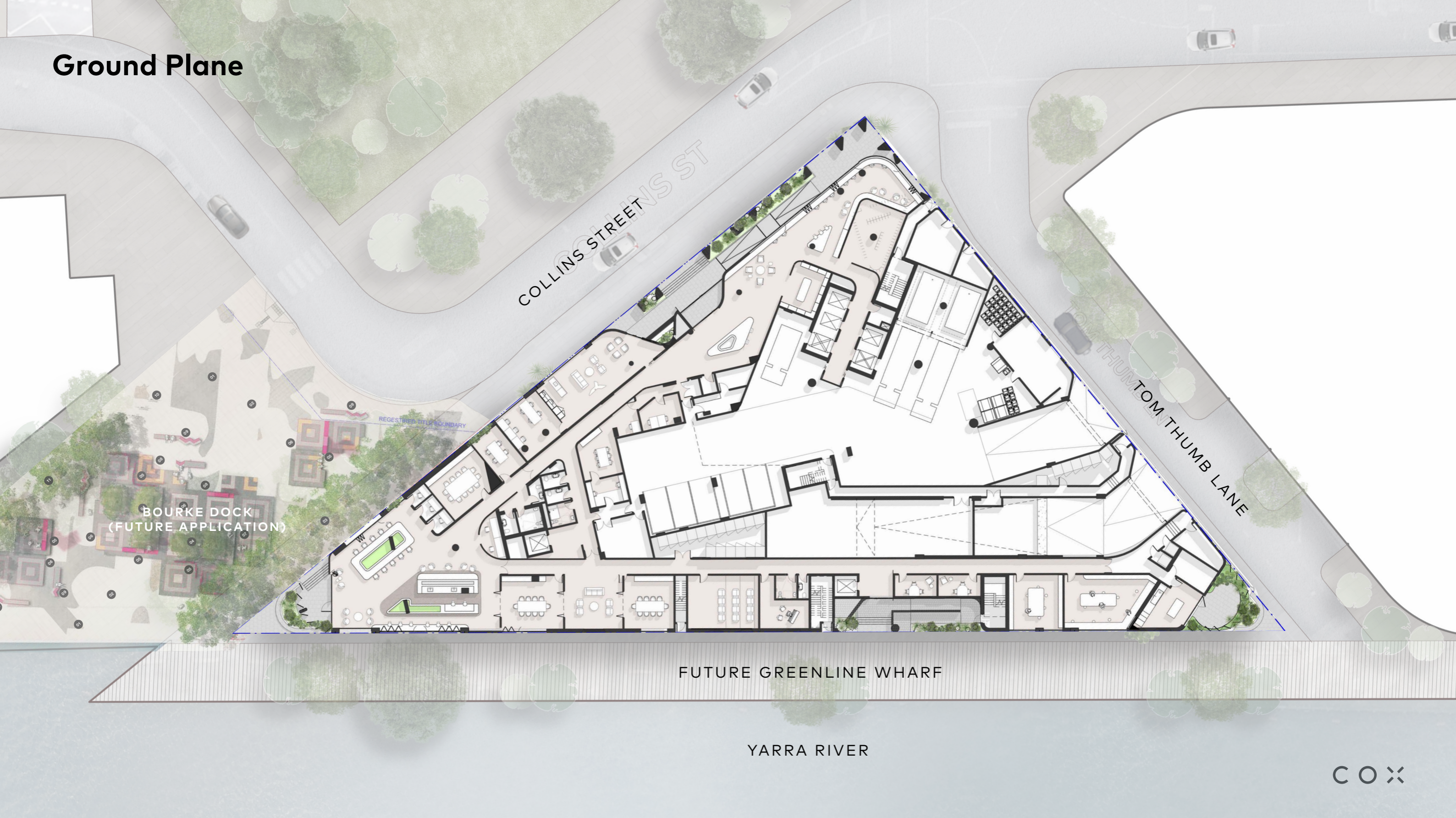
82.340 m measured vertically from
between ground floor FSL and Roof

Prioritising Resident experience

Enhancing views for every resident
Maximising access to light
Optimal spatial proportions



Ground Plane



COLLINS STREET

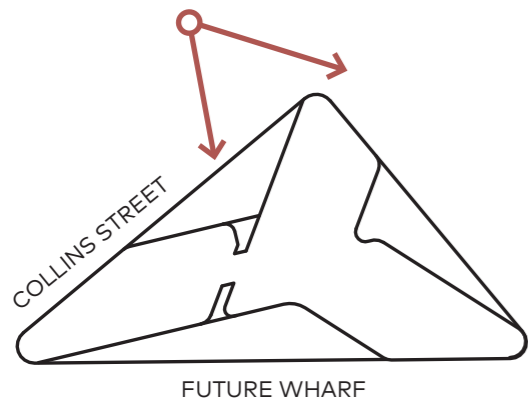
TOM THUMB LANE

BOURKE DOCK
(FUTURE APPLICATION)

REGISTERED TITLE BOUNDARY

FUTURE GREENLINE WHARF

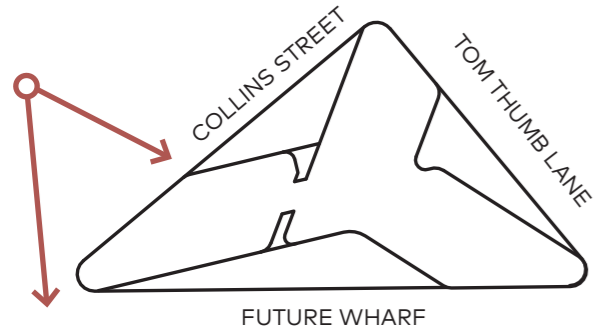
YARRA RIVER

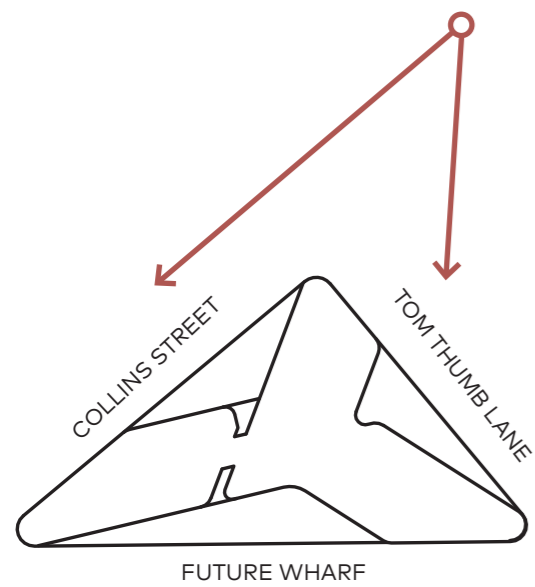


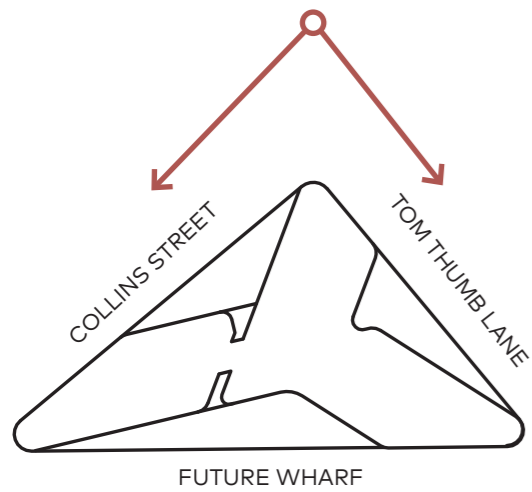
ARTIST IMPRESSION - VIEW LOOKING FROM COLLINS STREET



ARTIST IMPRESSION - VIEW LOOKING FROM BOURKE DOCK







ARTIST IMPRESSION - VIEW LOOKING FROM COLLINS STREET / BULUK PARK

Privacy acknowledgement: * I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

Name: * Sarah Macklin

Email address: * [REDACTED]

Phone number * [REDACTED]

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: * FMC Agenda Item 6.2 – Ministerial Planning Referral: TPM–2023–3 (899–913 Collins Street, Docklands)

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Submissions will not be accepted after 10am. Please see attached.

