YOUR HARRISON NEWSLETTER

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

# Your Harrison Ward

Harrison Ward includes industrial precincts in Laverton and Laverton North, Point Cook, Truganina, Williams Landing and some parts of Hoppers Crossing.

Based on population forecasts its population is estimated to be around 85,000 in 2016 and it is expected to increase to around 130,500 people by 2036.

Harrison is home to the newest Wyndham residents and is the most culturally diverse ward in Wyndham.

# The need for schools in Wyndham’s Growth Areas

Planning more schools in Wyndham continues to be a key priority for Council. Wyndham is the fastest growing municipality in Victoria with 210,565 additional residents forecast for 2036. The high growth is largely seen across the Growth Areas where families with children are the most common household type.

Recent infrastructure planning research on the required timing of new schools shows that the delivery of government schools is not keeping pace with our population growth. Over the next 10 years, 9 new government schools will be needed to service the growing population across Wyndham’s Growth Areas (including 7 primary and 2 secondary schools). This is in addition to the schools that have already been allocated funding through the Department of Education and Training (DET).

Wyndham City is working closely with DET to ensure that new schools are being planned for the parts of Wyndham that are growing the fastest and to plan community infrastructure to be co-located with schools where appropriate. We understand that there are a number of schools in the pipeline for Wyndham and we will continue to work with DET to meet the needs of our residents.

Council is also keen to attract a variety of education opportunities for children and young people in Wyndham and we will work with partners to bring more non-government schools to the municipality to meet the growing interest and demand of our community.

# Cr Aaron An

Portfolio: Smart City

0419 297 931

aaron.an@wyndham.vic.gov.au

Since being elected, I’ve been working with Councillors and Council staff to focus on issues that many residents talk to me about. These issues include education, community safety, local jobs, car parking, public transport and social isolation.

As Council’s Smart City Portfolio Holder, I'm supporting Council to shift its focus to embrace emerging technologies, as well as supporting a knowledge-based economy, innovation and entrepreneurship to improve productivity and work efficiently.

It is great to see that the Food Truck Carnival held at Williams Landing Shopping Centre in January and the first big Lunar New Year celebration in Wyndham at the Point Cook Town Centre organised by the Point Cook Cultural Community group in February were a great success and attended by thousands of community members.

**Council in the Community**

The local community and staff at the Centre have identified improvements needed to the existing Point Cook 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.

This $4.7 million project will enable Council to respond to the specific service needs of the local community and make it easier for residents to connect with Council and find what they need locally.

Last year, Council introduced customer service staff to Point Cook Community Learning Centre and made it easier for residents to access services such as paying rates, registering pets, or booking a 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 underway and is expected to be completed by February 2018. Some programs have been relocated to other Centres in Point Cook and Truganina. The Library and kindergarten will remain open throughout the project, so residents can visit and speak to staff to find out more about this project.

# Cr Tony Hooper

Portfolio: Arts, Culture and Heritage

0428 979 358

tony.hooper@wyndham.vic.gov.au

It’s an exciting time to see Wyndham City undergo a transformation as an organisation to match staffing with community needs. I congratulate Councillors and staff both past and present for having the courage to undertake this effort.

Most people would know of the hard work Council and the community did to ensure the former proposed site for a Youth Detention Centre in Werribee South was defeated. I'm proud that our collective voices were heard and the negative impacts on jobs, tourism, and investment didn’t occur. We now await positive news about the progress of the East Werribee Employment Precinct.

I feel this collective voice will resonate for years to come. We may all come from different walks of life and from different places around the globe, but we all share a vision for a better tomorrow for our city and generations to come. I am proud to serve this community and thank you for the privilege.

**Green Goals Achieved at Harrison**

Wyndham City is making real steps towards protecting our environment and keeping our city sustainable for future generations.

Council continues to reduce Wyndham’s carbon emissions through innovative projects and two of them are within Harrison Ward.

The recently completed Dohertys Road (between Foundation and Fitzgerald Roads) duplication project used recycled materials supplied by a local business. This has helped save an estimated 378 tonnes of carbon from entering the atmosphere.

The Saltwater Community Centre won another award for its innovative design that incorporated sustainable features into the building that meet the needs of our community yet still environmentally friendly.

Wyndham City received the Environmental Sustainability Awards at the Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) Victoria Leadership in the Public Sector Awards held on 21st February.

# Cr Intaj Khan

Portfolio: Urban Futures

0408 564 439

intaj.khan@wyndham.vic.gov.au

I’m enjoying my return as an elected Councillor representing the Harrison Ward. I’m speaking with many residents and businesses to help with their concerns, and I welcome contact from you.

As I enter my second four-year term, I am turning my mind to the long-term needs of our area. This is why I supported a recent project implementation program for the Wyndham North Developer Contributions Plan at Council and also why I warmly welcomed State Government announcements which will see $1.8 billion pumped into arterial roads and maintenance in and around our area.

