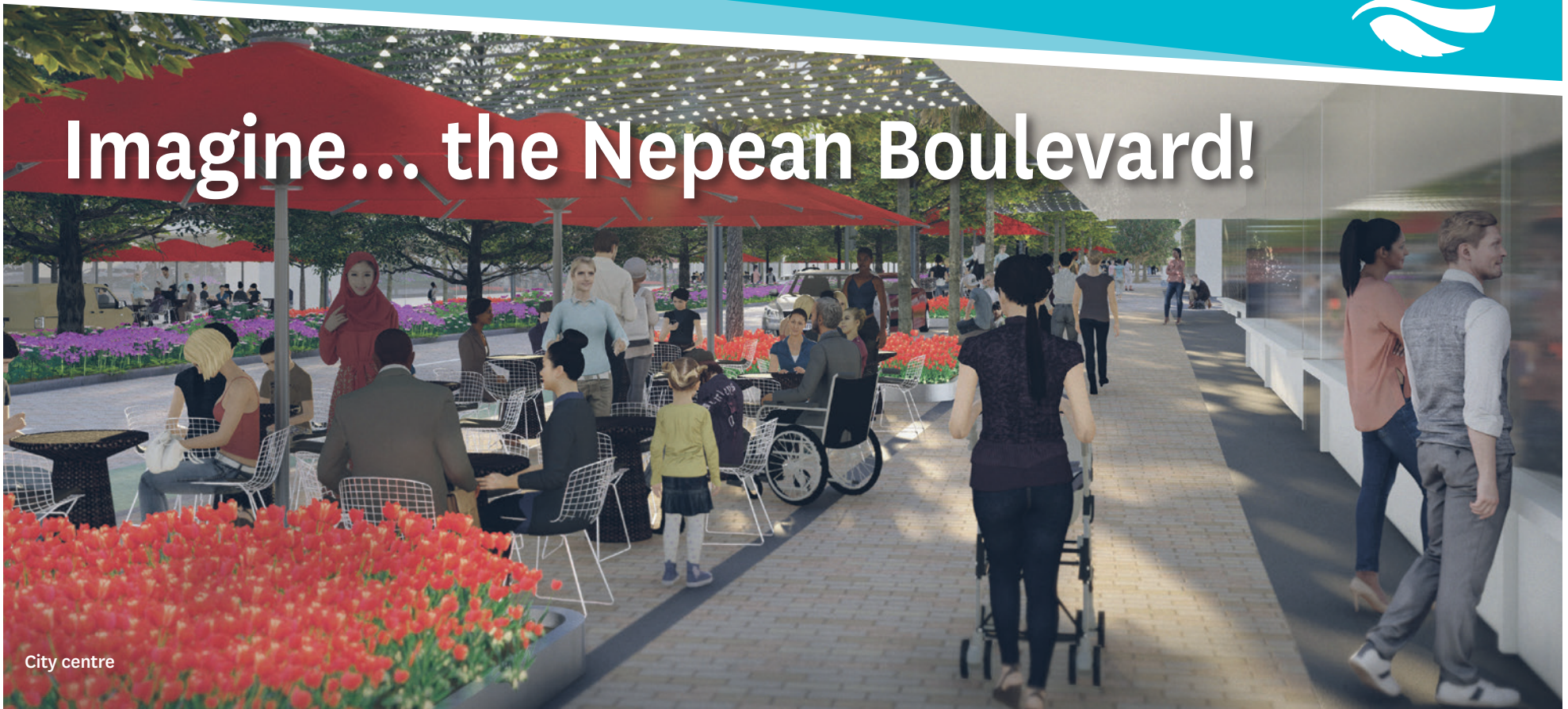


Frankston City News

May–June 2023

frankston.vic.gov.au



Imagine... the Nepean Boulevard!

City centre



Olivers Hill



Nepean Highway (south)



Nepean Highway (north)



Kananook Creek

From a gateway to a destination

Work has begun on a Master Plan to make Frankston's Nepean Highway the envy of Melbourne.

The plan will be based on a bold vision to transform the car-dominated arterial road into an iconic-tree lined boulevard. The vision responds to Frankston's distinctive coastal character which sets it apart from other cities, and will guide the prioritisation and development of three sections of Nepean Boulevard covering 3.7kms from Mile Bridge through the city centre to Olivers Hill.

Read more on Page 3.

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Coming soon to the Visitor Information Centre

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Contact us

Phone:
1800 322 322
Email:
fcn@frankston.vic.gov.au
Live Chat:
frankston.vic.gov.au
Interpreter: 131 450

Customer Service Centres

Civic Centre
30 Davey Street, Frankston
Monday to Friday,
8.30am–5pm

Seaford Customer Service Centre

Seaford Community Centre,
corner of Station Street and
Broughton Street, Seaford
Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm
Saturday 9am–12pm

Langwarrin Customer Service Centre

Shop 6, The Gateway,
Cranbourne-Frankston Road,
Langwarrin
Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm
Saturday 9am–12pm

Carrum Downs Library and Customer Service Centre

203 Lyrebird Drive, Carrum
Downs, times vary

Visitor Information Centre

7N Pier Promenade,
Frankston Waterfront
Open 7 days, 10am–4pm
Phone: 1300 322 842

Hoon driving

1800 333 000
(Crime Stoppers)

Graffiti removal

1800 66 8247 (1800 NO TAGS)

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Frankston City News is published six times a year and distributed to approximately 62,000 homes.

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Mayor's message

Cities grow like children

As a first-time dad, I'm enjoying every moment with my son as a baby, but I am also very aware that there are many milestones ahead for us on his slow journey through childhood, teenage years to adulthood. As a Mayor, I know that cities are the same. Whether we like it or not, Frankston City is no longer the picturesque fishing village it was 100 years ago. It would be short-sighted of us not to properly plan for our City's growth given the population surge coming our way in the decades ahead.

With proper planning, our City has the potential to become one of Melbourne's most exciting precincts, a vibrant waterfront destination and the capital of the south east. To achieve its full potential, Frankston needs to evolve into a more economically diverse, high-amenity and integrated city centre.

The change is already underway. New businesses are setting up in Frankston City, our arts and tourism sector is

nationally recognised, and governments at all levels are investing significantly in healthcare, transport and education in our region. Transformation is already underway in Playne Street with the opening of the iconic Betty's Burgers, Hotel Lona, the Hop Shop, TGI Fridays, Oliver's Corner. It is obvious that Frankston is on the move.

Whether we like it or not, change is happening.

As we move towards being a vibrant city we need to plan for growth otherwise we will miss our golden opportunity to be a regional hub for the entire peninsula. And that's where our FMAC plan comes in. Since early 2022 we've been working closely with the community to develop a draft structure plan that supports the growth of the city centre in a holistic way. We've had pop ups, an online survey, workshops, walking tours, interviews, and we've even engaged our Youth Council. The feedback and submissions received during the consultations will inform the preparation of the final Structure



Plan and the Planning Scheme Amendment, which is anticipated to go before Council shortly.

Exciting times are ahead. As my wife and I drive down the Nepean Highway we think of our son growing up here. We imagine the many activities and opportunities available to keep him here. We hope for a safe and vibrant city.

The future of Frankston City belongs to our children. It will be the next year and the ones after that, that will benefit from today's planning.

Read more on pages 1 and 3.

Cr Nathan Conroy, Mayor

Message from the CEO

Arts, books and culture to soothe the soul

I quite often catch up with Mayor Nathan Conroy at the Writer's Bloc Café at the foyer of Frankston City Library as we walk down from the Frankston Arts Centre. As we discuss a number of issues, we can't help but notice the number of people using the library and Frankston Art Centre services for many different reasons.

More than just books

Libraries have clearly evolved and are no longer quiet places for borrowing books.

These days, libraries are so much more with programs and activities for all ages and interests. Hence, it comes as little surprise that there are 216,000 visits per year to Frankston City Libraries bearing in mind the many offerings, such as authors' talks, music, movie matinees, free 24/7 tutoring for students, community programs, and job-search support to Chatty Cafés.

More than 600 children participated in library activities over the last school holidays. On average, around 36,000 visitors per year attend numerous programs from learning about social media to family history. Others duck in for the high-speed internet and use of public computers, with 18,000 hours of usage of our public PCs per year.

That's not to say that libraries still don't have books and there are 570,000 items loaned each year. You can find

anything from books, digital magazines, eBooks and audio books.

Our Libraries are located at Frankston, Carrum Downs and Seaford and there are also pop-up locations across the City. We recently refurbished both Frankston and Carrum Downs Library, so now is the perfect time to visit if you haven't been for a while.

Read more on pages 16-17.

Our art's hub

A beehive of activity, Frankston Arts Centre hosts approximately 800 events, 60 art exhibitions and welcomes over 160,000 visitors annually. It provides our community with the ability to see amazing shows from the Sydney Dance Company and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, but also gives the community the chance to perform on stage. Frankston Arts Centre hosts 85 local schools, dance schools and community theatre each year and these experiences have been integral in inspiring many young people to explore careers in the creative industries.

We are lucky to have this highly sought-after venue by contemporary musicians and comedians. In 2023, we have already hosted high-level performances, with more to come including 1927, Vika & Linda, You Am I, Human Nature and Pseudo Echo. Apart from hosting the Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow, the centre often features comedians on their 2023 tours including Stephen K Amos, Hard



Quiz with Tom Gleeson, Steve-O, Luke Kidgell and Ross Noble.

More than just the theatre, the FAC's Functions Centre and other meeting spaces are used daily for conferences, gala dinners, expos, workshops, seminars and business off-site meetings.

Cube 37 is a versatile space next to the Arts Centre that hosts art exhibitions for both emerging community and high profile artists, creative workshops and at the touch of a button transforms into a 200-seat black box theatre for more intimate performances.

We are always looking for ways to improve or add extra value. Recently we added 360-degree images to seating maps so that customers booking tickets can see the view from different seating areas — proving there is no bad seat in the house.

Read more on page 16.

**Phil Cantillon,
Chief Executive Officer**

#FrankstonCity

Frankston City's vision for the future

Frankston City's population is set to grow by 17,600 people by 2041, and the State government has identified the City as a Metropolitan Activity Centre. As such, the Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre (FMAC) Structure Plan will play a major role in helping to cater to Melbourne's population boom and will grow and prosper.