Alternatively you may attach your written submission by uploading your file here:  [y7_fmc_urbis.pdf](#) 2.21 MB · PDF

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: * Yes

If yes, please indicate if you would like to make your submission in person, or via a virtual link (Zoom) to the meeting. Please note, physical attendance will be limited in accordance with City of Melbourne security protocols and COVID–safe plans and be allocated on a first registered, first served basis. * I wish to make my submission in person

URBIS

899-913 COLLINS ST, VICTORIA HARBOUR

21 November 2023



CONSISTENT WITH THE APPROVED VICTORIA HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- Nominated as a flexible site for land uses
- Building form responds to the Development Plan requirements
- Does not shadow to south bank of Yarra River between 11am and 2pm, 22June



Figure 6.4.2 - Land Uses - Upper Levels

DEVELOPMENT WILL DELIVER



499 new dwellings into supply – across studios, 1, 2 and 3 beds



Shovel Ready – proposed to commence construction 2024



Consistent with approved Development Plan



In conjunction with the delivery of further public realm and open space works within the Precinct

AN ANIMATED GROUND PLANE

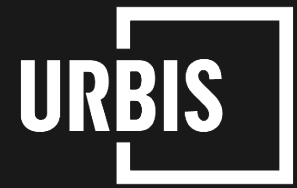
- Challenging retail, F/B environment
- Range of meetings rooms, co-working spaces and lobby cafe
- Ground plane animated with additional seating spaces to complement Bourke Dock open space



WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

- Bourke Dock will be delivered at the same time as Y7, with a planning application to be lodged shortly with Council
- Lendlease can deliver permanent exercise equipment within future open space at Collins Wharf, subject to future approval by Council





THANK YOU

Privacy acknowledgement: I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

*

Name: * Cheryl McKinna

Email address: *

Phone number *

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: 6.3 QVM precinct update

*

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Submissions will not be accepted after 10am.

I write to express my anger at the traffic management in the QVM neighborhood right now. I am a resident of Melbourne Terrace, specifically /410 Queen Street I am currently disabled and on crutches due to a fracture of my pelvis. The access to and egress from the Melbourne Terrace garage is the narrow back street Anthony Street. This afternoon (Sunday) Anthony Street was grid locked as I attempted to access Anthony Street and the garage from the A'Beckett Street or southern end. This was necessary as the section of Queen Street between A'Beckett Street and Franklin Street is completely closed off. A consequence of this closure is traffic from the QVM car parks using Anthony St as a 'rat run'

as the Franklin Street Elizabeth Intersection currently does not allow right or left turns from Franklin Street due to major street works on Elizabeth Street. The only way I could access the Melbourne Terrace garage was to ask one of my neighbours to hold up any cars attempting to enter Anthony Street from Franklin Street to allow me to get to the garage roller door.

Why has this been allowed to happen. While each piece of work, eg Queen Street closure, Elizabeth Street closure, Dudley St and Wurundjeri Way and even Latrobe Street eastward has it own traffic management plans and notice to residents and businesses in their area, there does not appear to be any overarching view of and therefore management of the overall impact on traffic and pedestrian movement.

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: *

No

21 November 2023

To: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Councillors and staff of the City of Melbourne

Submission Re: Queen Victoria Market 'Precinct Renewal'; Future Melbourne Committee Agenda items, 21 November 2023

**6.3 Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Key Precinct Projects Engagement Plan Update;
and**

6.5 Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Quarterly Report

Dear Lord Mayor, Councillors, the City of Melbourne, and relevant key staff,

The Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Precinct Key Precinct Projects Engagement Plan Update (6.3) reports an inadequate, incomplete and unsatisfactory engagement process, including inadequate scale and scope in the sampling, inadequate material to provide in the briefings (important and critical information that set parameters was missing, such as heritage status and values; inclusion of the open air car park and Old Melbourne Cemetery within Queen Victoria Market (QVM) heritage listing and integral to its functioning and values), and wrong timing. It is premature and disjointed from Queen Victoria Market, the entire, continuous, inter-connected site, and from the current state of affairs, a wrong and fragmented approach, concept and implementation.

The recommendations, 16 (below), should not be endorsed by Council:

- 16: it is well premature of being able to finalise a concept design or to approve the Franklin Street Transformation Project
- 16.2: the engagement summary report for the Market Square and Queen's Corner Building projects is not adequate, accurate or appropriate, and a concept design is nowhere near ready for commencement.

16. That the Future Melbourne Committee: 16.1. Notes the engagement summary report for the Franklin Street Transformation Project (Attachment 4 of the report from management) and approves finalisation of the concept design.

16.2. Notes the engagement summary report for the Market Square and Queen's Corner Building projects (Attachment 3 of the report from management) and approves commencement of the concept design.

In Agenda item 6.5: "3.4. Market Square – the month long Market Square community engagement process concluded in early October. **Design work will respond to feedback received during community engagement.**"

Design work should NOT respond to feedback received during the outlined community engagement, which was inadequate, curtailed and premature. There are serious issues

with the consultation, engagement, the brief and its conduct and omissions; with conflicts of interest being investigated and not completed, and the fact that Heritage Victoria has not announced a decision on the current Application re Queen Victoria Market. Any decisions, concepts or 'moving ahead' would be both wrong and untimely and would put beloved Queen Victoria Market at risk and potentially waste rate-payers' money.

This is not best practice management or planning – councillors had not seen the designs and plans submitted in an application to Heritage Victoria (HV) and currently under consideration, neither had the public had input; they did not go through FMC.

This is a poorly briefed, inadequate survey/consultation/engagement on a place formally listed by the Australian government as of outstanding cultural heritage significance to all Australians (Queen Victoria Market is on the National Heritage list), and the application to HV is underway and a decision to grant a permit has not been made. Design and concept work and plans must not proceed at this time and with this inadequate, premature engagement.

The briefings and consultations did not consider QVM adequately or its heritage status and pathway to World Heritage listing. They omitted heritage considerations. Around a third of QVM's landscape was treated as empty space, whereas it is national heritage listed, providing needed car park amenity for shoppers, visitors and traders, including the disabled, the ill and those doing big shops. It is also the Old Melbourne cemetery, of outstanding cultural heritage significance for all Australians and legislated by the Australian government for protection into posterity.

To simply ask locals what facilities they would like in an area or to ask children to draw their favourite playground is not adequate, accurate or respectful briefing. It is also considering a part of QVM without considering the whole continuous interconnected place.

Queen Victoria Market warrants best practice, professional management, with open disclosure of conflicts of interest and competing agendas, prior to finalising anything or 'moving forward'.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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9.Engagement methodology details and results are contained in Attachments 3 and 4.

Items 6 to 9 were flawed, faulty, inadequate, curtailed, cancelled, restricted and premature.

Council seems at odds with the history of the place and public views and expectations

The application proposals before Heritage Victoria and the ones being considered in the incomplete and unsatisfactory partial engagement reported in these agenda items are contrary to the statements by Environment Minister Hunt in June 2015.

See Interview transcripts, Minister Greg Hunt, re Consideration of Queen Victoria Markets for National Heritage List:

“GREG HUNT: **It’s about being a continuous site**.... National Heritage List means two things. Firstly, the Federal Environment Act applies and **protects the site in perpetuity**. Secondly, it’s a **recognition that this is the best of the best in terms of our history.**”

<https://www.greghunt.com.au/transcript-doorstop-queen-victoria-markets-melbourne/>

In 2018, Queen Victoria Market was added to the National Heritage list. As Minister Hunt stated in June 2015, “It’s about being a continuous site. So it’s a mixture of both the architecture and of course you have a range of different architectural sites. But **it’s more than that. It’s about the mix of cultural practices here. The Indigenous heritage, the first cemetery, but the continuing market site**”.

So the whole of Queen Victoria Market as listed, as in its national heritage map, is what we request be kept and managed as the Queen Victoria Market site, as a whole, and that it not be ‘divested’, sold, separated or used for other purposes.

