

AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

3:00PM, Monday 25 October 2021

Virtually via Zoom

COUNCILLORS

Cr Kim O’Keeffe (Mayor)
Cr Robert Priestly (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Seema Abdullah
Cr Anthony Brophy
Cr Geoffrey Dobson
Cr Greg James
Cr Shane Sali
Cr Sam Spinks
Cr Fern Summer

VISION

GREATER SHEPPARTON, GREATER FUTURE

A thriving economy in the foodbowl of Victoria with excellent lifestyles, innovative agriculture a diverse community and abundant opportunities

Values

Values reflect what we feel is important. Organisations may have core values that reflect what is important in the organisation. These values may be guiding principles of behaviour for all members in the organisation.

Respect first, always

We are attentive, listen to others and consider all points of view in our decision making.

Take ownership

We take pride in honouring our promises and exceeding expectations, and are transparent with and accountable for our actions.

Courageously lead

We lead with integrity, and stand up and stand by what is in the best interests of the Greater Shepparton community.

Working together

We work collaboratively to create higher quality outcomes that are more efficient, thoughtful, effective and responsive. We cannot accomplish all that we need to do without working together.

Continually innovate

We are open to new ideas and creatively seek solutions that encourage us to do our best for our community.

Start the celebration

As ambassadors for our people and place, we proudly celebrate the strengths and achievements of Council and the Greater Shepparton community.

**A G E N D A
FOR THE
ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 2021 AT 3:00PM**

**CHAIR
CR KIM O'KEEFFE
MAYOR**

INDEX

1 WELCOME TO COUNTRY.....	5
2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	5
3 PRIVACY NOTICE.....	5
4 GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES.....	5
5 APOLOGIES.....	6
6 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST.....	6
7 CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE	7
7.1 Council Plan 2021 - 2025.....	7
8 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE	11
8.1 Nomination of Greater Shepparton City Council as Chair of Region 2 of the Murray Darling Association.....	11
9 CLOSE OF MEETING	14

Risk Level Matrix Legend

Note: A number of reports in this agenda include a section on “risk management implications”. The following table shows the legend to the codes used in the reports.

Likelihood	Consequences				
	Negligible (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
Almost Certain (5) Would be expected to occur in most circumstances (daily/weekly)	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
Likely (4) Could probably occur in most circumstances (i.e. Monthly)	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME
Possible (3) Reasonable probability that it could occur (i.e. over 12 months)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
Unlikely (2) It is not expected to occur (i.e. 2-5 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Rare (1) May occur only in exceptional circumstances (i.e. within 10 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH

Extreme Intolerable – Immediate action is required to mitigate this risk to an acceptable level. Event/Project/Activity is not to proceed without authorisation

High Intolerable – Attention is needed to treat risk.

Medium Variable – May be willing to accept the risk in conjunction with monitoring and controls

Low Tolerable – Managed by routine procedures

PRESENT:

1 Welcome to Country

To be presented by Cr James on behalf of the Yorta Yorta Elders Council and the 16 family groups.

2 Acknowledgement

“We, Greater Shepparton City Council, acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Peoples of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton, we pay our respect to their tribal elders, we celebrate their continuing culture and we acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.”

3 Privacy Notice

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

4 Governance Principles

Council considers that the recommendations contained in this Agenda gives effect to the overarching governance principles stated in Section 9(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. These principles are as follows:

1. Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
2. priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
3. the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
4. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
5. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
6. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
7. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
8. regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
9. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

5 Apologies

Nil Received.

6 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with section 130 (1)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 Councillors are required to disclose any “conflict of interest” in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

Nil received.

7 Corporate Services Directorate

7.1 Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Author Corporate Planning Analyst
 Approved by Director Corporate Services
 Purpose For Decision by Council

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the Council Plan 2021 - 2025 as attached to this report.

Executive Summary

The Community Vision Statement was developed by the Community Panel and adopted by Council on 15 June 2021.

The Community Panel met on seven occasions to develop the Community Vision, proposed Community Outcomes and recommendations for the Council Plan.

The Council Plan 2021-2025 is a legislated document that states the strategic direction of Council over the next four years.

The Council Plan includes the strategic objectives that influence the priorities of the Councillors during their term in office and guides the decision making, and the allocation of resources to deliver outcomes and services to the community.