The feedback and submissions received during the consultations have informed the preparation of the final draft Structure Plan and the Planning Scheme Amendment, which is anticipated to go before Council shortly. Here's a sneak glimpse at the future of our City.

Precinct 1 — Frankston City Centre

The heart of our City will blossom into a vibrant place for business, shopping, living, dining and entertainment. A new public plaza in the heart of the City Centre would be explored, whereas upgrades would include additional street planting, pedestrian scale lighting, high-quality surfaces.

Precinct 2 — Transport Interchange, Community and Education

An active transport and mixed use hub would bring people to the heart of Frankston City via metropolitan and regional rail and bus routes. The creation of new open spaces and more pedestrian and cycle connections would be introduced in key locations. Upgrades proposed include amenity improvements to Fletcher Road, a City Park extension, an extension of the Baxter Trail, an improved rail underpass, enhanced Beach Street Rail crossing.

Precinct 3 — Arts, Entertainment, Housing and Government Services

Connecting the Arts Centre and the foreshore, Frankston's Arts Centre and Library will be brought to life as the premier arts and entertainment destination of the south east region and an iconic part of Frankston City's identity. With on-road bicycle lanes in each direction, a reconfiguration of parking and additional pedestrian crossings and plants, the area will be a great place to live and work.

Precinct 4 — Waterfront

The Waterfront will be a hub of activity and recreation with the foreshore and Kananook Creek as the jewel in the crown. The Nepean Highway will be revitalised with cafes, restaurants, entertainment and tourism, while canopy tree planting along a wide promenade will better connect pedestrians with the creek. The area will be lively with regular events and markets.

Precinct 5 — Nepean Boulevard Gateway

Imagine the Nepean Highway as an iconic boulevard with increased pedestrian footpath space, bike lanes, iconic tree planting, lighting, integrated art opportunities and signage. Improved pedestrian crossings will enable safe and convenient crossings, while large canopy trees will provide a green outlook and create safer and higher amenity spaces for people.

The Kananook Creek and foreshore are key open space assets to be made more accessible to people living, working or visiting.

Precinct 6 — Cranbourne Road Gateway

The Cranbourne Road Gateway will be transformed into a mixed-use precinct with a range of medical, office, commercial and residential uses. Businesses will benefit from convenient access to Moorooduc Highway,



Frankston City is changing and is emerging as a premier Melbourne destination to live and work

Monash University, the Frankston Hospital and the FMAC. The improvements to Fletcher Road would create a green edge to the FMAC.

Continued from page 1.

The vision places the city centre section of the Nepean Highway at the heart of Frankston's economic rejuvenation by rebalancing the road environment to create a new pedestrian-friendly destination and bustling hub of activity and recreation.

Extended outdoor space for retail and pedestrians, outdoor dining and new public spaces will draw new events, markets and festivals making the Nepean Highway a focal point for the City's revitalisation.

At the southern end, the vision outlines the transformation of Olivers Hill into a world class major visitor destination celebrating the expansive views of the bay.

To the north the boulevard will deliver improved connections from the city centre to Kananook Creek and the bay, with a viewing platform and improved links to the bike trail.

The vision has received positive community support as part of the Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre Structure Plan community engagement program, and will support Council's Integrated Transport Strategy through improved road safety and transport choices.

The Master Plan will be based on rigorous analysis, a connection to country and community and will provide a strong foundation and direction for the future development of the FMAC.

The master planning process will commence later this year, and provide extensive opportunity for further community consultation.

For more information, please visit engage.frankston.vic.gov.au/nepean-highway-boulevard-corridor

Scan the QR code to watch an exciting visualisation of the Nepean Highway.



An opportunity for (small) business

Frankston City is home to over 43,000 small and medium sized businesses. Our long-term vision for Frankston Metropolitan Activity Centre (FMAC) has a number of significant benefits to small businesses.

Foot traffic: With FMAC re-imagined as a major bustling commercial hub, small businesses will benefit from increased foot traffic, brand recognition and trade.

Competitor advantage: Being a small fish in an even bigger pond will provide game-changing access to a larger market and wider range of customers.

Infrastructure support: FMAC's well-developed infrastructure including transport links, utilities and other resources and services will help small businesses attract staff, operate more efficiently and reduce their costs.



Our business hub is growing

Networking opportunities:

The buzz surrounding growth and development will inevitably attract both successfully established brands and bold new innovator brands looking for new opportunities. This will create an inspiring climate of competitive entrepreneurialism as well as networking opportunities to motivate, collaborate and inspire.

Looking for our unsung heroes

International Volunteer Week runs from Monday 15 May through to Sunday, 21 May.

At Frankston City, we have plenty to celebrate with many groups and programs in the Frankston City community relying on the time and skills of volunteers to achieve their goals. This year we celebrate 16,800 volunteers in Frankston City, who contributed more than 46,000 hours, equalling approximately \$1.3 million worth of donated time.

Each year, we pay tribute to our volunteers with the Frankston City Volunteer Awards. Nominations for the 2023 Frankston City Volunteer Awards are open through to Monday, 26 June, giving people the opportunity to cast the spotlight on our community's local heroes. Do you know a worthy candidate? It could be someone who helps on Meals on Wheels, a volunteer firefighter or anyone who gives back to our community. When you nominate a worthy candidate, you'll be

highlighting the great work they do as a volunteer, as well as creating awareness for the work of their volunteer organisation within the community. Organisations or individuals can nominate volunteers for recognition across five categories: (1) Service; (2) Leadership; (3) Initiative; (4) Youth; (5) Teamwork. Organisations can also nominate themselves for the \$1,000 prize by answering a short series of questions, about the impact that their organisation has had on the

community over the last 12 months. Organisations must also nominate a volunteer in one of the recognition categories to be eligible to win the \$1,000 prize.

However, organisations do not need to nominate themselves for the prize to enter volunteers for a recognition award.

For more info, call 1300 322 322 during business hours or email communitystrengthening@frankston.vic.gov.au.

Meet our volunteers

Volunteers are heroes in our community who selflessly offer their time.

From providing Meals on Wheels to helping out with local sporting clubs, and even keeping our local beaches free from rubbish, there are so many initiatives in Frankston City that rely on the work of our volunteers to keep the city running. We reached out to several to share what motivates them.

L2P Mentor

Jan Dennett recently retired from 40 years of nursing and has been volunteering as a mentor with the L2P Mentor-Driver Program since November 2021. The program links learner drivers with driving mentors and has put more than 200 people on the road who would not have been able to get a license otherwise.



"After retiring and moving into a retirement village, I wanted to do something to help in the Community.

Joining the L2P Program is a wonderful way to help learners obtain the hours they need to get their licence. The training and support from L2P staff is incredible and they match you well with a learner. If you have the time or inclination you will find it rewarding when you see your learner's face when they pass their drive test."

Meals on Wheels

Deborah Kerry, a retired teacher, is one of the 110 Meals on Wheels volunteers who prepare and deliver 6,000 three-course meals per month. She has been volunteering in the kitchen at Meals on Wheels for 12 months.



"I retired from teaching just before COVID struck. After being housebound for nearly two years, I was keen to try something different. I taught Food Technology so felt confident in some aspects of the role of kitchen assistant. I am gratified to see the

nutritious colourful meals produced so efficiently for those in our community, most in need. Volunteering for MOW allows you to meet new people and gives you a sense of purpose. It's fun! Give it a go."

Ebdale Community Hub

Nancy Martin, a retired office manager, has been volunteering with Ebdale Community Hub for 10 years. The Hub is a base for a number of community organisations and service providers.



"I volunteer at Ebdale Community Hub two days a week as a receptionist.

I have been doing this for 10 years and really enjoy working at Ebdale Community Hub. I enjoy talking with and helping the people who come to the Hub. I feel I am giving back to the community. It's rewarding because I feel I'm fulfilling my life as well as helping the Frankston community."

Home Library Service

Sarah Cain, a teacher and library technician has been volunteering with the Frankston Library since 2019.



"I was looking for new ways to contribute to my local community when I volunteered to join the Frankston Library TROVE team then became a Home Library Service volunteer. As a Home Library Service volunteer I value the connections I make and enjoy sharing my passion for reading with housebound

community members. I especially love talking about authors I haven't read before and finding out what other people like about the author or book. It's a great challenge to find new authors that will interest the person - talking to others and helping people in my community enriches my life."

Scan the QR code to find out more about volunteering opportunities.



Gardens for Wildlife

Janet Wheeler is semi-retired after working in administration support in the aged care sector and crisis support for many years. She currently works part-time in early childhood education and is an educator for Living with Wildlife.



"Being a 'Gardens for Wildlife' guide aligns with my personal philosophy of conservation and providing a 'helping hand' for animals. I didn't imagine the learning opportunities, friendships, and pleasure of spending time with like-minded people it would bring.

I love sharing the fantastic resources, and meeting others who want to contribute to habitat for wildlife and the environment. Volunteering with this program enables me to make a difference for wildlife and the environment in a practical way while increasing my personal learning."

Scan the QR code to find out more about Gardens for Wildlife.



#FrankstonCity

Champions volunteer time to improve seniors' fitness

A group of Champions are proving that growing older doesn't mean you can't work out. These mature age super heroes of seniors' fitness are on a quest to prove that there are many benefits to exercising in terms of building strength, increasing stamina and lifting people's moods.

They meet each Friday morning at Wingham Park Reserve next to Karingal PLACE Neighbourhood Centre, where Council has opened its first outdoor exercise park for seniors.

Mindful exercise mingles with friendly banter as the semi-retired and retired volunteers work out together.

Wayne Alcock, who worked in the cybersecurity sector and now works part time at HMAS Cerberus, says, "Something I learnt after completing the five-week training course to become a volunteer Champion is that seniors are likely to have one injury every three months."

"I fell on Sunday," Charmaine says.

"Well, you're good for the next three months then," Wayne says.

Laughter follows. On a more serious note, Wayne adds that it is a "huge responsibility helping people achieve the strength and balance to prevent those falls."

Apart from Wayne and Charmaine, the other champs are Veronica Maier, Fran Sheppard, Sharon Martin, Lyn Carter, Tania Weerasinghe and Kevin Lomax.