We want the mix of QVM cultural practices and parts protected into posterity, as we were promised, including the different architectural sites, and that critically includes the Franklin Street sheds, which form and define the southern border, and interconnect and are read with the whole QVM site. We would like the place to be managed for itself, with discrete planning for itself, and the path to UNESCO World Heritage listing pursued now, as promised to us.

These plans/projects/proposed works and ‘divestments’, are contrary to the assurances of then Lord Mayor, City of Melbourne, Robert Doyle, in June 2015: “What people have to be assured is although we will spend \$240 million rejuvenating this market, it will be protected and it will be the Queen Victoria Market that people know and love” and “people want to be assured that this is not just a commercial redevelopment of just another retail and wholesale outlet and it is not. It is also **protection of one of the great treasures of Melbourne** ...”.

“JOURNALIST: But you’ve obviously got this development plan now, but does it protect it from other types of less favourable development down the track as well?

ROBERT DOYLE: Yes **it protects this site**. That’s the whole point – that **this site becomes sacrosanct. It becomes protected, as the Minister said, in perpetuity and that’s exactly what I think it should be.**” ...

“JOURNALIST: But wouldn’t it put extra pressure on the Melbourne City Council to make sure the development around the market site, the protected site, fits in with this development and what you want to do?

ROBERT DOYLE: But we would always do that anyway.”

<https://www.greghunt.com.au/transcript-doorstop-queen-victoria-markets-melbourne/>

Federal environment minister Josh Frydenberg officially inscribed the market on the **national heritage list on 23 July 2018**. “**For almost 150 years, it has sustained Melbourne**, first as a meat market and then as a food and produce market,” he said.

“**The colour, noise and traditions of market trading continue to this day within the Victorian-era structures, layout and fittings that make it such a grand old part of the Australian story.**”

The Queen Victoria Market was formally opened in 1878, having previously operated as a meat market, on the site of Melbourne’s first major cemetery, the Old Melbourne Cemetery (1837-1922). The national heritage listing statement of significance describes it as “an outstanding example of an Australian metropolitan food market established in the 19th century,” noting the vital role 19th century markets played in establishing colonies around Australia. The Queen Victoria Market contributed to the wealth of the early colony, provided opportunities for newly arrived immigrants, as well as introducing the colony to new varieties and cultural diversity of foods,” the statement of significance reads. “[...It] still retains many of its original attributes, liveliness and character.”* - - but much of this would be lost in the proposed works and development in 6.3. These losses, these adverse impacts have not even been considered.

*<https://architectureau.com/articles/queen-victoria-market-gains-national-heritage-listing/>

<https://architectureau.com/articles/queen-victoria-market-gains-national-heritage-listing/>

The ‘colour, noise and traditions’, (Minister Frydenberg, 2018,) would be partially removed with the proposed changes to the carpark-cemetery area and loss of the open air car park and its needed functions as part of the working traditional marketplace, an amenity for shoppers and traders, and aid for the disabled, frail, aged and injured. This is a traditional interaction between customers and traders.

The National heritage listing includes Australian Government protection of these values:

“The Market’s continued operation as a produce market **in its original location** provides further representation of these values. The intangible and experiential qualities of the Market, including its distinctive character and low-rise, open setting, cultural variety, liveliness and **traditional interactions between customers and traders all contribute to the authenticity and readability of the site as a marketplace with its origins in the nineteenth century.**”

These 2015 and 2018 actions and declarations post-date, supersede and override 2014, stated in the report introduction. The summaries on pages one and two of Agenda item 6.3 are skewed, inaccurate. Incomplete. What happened to this pathway to WH listing, to focusing on and prioritising QVM, with each step and proposed change being appropriately filtered and assessed for its impact on the place QVM, on the market, on the next step, nomination for WH listing?

City of Melbourne current media information states: "*Queen Victoria Market is the largest and most intact of all Melbourne's great 19th century markets.*" ** Would QVM remain 'the largest and most intact 19th century market in Australia and in the Southern Hemisphere, as stated elsewhere, following the proposed 'divestment' and these proposed changes (QVMPRP, Franklin Street Transformation Project, Market Square and Queen's Corner Building projects ...) ie removal of around a third of the land of listed QVM to be taken by council for use as a council event space, storage facility, and given to council and for other developments use as space for a children's playground and a bicycle route and storage area (both incompatible with Queen Victoria Market, the National Heritage listed place, stated to be protected and on the pathway to UNESCO World Heritage listing).

As this actually or effectively would reduce the land space of QVM by about a third or so, would QVM be able to be called the largest and most intact 19th century market in Australia anymore? In the Southern hemisphere? In the world?

These proposals/plans are not consistent with City of Melbourne's media information on Queen Victoria Market (QVM), which promises "(t)hrough renewal, Queen Victoria Market's heritage will be retained and restored...".

The **Precinct** Renewal Plan is not a management plan for Queen Victoria Market itself, nor is it a cultural heritage management plan for Queen Victoria Market. The proposals are not part of a QVM plan, but are part of a precinct development plan and private commercial developments, and they are inconsistent with the plan we understood was in place, as promised by the Federal Environment Minister from 2015, that the path to World Heritage listing was in progress, reinforced with its National Heritage listing in 2018. The priority and focus in these proposals/plans/the engagement done is growth of areas/places/commercial development matters outside of QVM, it has not been a plan that focussed on QVM. In this way, there is a lack of dedicated research, planning and management for QVM itself, the listed place and its cultural heritage, connections and business.

Current best practice heritage management considers the values based approach and embedded community participatory engagement. Community involvement in decision-making, planning and management is a stated requirement in World Heritage nominations. Yet CoM has failed to implement the often requested Community Advisory Committee for QVM, although the DLM has stated in late July that he would see that one was instituted. Since then the community and public have been overwhelmed with a massive application to Heritage Victoria, which councillors had not seen and stated they were unaware of the plans and proposals made; proposals for another intrusive building, non-QVM related, on the east border of Queen Victoria Market, Queen's Corner Building, with road changes at Franklin Street area that would disadvantage QVM, curtail access, and would dissect and fragment the entire, continuous QVM site.

IN CONCLUSION

Queen Victoria Market is a unique place and it should be kept as a continuous, whole site.

It has massive public support and visitor and international attendance. These would be adversely impacted if the site is diminished and the curtilage impacted as per the proposals.

The pathway to UNESCO World Heritage listing, promised and initiated from 2015, advanced in the promised/planned process with the mid-2018 National Heritage listing, would be dislodged, certainly disadvantaged and we believe eligibility would no longer be validated, should the these proposed works and divestments occur.

World heritage places must prioritise protection and enhancement of their outstanding universal values (OUVs), integrity and authenticity; it is also important that their surrounds or 'buffer zone' are protected from incongruous uses and developments... We were promised that the site (QVM) was 'sacrosanct' and 'protected' into 'perpetuity', and now the current Lord Mayor, in mid-2023, states she will be divesting swathes of QVM to commercial development and to council's other interests, events and 'open space' purposes. People of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, would be short-changed on this, into posterity.

The 'engagement' in 6.3 and 6.5 generally failed to inform people of the National Heritage listing of Queen Victoria Market and its, as we understood, as we were promised, on-going pathway to UNESCO World Heritage listing. That is something prestigious and increases the opportunities for Queen Victoria Market, including funding and visitors. It would bring status and visitors to Melbourne. Many people support this and do not support council plans such as those outlined in 6.3 and 6.5.

Depriving QVM of its own Master Plan, failing to prioritise and focus on QVM itself, its values and attributes and success, first, as a priority (ie not the precinct, not other commercial interests and transport interests in the precinct around Queen Victoria Market), does not do justice or show respect to QVM, its history and status, and its legions of supporters, visitors and shoppers.

“Under the Burra Charter, people involved in the conservation of heritage places should: understand the place and its cultural significance, including its meaning to people, before making decisions about its future; involve the communities associated with the place; care for its cultural significance and other significant attributes, taking account of all aspects of significance; care for the place's setting; provide an appropriate use; interpret and present the place in a way appropriate to its significance.” “The Burra Charter advocates a cautious approach to changing a place. Only the work necessary to repair and secure and to make it function is recommended so the history of the place can continue to be recognised.”

