YOUR CHAFFEY NEWSLETTER

This newsletter provides you with updates relating to your ward and the key projects Ward Councillors are involved in.

# Your Chaffey Ward

Chaffey Ward is situated in the centre of the Wyndham municipality and includes the suburbs of Tarneit and parts of Werribee and Hoppers Crossing.

Based on population forecasts, the Chaffey Ward population is estimated to be around 75,000 people as at 2016. It is expected to increase by over 57,000 residents (76%) between 2016 and 2036, and is forecasted to have a population of around 132,000 people by 2036, making it the second largest Ward in Wyndham.

Filipino/Tagalog is the most widely spoken language other English, followed by Punjabi and Arabic.

**Getting Tarneit Moving – Tarneit Road Duplications**

Works are soon to commence for Wyndham City’s $6 million project that will duplicate Tarneit Road (between Hogans Road intersection and Good News School) and help improve road safety and reduce traffic congestion in the area.

The project will add two extra lanes along the stretch of this road and upgrade the intersection capacity which will make it easier for residents and those passing through to get around Wyndham.

As part of this project, Council will also build a new wetlands park next to the Tarneit West Shopping Centre on behalf of Melbourne Water. Not only will this improve the quality of the storm water in the area, it will also serve as a place of recreation and leisure where people can go to relax.

A new intersection with traffic lights will also be built in front of the Good News School that will increase safety for students, parents/guardians and residents.

The project is expected to be completed in early 2018.

**Council in the Community**

Wyndham City is bringing Council closer to the community by upgrading the Community Learning Centres in Point Cook, Tarneit and Manor Lakes.

The local community and staff at the Centre have identified improvements needed to the existing Tarneit Community Learning Centre in order to meet the increasing demand for existing services and to provide spaces that will enable expansion of Council services offered at the Centre.

It is important that Council is able to respond to the specific service needs of the local community. This project will make it easier for residents to connect with Council and find what they need locally.

Last year, Council introduced customer service staff to Tarneit Community Learning Centre and made it easier for residents to access services such as paying rates, registering pets, or booking hard waste collection. Council will soon begin trialling other services at these sites, reducing the need for residents to travel to the Civic Centre.

Construction is expected to commence in October and completed by April 2018. You can visit the Centre and speak to staff to find out more about this project.

<https://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/services/major-projects/community-learning-centre-upgrades>

**Local community helping shape Wyndham’s future**

In 2015, Wyndham City developed the Wyndham 2040 Community Plan, a 25 year collective vision for our city. As our local communities have varying needs, the vision is supported by four District Plans and District Advisory Committees which are made up of local residents.

In 2016, the members of the District Advisory Committees consulted with their local communities and gathered feedback on what residents think are specific community priorities that will help build a better Wyndham. This feedback has been presented to Council and will be taken into consideration in the development of the 2017-2021 Wyndham City Plan. The plan will guide Council’s decision making in the next four years.

Wyndham West

* Transport
* Strengthen Social Connection
* Volunteering Opportunities
* Community Safety
* Promote Healthy Living
* Local Employment Opportunities
* Education and Training Opportunities
* Improve Parks and Open Space

Council, together with the District Advisory Committees, will continue to engage with the community, as we develop the City Plan and continue our journey in achieving the Wyndham 2040 Vision and make Wyndham a ‘Place for People’.

**Enterprising Tarneit**

In July last year, 16 Tarneit residents were given the opportunity to develop, plan and implement their business ideas through the Enterprising Tarneit Initiative.

Tarneit is one of the fastest growing suburbs in Wyndham, with the population expected to double to 39,907 by 2021. Hence the increase need for local job opportunities.

Enterprising Tarneit is a joint project by the Centre for Multicultural Youth and Scanlon Foundation and supported by Wyndham City, which aims to create new job opportunities by boosting the motivation, knowledge and skills of local entrepreneurs.

Participants undertook a four-month program that includes intensive workshops, business skills training, learning with peers, mentoring and access to networks and business resources.

The program concluded in October and a group of participants will be presenting the outcome and progress of their businesses to Council in May.

**Take pride of your nature strips**

Nature strips are an important part of Wyndham’s urban environment and can significantly increase the aesthetic and environmental appeal of our City’s local streets and neighbourhoods. It adds character to our property and the street that we live in.

Nature strips also offer a range of benefits such as absorbing rainwater and reducing stormwater run-off. Likewise, it softens the effect of the harder surfaces such as road, footpath and driveway, making our properties more visually appealing. More importantly, nature strips can add to our properties’ value.

This is why it is very important that as residents we look after our nature strips and take pride of our city’s natural setting. Residents are responsible for maintaining their nature strips which may include mowing, weeding and litter control.