Wingham Park Reserve Champions warming up to welcome guests

Sharon, who worked in customer service before retirement, said she found the training helpful and appreciated having a physiotherapist explain the correct way of doing the exercises. "I thought I had good balance but it has definitely improved with the program," she said. "I've always been physically active but got a bit lazy after COVID-19 and thought that participating as a volunteer would be a great way to kick-start my own fitness plan."

Lyn, who still works as an office manager, has always enjoyed fitness with two aqua classes per week and other activities on top of volunteering at Wingham Park Reserve. "It's important for people to get out,

to be active and it is free to use the equipment!" she said.

For Fran, it was the social aspect that drew her. "It is hard to motivate yourself to exercise, but you can work out, have a laugh and even go across the road for a coffee once you have finished exercising," she said. "It's a great way to combat loneliness."

Veronica agrees. "You get exercise with social benefits."

The Champions of Wingham Park are at the exercise equipment every Friday morning from 9am to 12pm.

For more information, scan the QR code.



Volunteer portal now live!

Frankston City Council is excited to announce the launch of its new Volunteers Portal!

Now, volunteers can easily find and apply for the latest Council volunteer opportunities and volunteers who have signed up can manage their details, learn something new, apply for shifts, view rosters, and more. With a wide range of volunteering opportunities available on an ongoing, short term, and once-off basis, the Portal serves as a one-stop-shop for all your volunteering needs.

Volunteering is a great way to give back to your community and make a positive impact in the world, while also benefiting from personal growth and development, improved mental and physical health, increased social connections and career opportunities.

Scan the QR code to explore the Portal today.



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed on 15 June every year to bring global attention to issues related to the abuse and neglect of older people.

According to the World Health Organisation, around one in six older adults experience some form of abuse, and the figure is likely to be higher due to underreporting. In Frankston City, we had 31,371 people aged over 60 according to the 2021 Census, and Council has a number of services available to encourage positive ageing:

- To help the needs of our growing

demographic of older people in our community, Frankston City Council developed its first ever Positive Ageing Action Plan in 2021, to help older people living in the area stay connected, supported and engaged.

- Our Seniors Festival takes place each October and is jam-packed with events to encourage older adults in our community to be active and lead full lives.
- Council has refurbished Wingham Park in Frankston (next to Karingal PLACE) with specialised outdoor exercise equipment.

- Our Age Friendly Frankston Ambassadors meet every two months to discuss challenges facing older adults to support the planning of key events and resources for older residents in the community.
- Make sure to subscribe to our Positive Ageing newsletter to keep informed about all we have to offer.

If you are experiencing elder abuse, or concerned about an older person, you can get help by calling Seniors Rights Victoria on 1300 368 821 Monday to Friday, from 10 am to 5 pm, or by visiting www.seniorsrights.org.au.

Financial knowledge is power. Council is offering a rare opportunity to hear from Julie Dewberry, a Financial Information Service Officer from Services Australia (formerly Centrelink).

Julie will be speaking to seniors about a range of topics. From thinking about a granny flat to planning for or entering aged care, to changes in circumstances like illness or disability or divorce.

The financial planning workshop is free and takes place at Karingal Place on Wednesday 14 June from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Bookings can be made via: www.trybooking.com/CHOWI Or you can contact Council's Positive Ageing team on 1300 322 322.



Council's maintenance teams are on the go when it comes to dealing with requests

More than maintenance...

The community is reaping the benefits from Council's innovative approach to building maintenance across Frankston City.

According to Manager of Building Infrastructure, Vishal Gupta, Council is responsible for looking after 700+ structures of all sizes — from pavilions to public toilets.

He said this requires significant planning, resourcing, and a strong commitment to customer service and communication.

"We need to respond quickly and appropriately when maintenance and cleaning issues arise, such as receiving calls about damaged facilities that the community relies on," he said.

"On top of this, regular maintenance and cleaning needs to be scheduled in.

"It's a critical part of Council's role and so we were always looking for

innovative ways to improve the service, so we are proud to have implemented a new approach that uses technology to better meet both council and the community's needs."

The innovative approach includes working with two south-east businesses, whose collaborative approach and tech-focused solutions are driving up customer satisfaction, reducing complaints, saving time and money, and dramatically reducing response times.

Alpha Corporate Property Services provides important cleaning services, while Campeyn Group supports our facility maintenance activities.

But it's not what they do — it's how it's done!

"Our officers now use iPads on site to perform audits and raise work orders directly to Campeyn Group for any

reactive maintenance issues and report graffiti. There is no waiting to go back to the office to report — it's all done on the spot," Vishal said.

"In addition, cleaners upload photos and comments directly online into a portal/app that allows us to be notified of any issues on site in real time. If there is any damage, this is captured very quickly.

"And a communication portal in the app we use now allows us to capture complaints and requests and notify the cleaning team about required actions. This information goes directly to Alpha Management to rectify them in a timely manner."

Vishal says this type of innovation benefits the whole community, from families visiting Maternal Child and Health Centres to community centre users and sports club members.



Guiding the future of mobile food vans in Frankston City

Frankston City Council is inviting the community to have their say on the updated Mobile Food Van Draft Guidelines.

Mobile food vans offer a great way to activate our open spaces, create a sense of community, support business investment, and grow tourism in Frankston City. Council recognises that improvements can be made to our program and has worked with mobile food van operators to review our guidelines.

Businesses and individuals can share their views on the licensing terms, assessment criteria, and additional locations. Consultation is open until 30 May via Engage Frankston. Scan the QR code below to have your say!



A focus on housing

Frankston City Council is preparing to launch its Housing Strategy Engagement next month.

The strategy aims to guide the growth of housing in Frankston City for the

next 15 years, accommodating an anticipated population growth of 17,600 people by 2041 with the addition of 9,000 new dwellings. The engagement will provide an

opportunity for the community to shape the future of housing in Frankston City, ensuring a range of housing options for all. Keep an eye out for the

engagement in June/July and have your say on the future of Frankston City.



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#FrankstonCity

Councillor Appreciation Awards

I am proud that the Councillor Appreciation Awards continue to be held regularly. Having launched them as Mayor in 2010, many Councillors – since this time – have nominated worthy recipients for outstanding community service.

I did this to thank people like Ross Sheppard and his volunteers – who I will nominate to receive a Councillor Appreciation Award at the Council Meeting on 22 May 2023 for planting 600 to 800 trees since May 2022. Ross recently received \$6000 in funding support from Council to continue planting in 2023.

Another Councillor Appreciation Award I recently presented to the Seaford Community Committee for creating a stronger sense of community in Seaford.

If you have an idea for a deserving group or individual for a Councillor Appreciation Award, please contact one of your Councillors!

Wingham Park Reserve

Recently we saw the opening of the Wingham Park Older Adults Activity Zone, near Karingal PLACE. The new fitness equipment is fantastic and is already being enjoyed by the community. An upgrade to Wingham Park for a BBQ, drinking fountain, solar lighting, minor planting, park furniture and bins was made in 2019. I have also submitted in this year's Annual Budget a new shade sail at the Wingham Park Reserve. I expect this new shelter to be installed before 2024.

Ballam Athletics Precinct improvements

It's fantastic to see athletes of all ages and abilities using the newly upgraded Ballam Park Athletics Track. The \$1.22 million Council-funded track surface renewal was necessary after the previous track became worn. The Council is currently preparing to invest in upgrading the nearby pavilion and public toilet. Details are forthcoming.

New Tree Plantings

I am proud of Council's 2021 commitment to plant over 80,000 new trees by the end of 2024. My understanding is that this bold commitment is the largest tree planting venture by a local government in Victoria. As part of this commitment, I have been able to secure a further 1,700 trees to shortly be planted in specific parts of the North West Ward. This includes Riviera Reserve, Telopea Reserve, Dalpura Reserve, Ebdale Reserve, Havana Reserve, Messmate Street and Karingal Drive. If you feel there are areas that could do with some greening, please contact me.

Cr Kris Bolam

Mobile: 0417 921 644
Email: crbolam@frankston.vic.gov.au



Cr Steven Hughes

Mobile: 0413 175 911
Email: crshughes@frankston.vic.gov.au



World Elder Abuse Awareness

Older people in our community have so much lived experience which we should value. Unfortunately, despite having offered so much, their rights are sometimes overlooked. When that happens, we have a duty of care, and that is why days like World Elder Abuse Awareness Day are important.

On 15 June, individuals and organisations worldwide highlight the importance of the rights of older people. To eradicate elder abuse, we must first understand what it is. Elder abuse is any act which causes harm to an older person, and it is usually carried out by someone older people know and trust such as a family member or friend. Rates of elder abuse are under-reported, but the Australian Institute of Family Studies estimates up to 14 per cent of older people in Australia are affected.

Read more about Council's activities on page 5.

A rotunda to remember

The rotunda in Ballam Park was gifted to the community by the Rotary Club of Frankston North in 1983, and has since become a meeting spot for people in our area.

There are many memories associated with the place used by everyone from high school students gathering there to seniors enjoying the shade, and families enjoying picnics and celebrating birthdays.

As part of the playground upgrade in 2022, it was agreed that a new structure would be developed.

Frankston City Council will work closely with Rotary to design and build a new rotunda, with new seating, tables and an accessible barbecue so that future generations can enjoy this lovely structure.

Prominent signage on the rotunda recognises Rotary's contribution to Ballam Park, a great outcome given that the RCFN is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Reducing plastic waste

International Plastic Free Day is on 25 May, ahead of Plastic Free July in a couple of months. This year, the day has added significance following a ban on single-use plastics that was implemented by Victoria's Government on 1 February 2023. The ban is designed to help reduce plastic pollution, and has meant that our favourite cafes, bars and restaurants have stopped using single-use plastic drinking straws, cutlery, plates, drink stirrers and sticks among other items. We are working hard in Frankston City to minimise waste as much as possible to ensure a better future for our children and less pollution in our beautiful bay.



Cr Claire Harvey and Cr Sue Baker with Helen Parker

The Babes Project

Motherhood can be an amazing experience but sometimes also fraught with anxiety. In a crisis, the situation can be overwhelming leaving women feeling unsupported and alone — even ashamed. That's when The Babes Project steps in. It offers support to pregnant women and mothers at their most vulnerable, whose situation may include homelessness, mental health challenges, substance abuse, family violence, and relationship breakdowns.