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/conserving-our-heritage/burra-charter>

The exceptional cultural heritage value of Queen Victoria Market and prioritising protection from the potential impacts of its surrounding precinct and development we believe

should be the key focus. This needs to be fully addressed, resolved, decided, before proceeding with or 'moving along', before 'finalising' plans or concepts for parts of QVM and its border.

LM Sally Capp gave an impassioned speech at a FMC earlier this year (perhaps the one held at North Melbourne), saying she knew nothing about heritage when she was elected LM in May 2018 but had learned from the people, from the public and local communities, and now she sees how vitally important heritage is to people, to Melburnians, enriching lives, business, communities, our city.

QVM is successful, much visited, unquestionably an extraordinary place. To propose to diminish, divide and decrease it with bicycle routes/storage, council 'events' and a playground, all of which are available elsewhere nearby in the precinct, none of which are compatible or add to the outstanding universal values critical for WH listing or are shown to be linked to increased success of Queen Victoria Market, is wrong.

We need a pause and re-think, in the QVM PRP and in these inter-related proposals, concepts, plans. They ignore and deny our valued heritage, Queen Victoria Market. There is a responsibility to the community, the place and the people of Australia.

Heritage matters!!!

By omitting the heritage information and information on the significance of the Old Melbourne Cemetery and the integral part the open-air car park plays in the function of the market, its use, operation and lively character, the 'engagements' that were held, in person, one in a small group of 6, the individual discussions and the meetings with Capire staff (who stated they were not aware and had not been briefed by CoM of the heritage status and heritage matters re Queen Victoria Market), by the car park area, skewed responses and failed to allow or reach the wider sample needed for this place, which is in a Capital City, is on the state Heritage Register and is listed on the National Heritage list, with Australian government legislation confirming that Queen Victoria Market is of outstanding cultural heritage significance to all Australians and should be protected into posterity.

These proposals/concepts/plans are not consistent with the listed values and attributes of Queen Victoria Market, its status, support, character, popularity, its success. We need to wait for the Heritage Victoria decision. We need to consider matters at council first. We need full and open disclosure about conflicts of interest first and to resolve the two differing narratives (one held by City of Melbourne running contrary to and parallel to the other - the pathway via the 2018 National Heritage listing to World heritage listing for

Queen Victoria Market). We need broader consultation and engagement. Further, we do not want holistic planning, considerations and management of QVM to fall by the wayside, as is in evidence in these reports; we do not want council processes and public and community input to be removed from planning and decisions.

Pause. Re-think. Re-set.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

B. McNicholas

Director, Walk in St Kilda Rd & Environs

Convenor, Planet Ark National Tree Day, Nature Care, Heritage and Lighting expert events

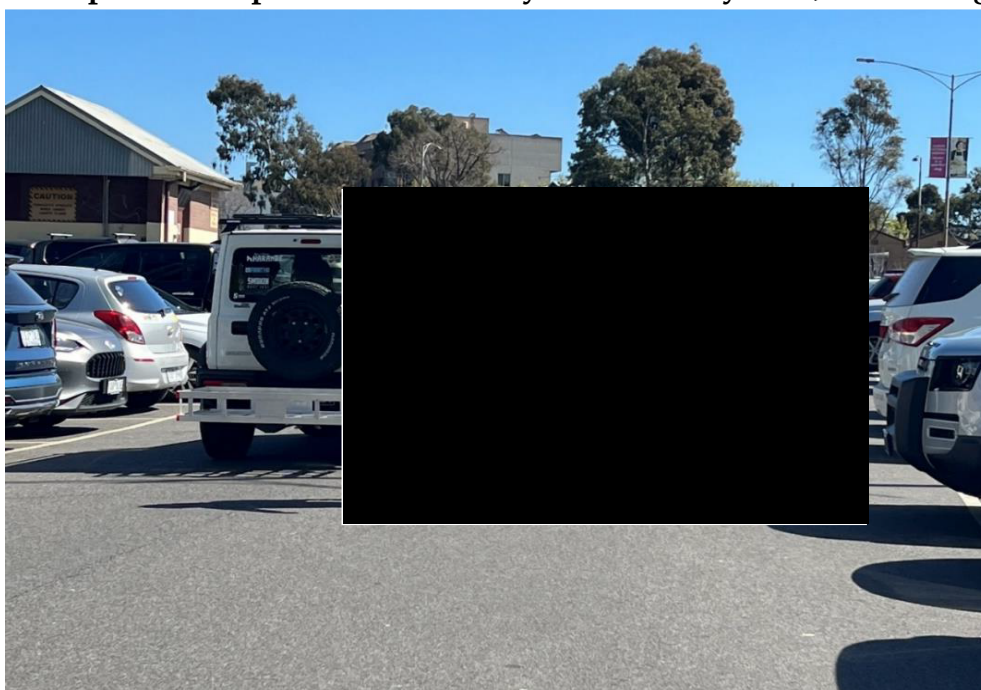
Co-ordinator, Campaign for World Heritage nomination of Melbourne Observatory

Friends of Melbourne Observatory;

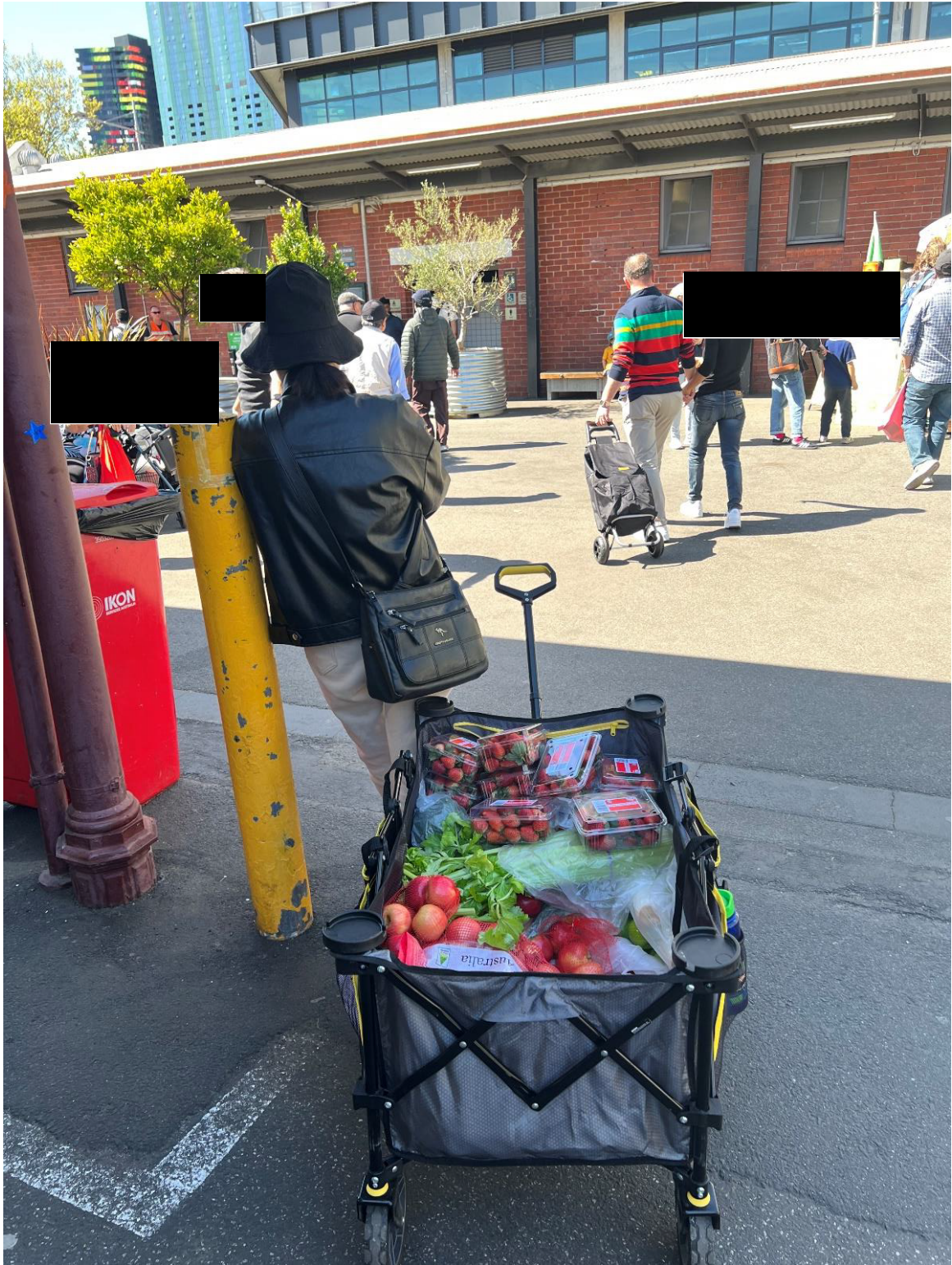
Friends of Fawkner Park

HERITAGE MATTERS!!