This term I will work with Council’s Transport Portfolio Holder, our Mayor and my fellow Councillors to advocate for more parking at train stations, a new Tarneit West Train Station, and better bus connections. I will also be advocating to see if Council can encourage more bus shelters through creative partnerships with the private sector.

**Connecting Communities**

The $3.5 million Talliver Terrace Park project that will showcase a range of recreational facilities, including a basketball and netball court, for all age groups to explore and enjoy is half-way through completion.

Apart from park facilities, two pedestrian bridges that will connect to a shared path along Skeleton Creek will be built. These bridges will provide access for residents who live on both the east and west side of Skelton Creek. The project is expected to be completed by June.

# Cr Kim McAliney, Deputy Mayor

Portfolio: Safer Communities

0429 943 623

kim.mcaliney@wyndham.vic.gov.au

As the Safer Communities Portfolio Community Holder, I’m excited by the calibre of community representatives I’ll be working with this term including various agencies. I recently attended the Neighbourhood Watch State Forum and met with Acting CEO Geoff Kloot and Chairman Michael Strong after speaking at the forum about Wyndham’s challenges as a growing community.

I’ve visited various Neighbourhood Watch groups to hear their concerns as safety is a concern for local residents as it is for me. That’s why I’m advocating for an increase in local police numbers and presence. I’ve met with Wyndham’s new Police Inspector Marty Allison and I’m determined to explore ways on how Council, Police and the Wyndham community can work together. Meeting and seeing the great work that the Maori and South Sudanese Wardens are doing to promote safety has also been a highlight. I’m enjoying representing local residents again as your Councillor. If you need assistance on any Council issue, please contact me.

# Capital Works Project Update

Harrison 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:

* Gracefield Court, Stella Avenue, and Enea Place, Hoppers Crossing
* Derrimut Heath Paved Roads Rehabilitation (Jarman Court, Erica Court, Waterloo Court, Rudkin Court, Lawson Court, Amstel Court and Travis Court)
* Dohertys Road Duplication (between Foundation Road to Fitzgerald Road)
* Skeleton Creek Bridges and Talliver Terrace Park
* Alison Street Park, Truganina
* Cricket Nets at Prudence Parade, Point Cook
* James Cook Drive Park Upgrade, Truganina
* Landscape Drive Park Upgrade, Truganina
* Mainview Sports Pavilion Construction, Truganina
* Point Cook Community Learning Centre Upgrade
* Hacketts Road (between Tom Roberts Parade and Sneydes Road)

Design Works:

* Forsyth Road Duplication –Sayers Road to Old Geelong Road
* Dunnings Road between Palmers Road and Boardwalk Boulevard, Point Cook
* Boardwalk Boulevard between Dunnings Road and Sneydes Road, Point Cook
* Bellbridge Drive Park, Hoppers Crossing
* Saltwater Soccer Sports Lighting, Point Cook
* Williams Landing Reserve Pavilion, Williams Landing

Footpaths are also being constructed at the following locations:

* Moorgate Street, Point Cook
* Sneydes Road from Toledo Crescent to Point Cook Road, Point Cook
* Lennon Boulevard / Messina Crescent pram crossing, Point Cook
* Fields Way / Silverwood Drive pram crossing, Truganina
* Jamieson Way / Monte Carlo pram crossing, Point Cook

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

* Dunnings Road and Palmers Road (from Point Cook Road to Princes Freeway, Point Cook)
* Palmers Road, Truganina (from Princes Freeway to Western Freeway)
* Leakes Road,Truganina (from Fitzgerald Road to Derrimut Road)
* Dohertys Road (from Fitzgerald Road to Grieve Parade), Laverton North
* Dohertys Road (from Foundation to Palmers Road), Truganina
* Princes Freeway/ Forsyth Road interchange, Hoppers Crossing

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

**Palmers Road Upgrade Almost Completed**

Works on the Palmers Road upgrade is nearing completion and this will help reduce congestion on Palmers and Dunnings roads, improve bus reliability and access to Williams Landing Railway Station.

**Wyndham welcomes the Year of the Rooster**

Wyndham is richly diverse and we have residents who have come from different parts of the world. Through this diversity, we all get the opportunity to learn about different cultures and traditions. As a community, we also get to celebrate various significant cultural events together.

In celebration of the Chinese lunar calendar’s most important festival, the Wyndham community celebrated the first ever Chinese New Year Festival on February 11 at Stockland Point Cook Shopping Centre. It was a very successful event with an estimated 15,000 residents attending and joining in the festivities.

**Have your say and be heard**

Wyndham City is preparing the Proposed Integrated Plan and Budget and for 2017/18 and it will be out for public consultation in early May.

We encourage our community members to participate and have their say on Council’s proposed budget on what projects you think Council should be funding by making a submission through Council’s website.

A Special Council Meeting will be held on 13 June to hear the submissions received for the 2017/18 Proposed Integrated Plan and Budget.

**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 East

* Transport
* Local Employment Opportunities
* Community Safety
* Education and Training Opportunities
* Improve Parks and Open Space
* Opportunities for Young People
* Promote sustainable living
* Strengthen Multicultural Harmony

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’.

**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>