In Frankston City, The Babes Project, has the capacity to help 70-80 women with programs that run for up to 21 months. According to the not-for-profit, 30 per cent of its users are in their teens — the highest number in The Babes Projects centres in Australia.

I recently visited The Babes Project in Frankston with Cr Claire Harvey and met its founder, Helen Parker. She created the organisation when she found out she was pregnant while in her third year of university. Trying to navigate pregnancy, a relationship breakup, emotional and financial struggles was daunting for Helen. Now, she is helping other women facing similar situations. It was lovely to meet with Helen's daughter, Ariel, now aged 23.

Both women are using their personal experiences to empower women to navigate through the parenting journey, providing a safe space to explore different options and make important decisions without judgment. Ariel told me, "The Babes Project can work with women from conception to one year after baby's birth, and equips and educates them to be successful in motherhood. The program includes fortnightly appointments, material support, workshops, and incentivises women to engage with other support options in healthcare and beyond, that can help them and their baby thrive." Their positive and practical outlook was very inspiring, so I was not surprised to learn they constantly innovate the services provided. A recent example is the 'Nanas and New Mamas program', where older women join client lunches, baking cakes for the group and providing a maternal warmth and community that so many underprivileged mothers go without. Apparently, there is a lot of laughter!

Read about Council's services for young parents on Page 14.

Cr Sue Baker

Mobile: 0438 145 842
Email: crbaker@frankston.vic.gov.au



North-West Ward Seaford >> Karingal >> Frankston North >> Frankston

Sandfield Reserve

You may be wondering what is happening at Sandfield Reserve. Council is upgrading an outdoor Youth Space in the next stage of its delivery of the Master Plan. We're calling on young people and those who know them, to help design the space. This project is part of a bigger plan for Sandfield Reserve, to make it feel safer and more welcoming for everyone. Council is working with funding partners (state and federal government) on the staging for the other elements of the Master Plan which include: an upgraded playspace, upgraded youth space, outdoor fitness equipment, BBQs and upgraded shelter, a new public toilet, relocating the rebound wall to improve visibility through the reserve, improved all abilities access within the reserve and an improved path network and lighting, new seating and signage and waste/recycle bins, new tree planting, protection of the existing lawn area for informal play and ball sports, and the opportunity for activation with food trucks to provide a destination for the community.

Take our survey by 5pm, 31 May 2023 to provide your feedback on the new youth space.



Frantastic Food Awards

Vero Pasta and Wine Restaurant and Hoyts Frankston were recognised this year for their outstanding commitment to food safety compliance and leadership in the local food industry.

The Frantastic Food Safety Awards program acknowledges businesses that prioritise safe food handling practices and provide customers with high-quality food. Food is essential for any city's viability. From attracting visitors to nourishing residents, food plays a part in our everyday lives. As Australians, we love our food. We are blessed to live in a melting pot of cuisines from across the globe, with many cultures sharing their love of food across Frankston City.

To uphold our reputation of being the place on the bay to learn, live, work, we must ensure the food we consume is safe. I want to thank both businesses for their commitment in upholding high food safety standards over the years. Food safety requires collaboration, so I also want to thank our Environmental Health Officers, for the guidance and support shown to our award recipients during assessment.

A thriving hospitality sector is essential for the growth and success of Frankston City, and initiatives like the Frantastic Food Safety Awards program play an important role in achieving this goal. It's all part of our vision for a bigger, better Frankston City.



Cr Nathan Conroy, Mayor

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Transport up our alley

Our City is growing. Our population stands at 143,903 and is forecast to grow to 161,660 by 2041. Council's Integrated Transport Strategy (ITS) will help increase the liveability within our City.

The ITS, our plan for the next 20 years, is titled *Connecting Communities*, and was adopted on 20 February 2023. It considers the growth of our City's population, and works to combat car dependence with plans for more walkable neighbourhoods, a great cycling network and integrated public transport to fight congestion. With traffic and parking congestion among the most pressing concerns, we are working to implement a suite of actions to make it easier for people to choose for alternative forms of transport to their cars. This will free up car parking in central Frankston and help create a reliable backbone for our transport which will ultimately get people home to their families sooner. In summer 2022, Frankston City became the first regional area to adopt e-bikes. The program has been a huge success and this, along with other Smart Cities initiatives, will rejuvenate the way we travel, making it greener and more sustainable.

Scan the QR code for more info.



Carrum Downs library

As an avid book reader, I'm very proud of our City's libraries – three gems of knowledge in our local area. After a six-week refurbishment, it was great to see Carrum Downs library open with new shelving. A shout-out to the library team for the new layout and library nooks. And the community really enjoyed the new look with queues on its first day of reopening. It's great to see people making use of the facilities and great activities like Chatty Cafes, story time and extended times in our Libraries After Dark series.

Read more on pages 2, 16 and 17.

Considering our industrial strategy

We have prepared a Strategy for Frankston's Industrial Precincts. This long-term 20-year plan will guide Council's planning policy and will reinforce our City's role as a major industry focal point in the southern metropolitan region. We are keen to see our industrial precincts develop to their full potential and be rejuvenated to modern industrial precincts. We welcome the community to be part of the conversation. Share your feedback until Monday, 29 May.

Scan the QR code for more info.



Cr David Asker

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Our City, a cultural hub

I was very excited with the adoption of the Destination Event Attraction Program (DEAP) strategy for 2023-2028. The strategy is designed to support the attraction of events to enliven the community, drive visitation and result in positive creative, economic and social outcomes.

The DEAP supports events across three tiers with funding of up to \$150,000 available for significant events. This year, Round 1 applications which closed on 21 April drew 13 applications and 10 additional responses from those who were interested but couldn't make the deadline. There were 10 applications across two rounds with five events funded the year before. These events are on top of the extensive festivals already on offer, such as the Waterfront Festival, Pets' Day out and many others.

Thanks to the DEAP, we are drawing new events to the City. As a result, investors are looking at Frankston and are showing an interest in building hotels, conference spaces, rooftop bars and top-class restaurants. We are currently facing a difficult economy, and that is why this funding will help stimulate our local entertainment scene and build on our City's reputation as an arts, culture and tourism destination. Not only will it strengthen our position as a destination for major and seasonal events, but it will also drive economic and branding benefits while rejuvenating our visitor economy.

I am so proud of this initiative, and am very pleased that all councillors supported the Destination program as it will be of great significance to the future of Frankston City and our economy. It's a huge win for our City.

Business Concierge

Council's Business Concierge is a free service to help guide you as you start or grow your business. We know that navigating through Council can be difficult and businesses may need one or more permits to start operating or to expand. The Business Concierge can help with the following:

- Provide information to help open or expand your business
- Understand which permits you will need
- How to complete and submit these applications
- Offer advice on other aspects of running your business
- Connect you with our free business mentor program

Get in touch with our experienced concierge today. Scan the QR code for more info.



Cr Suzette Tayler

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#FrankstonCity

Budgeting for the future

Our City's draft annual Budget 2023-2024 was created using our most significant community engagement on an annual budget so far, and our draft Budget was available for review until the start of May.

The total Budget is roughly \$291 million, with \$213 million going towards operational costs.

Thanks to the Budget we can provide essential services to 140,000 residents. Despite a hike in inflation, material shortages and other economic stressors, it feels good to still be able to offer these services. Councillors and officers worked together to create this substantive draft to fund Council's 71 services ranging from home help, Meals on Wheels, kindergarten teachers, school crossing supervisors and a wide gamut of offerings. These services are even more important in the current economic climate with many Australians currently struggling, resulting in an even greater reliance on our services.

The draft Budget also provides for a number of new infrastructure projects in addition to the programs already in the pipeline. It is important to continue these projects rather than postpone them as doing so could have dire consequences and leave future Councils rushing to play catch-up on infrastructure.

The Budget includes incentives to help stimulate the economy and help in our recovery.

Initial Budget consultation resulted in 362 responses, and I look forward to hearing public submissions before Council formally adopts the budget in the May-June timeframe

For more info, scan the QR code.



Frankston Chess Club

For the last 10 years, I have been an active member of the Frankston Chess Club, the second largest of its type in Victoria. Open every Wednesday night from 7-10.30pm at Leawarra House (200 Beach Street, Frankston), the Club is a welcoming place for people of all ages and backgrounds interested in chess. Children from primary school all the way to older adults can join in for a game of chess and stay at a social level or choose to compete in tournaments. Entire families are welcome to come and play the game of strategy which sharpens the mind and helps players develop critical thinking skills.

Those interested in Backgammon are also welcome to attend this club which we are lucky to have in our area.

Scan the QR code to find out more.



Cr Brad Hill

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Working together for greener world

In April I was proud to be among over twenty elected Mayors and Councillors from across Australia who called upon our Federal Government to legislate fuel efficiency standards for vehicles.

As outlined in the appeal coordinated by the Cities Power Partnership, Australia currently lags well behind as a nation, with 80 per cent of the rest of the global car market already having efficiency standards in place.

Without change, we will continue to be a dumping ground for the world's least fuel-efficient cars, which we then pay for through increased fuel consumption and worse outcomes for our environment and for human health. Strong vehicle emission standards will incentivise the transition toward low and zero emission transport technologies, such as electric vehicles, which can be powered by renewable energy. Council's newly adopted *Climate Change Strategy (2023-2030)* outlines our plan to increase the uptake of EV's in our vehicle fleet.

As we simultaneously increase the installation of solar generation across our city, we'll be able to use our own renewable energy to power the Council fleet, saving us money, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and resulting in cleaner air for us to breathe!

Similarly, continuing to increase our tree canopy has multiple wins beyond merely acting as 'carbon sinks'. These benefits include cleaner air, reduced run-off, improved habitat and biodiversity, cooler neighbourhoods, shade for pedestrians and enhanced neighbourhood character. And increasingly the shift away from the use of natural gas stoves is being welcomed by health practitioners in response to growing evidence of a clear link between use of such cooking appliances in our homes and the incidence of childhood asthma.