The open-air car park in use recently (it was always full; the underground car parks not):







Queen Victoria Market

Privacy acknowledgement: *

I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

Name: *

Mary-Lou Howie

Email address: *

[REDACTED]

Phone number *

[REDACTED]

Date of meeting: *

Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: *

Agenda item 6.3

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting.

Please delete the previous submission and regard this as the final to pass on to council.

Submissions will not be accepted after 10am.

Thank you

Alternatively you may attach your written submission by uploading your file here:



[fmc_21_nov_submission_final.docx](#) 56.71 KB · DOCX

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: *

No



21 November 2023

The Friends of Queen Victoria Market (FOQVM) want to address serious concerns with: *Agenda items 6.3: QVM Precinct \engagement update to present Councillors with results from recent community engagement on key Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal (QVMPR) projects, including Market Square, Queen’s Corner Building and the Franklin Street Transformation Project, and to seek approval to proceed to the next phase.*

- *Finalisation of concept design for Franklin street to be presented to FMC in first quarter of 2024*
- *Commencement of concept design for Market Square and QCB to be presented to FMC in early 2024 before a second round of community engagement.*

QVM precinct engagement update

Community engagement on key QVM Precinct Renewal projects:

Please note FOQVM’s response is based on our lived experience and actual observations regarding the legitimacy of the community engagement process:

- A. In early September 23 the first Pop-up consultation on the Queen St opposite Testing Grounds, was attended by mainly local residents, multiple City of Melbourne (CoM) staff, some councillors and the Lord Mayor.

At this meeting, the Lord Mayor encountered hostile residents and stakeholders indicating their strong antipathy and lack of support for:

- plans for Franklin St,
- the CoM/Lendlease partnership southern site development
- the conversion of the Market car park into a public park and event space

In the face of such a negative reaction the Lord Mayor’s demeanour displayed extreme discomfort (understandably). Nowhere was this negative public response captured in Capire’s report.

- B. 16 September: scheduled Public Workshop 2. FOQVM , and presumably others, registered to participate in the second Saturday morning public workshop. This was cancelled the same week. One could speculate that the cancellation was triggered by the negative response cited earlier from the community, or perhaps it was cancelled because a member of the public attending the first workshop clearly knew much more about the history of the QVM renewal project and heritage than the facilitator or any of the CoM staff (half the entire group) and was able to inform and influence all those present. Her informed input influenced an unwanted outcome. One can only assume this the reason for the cancellation of the second workshop. Instead, registered participants were invited to a one-on-one zoom meeting with Capire facilitator, Matilda, and a CoM staff member, in FOQVM case, Cheryl Thomson, Manager, Development Project/City Property, Property, Infrastructure and Design. (Roger Teale’s former department). This form of consultation is widely understood to be ‘managed consensus’ – isolated and safe from influencers. According to the report there were 4 stakeholder interviews of this nature.

Agenda item 6.3: Finalisation of concept design for Franklin Street to be presented to FMC in the first quarter of 2024.

FOQVM strongly argues that this matter should be postponed on the grounds that the consultation process was flawed and misleading. Examples include:

- re Franklin St, one public workshop specifically excluded non-near residents. This is hardly appropriate for a Capital City.
- interstate and international visitors, a large cohort who visit QVM and fuel our booming cultural tourism industry, were not noted in the consultation.
- one engagement event inexplicably requested children to draw their favourite park (cute but hardly best practice). This was supposedly to inform the commencement of the concept design for the car park/Market Square. The implication here to all adults present was that the car park has no heritage status and that it remains a critical part of QVM infrastructure and viability. It was just a non-functional blank canvas up for grabs. It also failed to mention the fact that there is a large children's playground on the Peel St edge of the Flagstaff Gardens opposite.

Questions arise:

The Capire /CoM data is inadequate and misleading:

How many respondents said

- keep the car park;
- do not build Queen Victoria Building (CoM staffer [REDACTED] could not provide information on what this building is for);
- do not make Franklin St changes which will disadvantage the market, make access for residents difficult and impede access to QVM creating a deterrent to visitation;
- no to events?

Were these questions asked?

There appear few opportunities, nor was it encouraged to ignore the prescribed questions and offer unprompted independent input and concerns?

QVM Heritage: Information withheld.

A key engagement theme :

'Respectful of heritage, through partnership with Traditional Owners, and through recognition of the site as Melbourne's first cemetery'.

Inconvenient facts:

- At no point in the public engagement was it noted that the entire site, the market sheds, shops, food halls, car park and southern storage sheds of Queen Victoria Market, are on the State and National Heritage listing.
- At no point in the public engagement was it mentioned that QVM is a place of outstanding cultural heritage significance to all Australians and needs protection of its listed values, attributes and characteristics in its entirety, and into posterity.

- At no point was it mentioned that a Heritage Victoria decision was pending re the Lendlease application on the design of the car park and fate of the southern storage sheds.

The heritage status of QVM as a place of national significance is barely mentioned in the Engagement Report.

In Summary:

City of Melbourne staff at the consultations they were ignorant of, or feigned ignorance, that QVM was on the National Heritage listing. They were ignorant of the extent of the QVM heritage registration, and that the QVM car park and southern storage sheds were included in the registration. Informing the public of this knowledge impacted responses, as seen in the first public workshop cited earlier. Heritage does matter.

The CoM staff lack of briefing and professional ignorance is disrespectful to not only the concerned community, but our national heritage. Evidence of this is the CoM proposing to annex part (one third) of the total site, the car park, as an event/open space, implying no heritage existence or value, no intention to protect the whole continuous interconnected site in its entirety. The car park is included in the market's heritage listing, and is, and has always been designated for market purposes only.

The reality is that there is a fundamental disagreement and opposition to the Council amongst community, traders, shoppers and the general public regarding this stage of the proposed renewal and the 'consultation' that proposes to support it. A contrived, flawed engagement process and documented outcome will not convince the community who are appalled at the state of our once great market.

The consultation does not adequately factor in the significant numbers who want QVM managed for itself, not as a part of a wider precinct, giving it the respect it deserves as a National Heritage site for all Australians.

Friends of Queen Victoria Market has a close relationship with QVM traders, customers and residents who regularly communicate with us, and have done so for many years. They rely on us to broadcast QVM news through social media. We have the ability to gage public sentiment on most QVM issues. We know that the plans for Franklin St, converting the car park into an event/open space and the City of Melbourne partnership development that will subsume the southern storage sheds are enormously unpopular with QVM traders, customers and local residents no matter how the council wants to shape it.

The consultation process as outlined in the report is not representative or comprehensive of all relevant issues. In total, the engagement sample is small and can hardly reflect public views. Consequently, the recommendations made in the report are premature and unsubstantial.

Credible data and evidence should be provided or obtained before the FMC approves finalisation of the design concept for Franklin Street. The Lendlease application to Heritage Victoria re the car park and Queens Corner Building is still pending. Much will depend on Heritage Victoria's decision re concept design for the proposed Market Square. Is this not jumping the gun?

Sadly, QVMs' history and role are being re-written and re-purposed, its narrative tampered with to achieve the City of Melbourne's desired outcome to annex the car park as an event space and convert QVM into a pedestrianised, event /hospitality space with a diminished, clean, green, sanitised market on the side. QVM's heritage integrity as the one remaining, intact, 19th century working market for all Melbourne, is being blurred, diminished, and subsumed into a broader precinct narrative.