The Council Plan has been developed through a deliberate engagement process including the Councillors, Community Panel, Council employees and advisory groups.

The community was provided with an opportunity to provide additional feedback during the consultation phase of the review of the draft Council Plan.

The Council Plan 2021-2025 is provided to the Councillors for adoption prior to the legislated deadline of 31 October 2021.

Report Detail

In accordance with Section 88 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to develop and adopt a Community Vision by 31 October of the year following election.

Council developed its Community Vision through a deliberative engagement process. A Community Panel was empowered to deliver their aspirational vision of the Greater

Shepparton region for the next 10 years.

The Community Vision Statement was adopted by Council on 15 June 2021.

Community Vision Statement

A diverse, vibrant and connected community valuing accessible opportunities for everyone.

We adapt and respond in a way that is innovative, sustainable and accountable.

We acknowledge where we have been and look forward to where we are going.

Together we are Greater!

In accordance with Section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to develop and adopt a Council Plan by 31 October of the year following election.

A Council Plan must include the following—

- the strategic direction of the Council;
- strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction;
- strategies for achieving the objectives for a period of at least the next 4 financial years;
- strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives;
- a description of the Council's initiatives and priorities for services, infrastructure and amenity;
- any other matters prescribed by the regulations.

In the development of the Council Plan, there was wide community engagement including roadshows, community events and discussion groups. The community had the opportunity to provide feedback directly or via the Shaping Greater Shepp website. There were 1,590 contributions from the community.

An open expression of interest process inviting all Greater Shepparton residents to register their interest to take part in the panel. The expression of interest process was managed independently by the Sortition Foundation.

Community Panel members were randomly selected to ensure a representative sample of the Greater Shepparton community. People who registered their expression of interest were randomly stratified through an online stratification tool, based on age, home suburb and gender, to form a descriptively representative sample of the Greater Shepparton community. Council was not involved in the selection of panel members.

The Community Panel met seven times between 14 April and 1 July to develop the Community Vision, propose Community Outcomes and recommendations for the Council Plan.

The Council Plan 2021-2025 is a legislated document that states the strategic direction of Council over the next four years. It includes the strategic objectives that influence the priorities of the Councillors during their term in office and guides the decision making, and allocation of resources to deliver outcomes and services to the community.

The Council Plan has been developed through a deliberate engagement process including the Councillors, Community Panel, Council employees and advisory groups. The community was provided with an opportunity to provide additional feedback during the consultation phase of the review of the draft Council Plan.

The Council Plan 2021-2025 is provided to the Councillors for adoption prior to the legislated deadline of 31 October 2021.

Council Plan / Key Strategic Activity

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.5 Council is high performing; customer focused and is marked by great people and quality outcomes.

Risk Management

There is no medium to extreme risks for the Council Plan 2021 – 2025.

Policy Considerations

This project does not conflict with any Council policies.

Financial Implications

The report contains no financial implications, however many of the initiatives contained within the Council Plan required Council to allocate funds in its budget to provide the finances to continue implementation of the Council Plan.

Legal / Statutory Implications

The Council Plan has been developed in accordance with the requirements of Section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Environmental / Sustainability Impacts

The report contains no environmental/sustainability impacts, however there are Council Plan outputs targeted at improving Greater Shepparton's sustainability.

Social Implications

The report contains no social implications, however there are Council Plan outputs that will be aimed at improving the health and well-being of the Greater Shepparton communities. This is expected to improve social outcomes.

Economic Impacts

The report contains no economic impacts however there are Council Plan outputs that will be aimed at improving the economic wellbeing of the Greater Shepparton municipality.

Consultation

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Council Plan 2017-2021 plays a pivotal role in the delivery of the short-term plans and aspirations of council and the community whilst following the long-term strategies of Greater Shepparton 2030.

b) Council Plan 2017 – 2021

The Council Plan 2017-2021 supports the short-term direction of the organisation (4 years) and provides linkage to the strategies developed and or implemented over the duration of the plan.

c) Annual Budget 2021-22

The Annual Budget 2021-22 supports the short-term direction of the organisation.

Conclusion

The Council Plan 2021 – 2025 is presented to Council for adoption prior to the legislated timeframe of 31 October 2021.