These are all current examples of environmental actions that bring synergistic benefits for human health, the household or organisational budget, and our quality of life. And as we face the long emergency that is our climate crisis, effective collaboration will be increasingly crucial, not just between the three tiers of government but also between households, businesses and the various community groups that represent the real heartbeat of our city. Rather than seeing climate action as a cost to incur, I prefer to think of it as a long-term investment in our collective capacity to thrive and a gift we can give to future generations.

Read more on pages 18-19.

Scan the QR code for more info.



Cr Claire Harvey

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Peer Leaders

I attended Frankston City Youth Council's Open Day last month. I enjoyed meeting with some of Council's Peer Leaders, youth volunteers aged between 14 and 24 who have an interest in and want to learn more about the services and programs provided by Frankston Youth Services.

Peer Leaders have the opportunity to gain experience with Council's Youth Services by providing assistance to our youth workers during the planning, organisation and facilitation of programs and events.

Open Day was one example where they helped to set up, run stalls and assist patrons of all ages.

Peer Leaders are a very important part of the Youth Services team. Through their role they can develop communication skills, expand their knowledge on the range of services and programs provided by Youth Services and also work with Council to create inclusive and accessible services to young people who visit us.

Scan the QR code to find out more about the program.



Congrats to the Hockey Club

Congratulations to the Frankston Hockey Club for achieving 50 years of fun and friendship in our City. The club was founded in 1973 by a group of passionate local players that consisted of hockey greats Robert "Chicken" Howell and triple Olympian Des Piper.

I attended a trip down memory lane at the Club recently. As a player of underwater hockey, it was great to see that, no matter the medium, there is always a thriving and friendly spirit when it comes to hockey clubs. Even though hockey doesn't receive the same spotlight as basketball or football, everyone I talked to – young and old – have never regretted choosing this sport as the one for them. Thank you once again for inviting me to your award's night. I look forward to seeing the club grow.

Read more on Page 20.

Business Mentor Program

Our amazing panel of Business Mentors are providing Frankston City businesses with free business coaching and support. Available to all Frankston City registered businesses, our Business Mentor Program offers two one-hour mentor sessions with one of our 12 mentors. Get in touch today to learn how you and your business can benefit from this fantastic free service. Email business@frankston.vic.gov.au

Cr Liam Hughes Deputy Mayor

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Civil engineer Sushmitha Chandrasekhar battles for gender equity

The CALD Network is a group of people who believe that local government can play a huge role in shaping multicultural Australia

Celebrating World Cultural Diversity Day on 21 May by building connections

Council could not have asked for a more diverse cohort to join the new **Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Network, officially launched at Functions by the Bay in March.**

The 12 members of the Network range from established migrants to newcomers, with an equal representation of genders criss-crossing over a range of ages and interest areas. They presented a joint vision statement to “showcase, celebrate, engage, share and learn, whilst promoting inclusive and positive relationships by celebrating a sense of belonging for all.”

Punjabi-born Jaswinder Singh from Sikh Volunteers Australia said agreeing on a vision was easy. “We come from different backgrounds, but we come as one race, which is human,” he said.

Cr Sue Baker, who met with the

Network, saw numerous benefits. “You will be able to offer Council valuable advice on projects Council is working on which will further shape the Frankston City community into an inclusive, cohesive and safe place to be and live, for all who call it home, making the most of our multiculturalism,” she said, adding that 28,000 people in the City, roughly a fifth of the population, were born overseas.

Ex-serviceman Voelcker Sapolu, a New Zealand-born Samoan married to a Greek, said local government can lead the shaping of Federal Government’s new multicultural framework — the first in 50 years — announced on Thursday, 23 February.

“Local Governments can see what is precious to the local community and are strategically placed to collect

data,” he said.

Each member of the Network brings a unique gift. Civil engineer Sushmitha Chandrasekhar battles for gender equity, Russian Yelena Shibeyeva spotlights challenges for CALD seniors, Maltese polyglot Bernadette Crisp works with multilingual teams to cut through NDIS jargon, and French Claire Emmanuel from Frankston’s Better Health Network offers therapeutic and financial counselling for vulnerable groups. Serbian member, Susan Levkovski, says established groups can share their experiences with newcomers like Jibin George from Frankston Malayalee Inc, who is also part of the Network along with Gismon Thomas, Priyanka Malhotra, Lorna Yakopo-Hazelman, Shirley Fiala and Chandra Morampudi, who supplied delicious catering from Little Spice during the Network’s launch.

Building awareness around diversity

The International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) is on 17 May and June is Pride Month.

These are occasions for Frankston City Council to embrace gender and sexual diversity and look at ways to grow together as a community. The theme for this year’s IDAHOBIT Day is “Together Always. United in Diversity”.

Council proudly co-facilitates the Frankston City and Mornington Peninsula LGBTQIA+ Collaborative. Members include local services, groups and community members with lived experience who work together to identify opportunities to reduce LGBTQIA+ discrimination and support and celebrate diversity community.

Council offers a range of inclusive, safe and welcoming services and programs for our community across the life span and can support customers to link in with other LGBTQIA+ friendly supports and services in our area.

Scan QR code for more info.



From New York to Frankston

On 28 June 1969, patrons of the Stonewall Inn, a popular bar with a diverse LGBTQ clientele in New York, stood their ground after police raided the establishment.

This led to days of riots and protests which over time have gained global momentum. Much has been achieved over the years and Pride Month reminds us of how far we have come.

Frankston 2023 is a far cry from New York 1969, but we share the sentiment of inclusion, diversity and equality and celebrate Pride Month. “This Pride Month staff across Council will have the opportunity to participate in training to further develop their understanding of barriers faced by our LGBTQIA+ community and learn strategies to improve inclusion.

We want people to feel safe regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Call 9784 1933 to find out more about services Council provides. These include home care, personal care, assistance with shopping, meals, home maintenance and social support.

Scan the QR code for more info.



Improving our services

Frankston City Council community care staff attended training to better understand the needs of older LGBTI people.

The program is part of Council’s efforts to offer a more inclusive service for all, including older LGBTI people who have a shared experience of discrimination and prejudice.

Many LGBTI older adults have experienced violence, isolation and

stigma throughout their lives. The situation worsens as people age, with elders in our community having less access to support from family or carers compared to the rest of the population.

Working towards a more inclusive service, we promote a practice of non-discrimination and provide services in a manner that are sensitive to people’s needs.

#FrankstonCity

What you need to know about the Bunurong people

For thousands of years before Frankston City became known by its current name, the Bunurong people knew it as Monmar, a sacred place.

The name of this indigenous Australian tribe comes from “Boon wurrung”, meaning “coast people”. The nomadic tribe travelled around present-day Frankston City.

Their way of life revolved around the

environment, and they moved frequently to follow food sources with their travels aligned to the seasonal movements of fish and animals. They embraced a culture that focused on storytelling, dance and art with stories passed down from generation to generation, helping to keep their traditions alive.

Despite the significant challenges faced by the Bunurong people, their

descendants continue to celebrate and preserve their culture.

There are several sites important to the people, such as the Kulin Beach midden and Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve.

The Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation has been established to represent the interests of Bunurong people and to ensure their heritage is

preserved, whereas Nairn Marr Djambana is a welcoming safe place to improve Aboriginal health cultural, recreation and social activities. Frankston City Council also celebrates their legacy and acknowledges the Bunurong people as the traditional custodians of this land. The flags of Indigenous Australians and Torres Strait islanders fly outside the Frankston Civic Centre.

Council honours First Nations

Frankston City Council honours our First Nations with several initiatives for greater inclusivity and awareness, such as the Reconciliation Action Plan.

Our 2021 Census noted 1,794 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders living in Frankston City, increasing from 1,337 in the 2016 Census. There are two important national weeks which Council participates in:

- National Reconciliation Week (NRW) runs from Saturday 27 May through to Saturday 3 June, with this year’s theme titled “Be a Voice for Generations”.
- The National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week runs from Sunday 2 July through to Sunday 9 July with “For Our Elders” as this year’s theme.

We encourage residents to take part in events helping to build awareness during NRW and NAIDOC Week:

Sculpture: Nairn Marr Djambana Gathering Place will unveil a stunning public art installation called “Spirit Dreaming”. The installation comprises of nine light pillars, each adorned with unique artworks created by members of the Gathering Place. Spirit Dreaming is a powerful expression of Indigenous spirituality, storytelling and connection to land and community with each of the nine pillars dedicated to a specific theme. Illuminated at night, the artworks are a mesmerising visual spectacle that invites viewers to reflect on the diversity of Indigenous cultures.



The flags of Indigenous Australians and Torres Strait islanders fly outside the Frankston Civic Centre daily

It will be on display from Thursday 15 June through to Saturday 26 August at the Glass Cube outside the Frankston Arts Centre (37 Davey Street).

Photography: Ceberio Johnson is an indigenous, blind photographer and asks his audience to be his eyes. “I take the photo of my moments, then they see the moment for me”. Ceberio presents a series of photographs from a recent trip back to his birthplace in NT. The first trip home since losing his vision. Ceberio won the FAC Open Exhibition 2022 the entry of a joyous photographic self-portrait in which he embraces his equally happy rescue dog Early. The exhibition opens on 6 July from 6-8pm at The FAC Curved Wall (37 Davey Street). Register online at thefac.com.au or call 9784 1061

Dinner Dance: Frankston City Council is a Platinum Sponsor of the NAIDOC “Maskerade” Dinner Dance/Awards Night 2023 at Mornington Racecourse on Saturday 1 July, from 5.30pm. Council will be sponsoring an award and is also providing tables for community members who would be restricted from attending due to the cost of tickets.

Children’s activity: Yimba Yumba are joining Frankston City Libraries bumper school holiday event program to deliver an interactive fun program to children using a combination of

storytelling, music, art, artefacts and objects. The goal is to create a space of curiosity, wonder and understanding of Aboriginal culture.

Kids playgroup: The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency’s (VACCA) Koorie Kids Playgroup offers a culturally safe, fun and empowering environment for families of children five years and under. The playgroup meets at Montague Park Playgroup Hall, Bentley Place in Frankston every Wednesday from 10.30am to 1pm and caters exclusively to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Families. For more info, contact Barb at Southern VACCA on 9108 3580.