Time for a pause and a re-think.

Question regarding Agenda item 6.3 – QVM public engagement:

Could the Council/Councillors please outline what the Council’s ideas were before the public engagement. Did the outcome align with what the Council anticipated, and will the results change or affect the way forward?

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Privacy acknowledgement: * I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

Name: * Anne Taib

Email address: * [REDACTED]

Phone number * [REDACTED]

Date of meeting: * Monday 20 November 2023

Agenda item title: * 6.3 QVM Precinct Engagement Update – results from community engagement

Alternatively you may attach your written submission by uploading your file here:



[submission_to_fmc_regarding_agenda_6.3_november_21_2023_by_anne_taib.docx](#)

53.04 KB · DOCX

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: *

No

November 20, 2023

Submission to Future Melbourne Committee (FMC)

From Anne Taib

Re: Agenda Items 6.3:

QVM Precinct Engagement Report Update to present Councillors with results from recent community engagement on key Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal (QVMPR) projects, including Market Square, Queen's Corner Building and the Franklin Street Transformation Project, and to seek approval to proceed to the next phase.

- Finalisation of concept design for Franklin Street to be presented to FMC in first quarter of 2024
 - Commencement of concept design for Market Square and QCB to be presented to FMC in early 2024 before a second round of community engagement.
1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my views addressing Agenda Item 6.3. **I submit that the Engagement Report Recommendations 16.1 and 16.2 are premature and inadequately supported or explained, and I ask for an amendment to the Recommendations which provides more time for scrutiny and consideration by councillors and stakeholders.**
 2. Point 9. of the report refers to the Engagement Methodology details and results reported by Capire in their investigation of engagement with 14 Market Square and the Queen Victoria Building. These are further described in Attachment 3 (pages 20 – 58) and Attachment 4 (pages 59 – 88). In short, according to Figure 6, 592 'engagement participations' were recorded, including an online survey (221), intercept survey (150), pop-up participants (around 180, 26 of whom were traders), school holiday participants, presumably children (32), face-to-face workshop participants (6) and stakeholder interviews (3). Clearly, these are small numbers, given the broad QVM stakeholder population. For the most part, they also concentrate on surface elements of engagement, with very few deep explorations of stakeholder' views.
 3. Point 13 identifies six "Key Themes" from the Market Square engagement. What is not clear in any part of the report or accompanying documentation is how these themes were arrived at, especially across quite different types of engagement activities. What tools or strategies were used to analyse the data obtained at Point 9 to elicit these themes? At other parts of the report and within the accompanying documentation, terms such as "key takeaways", "key findings" and "high level insights" are used, sometimes interchangeably. Again, I would like to know, how these were derived? While some information is provided e.g., the gender of respondents, there is little explanation of the analysis of the data.
 4. I would like to ask about Point 13.4:
(the need for any design to be) respectful of heritage, through partnership with Traditional Owners and through recognition of the site as Melbourne's first cemetery.

Queen Victoria Market has been on the Victorian Heritage Register since 1989, so it is pertinent to explain how heritage emerged as a theme among responses.

I noticed survey questions related to Traditional Owners for example, but where does respect for heritage appear and how did recognition of the site as Melbourne's first cemetery emerge as a theme or finding? What percentage of respondents raised

this? Also to what extent were respondents able to generate their own unprompted concerns, and were these factored into the Findings?

5. In conclusion, I question whether the small data set provides a representative or inclusive sample of engagement attitudes among stakeholders. I believe that the Findings of the investigation are not adequately explained or described in the report or any of its attachments and the method of analysis employed needs to be revealed to make this a meaningful exercise worthy of the Futures Melbourne Committee.

With these points in mind, I believe that Recommendations 16.1 and 16.2 within the report are premature and while the report content should be noted by the FMC, finalisation and commencement of the concept design **should not be approved** on November 21, 2023. Instead, additional investigation, and opportunities for further consideration by stakeholders, councillors and committee members should be recommended.

Your sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Anne Taib.

ANNE TAIB

Privacy acknowledgement: *

I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

Name: *

Bob Evans

Email address: *

[REDACTED]

Phone number *

[REDACTED]

Date of meeting: *

Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: *

Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Key Precinct Projects
Engagement Plan Update

Alternatively you may attach your written submission by uploading your file here:



[submission_to_fmc_21nov23.docx](#) 16.67 KB • DOCX

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: *

No

Bob Evans
█/410 Queen Street
Melbourne Vic 3000

Submission to FMC 21Nov23

Agenda Item 6.3

I want to start by reminding the Lord Mayor, Councillors and the City of Melbourne administration, that council adopted a principle based on procedural fairness which recognised that certain reports on significant projects required more than two and a bit business days for the general public and councillors to properly consider the report and recommendations, and lodge submissions.

I believe that Agenda item 6.3 at this meeting of the FMC concern two recommendations (16.1 and 16.2) that in fairness and good governance DO warrant more time for all stakeholders to thoroughly consider the issues involved and make reasoned submissions on that basis.

I do not feel that I've had sufficient time to properly consider the impact of the recommendations to council, nor the detailed attachments that inform those recommendations. As a result, my submission is not as comprehensive as it might be.

At the moment, I'm awaiting a response to questions I asked of council administration, relating to the consultation on Franklin Street and any updated traffic studies that relate to major roadworks the closure of the south-east carriageway of Franklin Street from Peel to Queen Street, the removal of the Queen Street roundabout, the narrowing of Queen Street, and the creation of two T-intersections at the corners of Queen and Franklin Streets.

These roadworks will have a profound effect on how the new Franklin Street linear park will manage traffic and pedestrian movement throughout the neighbourhood, especially for anyone attempting to drive, walk or peddle into the two carparks that are planned to service the Queen Victoria Market, the Lendlease buildings including the proposed Scape tower, and the Queen's Corner building (irrespective of what functions it may serve), plus the heritage-listed QVM Franklin Street stores.

Remember, these roads will also be used by drivers and possibly cyclists, involved in making deliveries to the market, the remodelled stores, the thousands of residents in a very congested area, as well as commuters who may still want to traverse the area in all four segments of the compass. In some respects, the chaos and frustration caused by the closure of the Queen Street roundabout is a foretaste of what we may have to live through when the dust settles on this redevelopment.

I know that on behalf of council the Lord Mayor has uttered a *mea maxima culpa* for the number of projects and parts of projects that are well behind their deadlines and possibly over budget, so I can understand council's sense of urgency, but as has happened repeatedly in the QVM redevelopment, poor project management and the need for speed, has meant costly delays and inconvenience, for market traders and their customers.

To give you one simple illustration, I refer you to Item 1.3 of the Capire report limitations, quote:

The majority of participants concentrated mainly on their views on Market Square rather than the Queen's Corner Building. This could be due to the way information about the Queen's Corner Building was communicated, the relative lack of negotiables for this aspect of the project, or because it was

easier for participants to understand the purpose and function of the open space. For this report, Capire have assumed that key themes heard about Market Square, could also extend to the design and future use of the Queen's Corner Building.

Council should not be surprised that survey respondents did not comment favourably or meaningfully on the Queen's Corner building because there is so little public information about its form and function. But then to assume that comments about Market Square could equally be applied to Queen's Corner is a false equivalence and a definite limitation.

I am also concerned about the consultation results reported by Capire in Attachments 3 & 4. Superficially, the number of responses to the various methods of eliciting views on aspects of the development, may appear to be as good as it gets, but realistically these consultation strategies have yielded a fraction of the broad range of QVM stakeholders. I suggest that

I submit that the consultation methods and results are not a sound basis for proceeding with Recommendations 16.1 and 16.2 of Agenda item 6.3. I urge the FMC to note the report but withhold approval of the recommendation to begin the concept designs until a more complete and substantive consultation with a larger cohort of stakeholders can be undertaken.

Yours sincerely
Bob Evans

Privacy acknowledgement: I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

*

Name: * Claire Feain

Email address: *

[REDACTED]

Phone number *

[REDACTED]

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Key Precinct

*

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Submissions will not be accepted after 10am.

