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Thursday 17 April 2025

Record no. 25/83603 Contact: Zoe Quinn Phone: 9262 6430

Philip Daw President, Heatherdale Community Action Group hcag@iinet.net.au <u>dawfamily@iprimus.com.au</u>

Dear Philip,

RE: COUNCIL RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON THE 2025/26 ANNUAL BUDGET

Thank you for your feedback on behalf of the Heatherdale Community Action Group regarding the 2025/26 Annual Budget, as part of the Shaping Whitehorse community consultation process in 2024.

Between March and May 2024, more than 1,400 community members contributed their ideas on local priorities, Council services, and the health and wellbeing of our community. This was followed by a community panel comprising of 40 community members demographically representative of Whitehorse who deliberated over several weeks.

Your feedback has been carefully reviewed by Council officers. Below is a summary of Council's position in relation to the items you raised for consideration in the 2025/26 Annual Budget:

Description	Comment
Heatherdale Road 1. Calling for a speed limit reduction along Heatherdale Road to 50km/hr maximum for all engine powered vehicles.	Council has carefully considered the request; however, a speed limit reduction is not supported at this time, as it does not meet the Department of Transport and Planning's speed zone guidelines. Additionally, traffic survey data indicates that the current 60 km/h speed zone remains appropriate
 <u>Purches Street</u> Indented parking in Purches Street at the Purches Street scout hall, for pick up and drop off 	Following further investigation, Council has agreed to proceed with this project. Design works will be completed during the 2025/26 financial year, with construction scheduled for the 2026/27 financial year, subject to design criteria being satisfied and budget considerations.

Description	Comment
Rangeview Shops 3. Disabled parking and pedestrian crossing upgrade	The pedestrian crossing and improved access to disabled parking at the Rangeview Shops have received funding from the Federal Government. These works are scheduled for completion by 30 June 2025.

Following the extensive Shaping Whitehorse community engagement process, Council has developed the Draft Integrated Council Plan 2025–2029, which incorporates the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. This Plan outlines key initiatives that Council will deliver to help achieve Whitehorse's 2040 Community Vision. This community feedback has also informed the development of the Proposed Annual Budget 2025/26, which identifies the resources required to deliver these initiatives and services.

We would like to advise that Council will soon be seeking further community feedback on both the Proposed Annual Budget 2025/26 and the Proposed Revenue and Rating Plan. Public consultation will take place from 30 April and will close 13 May 2025 at midday.

You are invited to share your views via our Your Say Whitehorse platform (<u>https://yoursay.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/shaping-whitehorse</u>) or by submitting a hard copy response at one of our customer service centres.

Final adoption of the Budget is expected to take place on Monday, 23 June 2025.

Once again, thank you for your feedback. Council appreciates the time and thought invested by community groups such as yours in shaping the future of Whitehorse.

Yours Sincerely,

Allan

Jeff Green DIRECTOR CITY DEVELOPMENT