Internal training: Our Cultural Awareness training workshops have allowed Council employees to build productive and responsive relationships with Aboriginal communities. The goal of these is to enable the understanding of local Aboriginal issues, culture and ways of doing business. These workshops are ongoing and are useful in order to foster greater understanding and better communication. These workshops, along with the Diversity and Inclusion Group, ensure Council is on track when it comes to implementing better processes to communicate with all people in our community, including First Nations.



Bay Mob Health Expo

The Bay Mob Health Expo is planned for Thursday 1 June from 8am to 4pm.

The expo showcases many of the health, education and wellbeing opportunities available for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Frankston City and Mornington Shire Peninsula. Our area hosts one of the fastest growing Indigenous Communities in Victoria.

This year’s Bay Mob Health and Education Expo will have something for everyone, with over 30 stall holders and a host of activities including: lunch and refreshments by Nairn Marr Djambana, live cultural entertainment and workshops, health info and advice on education and employment pathways, elders’ lounge door prizes and physical activity sessions with various sport, recreation and leisure.

Contact Nairn Marr Djambana on 9781 1521 for more info.

#FrankstonCity

IF Business Grants 2023



Circular Economy work

Economy, Investment and Activation officers recently attended a workshop for leaders from businesses, LGA's and academics from Warwick University, UK and Monash Business School discussing the importance of Circular Economy (CE) practices in Small, Medium Enterprises (SME's).

CE seeks to minimise resource inputs and emissions of organisations and their supply networks by slowing, narrowing, and closing resource loops while improving efficiency and reducing waste. The two main areas of discussion were centred on what challenges do SME's face while



adopting Industry 4.0 technologies and how these technologies will enable them to transition to a CE and ensure long-term sustainability. Further round table discussions will be held later in the year, again bringing together business leaders, LGA's and experts from Monash University to continue the CE conversation.

Business Basics Workshops Series

Join the upcoming Business Basics workshop series to learn about starting, managing and growing your own small business.

Open to all Frankston City residents and hosted by industry experts, you can gain fundamental skills about getting started, creating a business plan, finance management, marketing, branding, website design, social media and more. The five sessions

will be held in May and June and will provide you with valuable resources, council contacts and the opportunity to network with others. You have the flexibility to join one or more of the sessions and there is a small discount to join all five sessions. Sessions are held every Tuesday for five weeks starting 23 May. To find out more or to book your spot visit at investfrankston.com/news



Miss Velvet owner Cyanna Negrea had previously received a Façade Improvement Grant

Façade Improvement Grants

The Invest Frankston Shopfront Improvement Grants were open from 23 March to 10 April inviting Frankston City businesses from around the municipality to apply for between \$5000 and \$20,000 to improve the front façade of their business or commercial property.

With a funding pool of \$100,000, the grants were designed to encourage and facilitate business

owners, operators and landlords to enhance the presentation of their building or business across the city. A more interesting street experience can have a significant effect on the attractiveness and marketability of the surrounding area, inviting more foot traffic and supporting and inspiring further business investment. Successful applicants will be announced in the coming months.

2023 IF Business Grant recipients announced!

Sixteen Frankston City businesses have been awarded a 2023 Invest Frankston Business Grant sharing in \$180,000 in funding to boost the local economy

With more than \$1.4 million grants delivered since 2012, the successful grant program has helped more than 80 innovative and sustainable business ideas come to life, delivering around 650 jobs and

more contributing to more than \$200 million to the local economy. This year the program was offered to help businesses expand to a larger space, invest in capital, relocate their business to Frankston City or move from a home based or mobile business to a vacant commercial, industrial or retail space in Frankston City. Read more about the successful applicants at investfrankston.com/news.

Draft Footpath Trading and Parklet Guidelines

In March, Frankston City Council's Economy, Investment and Activation Team developed draft Footpath Trading and Parklet Guidelines to assist businesses wanting to take advantage of footpath trading (including dining) and to ensure that public spaces remain safe, accessible and enjoyable for the whole community.

The draft guidelines went out for community and business consultation in April and May calling for discussion on a variety of inclusions such as new fee structure of per square metre to replace per item of outdoor furniture, new option for a six month, seasonal permit, new application checklist



Betty's Burgers is on the corner of Playne Street, opposite The Hop Shop, General Public, Rebel Donuts Lavazza & Gelato and Hotel Lona. industry advice

and comprehensive guiding diagrams. The new guidelines will then be submitted to Council in the coming months.

Cr Bolam, lessons from a decade in Council

Kris Bolam was recently recognised for his 10 years of service to Frankston City as a Councillor, including two terms as Mayor in 2010-2011 and 2020-2021. His genuine love for the City stems from early childhood and grew following his parents' divorce in the 1990s.

"I was aged 9 when I went to live with my grandparents in Frankston, and I've always felt a sense of indebtedness to this City because it filled a void that was missing at the time," he said, remembering playing at Ballam Park, doing competitive swimming at the Pines Pool, and taking advantage of the open space.

"My grandparents gave up their retirement years to raise a second set of kids and I felt almost guilty about this and wanted to make them proud," he said.

"My nan died when I was Mayor the second time around and I remember that she was very proud when she passed away, so mission accomplished in that sense."

Fascination with Council

Cr Bolam's passion for good governance is rooted in his teenage years when his grandfather would take him to Council meetings. "When he couldn't take me, I would walk from Karingal, where we lived, and watch by myself," he said, admitting he was the only 15-year-old in the Gallery.

Despite his fascination with Local Government, there were disappointing moments "because the many of the big decisions would be behind closed doors."

As time went on, the young man's discontent grew, especially after recordings were stopped altogether and question time was scrapped.

"Enough!" he thought of the "secrecy", and that is how, at the age of 22, Cr Bolam was voted in as a Councillor in 2008 to rescind these decisions.

Wide-eyed and daisy fresh, he entered Chambers, stating he was the first Councillor under the age of 30 at the time. Along with his ideals and aspirations, he brought with him a checklist. "You've got to have a list of priorities of what you want to achieve. And from there, you've got to be able to compromise," he said, adding that people "go wrong when they only seek absolutes".

"The goals you have can be achieved, but the form in which they take may not be completely what you envisioned. There might be tweaks here and there. Ultimately you must be prepared to listen, adapt to what you hear and then negotiate."

Holding people accountable

For Cr Bolam, the vision was to introduce "transparency and accountability reform".

"Serious times require serious governance, and I have little tolerance for deceptive messaging, be it misinformation or disinformation," he said, pointing to the importance of checking facts, looking at figures. A breakthrough came with the introduction of the Transparency Hub giving the public access to Council data, including detailed financial records, asset management stats from the City's capital Works program and procurement figures.

"I had the vision, but the Council staff had the know-how and have done such an incredible job in bringing that portal to life," he said, adding that he gained a new appreciation for staff after working as in the Australian



Councillor Bolam received an award for his 10 years of service from 2008-2012 and from 2016 through to the present

Public Service (APS) as a policy writer for two years.

Advice for novice Councillors

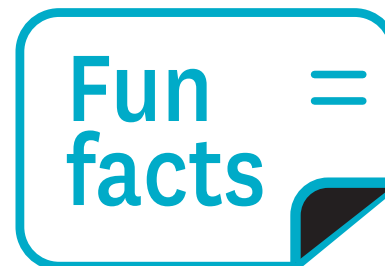
Cr Bolam said he was "tapped out" following his first term (2008-2012) and needed the break from 2012 through to 2016. "I went from having high-level strategic interactions as Mayor, where I was shaking the hands of a governor-general, to trying to bring someone back to life from a drug overdose as a Protective Services Officer (PSO) with the Victoria Police. These are very different experiences, very different perspectives but they mould you as a person," he said.

"During this time away from politics, I got back the fire in the belly." His advice to future councillors would be to "pace yourself" and not have a "scatter gun approach" - have a handful of realistic priorities you want to achieve. Keeping his eye on the goal has helped during obstacles.

"Adversity forced me to work even harder in previous councils where there was very little cooperation and I had to double down on what I believed in," he said.

Adversities have been plentiful during his 10 years in governance. As Mayor during the Global Financial Crisis and again during COVID-19, Cr Bolam jokes that "he is a Mayor for all seasons". He gets through tough times with "stubbornness" which he claims to have inherited from his grandmother. "Stubbornness is denoted as a negative trait, but a sense of stubbornness and ownership in the political world can help you remain focussed," he said.

He says that his time may be coming to an end. He calls it his "swan song" as he said he has ticked off much of what he wanted to achieve. "You come in, you achieve, you move on and you let someone else come in and take it further," he said. "That's the hope."



Hobbies: Reading, hiking

Favourite book: Jean Craighead George's "My Side of the Mountain"

Favourite documentary: True Crime

Favourite place to go hiking: The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve

Favourite place in Frankston: Ballam Park

Favourite AFL Team: Richmond Tigers

Pet: Murphy the Labradoodle

Favourite food: Pizza!

Education achievements:

Bachelor of Arts (majors in Politics and Policy Studies; and International Relations), Bachelor of International Studies (major in Middle Eastern Studies), Graduate Diploma of Management, Master of Business Administration

A morning with a new mum



Lily Cannella and little Leon meet with Lactation Consultant Melanie McCulloch at Mahogany Rise

Council supports a mother's breastfeeding journey

Lily Cannella cuddles baby Leo Breznjak, aged three and a half months, under the watchful guidance of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Nurse and Lactation Consultant, Melanie McCulloch at Frankston City Council's Breast-Feeding Support Service.

Little Leo suckles, satisfied in his mother's arms. And Lily is proud to be offering him all she can in terms of bonding and nourishment. Both look like a picture of health and contentedness as a warm halo envelopes them.

It's hard to believe that just a few weeks earlier Lily had been in tears. "I had spent over \$1,000 going to certain clinics, I went to an osteopath and had a private lactation consultant come to my house," she said. "Both said Leo had a tongue tie which meant that he would need to either stop breastfeeding or undergo expensive laser surgery which comes with risks and would be traumatic."

The mother trusted her instinct after getting conflicting opinions regarding tongue tie and breastfeeding before visiting the Council's free Breastfeeding Support Service. "Mel was amazing! She reassured me to trust my 'mum gut'. And I'm so glad I did," she said, adding that her anxiety was finally put to rest.