This Agenda item is premature: the Gurrova place development is in process and still pending Heritage Victoria approval and the consultation process was flawed & misleading:

- One specifically excluded non-near residents
- One asked children to draw their favourite park implying that the car park is not heritage & a part of QVM, but a blank canvas up for grabs.
- Some were cancelled and replaced by controlled one-on-one zoom meetings
- Excluded the large number of interstate and international visitors
- There was not mention that QVM is on the State and National Heritage list, is a place of outstanding cultural heritage significance to all Australians and needing protection of its listed values, attributes and characteristics into posterity.
- Nowhere was it stated that the car park/Market Square and southern storage sheds are a part of the heritage listing.
- A fundamental disagreement with council wanting to remove a large part of the whole, continuous, interconnected heritage site .
- there is massive community , trader, shopper and public disagreement and opposition to the project.
- It has not adequately reviewed the significant numbers who want QVM managed for itself not as a part of a

precinct.

How many said :

- Keep the car park
- Do not build Queen Victoria Building (consultation could not provide information on what this building is for).
- Do not make the Franklin St changes ,which will disadvantage the market, and make access to QVM difficult and disadvantage raga access to what is a state, national and international visitor place.
- How' many people said no events?
- Were these questions asked?

Please indicate No
whether you
would like to
verbally address
the Future
Melbourne in
support of your
submission: *

From The Reverend James Brady and Mrs Ann Brady

WEST MELBOURNE

We are writing to submit the following in respect to the Council Meeting agenda item 6.3 set for this Tuesday 21 September.

Agenda items 6.3: QVM Precinct engagement update to present Councillors with results from recent community engagement on key Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal (QVMPR) projects, including Market Square, Queen's Corner Building and the Franklin Street Transformation Project, and to seek approval to proceed to the next phase.

- *Finalisation of concept design for Franklin street to be presented to FMC in first quarter of 2024*
- *Commencement of concept design for Market Square and QCB to be presented to FMC in early 2024 before a second round of community engagement.*

We have been residents of Carlton, North Melbourne and West Melbourne for fifty years and have shopped at least weekly at the Market during all of that time.

We have seen the Council investigate replacing the Market with a complex of hotels and International Conference Centres (1970) and by library and museum buildings (1980s). For most of the period, however, the Council seems to us to have shown little interest in the Market. Left to itself the Market has become one of Melbourne's most popular tourist attractions and now it seems Council is seeking to build on this popularity in way that seems to us misguided and actually a threat to the very things that have made the market interesting and popular.

We attended the first Pop Up Conversation in regard to the matters on the above agenda early in September this year. The Lord Mayor was present with some Council staff and listened to a small gathering which seemed to consist of local residents, members of the Friends of Victoria Market and other interested persons, some of whom seemed to be tourists attending the Market for the first time.

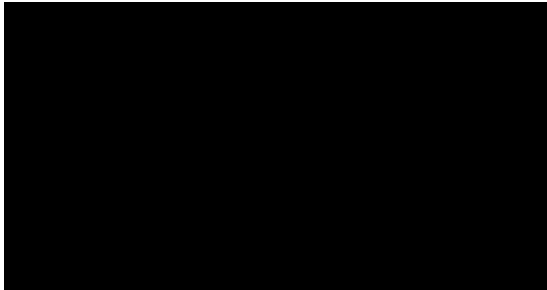
Many of those present expressed their strong disapproval to the published concept for the buildings to be erected on the south side of the Market on Franklin Street. They were said by more than one present to look uncomfortably like the Gas and Fuel building that stood for a while in Flinders St before it was removed and ceased to be a barrier shutting off the CBD at the south. The feeling was that the Lend Lease building and its companions would be equally overbearing on the southern boundary of the Market.

It was pointed out to the Lord Mayor that Council and its planners continually speak of the "Market Precinct" rather than the Market. This is an indication that they see the Market, its carpark and southern storage sheds as separate items in the "Precinct". Items that can be treated separately. In fact the Market comprises the whole site and is seen this way by Heritage Victoria. The Market in this full sense is

heritage listed at both State and national levels. There is no such place as “Market Square”.

When travelling abroad my wife and I have always made a point of visiting markets. We have seen well known markets in London (Borough Market), Spain (Barcelona Market), France (Les Halles, Albi) – all markets that have undergone redevelopment. If, as is sometimes affirmed, these are the examples inspiring Melbourne’s planners then we are unlikely to end up with anything like our present much loved Queen Vic Market. A church near Les Halles has inside it a wall mural depicting the old market. It could easily be a representation of our QVM. The present reality outside in the square is very different – a warning of what seems to be the inevitable result of attempts to (unnecessarily) revitalize.

The Reverend F.J.H.Brady



Privacy acknowledgement: I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

*

Name: * Chris Thrum

Email address: *

[REDACTED]

Phone number *

[REDACTED]

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: * Agenda Item 7.1 – Post travel report by Councillor Jamal Hakim, London, Vienna and Montpellier
July, August 2023

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Submissions will not be accepted after 10am.

This is a written response in regards to the Future Melbourne Committee meeting of Tuesday 21 November, 2023, and in particular Agenda Item 7.1 – Post travel report by Councillor Jamal Hakim London, Vienna and Montpellier, July, August 2023.

This is a fantastic report, ver detailed, with reference to issues involving the housing crisis and the Arts.

Councillor Jamal Hakim learnt how London is driving forward to remain a 24 hour city.

Melbourne should have the ambition to boost the night time economy, make the city more vibrant 24 hours a day.

Montpellier has some incredible classic music concerts, many for free. Is this one area where Melbourne could improve. Say a series of Pop Up classic music events.

Councillor Hakim saw how advanced Vienna is with its social housing policy.

Melbourne should be inspired to save all 44 housing towers estates, save the communities, refurbish, renew and reinvest in the building stock.

It is a nonsensical approach to consider solving the housing crisis and Homelessness by knocking down buildings that don't need to be knocked down.

Someone is pulling your leg on that policy.

A great report by Councillor Jamal Hakim.

Best regards

Chris Thrum

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address the Future Melbourne in support of your submission: *

Yes

If yes, please indicate if you would like to make your submission in person, or via a virtual link (Zoom) to the meeting. Please note, physical attendance will be limited in accordance with City of Melbourne security protocols and COVID-safe plans and be allocated on a first registered, first served basis. *

I wish to make my submission in person

Privacy acknowledgement: I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

*

Name: * Suzanne Nielsen

Email address: *

[REDACTED]

Phone number *

[REDACTED]

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: Improving access to naloxone, a medicine that reverses opioid overdose

*

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Submissions will not be accepted after 10am.

Good evening. I'm Professor Suzanne Nielsen, Deputy Director of the Monash Addiction Research Centre. I've spent a large part of the last 15 years researching, writing, and thinking about drug-related harm, and opioid harm in particular.

Opioid-related overdose deaths in Australia have doubled in the last 20 years. Heroin deaths in particular have also increased in Victoria, which leads the country for heroin harm. The opioid crisis in North America, fuelled mostly by fentanyl contaminated heroin, has caused catastrophic harm. Given this, we can't afford to be complacent with the growing risk of fentanyl reaching our shores. We need action now.

There were 24 heroin-involved overdose deaths in the City of Melbourne last year – two people dying every month. 24 families who have experienced enormous loss which has also reverberated through our community.

These heroin-related deaths are avoidable. There are steps we can take to stop people needlessly dying on our streets, and one of those is naloxone.

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that reverses opioid overdoses almost instantly. It doesn't require a

prescription and it's easy for anyone to use – a simple nasal spray, one dose sprayed in one nostril will save a life. Extensive research shows that someone who witnesses an overdose can save a life if they have naloxone available. During the 19-month pilot take home naloxone program, there were at least 1,649 overdose reversals with naloxone, saving an estimated three lives every day.

But naloxone can't help if people can't access it. Right now, Victoria lags behind other states. Naloxone is only available at a limited number of approved pharmacies. Other states have long-implemented a range of other supply sites.

We must ensure this life-saving medication is readily accessible across the city from as many touchpoints as possible. We need naloxone in the hands of people witnessing overdoses, wherever they are, and especially in high risk locations.