To find out more about nature strip landscaping guidelines, visit www.wyndham.vic.gov.au

# Capital Works Project Update

Chaffey Ward residents will continue to benefit from a number of road and infrastructure projects that are underway across the Ward.

Works are programmed to commence soon or underway or near completion for:

* Tarneit Road Duplication (between Hogans Road and Caraleena Drive)
* Tarneit Road Reconstruction (Heaths Road – Hogans Road Northbound)
* Princes Highway Service Road Reconstruction (David Crt – Old Geelong Rd)
* Snowgum Court Park Upgrade, Hoppers Crossing
* Stella Way and Enea Place reconstruction

Design Works:

* Baden Powell Drive Reserve Development, Hoppers Crossing
* Mossfiel Reserve Development, Hoppers Crossing
* Old Geelong Road Service Road, Hoppers Crossing
* Thames Boulevard Reconstruction, Werribee (between Hogans Road and Heaths Road)
* Tarneit Road duplication, Sayers Rd to Leakes Rd
* Hogans road Upgrade between Davis creek and Basinview Drive.
* Frawley court Rehabilitation

Footpaths are also being constructed at the following locations:

* Sayers Road missing link on approach to Thomas Carr, Truganina
* Guinanae Avenue, Hoppers Crossing
* Yandina Road, Hoppers Crossing
* Fraser Street, Hoppers Crossing
* Morris Road pram crossings at 3 locations in Truganina
* Fairway Aveune / Madison Drive pram crossing, Hoppers Crossing

State Government Funded Project - $1.2 billion Outer Suburban Arterial Roads Program

* Derrimut Road (from Sayers Road to Dohertys Road), Tarneit
* Leakes Road duplication Derrimut Rd to Skelton Creek

While some of these projects are in progress, there are other projects in the pipeline for Chaffey Ward which are currently in the planning and design phase.

**Kinder Matters**

As our City’s population continues to grow, the number of families relying on kindergartens to help prepare their children for school continues to increase.

Kindergarten education has a positive impact on the numeracy, reading and spelling skills of students and it is important that 2,800 Wyndham children continue to get the opportunity to receive the foundation of quality education.

Currently, the State Government funds 10 hours of kindergarten education, the Federal Government funds five hours.

The Federal Government is planning to end its kinder funding agreement in December 2017 and by doing so, will be cutting $100 million from Victorian kindergartens. This will result to every child losing a day of kinder funding.

In the lead up to the Federal Budget, we encourage Wyndham residents to sign the petition calling on the Turnbull Government to deliver integral funding for our kindergartens.

The petition can be signed at <http://thismatters.org.au/kindercuts>

**Derrimut Rd and Leakes Rd Intersection Upgrade**

In 2015, the State Government provided $1.92 million and Council contributed $1 million to upgrade the Derrimut Road and Leakes Road intersection.

The construction commenced in early March and is expected to be completed by mid to late this year. This upgrade will include additional lanes and also extending existing lanes to reduce the traffic congestion and improve travel time for drivers.

This is an interim project that will be part of the planned duplication of Derrimut Road and Leakes Road as part of the $1.2 billion State Government Outer Suburban Arterial Roads Program.

**Youth Services Forum**

The annual Youth Forum was run in three smaller district forums this year in which two were held at Chaffey Ward.

Student representatives from local secondary schools participated in a range of workshops, activities and discussions during March 14 at Penrose Community Centre and March 15 at the Youth Resource Centre. The students tackled topics such as safety, transport, mental health, healthy living and employment. All of these were aligned with the Wyndham 2040 District Plans.

The Youth Forum enables young people to have their say about key community issues that affect them directly. The information and feedback received during the forums are used to improve and inform services, programs, and facilities for the young people in Wyndham.

# Message from Your Chaffey Councillors

Our Chaffey Ward is home to long established parts of Wyndham and also newer areas. Pressures to provide services and community infrastructure are therefore high, yet Council continues to be one of the largest providers of community infrastructure of all Councils.

As your elected Councillors we are keen to hear what you think our infrastructure priorities should be. One immediate opportunity where we would all like to encourage feedback from you is the Council Budget and City Plan, which represents the vision and projects of the newly elected Council. Keep an eye out for how you can have your say.

All four of your elected Councillors are convinced that when we work together with the community, we get the best results. That is why we also need your support to lobby other levels of government for funding. One example is our campaign to the Federal Government to maintain 15 hours universal access to Kindergarten funding in their upcoming 2017/18 Federal Budget. Chaffey Ward Councillors voted to adopt an advocacy plan at our March Council Meeting. You can lend your voice to our campaign by looking out for our social media, postcard and poster campaigns during April and May.

Finally, if you need help with any Council issue or concern or you’d like to meet us, contact us via the details provided here.

Regards, Chaffey Ward Councillors

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