"Mel was the first person to show me how Leo's tongue functioned. She showed me what he can do, how his tongue could move side to side and up and down."

As a first-time mother without the experience of other babies in the family, Lily was grateful

for both the practical and specialist support. Melanie said that mothers like Lily come to Council's Breastfeeding Support Service when experiencing more complex breastfeeding issues.

"We see mums with nipple damage, babies not gaining enough weight, breastmilk supply issues... anything requiring more in-depth support. Most women who choose to breastfeed even when experiencing difficulties are successful with additional support, our service is here to offer this support."

Lily is very grateful. "Breast milk is the perfect food, and that's a reason why women breastfeed. I wanted to offer this to Leo, but it didn't come as naturally as I thought it would. It was hard to learn," she said, adding that as a four-week premature baby, he didn't have the same strength and energy as a full-term baby and was very sleepy. "I'm so glad I persevered. I'm so proud to be keeping him alive and meeting all his needs. Breastfeeding is vital, the bonding is something I enjoy, and it has other benefits too - both in terms of finances and convenience."

Now that she has breastfeeding nailed down, Lily is enjoying every moment with Leo. Breastfeeding advice is provided at all Maternal and Child Health appointments, whilst the Frankston City Council MCH Breastfeeding Support Service give specialist breastfeeding advice at Karingal PLACE MCH Centre on Monday afternoons and at Mahogany Rise MCH Centre on Wednesday mornings. Contact your local MCH Centre for more information or telephone our central booking line on 9784 1756.

Council's free parent education programs

Council's Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Service offers a range of free Family and Health Support Services to help parents.

These promote the health, wellbeing, safety, development and learning outcomes for children (from birth to six years) and their families. These include:

- **Early Parenting Workers** provide free information sessions to help new parents better understand sleep and settling for newborns, babies and toddlers; infant massage training; food for babies, infants and toddlers; as well as toddler behaviour sessions, including toilet training.
- **Sleep & Settling Outreach:** Parents can have individual support with an MCH nurse over the phone or in the home to address sleep and settling concerns for babies and toddlers.
- **Health Justice Partnership:** There is free legal advice offered to parents and caregivers using the MCH Service.
- **Other services:** Through the MCH Service, families are often referred to other programs and services, including supported playgroups, allied health and other family services such as the Babes Project.

Call your local MCH Centre or our central booking line on 9784 1756.

For more information about Council's services, scan the QR Code.



First-time parents enjoy their time together at Council's Playgroup

The joys of first-time parenthood

Lily Cannella said she had very little contact with first-time parents before becoming one herself.

What she found useful was coming into contact with other parents in places such as Council's First-Time Parents Playgroup.

Together, newbies share the joys, excitement but also the stresses and pains of parenthood in a relaxed way.

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Jacqui Gilmour said that she has seen many friendships blossom at the groups she runs. "Some of them create Whats App groups and meet up again. I've even seen mothers come to the group and then form such strong connections that they become lifelong friends," Jacqui says.

Scan the QR code for more info.



#FrankstonCity

New additions to our Street Art Walking Tours

Frankston's Street Art Walking Tours have won back-to-back GOLD in the 2021 and 2022 Australian Street Art Awards for Best Street Art Tour! Here are some new additions to our special tours.

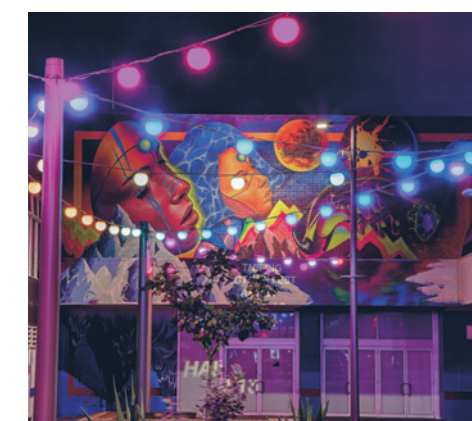
SOFLES

Corner of Beach and Evelyn streets, Bayside Centre



Hard Thirteen

White Street Mall, Bayside Centre



Maria Pena

Beach Street, Bayside Centre



Hayden Dewar

Thompson Street



Katherine Gailer

Frankston Library, Playne Street



Heesco

Gallery Lane



Enjoy these artworks and more by attending one of our Street Art Tours. For booking details, scan the QR code.



Street Art Walking Tours

Learn the secrets of Frankston's murals and their artists on one of the city's national award-winning guided street art walking tours.	Meeting point	Price	Duration
	Frankston Library, 60 Playne Street, Frankston	\$15 per person includes a hot or cold drink	1.5 hours

Dates and Bookings
Tours run weekly. For dates and bookings visit discoverfrankston.com or phone 1300 322 842. Bookings are essential.



The Mirage Beach sculpture by Deirdre Mair and Harry Stitt from NSW is on the Frankston Foreshore

Our public arts strategy

There is a reason and a story for every piece of public art in Frankston City and its chosen location.

The new Public Arts Strategy, recently endorsed by Council, makes sure our public art reflects stories of people, place and the environment in Frankston and builds community pride. Residents and visitors can

expect an evolving, thoughtful program of public art that continues to improve our public spaces, highlighting First Nations people connection to Country and nurturing our vibrant, creative community. So the next time you see a street art mural, installation or sculpture - linger a little longer and discover the story. **More info at DiscoverFrankston.com**

FRANKSTON ARTS CENTRE

Bookings: 9784 1060 or thefac.com.au



Dance

Base Entertainment
Celtic Illusion The Magic Returns!
Saturday 27 May | 7.30pm
Tickets: \$75-\$84.90 and \$310 for a family of four



Music

Frankston Arts Centre,
Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
An Evening with the MSO
Friday 2 June | 7.30pm (Music)
Tickets: \$35-\$71



Theatre

Frankston Arts Centre and County Arts SA
Euphoria
Wednesday 7 June | 7.30pm
Tickets: \$27-\$60



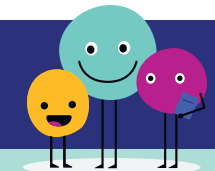
Music

Blake Entertainment P/L
Rolling Thunder Vietnam
Thursday 8 June and Friday 9 June | 7.30pm
Tickets: \$81.90-\$102.40



Family

Frankston Arts Centre, shake & stir theatre
Roald Dahl's The Twits
Friday 23 June | 12pm and 6pm
Tickets: \$35,\$40 and \$120



Frankston City Libraries

What's on



FrankTALK with Maya Linnell
Saturday 24 June, 11am-12pm
at Frankston Library

With her fifth rural romance "Kookaburra Cottage" due for release in June, we are delighted to host Maya for a FrankTALK discussing everything from her best-selling novels to life on the farm raising orphaned lambs.



Connect with Technology Workshops

Various dates and times at Frankston Library

Technology can make everyday tasks easier and more time efficient. But to use the tech, we often need a helping hand in getting to know it better. That's where your library comes in! Join us for our group classes and find out more about how to use technology to your advantage, with classes about everything from connecting to e-resources to staying safe when shopping and banking online.



Justice of the Peace Service

Every Wednesday 3pm-7pm
Every Saturday 10am-1pm
at Frankston Library

This service is free and staffed by volunteers. JPs can assist residents with the following:

- Attesting the execution of a document.
- Witnessing a statutory declaration.
- Witnessing an affidavit for use in court.
- Certifying true copies of an original document.

No appointments are needed but availability is best confirmed by phone 9784 1020.

All events at Frankston City Libraries are free to attend, head to our website, via the QR code or call 9784 1200, to book your place.



Liveable city

Council fast facts



Hannah Stevens finds a nook to read a cosy book at the library

Cosy winter days at Frankston City Libraries

With the cost-of-living skyrocketing, Frankston City Libraries are an affordable way to spend time indoors during the cold winter months. You can access resources, catch up on some work, enjoy free activities or just curl up with a book at one of our comfy chairs.

better understand technology, learn how to stay safe online, all the way to tips on how to sell online.

Scan the QR code for more info.



For social connection

The libraries used to be quiet places where people would whisper, but that's no longer the case. You can grab a lunchtime coffee and a bite from the Writers Bloc Café and eat inside or join one of our Chatty Cafes. These cafes are aimed at bringing members of the community together for some friendly banter and are proving to be very helpful in combatting loneliness and isolation.

Scan the QR code for more info.



For night owls

If normal borrowing hours don't suit you. You can access Libraries After Dark at Carrum Downs Library. Along with all the normal borrowing, computers and printing services, visitors can enjoy a range of activities, workshops, author talks and games. Or just enjoy a warm cuppa and a chat.

And don't forget our FrankTALKs with authors, workshops and many other events held weekly across our branches. Not to mention all the latest reads, and with automated renewal now in effect, there is no need to rush your items back to the library (unless the item is reserved for loan). With over 150,000 items to choose from, there is something for everyone, and if you can't find something, our friendly librarians are on hand to suggest your next great read.

For families with children

There are 17 Storytime sessions held each week across the Library's branches and outreach locations. These fun and interactive sessions are designed to encourage children to engage with books, the library space and each other.

Other activities include LEGO builders afternoons across multiple branches on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and STEM kids workshops every Saturday as well as Sunday family board games.

There are also free school holiday activities during the winter school holidays. Scan the QR code to sign up to the e-newsletter and be the first to access booking places.

Scan the QR code.



For students and workers

If high speed internet is what you're after, the library has you covered. Book a public PC and access a multitude of resources. Or bring your own device and log into our internet.

Free membership also gives you complimentary access to LinkedIn Learning courses so that you can upskill. And if online learning isn't your thing, the Library offers numerous tech sessions to help people

DISCOVER A BLOOMING CITY

Scan to discover what makes Frankston City so bright and read how it can become one of Victoria's Top Tourism Towns



discoverfrankston.com

Is solar worth it for your rooftop?

Do you want to know how much you can save with solar? Is your roof too shady for solar?

Find out if solar is right for you using the free not-for-profit solar decision-making tool, SunSPOT.

Frankston City Council has made available the SunSPOT Solar Potential Tool (SunSPOT) for residents and businesses to use.

SunSPOT is a calculator that has been built by solar engineers at the UNSW for the Australian PV Institute, specifically to help householders and small businesses understand the possibilities and benefits of solar on their rooftop.