This isn't a new idea. Cities in the US have installed naloxone dispensing machines in public places like university campuses, outside police and fire stations, and even in prisons. In cities where they exist, overdose deaths have decreased. Lives have been saved. We've had vending machines for sterile injecting equipment in the nearby cities of Yarra and Maribyrnong for decades. They're discrete, uncomplicated, and cause no disruption to communities. We know that making naloxone accessible will reduce harm.

Everyone deserves equitable, affordable access to healthcare. People who use heroin are a vulnerable population. We have a real opportunity here to take a common-sense approach and do what we know works. That's why I fully endorse this motion to improve access to life-saving naloxone medication.

Please indicate Yes
whether you
would like to
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the Future
Melbourne in
support of your
submission: *

If yes, please I wish to make my submission in person
indicate if you
would like to
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person, or via a virtual link (Zoom) to the meeting. Please note, physical attendance will be limited in accordance with City of Melbourne security protocols and COVID-safe plans and be allocated on a first registered, first served basis. *

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*

Name: * Dean Membrey

Email address: * [REDACTED]

Phone number * [REDACTED]

Date of meeting: * Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: Councillor Ball's motion to improve access to naloxone

*

Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. Submissions will not be accepted after 10am.

I am an addiction medicine specialist and general practitioner working at cohealth's Innerspace, a primary care centre designed to meet the health needs of people who inject drugs. We have spent years training people on opioid overdose awareness and response, including encouraging the use of naloxone. It has been amazing to see lives saved by peers – it has created a sense of empowerment and reduced the strain on emergency services. Unfortunately our experience tells us that even by providing vouchers and scripts, the uptake of naloxone is not at the level it needs to be. As a result people continue to die unnecessarily, many in the streets and laneways of the Melbourne CBD. Increasing access to naloxone in the places where people experience opioid overdoses is much like providing defibrillators – it will allow first responders to provide treatment that will save lives. This intervention is particularly important given the looming threat of fentanyl, which is likely to cause significantly more overdose episodes than we are accustomed to. However, even without significant amounts of fentanyl on our streets, people continue to die of a preventable cause of death. I believe this mandates us to take measures to stop these deaths, particularly a measure as safe and simple as providing naloxone.

Please indicate whether you would like to verbally address Yes

the Future
Melbourne in
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If yes, please
indicate if you
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person, or via a
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to the meeting.
Please note,
physical
attendance will be
limited in
accordance with
City of Melbourne
security protocols
and COVID-safe
plans and be
allocated on a first
registered, first
served basis. *

I wish to make my submission in person

Privacy acknowledgement: *

I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

Name: *

Sione Crawford

Email address: *

[REDACTED]

Phone number *

[REDACTED]

Date of meeting: *

Tuesday 21 November 2023

Agenda item title: *

Improving access to naloxone, a medicine that reverses opioid overdose

Alternatively you may attach your written submission by uploading your file here:



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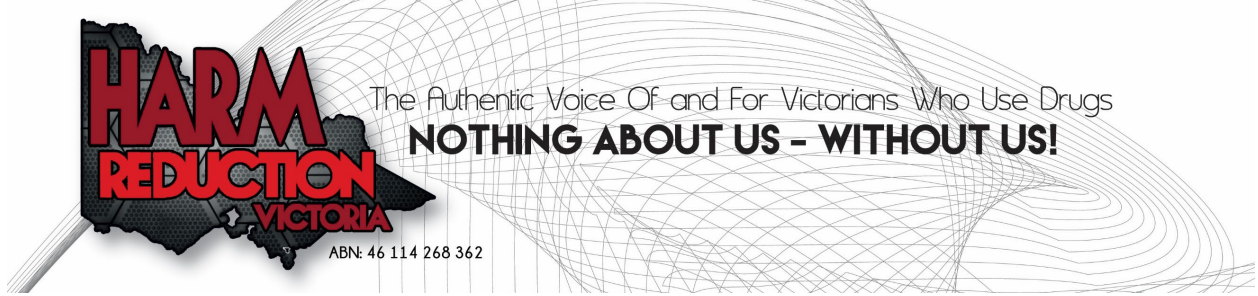
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Yes

If yes, please indicate if you would like to make your submission in person, or via a virtual link (Zoom) to the meeting. Please note, physical attendance will be limited in accordance with City of Melbourne security protocols and COVID-safe plans and be allocated on a first registered, first served basis. *

I wish to make by submission via Zoom



RE: Improving access to naloxone, a medicine that reverses opioid overdose

Future Melbourne Committee - Agenda item 7.2

21 November 2023

Background

I am the CEO of Harm Reduction Victoria is a member-based organisation comprising people with lived and living experience of drug use and our allies. We provide peer-based harm reduction services to community and represent our members on issues that impact upon them or our broader community.

We have run a peer-based program called Drug Overdose Prevention Education (D.O.P.E.) since the early 2000s. This program was a pioneer in training people who use drugs to manage opioid overdose with – and without – naloxone. Between August 2013 and June 2017 we trained 1072 people most likely to witness and overdose¹ – people who use drugs - and made naloxone available to nearly all of them. Since then a range other providers have been funded to provide similar services, and we continue to train between 15 and 30 people per month.

I am also someone who has both experienced overdose myself and reversed a number of opioid overdoses using naloxone. I have, unfortunately, lost a number of friends to overdose death.

Harm Reduction Victoria was consulted in 2019 and 2020 by the Victorian Government and Department of Health in as it planned a change in legislation to enable wider provision of naloxone through the services many people who use and inject drugs already access – the needle and syringe program, inclusive of peer workers.²

We supported these changes as an organisation, with the proviso that the regulations, when written, were as inclusive as possible to allow for a range of providers. As the Department of Health planned it's guidelines and program we strongly advised that while planning a program that allowed Needle Syringe Programs to order naloxone and to provide it to service users was a good start, we expected further steps to allow peer workers and volunteers not attached to NSP, prisons, and drug treatment services to all be included as soon as possible following the set up of the basic architecture.

¹ Dwyer, R., Olsen, A., Fowlie, C., Gough, C., van Beek, I., Jauncey, M., Lintzeris, N., Oh, G., Dicka, J., Fry, C.L., Hayllar, J. and Lenton, S. (2018), An overview of take-home naloxone programs in Australia. Critiques, 37: 440-449. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dar.12812>

² [Naloxone To Save More Lives Under Amended Drug Law | Premier of Victoria](#)

It is now three years since Minister Foley announced the original legislation and we have not got to the first stage let alone the follow up stages.

We have advocated strongly, alongside allies, to the Department regarding this rollout delay and we hope that we are very close to being able to access this program.

We continue to make naloxone available to our community, utilising the Commonwealth program, and very supportive pharmacies.

Improving access to naloxone, a medicine that reverses opioid overdose.

Regarding the motion to the Future Melbourne Committee moved by Cr Dr Ball, we support the release of the Departmental Operational Guidance for Naloxone provision as soon as possible, as well as a review of both the guidelines and the program itself within twelve months. We also support the formation of a sector roundtable to explore opportunities to make naloxone more available in the City of Melbourne.

Our position as an organisation is, broadly, that we would like to:

Include Naloxone training in First Aid courses and expand availability of naloxone at public pick-up points across Victoria.

This would provide a broad base of the wider community able to use naloxone confidently, and able to access it easily. It is unacceptable that naloxone use is not part of accredited First Aid.

Public pick up points might include vending machines, although we note that regulations and scheduling may require amending further.

There is much we can do within current scheduling and regulations however.

Options include needle syringe outreach provision; peer volunteer provision; carer and family training and provision.

The Victorian Take-Home Naloxone program via NSPs is a great first step but it is not the only option.

We would support a move towards naloxone accessibility in SDUs as well as at public places, in the way that defibrillators have become more accessible, and set up to be used by someone with a minimum of training and while in a state of alarm or surprise.

While in principle we support Victoria Police having access to naloxone we would note that many overdoses occur out of sight in private homes and rooms, and that police are most likely to see overdoses in public only.

For a complete turnaround in overdose deaths at a population level, we must address the stigma and discrimination that drives people to inject without telling friends, family or housemates in locked rooms, toilets and alone.