Attachments

1. Council Plan 2021 - 2025 [7.1.1 - 46 pages]

8 Sustainable Development Directorate

8.1 Nomination of Greater Shepparton City Council as Chair of Region 2 of the Murray Darling Association

Author Executive Assistant - Sustainable Development
 Approved by Director Sustainable Development
 Purpose For Decision by Council

Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. **nominate Cr Geoff Dobson as nominee for Chair for Region 2 of the Murray Darling Association; and**
2. **commit resources/secretariat support to assist with administrative functions to support the Region Chair position.**

Executive Summary

An opportunity exists for Greater Shepparton City Council to take an active role in the leadership and strategic direction of the Council and communities in the management of our shared basin resources as Chair of the Murray Darling Association (MDA) Region 2.

The MDA have indicated that it is a requirement for their organisation that a Council who has a Councillor that has indicated a desire to become Chair of a Region of the MDA, confirm its commitment to support the nomination through a Council resolution.

Report Detail

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) is the peak body for local government in the Murray Darling Basin, forming policy and contributing local knowledge and regional solutions since 1944. There are currently 167 councils over four states, a large percentage of these are members of the MDA. The Association has 12 regions, meeting four times per year and consisting of Councillor representatives.

Greater Shepparton is part of Region 2, along with the following Councils:

- Federation Council (current Chair)
- Berrigan Shire Council
- Edward River Council
- Moira Shire Council

Greater Shepparton has been an active member of the Murray Darling Association since re-joining the organisation in 2015.

The MDA recognises the diversity of needs and means to ensure healthy, connected rivers supporting re-generative agriculture, regional development and sustainable communities across the Basin. The MDA work with member councils and communities to develop leadership, identify local solutions, and build resilience across the Murray Darling Basin. The MDA is the only interjurisdictional association of local government, covering all four Basin states offering membership to councils providing advocacy, expertise and representation on Basin related issues.

Operation:

Operation of the MDA is parliamentary in nature, having the executive power vested in a board composed of the Chair of each of the 12 regions of the Basin (see region map attached). MDA Region Chairs are responsible for the operation of the region, meeting quarterly with member councils to ensure a cohesive and articulate representation of regional issues and priorities. Collectively, Region Chairs comprise the board of the MDA and are responsible to the membership. Region Chairs are elected by the members of their Region.

Current Status:

Region 2 is currently chaired by Federation Council delegate Cr Bronwyn Thomas. Cr Thomas has chaired the region for the previous year. Region 2 has delivered stability and a clear vision for this region, working to contest hosting rights for the 2020 Annual General Meeting, and to facilitate a stable succession of the Chair to Cr Geoff Dobson.

Region Chair:

Regions of the MDA annually elect a Region Executive made up of a Chair plus not less than two and not more than five other region executives. All nominations to the Chair by serving councillors must be endorsed by a resolution of the member council for which the nominee is a delegate. The resolution must reflect that the delegate’s nomination has the support of council and that the council will provide adequate resources to support the delegate to undertake the duties of the role if elected. Resources required consist predominantly of officer time.

Officer time to support the Chair to undertake the duties of the role, including facilitation of the four region meetings per year, distribution of minutes and agendas and liaising with the MDA Executive Officer. This task has been assigned to the Administration Officer Environment. Costs for the council, including officer time are estimated to be less than \$7,000 per annum.

Council Plan / Key Strategic Activity

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

1.7 Council advocates on issues, priorities and needs that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Council delegate having to represent Region with views which may not match Council's position.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Identification of origin of views being expressed.

Policy Considerations

The recommendation within this report aligns with Council policy.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this recommendation, the secretariat support will be provided via existing administrative support.

Legal / Statutory Implications

There are no legal or statutory implications arising from this recommendation.

Environmental / Sustainability Impacts

Supporting the nomination of Cr Dobson as Chair of Region 2 supports Council's objectives to support environmental sustainability.

Social Implications

There are no social impacts in regard to this matter.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts in regard to this matter.

Consultation

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Environment - To provide a supply of high-quality water for urban and agricultural use.

b) Other Strategic Links

- Nil

Conclusion

Council has been a member of the MDA since 2015 and Council now has the opportunity to support the position of Chair of Region 2 of the MDA. Cr Geoff Dobson has indicated a willingness to become Chair and Council is requested to consider the nomination of Cr Geoff Dobson and to provide the necessary administrative support to assist him in this role.

Attachments

Nil



9 Close of Meeting