In two minutes you can:

- get an estimate of your optimal solar system size for the best return on investment
- map the solar panels on your roof to calculate how the system will perform. The SunSPOT tool shows where the sunniest areas of the roof are with red and orange dots making it easy to place

the solar panels to enhance your system

- estimate the expected cost of the system
- estimate how much the solar system will save you in a year.

Find a recent bill with your average daily electricity usage in kWh on it by visiting the United Energy My Energy website (myenergy.ue.com.au), also visit sunspot.org.au to find helpful videos and more information.

Accelerating the transition to renewable energy is one of the key themes in Council's newly adopted *Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030*. It is also a key priority listed in the Frankston City Community Vision 2040 with Council, government, business and the community working together to lead the way on climate change adaptation, encouraging the use of clean, renewable energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect against sea level rise. Using the SunSPOT tool will assist businesses and households to make an informed decision about investing in rooftop solar.

Maxing out the rooftops at PARC and Frankston's Civic Centre!

Early this year Frankston City Council completed two significant rooftop solar system installations.

The first was a substantial 523.5 kilowatt solar system at the Peninsula Aquatic Recreation Centre (PARC) and the second was an 89 kilowatt solar system on at the Frankston Civic Centre (Civic Centre), thanks to recent roof upgrades and rectification works.

Both PARC and the Civic Centre are in Council's top three highest electricity using facilities, together making up over 61 per cent electricity usage by facilities and generating over 41 per cent of Council's total emissions. To tackle this, Council filled all available roof space with the new solar systems to take advantage of the maximum solar energy capacity at both sites.

It is estimated that each year PARC's 523.5 kilowatt solar system will produce around 639 megawatt hours of electricity, removing an estimated 614 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. The system has an expected payback of 7.5 years. The Civic Centre's 89 kilowatt solar system is estimated to produce 108 megawatt hours of electricity, with an expected payback of 7.7 years. The Civic Centre's electricity usage is already emissions-free due to being included in Council's 10-year renewable energy agreement.



Solar upgrades have made PARC more efficient

Council declared a climate emergency in November 2019 and its investment in solar is a key action of the newly adopted *Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030*. The money saved on electricity costs from both of these sites will be used to deliver other important community services. For more information visit: frankston.vic.gov.au

Laying waste to pollution

Council provides a wide range of waste management activities to keep our City clean. See our news below:

- **Time to organise your hard waste!** Council will conduct Hard Waste Collection from 1 May to 9 June, 2023. Look out for an information brochure in your mailbox with your collection date. You can also find this online at frankston.vic.gov.au/MyAddress. Items must be presented by 6am on the Monday of your collection week. Collection can occur over the 5 days of your collection week, any time from Monday to Friday between 6am to 5pm. Different collection trucks will remove different items to reduce the impact to landfill. If required on weekends, collections will begin from 7am. Your waste should not exceed two metres in length, one metre in height, and one metre in depth. Fines may be imposed for illegal dumping or early presentation. Contact 1300 322 322 for inquiries.

- **Purple bins.** The Victorian Government is rolling out a new purple glass recycling bin to all residential properties across Frankston City in September, with first collections in October 2023. The purple-lidded bin will be collected every four weeks, and it joins the existing yellow, green, and red bins. Separating glass products, including jars and bottles, helps reduce contamination in the yellow recycling bins and improves the quality and value of recycled materials, supporting Frankston City's commitment to waste circularity. To learn more about the change and upcoming information sessions, residents can scan the QR code to visit Council's website.



- **Waste Circularity Plan** Frankston City Council is seeking feedback from the community on the Draft Waste Circularity Plan. The draft comes off the back of robust community consultation, involving a range of online and in-person engagement activities to help shape the plan. There are many things community can influence and share their feedback on, including our targets, FOGO services, community priorities, alternative waste solutions and more. Our Waste Circularity Plan has a key role to play in reducing impact on the environment, and in supporting a more resilient and liveable community. **Be part of the future and have your say via the QR code by 7 June, 2023.**



Last year's tree planting day was a huge success

Join in Schools Tree Day

Trees and plants help us improve our lives, and we need them to survive.

For this reason, we are committed to planning 80,000 trees in the area as part of the Urban Forest Action 2020-2024, and are well on track to meeting the target. Our goal is to grow our tree canopy from 17-20 per cent by 2040.

Each year we participate in Schools Tree Day and National Tree Planting Day which fall on Friday 28 July and Sunday 30 July this year.

Council is proud to promote tree planting again this year. You can

join 'Schools Tree Day' on Friday 28 July, and work with Council to plant trees. This will enhance the biodiversity of our natural environment, create opportunities for outdoor learning and encourage more nature play.

As part of its commitment to this cause, Council is thrilled to offer free indigenous plants. There are 50 free plants offered to schools and 25 for preschools in the municipality to plant on Schools Tree Day.

These plants provide habitat, food and shade for local wildlife. They also provide a beautiful environment for our young

people to learn how to care for, protect and restore.

Schools also have the opportunity to apply to become one of two School Environment Ambassadors who will receive up to 300 free plants and other additional support. But hurry, registrations close on Friday the 23 June 2023.

Let's protect Frankston City's 425 parklands and celebrate National School Tree Planting Day in style, by making a difference to our local community.

For more information, scan the QR code.



Story of a Local Legend

Leon Costermans has been volunteering in the local community for over 35 years as an active member of the environmental group Friends of Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve.

Leon recalls the time when the military reserve ceased and the land was handed over and preserved as an important habitat area for native flora and fauna, particularly small mammals such as the rare New Holland Mouse.

Leon is a founding member and the inaugural Chair of the Frankston Environmental Friends Network which was started up in 1995, the first of its kind in Victoria to support ongoing collaboration between friends groups, local government and other interest groups all working together to protect native habitat in Frankston City Council.

Last year Leon teamed up with geologist Fons VandenBerg to publish his latest book 'Stories beneath our feet: exploring the

geology and landscapes of Victoria and surrounds'. A very significant achievement.

In Leon's words, 'Environmental volunteering is not glamorous, it's hard work with no pay but we all like working in the bush, we like the fresh air and meeting people. Volunteering has its own rewards.'

Find out more about volunteering with the Network by scanning the QR code.



Council adopts Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030

Frankston City Council is proud to release our Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030, reflecting the community's priorities for a sustainable and climate-smart future.

The Strategy builds on our *Towards Zero Emissions Plan 2019-2023*, identifying actions that will guide us towards meeting a 42 per cent science based emissions reduction target and build resilience to climate change. Council is committed to delivering a future with reduced emissions and a thriving environment for our community.

To view the full report, visit Engage Frankston or scan the QR code.



Leon receives an appreciation award from Councillor Claire Harvey



The Stingrays have come a long way

Stingrays celebrate 50 fabulous years

Frankston Hockey Club has celebrated 50 years of fun and friendship!

The club was founded in 1973 by a group of passionate local players that consisted of hockey greats Robert “Chicken” Howell and triple Olympian Des Piper.

Deputy Mayor Liam Hughes joined the club for a trip down memory lane on Saturday 1 April for an anniversary celebration and shared stories and laughs as Teams of the Decades were announced.

The night was not only a milestone celebration but it also served as a great opportunity for teammates and volunteers to re-connect, as well as introduce the current generation of members to the Stingrays who came before them.

Joining in on the celebration were founding members Neil Rist, Russell “Hollywood” Whitney and triple Olympian Des Piper, who were accompanied by a strong showing of Life Members and family members of other founding members who were not able to make the evening.

Current president Chris Wall said: “We were grateful to have Des make the journey from NSW and join us on the evening who was named captain of men’s Team of the Half Century.

“We’d like to thank Ross Hull, Shaun Young, Brendan Taylor, Greg Lymer, Deb Stockdale, Rhonda Bennett and Wendy Hodges for the collection of historical data. A special thank you to Kate Holt, our event organiser, for putting on a great evening for us all.”

Deputy Mayor Hughes praised the club for its contribution for lifting community spirit and providing a sense of togetherness and belonging for members.

Reflecting on the club’s highlights, he said: “The club is only one of only four Melbourne Clubs to grow memberships past pre-pandemic numbers and 2022 saw the club clear 240 active memberships with 2023 looking to be even stronger!

“Recent highlights include the Women’s First Grade Premiership in 2019 and Men’s First Grade



Des Piper and Russell Whitney blow the candles out on the 50th birthday cake

Premiership in 2022. There’s also been the fantastic efforts of Victorian Masters Representatives – Travis and Chris Firth and Victorian Junior Under-15s representative, Kobi Hull.”

Deputy Mayor Hughes added: “Congratulations on an amazing 50 years and we look forward to celebrating more feats and milestones as your great club forges ahead.”

Teams of the Decade, Team of the Half Century and photos from the evening can be viewed at frankstnhockeyclub.com/50years



Council votes to extend e-bike trial

A trial of e-bikes will continue in Frankston City for another year after Councillors gave the thumbs up.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour after receiving a report which outlined the trial of e-bikes has seen an average of about 1,800 trips per month over the past year.

Mayor Nathan Conroy said: “We’ve had an extremely successful trial period — it’s about giving people those micro transport choices.”

Overall, there has been a very positive response and uptake from the community with Council’s engagement showing the majority of respondents were supportive by three to one.

The trial is part of the Council Plan — to promote healthy, active, clean, green, outdoor living for all ages and abilities! If we can all do the right thing, by riding and parking safely, we can perhaps keep a few more cars off the roads, attract more visitors, and keep our lovely City moving.

The pedal-assisted e-bikes offer a safe, convenient way to travel for residents and visitors, connecting people and places more easily and in a more sustainable way than motorised vehicles.

They are yet another key draw-card for visitors and tourists to stay, explore and visit Frankston City’s local eateries and businesses, so it’s a win-win for everyone. For residents, the e-bikes open up different routes and parts of the City that they might not normally frequent.

They provide the community and visitors with greater access to environmentally-friendly transport options, reducing the reliance on cars for short journeys. As a zero emissions transport initiative, certified by the Carbon Reduction Institute, they also fit perfectly with Frankston City Council’s Zero Emissions strategy.

To keep up to date with local sports project milestones, follow @FrankstonCityCouncil or visit: frankston.vic.gov.au